The Preschool Post

a Faith Community Preschool Publication

October 2026

Mindi Williams
Preschool Director

mindi.williams@
faithcommunityumc.org

513-777-2726 Office
513-777-4973 Fax

October News

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year! We are officially getting settled into our daily routines!!

The arrival of fall brings a beautiful reminder of the new seasons of growth God has planned for our little ones. Here are a few events and important reminders to help keep our school community running smoothly.

Faith JAM

Our first Faith JAMs of the school year are scheduled for Thursday and Friday, October 22 & 23, at 11:15 in the Community Room!

We welcome families, siblings, grown ups, etc. to worship with us and learn more about our favorite Super Hero, JESUS!!

Thank you!!!

Thank you so much for our classroom wish list items. We are well stocked with Play-doh, tissues, paper towels, dry erase markers, and disinfecting wipes! Your generosity is so appreciated!!!

Lunch & Learn

Our first Lunch & Learn will begin Wednesday, October 14, for our Dinofour, Puppy Pal, and Froggy Pal classes. Be on the look out for details and signup information coming soon!!

SAVE THE DATE

VIP DAY!

Saturday, November 7

Honey Bear & Busy Bee Classes ~ 9:30-10:30

Dinofour, Puppy Pal, & Froggy Pal Classes ~ 11:00-12:00

Invite your favorite VIP's!!!!

Important Dates

October Calendar

October 16
No School—Fall Break

October14 & 15
Mother's Nature
3's-5's classes

October 22 & 23
Faith JAM

October 29 & 30
Fall Parties
Trick or Treat

Coming in November!

November 3
No School—Election Day

November 5 & 6
Fall School Pictures

November 7
VIP Day

November 12 & 13
Fire Department Visits

November 19 & 20
Faith JAM

November 23-27
No School
Thanksgiving Break

Fall Parties and Trick or Treat

Children in all classes will have the opportunity to dress in costume for their class Fall party and go trick or treating throughout the church building. Please read the messages from your child's teacher regarding the specifics of the day. Remember when bringing in candy for trick or treating, **NO** peanut butter or nuts are allowed! Thank you!

10/13 — Mrs. Gardner
Busy Bees & Dinfours Asst.

*Followed by the ministry fair in the CLC.

A Biblical Basis for the 7 Traits of Effective Parenting - from Focus on the Family

There's a curious balance within the Christian faith between trust and works. As parents, it can seem far easier to seek control over our kids and their lives. From decision-making to discernment to their friends and activities, we can quickly slip into the mode of parenting defined by control. However, the Lord created a plan for parenting based on a few central traits. Through exploring these **7 Traits of Effective Parenting** and a bit of your own personal history, you can effectively approach parenting with a renewed sense of purpose and direction stemming from your personal relationship with Jesus.

The following are seven traits that are often present in the lives of parents who are raising kids who thrive in challenging situations. Parents may excel in some of these areas and fall short in others, but each trait can transform our Christian parenting, filling our children's hearts and minds with God's truth and bringing wisdom into our homes.

Love

John the apostle tells us that we learn love by looking at the love God has shown us. God's love came first and it is a truly sacrificial love. "This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. " (1 John 4:10).

Do you know what you love? Look at the people, activities and things you're attached to. Look at the sacrifices you make to see those people, do those activities or use those things. These are the areas of your life where you love. Children can see where your priorities are, where your love is directed.

God's love helps parents counteract our natural selfishness. His love reveals itself in His commitment to us and His sacrifice for us, long after our emotions have faded away. Children learn God's love through the sacrificial commitments we make to them and teach them to make.

Respect

The apostle Paul writes that we should think like Christ and treat others as more important than ourselves (Philippians 2:3). Respect recognizes the best in people. It is more than acknowledging a child's accomplishments. Children and teens are worthy of respect because God created them and loves them.

Respect teaches us not to treat others as unimportant. Nothing hurts a child more than being treated as if he is useless, and almost nothing encourages him more than being respected and valued.

One way to show respect to your family is to watch your language. Biblical parenting outlines specific principles involving use of language within a family. Refuse to use cruel language — whether directed toward family members in your home or outsiders. As Christian parents, our language habits really do influence our ability to model respect to our children.

Intentionality

Being intentional means talking about and living out our values and priorities before allowing other influences into our home. This trait nurtures a consistency in family life that reinforces the other traits. When parents are intentional, they grow in wisdom and are able to keep their focus on how they act as believing parents (Colossians 1:10).

It is easy to be passive and let media and other influences set our family's priorities, but it's more effective to pay careful attention to *how* we live our lives. This is intentionality: making decisions as parents about how we will own the spiritual atmosphere in our homes.

Boundaries and Limits

Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend, authors of the "Boundaries" book series, write that the purpose of boundaries in biblical parenting to "let good things in and keep bad things out." Hebrews 12:1 says that in order to run our race well, we need to shake off the things that keep us from reaching our goal. Ordering our home with healthy boundaries for kids and adults helps us do that.

Being deliberate about boundaries — for media, behavior, relationships, godly living and a vibrant faith — means we do not let culture determine what is healthy for our family. Proverbs tells us, "Leave the presence of a fool, for there you do not meet words of knowledge" (14:7). If we don't set our own boundaries in our families, other influences — culture, extended family or trends — will set our children's moral boundaries, and we may become surprised and dismayed by what they have learned.

Gratitude

As Paul begins his letter to the Philippians, he tells them how thankful he is every time he thinks of them (Philippians 1:3-4). Gratitude is not just a polite reaction to something good. It is a cultivated habit and a vital part of healthy relationships.

When we practice gratitude in our families, it helps children and parents fight selfishness, which causes division among families and friends. When gratitude is expressed on a regular basis and in deliberate ways, it helps our children learn to see all the good God does in our lives. A natural outcome of this within biblical parenting is that welearn to naturally praise Him, regardless of how we feel in the moment.

Grace and Forgiveness

Grace and forgiveness shock us. God forgave us while we were still sinners. He shows grace to imperfect people and continues to involve them in His plan.

Christian parents need to be willing to model forgiveness and grace to their children, regardless of the personal cost. Human nature prevents us from easily giving grace and forgiveness, yet we learn from God's Word that we need to give both or we can't expect to be forgiven (Matthew 6:14-15).

Adaptability

While he was in prison, Paul said something amazing: "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content" (Philippians 4:11). Paul learned to find peace in Christ, despite his situation. His personal happiness was not attached to his position, how well he was doing or what he was doing.

Teaching adaptability helps our children find peace — a deep peace that is stronger than the stresses and trials of life. Peace counteracts the unproductive worry that causes us to lose our trust in God. This flexibility and resilience, grown in difficult circumstances, allows a family to face both hardships and joys together, as they grow deeper in their faith.

Final Thoughts

God's wisdom gives us direction for not only recognizing our mistakes, but also correcting them. In biblical and Christian parenting, it is no different. God's way of life is the abundant life (John 10:10), and this life gives parents the opportunity to watch their children grow up making good decisions and avoiding decisions they may later regret. And learning how to live out these traits in our parenting gives our children a model for living out His abundant life.