

Family Connection ENews January 2017



Don't Pack Up Christmas

Posted by [Autumn Ward](#) | [theparentcue.org](#) | Dec 29, 2014

I love Christmas decorations. They have a way of making everything more beautiful. Even the most humble of homes becomes a breathtaking site with just a few strands of twinkling lights. Our family has accumulated quite the collection over the past 19 years. Out of all our decorations, I do have a favorite. It's my wooden nativity. I display it right inside our front door. I love the beauty in the smooth wood and how it reminds me daily what we are truly celebrating. The true story of profound love displayed through everyday people like you and me.

The Faith of young Mary, trusting in God's plan. The Obedience of Joseph, taking Mary as his wife. The Truth of Jesus, the Son of God, coming to take His place in the world He created, among the people He would die for. The Hospitality of the innkeeper. The Humility of the stable.

The Praise of the angels. The Joy of the shepherds. The Seeking of the wise men. Scripture being fulfilled in one holy night.

The nativity is a beautiful reminder of who God is and who He wants us to become. And even though the first week of January marks the time when we begin rolling up the lights and putting away the nativity, it doesn't mean we have to pack up Christmas. As parents, we have opportunities every day to lead the way and model for our children ways to keep the most beautiful parts of Christmas up all year long.

Keep Faith on display as you trust in God's plan. Keep Obedience to God's Word, even when you don't understand. Keep your Belief in the truth of scripture alive, even when it doesn't make sense. Keep Hospitality active, as you open your home to others. Keep Humility in every room of your home as you put others first. Keep Praise on your lips, no matter your circumstance.

Keep Seeking God, in all you do.

Ways to Connect

See you at the next Family eXperience (FX) Sunday, February 12 (11:45am-1:15pm) in King Hall. Families will explore February's KidsConnect life app "love" together by doing two activities with other kids and parents. Lunch is free!



Family Service Project: All month long, you can help replenish the food pantry at the Good Neighbor Center. You'll be helping to serve more than 2,000 families who are in need of a helping hand to make it through the month. When you're at the grocery store, pick up an extra box or two of your family's favorite cereal and bring it to the **Good Neighbor Center** wagon at the church in front of the fountain. If your family would like to bring our church's food donations to the GNC, please call the church office to coordinate a date.

What's Happening This Month in KidsConnect?

The KidsConnect "life app" this month is knowledge: know more—do more. Each week in KidsConnect, we will be taking a closer look at the way knowledge shows up throughout the Gospels. We hope that kids will leave this month believing that when they discover something new about God, they are learning the best way to win at life.

If you want to know who God is and how God loves, look to Jesus. In January, we will dig deeper into the story of Jesus. We will discover more about how God desires a relationship with us and invites us to help Him spread the message of Jesus throughout the world. To do that, we need to *know* God through Jesus.

In Psalm 119:105, we read, *Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me. (NirV)* When we dig into God's word, we start to know how God wants us to live. God's words act like a lamp that shows us the next steps to take on our journey through life. God's word points the way towards a growing relationship with Jesus.



Pick up your **Parent Cue** at KidsConnect and help keep the conversation going at home!

Shout Out to...

Lesley Davies who is one of our KidsConnect leaders for the 2nd/3rd grade group. This is Lesley's first year serving in KidsConnect.



Spotlight...

All children were invited to participate in the re-telling of the Christmas story at the 4pm Christmas Eve service this year with Pastor Jeanette and the Innkeeper performed by Rhett Curry.

Get Connected!

MomsConnect, 1/18 and 2/8 from 6:00-8:00pm (free childcare from 6:15-8:15pm in lower preschool building), a casual way for moms to get to know one another

Family eXperience (FX), 2/12 from 11:45-1:00pm in King Hall

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