

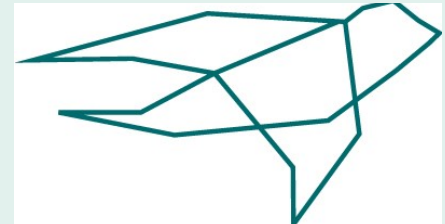


March 2018



*free indeed*  
MOPS

## Words of Wisdom ...

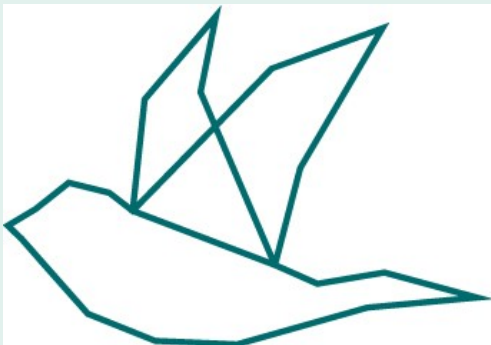


Happy March, Mamas! Our theme this month is “Free from Judgement”. As we work our way through Lent and life’s every day frustrations, I am appreciative of this theme. It is a fantastic reminder to never forget we each have our own struggles and demons. We each have different obstacles & challenges to overcome. One of my hopes for this group going forward is that we can continue to recognize and respect that each of us has our own journey. My hope is that we can build each other up as women, Moms & friends while remaining free from judgement. Happy Easter! He is Risen!

- Peace, Teresa

Interested in leadership? We are looking for moms for next year’s steering team.

We need a Moppetts coordinator—this is a fun job as you get to know the children of your fellow mops moms! You’ll be in charge of dividing children into rooms by age, finding and scheduling child care providers, paying providers, quick setting up and cleaning up for meetings, including purchasing snacks. You will have assistance from a previous mops member to monitor the rooms during the monthly meetings so you can enjoy your time with the moms... Please talk to Karie or Candace if you have questions!



# Service Project Update

Thanks to everyone who brought donations for the homeless bags for the Dayspring Center. We will assemble during today's meeting and they will be delivered in the coming weeks. I am very grateful to everyone who donated over this past year of MOPS. Thank you,

- Jenn Fogle, Service Coordinator

## NOTES FROM HOSPITALITY

Hey ya'll, think spring!!!! We hope you have a wonderful Easter holiday and a refreshing spring break. Thank you to everyone for providing our breakfast this morning! Next month the **forest green table** (Jessica Carter's group) will be bringing breakfast. An email reminder will be sent out to you from your table leader closer to our April 14th meeting. If you are unable to bring your item or need us to pick it up and bring it for you, please let Jodi or Whitney know.

**MARCH DOOR PRIZE:** The March door prize was donated by our very own Jessica Gray. Jessica has an Etsy business, wiggleroomstyle, which makes custom clothing, mugs, and more for babies, kids, and everyone you love! Her products are adorable and we can tell you from personal experience that her quality and customer service are top notch. Thank you, Jessica! Check out Jessica's shop at [www.etsy.com/shop/wiggleroomstyle](http://www.etsy.com/shop/wiggleroomstyle) or follow her on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Wiggleroomstyle](http://www.facebook.com/Wiggleroomstyle)

~ Jodi & Whitney, Hospitality Chairs



# Catherine's Mentor Moment

## *Free From Judgement*

My oldest child is a Senior in high school. We had a really interesting conversation the other day while out walking our dog. She said it was really nice that kids her age seem to have finally stopped judging one another. (Goodness knows how awful middle school is for that!). She continued by giving an example: if she and her friends are walking down the school hallway and see someone wearing a "unique" outfit, no one makes a mean comment, or giggles. Celia spent years worrying about what her peers thought of her. It was a constant battle of "I'm not good enough, or what will they think of me if I say/do this?" It was exhausting for her really.

So how about us moms? How many of us worry about our mothering and what people think of the way we parent our children? Do we find ourselves defending our choices to other moms? On the other hand, are we guilty of judging other moms ourselves? I have been guilty of it for sure.

A few weeks ago, I sat at lunch with two friends and witnessed one of them trying to defend herself with regards to holding her child back from kindergarten one more year. The other friend had sent her child to kindergarten at a younger age, and felt he did just fine despite some maturity and social issues. She made the first mom feel judged and a little offended, despite being good friends. It was difficult for me to sit there and see this happen. Each mom has a totally different child, each mom had different parenting philosophies. Neither one needed to be judged that day.

I truly believe that no level of intelligence, higher education or proper upbringing makes a person's choices superior. Another example comes from something my friend said to me at a wedding. She attended a very prestigious small college at the time where everyone wore J Crew clothes and many had been to prep school. She saw a guest walk in with a "unique" outfit and she said to me "That is a fashion faux pas!" I admit to having a giggle about it at the time, but it has stuck with me into adulthood as a pretty snobby comment. I do not believe that J Crew was the ultimate expert in fashion at the time, not was she.

JUDGMENT. Can we be free from it? Today's verse is Romans 2:1-3. It is long, so bear with me. "You therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment?" Ouch! That makes me feel uncomfortable, maybe even guilty. I feel like the only way for me not to slip up and occasionally judge someone, would be to tattoo that verse on my arm and read it daily! I'm afraid of needles, so that is not going to happen! So now what? I hate the feeling of being judged, so remembering that feeling, and this verse will hopefully help me be careful not to judge others.

So once again I ask "can we be free from judgment?" Probably not, but we can do our best to not be the one judging. We can remind ourselves that judging others will in turn lead to us being judged by the one who loves us the most. God. Let's remember last month and our theme of love. Show love to others, every day, in all that we do. Sounds like a plan! Maybe I could tattoo a heart on my arm?

*Wishing you God's blessings, Catherine*

# Mark Your Calendar for these MOPS Events!

## MARCH

- 3/1 *Happy Birthday Faith Gentry!*
- 3/2 *Happy Birthday Teresa Druschel!*
- 3/11 *Happy Birthday Anna Nguyen!*
- 3/13 *Happy Birthday Catherine Casciani!*
- 3/14 @915am MOPS March Meeting
- 3/25 *Happy Birthday Brittany Gaynor!*
- 3/27 *Happy Birthday Alison Lanie!*
- 3/28 @915 am MOPS Small Group Discussion
- 3/31 @10 am Easter Egg Hunt  
at Christ Lutheran Church

## APRIL

- 4/11 @915am MOPS April Meeting
- 4/15 *Happy Birthday Kara Seever!*
- 4/24 *Happy Birthday Tosha Hahn!*
- 4/25 @915am MOPS Small Group Discussion



**Save the Date for  
Vacation Bible School!**

**June 11-15 | 9am-12pm**

## Church News

We will hold our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, at 10am! This is a free event for the entire community! We will start off in the sanctuary, where we will read a story about Easter and then the children will be dismissed to go look for the Easter eggs, to talk to the Easter Bunny, and to do some Easter activities.

We will also be offering a Summer camp again this Summer and registration is now open! There are registration packets available on your tables and on a table in the narthex. Please note that the registration form and the weekly fees will be due by May 1. You will then have until the beginning of Summer camp to complete and return the other registration materials, but, of course, if you have them completed sooner than that, that works, too!

If you have any questions regarding any of these events, please contact Kathryn Singer, our Director of Children and Family Ministry, via telephone at (317)-873-3232 or via e-mail at [kathryns@clczionsville.org](mailto:kathryns@clczionsville.org). Thank you!