



family time

A NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN AT THE GROVE

OCTOBER 09



FAMILIES THAT SERVE CHRIST TOGETHER...

with the upcoming holiday season, what can your family do to make a difference together?

As fall is in the air, the holidays are just around the corner, and it's that time to ask yourself a very important question: What Can I Give? That's right! Not the standard question you see on holiday commercials which usually revolve around what you can get! With so many people in need year round, the holidays provide a great opportunity to refocus us on the truly important things and those that are within arms reach that could use some help. And this year, as you ask that question, do it with your entire family in mind!

Here at The Grove, we are providing three specific and strategic opportunities for you and your whole family to Serve The World. On Saturday, October 24th, its LIVE LOVE DAY.

Then, at Thanksgiving, we are going to be asking families to put together food boxes for families in our Live Love Neighborhood and elsewhere in Chandler then delivering them the week of Thanksgiving.

In December, you will have the chance as a family to provide that same family with gifts for the children and the adults!

The reason this is so important to do as a family is it gives you and your children the chance to share the love of Christ side by side, share in the blessing of serving together, and learn and grow as a family as you discuss what it is your doing, what happens in the process, and what you can do next (yes, there is more to do than just these things at the holidays)!

Keep an eye out in the bulletin and on the website for more info on these service opportunities and if you need more help, contact Paul Gunther at pgunther@thegroveaz.org.

- Mark Zurowski
pastor of family ministries



server spotlight //

Jennifer Bellinger

The Server Spotlight this month is our Children's Director Jennifer Bellinger. Jennifer is Married to Clay Bellinger for 17 years. They have 3 kids, named Ashli, Cody and Cole. In her "Free time" Jen likes to spend time with family and loves to travel. Something you might not know about Jenn is she never went to the same school twice, attended 11 different schools, yes that means 4 different high schools and then graduated college and backpacked through Europe and Greece.

kids at the grove
the grove children's ministry

You Can Help Too!

Children and Parents alike are able to be challenged by God's Word and Grow because of volunteers who serve in classrooms so that parents can attend the service. Sign up to serve in children's today.

curriculum

As your children continue to grow physically (it seems non stop sometimes) they should also be growing spiritually. So to aid in what you are doing at home as a family, we want to keep you up to date and prepare you in advance for what they are being, and will be taught on Sunday mornings in their classes.

This is a way for you to know exactly what is being covered in your children's classrooms and the main passage they are looking at. Read through this passage the week after they learn about it in class. It is great follow up for them, and an opportunity to learn something more as a whole family.

Also, you can look at their take home sheets each week for verses that they can be memorizing!

october

4

God Gives The Ten Commandments (part 2)
Exodus 19:16-20:21

11

The Israelites Worship a Golden Calf
Exodus 32:1-5

18

The Israelites Build the Tabernacle
Exodus 35:4-36:38

25

Moses Sends Spies Into the Promised Land
Numbers 13:1-14:23

november

1

Balaam's Donkey Talks
Numbers 22:1-38

8

Joshua Becomes Leader of Israel
Joshua 1:1-11

15

Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho
Joshua 2:1-24

22

The Israelites Cross the Jordan River
Joshua 3:1-4:24

29

God Gives Victory Over Jericho
Joshua 6:1-27

december

6

Zechariah Prophesies About Jesus
Luke 1:68-79

13

John Prepares People for Jesus Coming
Luke 3:7-18

20

The Son of God Is Born!
Luke 1:26-45; 2:1-20

27

Jesus Grows Up
Luke 2:39-52

kidz korner

MEMORY VERSE:

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

family fall nature walk

Materials:

- pencil
- paper
- crayon (with the paper peeled off, for rubbings)
- clipboard (or other surface for writing)
- plastic bag

Activities:

- Look for signs of fall.
- Collect seeds, nuts, rocks leaves, pine cones etc. In the plastic bag.
- Use your crayon and paper and make rubbings of leaves, bark, flowers, etc. Label the rubbings so you remember what they are.
- Make A Chart with the following categories: THINGS I SEE, THINGS I HEAR, & THINGS I SMELL

M&M's For Missions!

Empty the candy; refill the canister with quarters. Something so simple yet so beneficial. And that is what we are attempting in Kids At The Grove during the months of October through December.

Starting the week of September 20, we have been handing out Mini M&M containers to children in our Clubhouse ministry to help us raise money for the needs of schools and orphans in Malawi. These containers go home with the children where they promptly eat the candy (if they haven't already!). We are then asking that they fill these containers to the top. Each container can hold exactly \$14 worth of quarters, that's 68 quarters to be exact. They then bring them back and turn them in to their table leader in the Clubhouse. Once they turn one in filled with quarters, they then get a new container with M&M's and start the process over again. We are hoping to raise \$1000 for the school in Malawi as a local organization has agreed to match us dollar for dollar up to that amount!

So if you have a child in this age group (grades 1-4) or you would like your child to

participate, make sure you ask their table leader or one of the Kids At The Grove Staff.

Also, as you are finding quarters to fill the container with, make sure your child is looking for opportunities to share with people not just what we are doing, but why. These kinds of projects provide great moments to share with others about the Love of Jesus Christ, how it has changed us, why we want to show it to others, and how they can experience it too!

Another tip to keep in mind...don't be afraid to ask anyone you can think of. Neighbors, family members, friends, co-workers, teachers, etc. Then, when the project concludes in December, make sure you go back to those people and share with them how their contribution made a difference. Give them the details, they'll appreciate knowing the role they played. It also gives you a great chance to give the glory to God for what he did through people who love Him and Serve Him!