

A P R I L 2 0 1 1

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

MEANINGFUL

MENTORING

MISSION



*Michelle Akins*

Pastor, Children and Family Ministries

My hope is to serve you and partner with you to love and support children and families to the best of my ability.

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## *Family Story Time*

Once a month we celebrate the simple gift of reading and discussing stories together. Everyone is welcome, from babies to grandparents! Feel free to invite other families who don't attend NFC to join you.

### APRIL'S THEME: TRANSFORMATION

The image of transformation is often that of a worm becoming a butterfly. Second Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" Transformation is a word that speaks great hope, but it's also a process that's not easy. How are we being transformed every day? Let's read and discover together! Kids are welcome to come in their pj's.



When: Friday, April 8

Time: 6:30pm

Where: NFC Sanctuary



*Stamps For Camp*

Enjoy reading and memorizing the Bible together while earning money for summer camp! Stamps For Camp is for children in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The program runs April 1 through May 31. Packets are available in the Sunday school classrooms beginning March 27.

Verses can be recited and scripture passages can be officially stamped on Sunday mornings, April through May, in Room 111 between 8:40 and 9am. Up to \$35 can be earned towards Girls or Boys Camp at Twin Rocks or Day Camp at Tilikum.

## 3M - Monthly Marriage Maintenance

When: Monday, April 18  
Time: 6:30-8pm  
Where: NFC Social Hall

3M is a time for you and your spouse to laugh, talk, and pray as a couple. We also enjoy a good family meal for only \$5 and share a bit with other couples. Knowing you're not alone in the joys and struggles of marriage is a helpful tool in making sure your marriage stays healthy and strong. Please contact Michelle Akins or Steve Fawver if you plan to attend.



### *Dessert With the Thomas Family*

Newberg Friends is grateful to have the Thomas family with us as they prepare to return to Rwanda. The Thomas family has served with EFM for 15 years, and they have many stories of hope to share with all of us.

Come enjoy dessert and fellowship with Dave, Debby, and their delightful kids. Bring your kids too! Please RSVP to Michelle Akins if you're able to attend.



When: Friday, April 15  
Time: 7pm  
Where: 1218 Sunset Dr.,  
Newberg

### *Tilikum Retreats*

Tilikum has several retreats that are available for your family this spring and summer. The mother/daughter retreat happening May 6-8 will feature Michelle Akins as the speaker. Roy McConaughy will be the speaker at Tilikum's father/son fishing retreat, June 17-19.

Go to [camptilikum.org](http://camptilikum.org) to register!



It will take at least 52 volunteers age 11 and older to make VBS a success. Come be a part of children's ministries this summer. June 20-24, will be a blast!

If you are interested in helping at VBS, please contact Michelle Akins. Or check out the bulletin board by the nursery to sign up!



A meeting to prep and pray for VBS will be held in the Newberg Friends social hall on May 9 at 7pm. It would be helpful if all VBS volunteers would attend.

This year we are partnering with another "NFC" - Newberg Foursquare Church. Let's continue to minister to the Newberg community TOGETHER and celebrate God's faithfulness!

### *Birthday Cards for Kids*

Receiving a birthday card continues to be an important way that the children of our church family feel acknowledged and loved. If you like to be creative or if you are good at following pre-made examples, you're welcome to help make birthday cards for the kids that attend NFC.

When: Monday, April 4  
Time: 6:30-8:30pm  
Where: 1218 Sunset Dr., Newberg





### FOR KIDS:

It's 3:4-5 and K-2 Fun Night this month! Games, pizza, & stories from GAGA. You don't want to miss it! **Don't Forget to Invite a Friend!**

## 3:4-5 Fun Night

Children in grades 3-5 come eat dinner together, listen to stories, and play some large-group games. 3:4-5 Fun Night includes an overseas mission focus. This month we will hear from adults and youth who attended GAGA over spring break in San Luis, Mexico. Please RSVP to let me know if your child plans to attend. Cost is \$2 per child and \$4 family max. Wednesday, April 13, Friends Center gym, 6-8pm.

## K-2 Fun Night

K-2 Fun Night is for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade. We eat dinner together, listen to stories, and play some large-group games. Please RSVP to let me know if your child plans to attend. Cost is \$2 per child and \$4 family max. Wednesday, April 27, Friends Center gym, 6-7:30pm.

### KIDS CHOIR FOR EASTER

Children Kindergarten through 5th grade who are interested in being part of the worship service on Easter Sunday are welcome to attend a practice on Wednesday, April 20, at 6 pm in Room 246. Please contact Bethany Lee or Mauri Macy for more information. Children will need a practice CD in advance.

### FOR PARENTS:

**Would you be interested** in a small group parenting Bible study? I have a resource called "Parenting, The Early Years" by Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott that I'd like to share if there are enough moms and dads who want to join me for six weeks. The premise of the study is: Who you are matters more than what you do. It is based on their book, *The Parent You Want To Be*. The study will include video presentations as well as a workbook and group discussion time. Let Michelle Akins know if you'd like to be included in further planning of dates/times for the study.



## Sunday Morning Schedule

Sunday School is during  
1st service at 9am.

Nursery Care for babies  
and children through age  
2 during 1<sup>st</sup> service  
9-10:15am. Nursery care  
also provided during 2<sup>nd</sup>  
service from 10:30-noon.

Godly Play is for children  
in Kindergarten through  
5<sup>th</sup> grade during the  
10:45am worship service.

Children's Care is for  
children ages 3 through 5  
during the 10:45am  
worship service.

Community Time is  
open for you to gather  
with your church family  
in the NFC Social Hall  
from 10 to 10:45am.

## Newberg Friends Church

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## For Your Calendar

- April 4 Birthday Card-Making Night, 1218 Sunset Dr., 6:30pm  
April 8 Family Story Time, NFC Sanctuary, 6:30pm  
April 10 Adoptive Families Gathering, NFC Social Hall, 5:30pm  
April 13 3:4-5 Fun Night, Friends Center Gym, 6-8pm  
April 14 Dessert with the Thomas Family, 1218 Sunset Dr., 7pm  
April 18 3M, NFC Social Hall, 6:30pm  
April 20 Children's Choir Practice for Easter, Rm. 246, 6pm  
April 23 Garage Sale to benefit Compassion International,  
1218 Sunset Dr., 8am-4pm  
April 27 K-2 Fun Night, Friends Center Gym, 6-7:30pm  
May 9 VBS Prayer and Prep Meeting, NFC Social Hall, 7pm  
May 27 Family Story Time, NFC Sanctuary, 6:30pm

### *Adoptive Families Gathering*

Anyone who has adopted, is adopted, or wants to adopt is invited. We welcome families who have adopted both domestically and internationally. Our next meeting is April 10 at 5:30pm in the NFC Social Hall. We'll enjoy a potluck meal together, and this month a specialist will come to talk to the children about adoption. If you have any questions, please email Melanie Springer Mock at [mmock@georgefox.edu](mailto:mmock@georgefox.edu)

### *Garage Sale for Compassion*

A garage sale to benefit the children who are sponsored through Compassion International in Honduras will be held at 1218 Sunset Dr., Newberg on Saturday April 23. All items in the sale are only 50¢.



## With a Grateful Heart

Susan Ankeny teaches the kindergarten Sunday school class each week. Her devotion to these children and to children's ministries in general is a huge blessing to me and to NFC. She has dreams and ideas of how to make Sunday school more accessible, worshipful, and meaningful. I appreciate her belief that Sunday school should first and foremost teach children that God is love and that they can talk to God at anytime. It is with great joy that I serve in children's ministries alongside Susan.