



parenting CHRISTIAN kids



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Rejoice in Jesus' Resurrection at Easter

POWERSOURCE

ASK GOD:

1. To bless your family's Easter preparations and celebrations.
2. To help your children know that the Easter message is for them.
3. To keep the joy of Easter in your hearts throughout the year.

Reminders of new life and rebirth appear each spring throughout nature. For Christians, the most important celebration of new life is Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter. Children may associate the holiday with bunnies, baskets, and candy, so it's important to share with them the real reason we rejoice: Jesus' empty tomb.

Use these creative ideas to share Easter's message with children. Share that Jesus died and came to life again so we can go to heaven and be with him forever.

Palm Sunday Make "praise shakers" to celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Decorate the bottom sides of two paper plates. Staple the plates together, bottom sides out, leaving

space to pour in beads or buttons. Staple the gap. Add streamers, and have a parade. Celebrate Jesus by shaking the instruments and with shouts of praise.

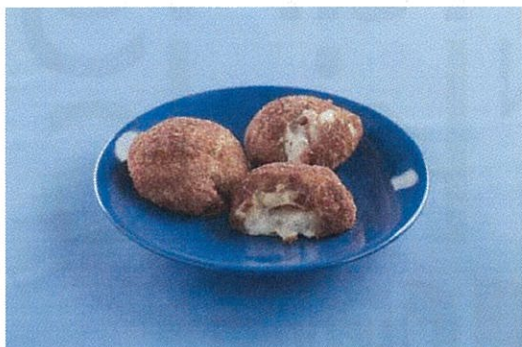
Good Friday Insert toothpicks in a small vine wreath to resemble Jesus' crown of thorns. Whenever a family member makes a sacrifice for someone else, remove one thorn. The night before Easter, after children are asleep, remove the remaining thorns and decorate the crown with white ribbons and bright flowers.

Easter Sunday Using a stamp pad and colored pencils, work together to make thumbprint pictures that retell Easter events. For example, draw a tomb with a rolled-away thumbprint rock and a butterfly with thumbprint wings.

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Easter Is for Me!



TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Resurrection Buns

As a family, make edible “empty tombs.” Wrap a crescent-roll dough triangle around a large marshmallow. Dip the roll in melted butter and then cinnamon and sugar.

Cook the rolls according to instructions on the package. The marshmallows “disappear,” leaving an empty, sweet surprise in the middle.

After the rolls have cooled, read aloud Luke 24:1-3. Give each family member a roll and have them take one bite.

Ask: What do you see inside your roll? How is that like what the women found? What do you think Jesus’ empty tomb means?

Say: Just as our rolls are empty, Jesus’ tomb was empty on Easter morning. That’s because he died and came back to life for you and for me!

Close in prayer. **Say: Dear Jesus, thanks for coming back to life and leaving your tomb empty on Easter. We celebrate you today! Amen.**

The events of Holy Week and Easter might frighten or confuse younger children. Share the message in age-appropriate ways by using these tips.

Ages 2 to 5 Say that people who hated Jesus nailed him to a cross and left him there until he died. Explain that Jesus’ friends were sad and afraid until Jesus came back to life three days later.

Ages 6 to 9 Fairness is a big deal at this age, so explain in simple language that Jesus willingly died in our place because he loves us. Children may be fascinated by crucifixion details. Avoid euphemisms for death such as “sleeping.”

Ages 10 to 12 Preteens who are familiar with details of the Easter account are ready for the “why.” Share why it was necessary for Jesus to die, referring to the blood sacrifices of the Old Testament.

New Life Go on a nature walk to collect lots of twigs. Help children use a low-temperature glue gun to attach the twigs to the outside of a clean, empty soup can. Then fill the “vase” with fresh flowers as you talk about how the twigs are like our lives before Jesus (dead and broken) and how the flowers represent our lives with Jesus (new and alive).

Prayer Eggs During Easter week, use a basket of plastic eggs to encourage your family to talk to God. Place slips of paper with prayer topics inside the eggs. Make enough eggs for each person to open one per day during Holy Week. Include praises and gratitude, as well as prayer requests for friends, family, and the community. Open the eggs at meals or bedtime, and pray together for the requests. Place special prayer eggs in the basket on Easter morning to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection.

Cookie Pops Follow your favorite sugar cookie recipe to make crosses on a stick. If you don’t have a cross-shaped cookie cutter, you can create a template or freehand the shape with a knife. Press a cookie stick (available at craft stores) about 2 inches into each cookie. Bake until edges are

golden. Frost when cool. Share the treats with friends and neighbors, along with an Easter card or verse.

Jelly Bean Joy Use the colorful candy in children’s Easter baskets to remind them of Jesus’ love. In this poem, each color represents part of the Easter account.

*Orange is for the sins we’ve done.
Red is for the blood of God’s Son.
White is for the grace he gives.
Green is for new life in him.
Yellow is for your place in heaven.
Invite Jesus into your life and be forgiven!*

Why Jesus Stayed on the Cross Give each family member an ice cube, plus a paper towel. Say: “Hold the ice cube in your bare hand while I read from the Bible.” Read aloud Matthew 27:27-36, 45-50. Then ask: “How did it feel to hold the ice? What did you want to do with it? What do you think it was like for Jesus to be crucified on a cross? Why do you think he stayed up there?” Say: “I don’t think the soldiers or the nails kept Jesus on the cross. I think his love for us is what kept him up there. Jesus died and came back to life so we can live with him in heaven!”

“Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead!”

—Luke 24:5-6, NLT

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Group
Faith. Bold Love.

MEDIA MADNESS



MOVIE

Title: *Wonder*

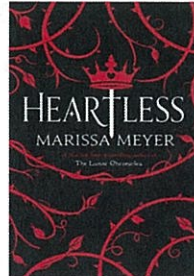
Genre: Drama

Rating: Not yet rated

Cast: Jacob Tremblay, Julia Roberts, Mandy Patinkin, Owen Wilson

Synopsis: This film is based on R.J. Palacio's 2012 *New York Times* best-selling novel, now required reading in many middle schools. It features Auggie Pullman, a 10-year-old with a severe facial deformity. After years of surgeries and homeschooling, Auggie enters middle school and deals with friends, bullies, and self-esteem issues.

Our Take: Viewers will do some soul-searching about how they view and treat people who look different from them. Because the subject and situations can be intense, this film is best for kids ages 9 and up. Topics for follow-up discussions include appearance, character, and friendship.



BOOK

Title: *Heartless*

Author: Marissa Meyer

Synopsis: This young-adult fiction book tells how Catherine, the Queen of Hearts in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, became evil. Catherine was once an innocent girl who wanted to open a bakery and fall in love on her own terms. But in a world of magic where she's desired by the King of Hearts, things don't turn out as she hopes.

Our Take: The main character, described as "cold, heartless, ruthless female lead," certainly isn't a positive role model. Although *Heartless* is recommended for kids as young as 12, it's a dark love story with an unhappy ending, making it inappropriate for preteen readers.



CULTURE & TRENDS

Undocumented Students With the recent crackdown on undocumented immigrants, some school districts are denying federal authorities access to students and their records. Almost 4 million K to 12 students in the United States are children of undocumented immigrants. (*cnn.com*)

Oh, Boy! The popular American Girl doll line has introduced its first boy doll. Logan Everett, a drummer, represents an effort to appeal to a broader audience, says a company spokeswoman. "A boy character has been a top request from our fans for decades." (*USAToday*)

QUICK STATS

So Artificial The number of children who eat or drink artificial sweeteners (such as sucralose and aspartame) nearly tripled from 1999 to 2012, according to a recent study. The rate went from less than 9% of kids to 25% of kids in 13 years. (*time.com*)

On the Fence One-third of parents still don't feel they have enough information to decide whether to get their preteens vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV). But 57% of parents are okay with a law that requires preteens to be vaccinated, as long as there's an opt-out provision. (*wfdd.org*)

Games, Sites & Apps

1-2 Switch

This game for the new Nintendo Switch console features face-to-face play. Instead of staring at a screen, players look at one another to compete in duels, dance-offs, and more. With a portable console and Joy-Con wireless controllers, this game will likely be a hit at parties.

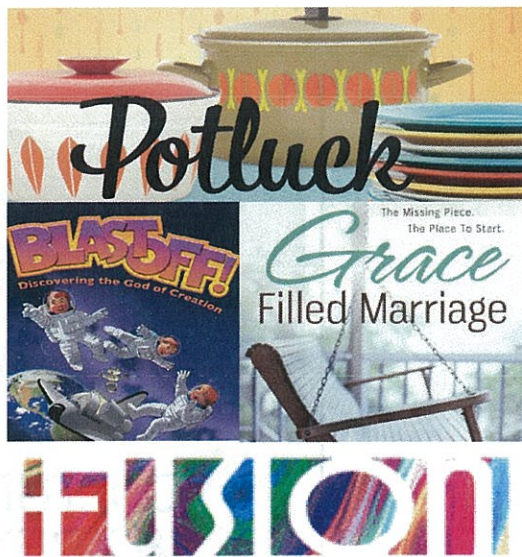
iCivics.org

This site, founded by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, helps children learn about civics and encourages community involvement. After setting up a free account, kids can try a variety of role-playing games. Activities are geared toward children ages 8 and up.

Taps to Riches

In this simulation game, players build virtual riches by tapping buttons onscreen. The goal is to make "money," which players do by buying and investing in homes and businesses. Players can take over towns—even towns in outer space. Despite the materialistic message, the game is appropriate for kids.

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Tuesdays Together!

April 4 and 18, May 2

5:45 pm: Potluck Dinner - all ages

6:30 pm–8:00 pm: Programs for adults and kids

- *Grace-Filled Marriage* class with video and discussion
- Fusion - youth group for 6th-8th graders
- Children's *Blast Off* musical practice

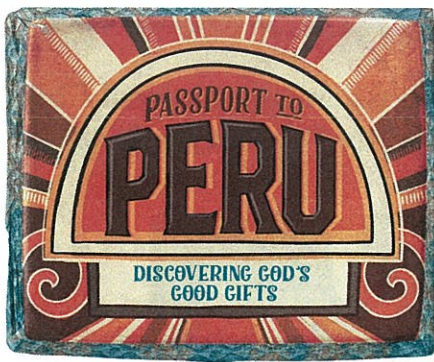
- All-church family potluck supper beginning at 5:45. (optional attendance) Just grab a food dish to share and come have supper with your church family! It'll be an easy way to feed the family -- with no dishes to wash!
- Children's musical portion (*more info below*) will begin at 6:15 and last until 7:45. Parents can pick up children as early as 7:30 if bedtime or homework needs high priority.
- Games and snack will begin at 7:30. Each Tuesday evening's practice will include a Bible lesson which will help to emphasize the Biblical content of the music.
- Parents also have the opportunity to attend a study that will be offered at the same time. It's called "Grace-Filled Marriage" and comes from our online curriculum and video subscription "RightNow Media."



Musical Schedule and Information

BLAST OFF is a wonderful children's musical that will teach our children that the God who created the stars and heavens is the same God who loved the world so much that He sent His son to die for them, and that he wants to have a relationship with them.

- Participants: K–6th grade
- Performance on Mother's Day, May 14.
- Practices on Tuesday evenings, April 4 and 18, May 2 (6:30–7:45)
AND on Sunday mornings 9–10 a.m.
- Drama practices on Sundays from 9:45-10:30
- Additional rehearsals on Sat. May 6, 9–11 am; Fri. May 12, 6–8 pm; Sat. May 13, 9–11 am
- Kids will wear black pants and black t-shirts with a Space Camp logo on the front.
- Practice attendance is ESSENTIAL to the success of this performance. Please advise if your child needs to miss.
- Direct all questions to Terri Hughes or Alicia Quackenbush



VBS 2017 June 26-30

Your kids are invited to experience the sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of a unique culture at **Passport to Peru VBS 2017**, where kids discover how much God loves the world.

Watch for more details coming soon!



RightNow Media—Free!! 4Cs has subscribed to RightNow Media, accessible to you in your home from your computer (or iPhones and iPads) full of wonderful, Biblical, teaching resources for all ages about all sorts of subjects. If you would like for us to sign you up, just write your email, with a note to do so, on your Connection Card in the church bulletin or contact a 4Cs4Kids staff person and we'll get you signed on. Your email will be safe and this is a no obligation GIFT

4Cs4Kids recommends from RightNow Media

GRACE BASED PARENTING 2 - BUILDING CHARACTER TIM KIMMEL

- *Helping parents raise kids who turn out right by building character into their hearts.*

This second part of the *Grace Based Parenting* small group video study will give parents the confidence and skills to raise kids who flourish in their culture by *building character* for life.

Note: This study is 100% more effective and complete if each participant has their own discussion workbook. Also, we recommend that participants purchase and read the book *Raising Kids Who Turn Out Right* to maximize the benefits of this study. Links to purchase are below.

The *Building Character* small group study will help you:

- Raise kids who can thrive in a hostile culture
- Instill the six most critical character traits that a child needs to turn out right
- Prepare kids for the biggest challenges of life—loneliness, fear, temptation, betrayal...
- Minimize the hassles of parenting
- Maximizes the potential of your children's future
- Apply practical lessons that work with your kids

Like a blueprint serves the builder of a beautiful home, this study will give you practical ways to use character to build happy, confident children who can stand strong and reach their true potential in the future

Right-click or type in the link below to start watching and to order participant workbook.

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/316>



Visit the Nursery baby board
(located outside the nursery)
to see pictures of 4Cs newest additions
and see who else is expecting.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

4Cs4Kids Compassion International Child sponsored since February 4, 2008



Anwar Yiman, age 13, was born on September 11, 2003. He lives on the plains of Ketna Hulet, home to approximately 375,000 residents. Ketna Hulet is in Ethiopia where the primary ethnic group is Amhara and the most commonly spoken language is Amharic.

Our sponsorship allows the staff of Ketna Hulet FGBC Student Center to provide Anwar with Bible teaching, medical exams, counseling, hygiene instruction, clothing, nutritious food, recreational activities, life skills training, vocational training, tutoring and scholastic materials. The center also provides evangelism, counseling and health education for Anwar's mother. **4Cs4Kids** childrens' offering goes to support Anwar.

Thank you for encouraging your child(ren) to bring an offering to Sunday school each week allowing us to continue to sponsor our precious Anwar.

4Cs4Kids Spiritual Milestones

If you would like more information on guiding your children through Spiritual Milestones please pick up a 4Cs4Kids Spiritual Milestones brochure from the info table downstairs by Common Grounds, the 4Cs4Kids bulletin board upstairs by Kid Central, or from any of the 4Cs4Kids classrooms.

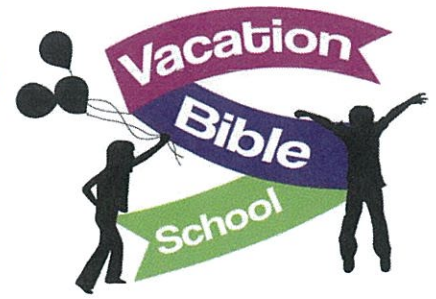
Need to contact 4Cs4Kids?

Brittany Romine
Children's Ministry Director
303-467-2020 x 124

Brittany.romine@christcommunitycovenantchurch.org

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner so mark your calendars for **June 26-30th**.
More information to follow as we get closer to VBS.



April

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
9:00 KIDMO 2 10:30 SS	3	Tuesdays 4 Together! 5:45 Potluck 6:30-8:00 Programs for Adults & Kids	5	6	7	8
9 Palm Sunday 9:00 KIDMO 10:30 SS	10	11 Passover Begins	12	13 Maundy Thursday	14 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	15
16 Easter 8:00 - Nursery Birth - 3 yrs 9:30 - SS 11:00 - SS	17	18 Tuesdays Together! 5:45 Potluck 6:30-8:00 Programs for Adults & Kids Passover Ends	19	20	21	22 Earth Day
9:00 KIDMO 23 10:30 SS	24	25	26	27	28 Arbor Day	29
9:00 KIDMO 30 10:30 SS						

Happy Birthday to...

- George Shively 4/5
- Andrew Wilson 4/8
- Zethan Tetamore 4/24
- Dylan Foulke 4/25
- Dabria Bennett 4/30



