



# the Parent LINK

Children's Ministry Edition



January 2012



**main**STREET  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## BEHIND THE SCENES

Happy New Year! It feels like the holidays were a whirlwind of fun and excitement! The whole church was busy in December, including the children. I hope you found opportunities to serve and celebrate that made Christmas meaningful for you and your kids. The children's choir was able to shine with their musical, iHope. Thanks once again to Sarah Clawson, Brian McMinn, and our special adult "guest stars" that made it such a special production! On the same day as the musical, our Angel Tree team served a full house at the Rock! Thanks to the older kids and youth that helped with puppets, manicures, games, crafts, cookies, and passing out gifts! Your help was so very appreciated. Likewise, our homebound friends appreciated the carolers that came by their residences to share some Christmas cheer! Our Kings Daughters group made FORTY DOZEN cookies for prisoners- wow! The "Christmas Chapel" with Kody the bear was great fun, and the "living nativity" during the Christmas Eve service was so sweet (thanks Jeanna Jones for once again organizing that!) Our Sunday School teachers made sure their class Christmas parties were special, and we had a wonderful time with our special series, "Why Do They Call It Christmas" in Promiseland. Are you tired yet? I am!!

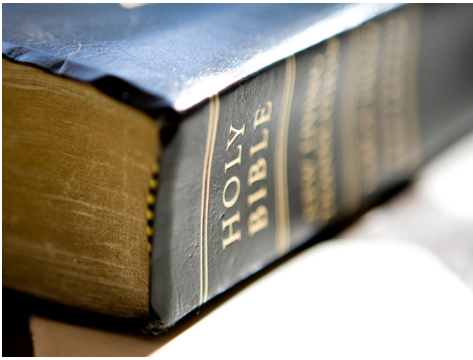


So, now we are in January. The activities are not quite so prolific, but we have much going on behind the scenes. This month we get serious about summer plans. Vacation Bible School and summer camps are set in motion. Be looking for our Summer Round Up in February. We also have our Chili Cookoff this month- you can start signing up to bring chili now! **THIS IS ALSO THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR MOTHER DAUGHTER CAMP AT CAMP PENIEL.** This camp fills up quickly! We are going as a group to Session 2, which is April 20-22. Go online to [www.camppeniel.org](http://www.camppeniel.org) and register there to secure your space today! There are several other activities this month- be sure to check out the calendar on the back page to get full details! Happy 2012!

Toni

Kate here! January is going to be lots of fun! We have our Winter Fun Day, a special ToTs library day, and Pray and Play starts back. Mommies, if you haven't signed up for Ladies Bible Study yet, you really should. You will be blessed- and your kiddos will have a great time too. At the end of this month, you will have the opportunity to sign up for Parent's Night Out in February- spots fill up quickly, so call soon! Also at the end of this month is our annual Chili Cookoff. You can sign up to bring chili by clicking on the announcement on the front page of our website at [www.msbchurch.com](http://www.msbchurch.com). You can also sign up to be a judge by going to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/chili42> It's going to be a great month. See you soon!

Kate



“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”—and I am the worst of them all. But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners.  
(1 Timothy 1:15)

God used Paul, who once persecuted Christians, to spread the news of God’s grace and forgiveness.

## TEACHABLE MOMENTS

**1. When You Were My Age—**Share with children some of the rules you had to follow while growing up, whether they’re different from or similar to your current household rules. Then discuss some ways rules are good for us, even when we don’t like to follow them.

**2. God’s Grace—**While discussing people in the Bible who made bad choices and faced consequences, be sure to emphasize God’s grace, as well. For example, King David suffered greatly after sinning, but he sought—and received—God’s forgiveness.



**3. Commandments 2.0—**Work together to reword each of God’s Ten Commandments as a loving guideline from a loving God. For example, you may write, “Because I want you to be protected from religions that would mislead you, don’t have any other gods except me.”

## Discuss rebellion and obedience by asking children these conversation-starting questions:

1. What makes people rebel, or break the rules? Why is it sometimes difficult to do what we’re supposed to do?
2. How is rule-setting an act of love? What should we do when a rule doesn’t seem loving or when we disagree with it?
3. How does God respond to our sins and mistakes? How do you respond when other people break rules, and why?

## FAMILY EXPERIENCE

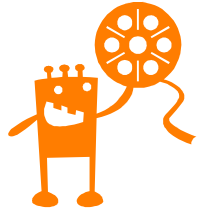
Use these activities to share the message that God wants us to follow and obey him.

**The Master’s Voice—**Set up an obstacle course and have family members take turns trying to navigate it while blindfolded. Designate one person to give correct directions while everyone else shouts out wrong directions. Afterward, discuss what it was like trying to decide which voice to trust. Read John 10:1-5. Ask: “What makes it difficult to hear God’s voice and follow his instructions? What are some ways God speaks to us and helps us learn to hear him?” Close in prayer, asking God to make you good listeners and followers of him.

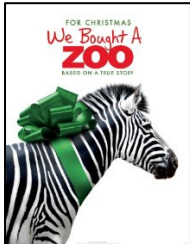
• **Family Footprints—**Make imprints of your feet as reminders to walk with God. You’ll need a large sheet of black plastic, sand, plaster of Paris, water, and a mixing bucket. Pour 3 inches of sand onto the black plastic. Mix enough water into the sand so it’ll hold a mold. Mix the plaster of Paris and water in the bucket according to the directions. Help each family member press a foot 2 inches into the sand. Carefully pour plaster into each footprint. The plaster takes 30 minutes to harden.



While prints are drying, read aloud Joshua 22:5 and discuss what it means to walk with God. Ask: “What ways do we rely on each other? What ways do you rely on God? How are these ways similar or different?” When the footprints have hardened, gently dig them out. Then display them in your yard or garden as reminders to obey and walk with God.



# MEDIA MADNESS



## MOVIES

**Movie:** *We Bought a Zoo*

**Genre:** Comedy, Drama

**Rating:** PG (for language and some thematic elements)

**Cast:** Matt Damon, Elle Fanning

**Synopsis:** After his wife dies, a father moves his family to a new home that comes with a struggling private zoo. The ensuing adventures help the family pull together and heal.

**Our Take:** Use this film, based on a real story, as a launching point to discuss challenges you've faced and overcome as a family.



## MUSIC

**Artist:** Rachel Chan

**Album:** *Go*

**Artist Info:** Rachel is the 15-year-old daughter of preacher and author Francis Chan.

**Summary:** Rachel's debut album addresses common struggles, such as disobeying parents. The song "Prove It" puts a "funny twist on what a godly relationship between father and daughter should look like," she says.

**Our Take:** Rachel's talent and boldness about her faith make her a positive influence on preteen music fans.



The annual GAP chili cook off raises money for the GAP kids to have an outreach event. This year we are partnering with FUSE to pull off this fun event- *then FUSE and GAP kids will all go to Jumping Beans in March*. Church members are invited to bring their best chili recipe to enter in the competition. The categories are:

- Tongues of Fire (blazing hot!)
- Texas Red (traditional with or without beans)
- Yankee Style (white sauce and mild)
- Whatisit? (creative sauces including canned)

Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 winners in each category.

This year, we are having a **WORK NIGHT** for all GAP and FUSE kids on **SUNDAY, January 22 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the FELLOWSHIP HALL. All students need to bring a BROWNIE MIX to fit in a 9X13 pan.** At the work day we will set up tables with centerpieces, make posters and winner's certificates, bake brownies to freeze and help Kate shop for 'chili sides and dogs. We need everyone there!

Also, GAP and FUSE students need to sign up to help on the day of the Chili Cookoff, January 29. You will be serving drinks and desserts and keeping 'chili sides' replenished.

**PARENTS:** We need you to volunteer to boil hotdogs that morning, and also to JUDGE the chili cookoff!! If you don't want to judge, we hope you will sign up to BRING some chili to enter! Please email me at [BDMullaney@yahoo.com](mailto:BDMullaney@yahoo.com) if you can judge or cook hot dogs.

In the past this has been a very organized and fun event, and we look forward to it again this year!

Grace and Peace,  
Brian Mullaney

## GAMES

Title	Content	Rating & Platform
Fortune Street	Players move along a board, similar to Monopoly. They can choose to be a variety of characters and play on 15 different game boards.	E; Wii
Aqua Mania	This compilation of "sims" for water lovers includes My Sim Aquarium, My Ocean Sim, and three other games.	E; PC (\$4.99 at amazon.com)
Star Walk	With this GPS-based app, families can go on a walk at night and learn about stars and planets, with charts tailored to your location. (Use adult supervision.)	\$3 at itunes.com

This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our prayer is that you'll make informed decisions about what your children watch, listen to, and wear.



~ January 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 9:30 a.m. <b>MSCC Chapel</b>	13 Arts Avenue @ Church of Nazarene presents "Willy Wonka" Featuring Amelia & Lyndi Tsering 7 p.m. Jan 12, 13, 14,.. 2 p.m. Jan 14 Tickets available at door. \$7 (\$4 under 10)	14
15	16 10 a.m.-3 p.m. <b>King's Daughters</b> *weather permitting*	17 9-11:30 a.m. <b>PRAY &amp; PLAY</b>	18	19 9:30 a.m. <b>MSCC Music</b>	20 10 a.m. <b>ToTs Library Day</b>	21
22 6-7:30 p.m. <b>GAP and FUSE Chili Cookoff WORK NIGHT!</b>	23	24 9-11:30 a.m. <b>PRAY &amp; PLAY</b>	25	26 9:30 a.m. <b>MSCC Chapel</b>	27	28
29 After 10:50 service <b>CHILI COOKOFF</b>	30 8:30 a.m. <b>Sign ups begin for Parent's Night Out!</b>  10 a.m. <b>Winter Fun Day!</b>	31 9-11:30 a.m. <b>PRAY &amp; PLAY</b>	<b>Children's Ministry Leadership Team!</b> <b>Toni Howell</b> <b>Children's Minister</b> <a href="mailto:Toni@msbchurch.com">Toni@msbchurch.com</a> <b>Kate Mullaney</b> <b>Preschool Minister</b> <a href="mailto:Kate@msbchurch.com">Kate@msbchurch.com</a>			

## JANUARY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENTS

**Jan 12 & 26 PRESCHOOL PROMISELAND CHAPEL.** 9:30-10 a.m.—*ToT Town*— Infants-PreK, Homeschool kids invited to come help  
We would love to see our preschoolers and mommies join our Main Street Children's Center kids in chapel! Come see our puppets, music, and sit with your MSCC friends, and have a great time worshipping!

**Jan 16 KING'S DAUGHTERS.** 10 a.m.—*ToT Town*— Mom's and daughter's—\*Email [Toni@msbchurch.com](mailto:Toni@msbchurch.com) for info. Still pending\*  
Meet at the church parking lot at 10:00 to ride the church bus out to Camp Peniel. We will be working toward a couple of the requirements in our books- sports and nature. Bring a sack lunch and dress warmly- this is an "all outside" day. Moms, be prepared to caravan if necessary- the bus holds 15. We should be back by 3:00. Check with Toni before coming if weather looks questionable.

**Jan 17, 24, 31 PRAY & PLAY.** 9-11:30 a.m.- *Tot Town*— For preschoolers whose mommies are in Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study  
Preschoolers meet in ToT Town for 2 hours of Pray & Play taught by Hannah Howell, babies and toddlers are care for in the Little Farm by our wonderful childcare workers, Kristi Gardner and Corrine Teoh. We have crafts, games, ToT Town centers and a Bible story. Tell your mommy to sign up today!

**Jan 19 MSCC MUSIC.** 9:30-10 a.m.— *ToT Town*— Infants-PreK WITH A PARENT.  
Mrs. Kate teaches music, instruments and a Bible point every week to our MSCC kids. Preschoolers are invited to come sing and dance with our MSCC friends!

**Jan 20 TOTS MAIN STREET BAPTIST LIBRARY DAY.** 10 a.m.— *MSBC Library*— Infants-PreK  
We will have a special guest come lead our story time with stories, finger plays and songs about Winter. You don't want to miss this :-)

**JANUARY 22. GAP & FUSE CHILI COOKOFF WORK NIGHT- 6-7:30 p.m.— GAP kids (5th grade), FUSE students (6th-8th grade)**  
GAP & FUSE kids meet at the Fellowship Hall. **Everyone bring a box of brownie mix to fit a 9X13 pan.** We will make posters, winner's certificates, brownies and shop for chili condiments. Also, sign up to help on Sunday, January 29 at the Chili Cookoff.

**Jan 30 PRESCHOOL/HOME SCHOOL WINTER FUN DAY.** 10 a.m.-Noon—*ToT Town*— Preschool & Homeschool kids  
We have a great group of kids that are Homeschooled at Main Street! Once a month, we get together with the preschoolers and have a great big fun day, including crafts, games, breakout sessions for the homeschoolers to include some academic style activities, and lunch! Its a lot of fun to get together and enjoy seasonal activities with our group! This month's theme: Winter! :-)

**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT! February 10. 6-10:30 p.m.** Parents, leave your infant-4th grade student with our youth for a night of babysitting at the church. Donations are accepted to offset the cost of Disciple Now for our students. You MUST SIGN UP to attend. Signs ups begin on Monday, January 30 at 8:30 a.m. Call the church office at 512-869-7854 to sign up.