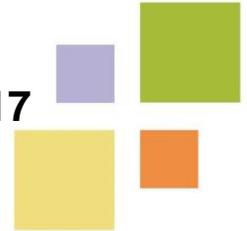




cm @ trinity

helping families grow in faith, obedience & joy 130

April 2017



PASSION WALK

For 1st-5th grade kids

Saturday, April 8

11:00 & 12:15 show times

Trinity Sanctuary

RSVP a MUST!

Space is limited -- cindy@trinityny.org

POWERSOURCE

ASK GOD:

1. To bless your family's Easter preparations and celebrations.
2. To help your children know that the Easter message is for them.
3. To keep the joy of Easter in your hearts throughout the year.

Rejoice in Jesus' Resurrection at Easter

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA PRESCHOOL PARTY & EGG HUNT!

SAT – April 8
11:00 – 12:15

BRING YOUR BASKETS
& JOIN THE FUN!
FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS
WELCOME!
No Reservation Needed

Reminders of new life and rebirth appear each spring. For Christians, the most important celebration of new life is Jesus' resurrection on Easter. Children may associate the holiday with bunnies, baskets, and candy, so it's important to share with them the real reason we rejoice!

Use these ideas to share Easter's message with children. Share that Jesus died and came to life again so we can go to heaven and be with him forever.

Palm Sunday Make "praise shakers" to celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Decorate the bottom sides of two paper plates. Staple the plates

together, bottom sides out, leaving space to pour in dried beans. Staple closed. Add streamers, and have a parade. Celebrate Jesus by shaking the instruments with shouts of praise.

Good Friday Insert toothpicks in a small vine wreath to resemble Jesus' crown of thorns. Whenever a family member makes a sacrifice for someone else, remove one thorn. The night before Easter, after children are asleep, remove the remaining thorns and decorate the crown with ribbons and flowers.

Easter Sunday Use a stamp pad and colored pencils to make thumbprint pictures that tell Easter events. IE: draw a tomb with a rolled-away thumbprint rock and a butterfly with thumbprint wings.



NO GODQUEST

Easter Sunday,
April 16

For details, visit
Trinity's website:
www.trinityny.org

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Resurrection Buns

As a family, make edible "empty tombs." Wrap a crescent-roll dough triangle around a large marshmallow. Dip the roll in melted butter and roll in cinnamon/sugar.

Cook the rolls according to package directions. The marshmallows "disappear," leaving an empty, sweet surprise in the middle.

After the rolls have cooled, read aloud Luke 24:1-3. Give each family member a roll and have them take one bite.

Ask: **What do you see inside your roll? How is that like what the women found? What do you think Jesus' empty tomb means?**

Say: **Just as our rolls are empty, Jesus' tomb was empty on Easter morning. That's because he died and came back to life for you and for me!**

Close in prayer. **Dear Jesus, thanks for coming back to life and leaving your tomb empty on Easter. We celebrate you today! Amen.**

Easter Is for Me!

The events of Holy Week and Easter might frighten or confuse younger children. Share the message in age-appropriate ways by using these tips.

- **Ages 2 to 5** Say that people who hated Jesus nailed him to a cross and left him there until he died. Explain that Jesus' friends were sad and afraid until Jesus came back to life three days later.
- **Ages 6 to 9** Fairness is a big deal at this age, so explain in simple language that Jesus willingly died in our place because he loves us. Children may be fascinated by crucifixion details. Avoid euphemisms for death such as "sleeping."
- **Ages 10 to 12** Preteens who are familiar with details of the Easter account are ready for the "why." Share why it was necessary for Jesus to die, referring to the blood sacrifices of the Old Testament.

New Life Go on a nature walk to collect lots of twigs. Help children use a low-temperature glue gun to attach the twigs to the outside of a clean, empty soup can. Then fill the "vase" with fresh flowers as you talk about how the twigs are like our lives before Jesus (dead and broken) and how the flowers represent our lives with Jesus (new and alive).

Prayer Eggs Use a basket of plastic eggs to encourage your family to talk to God. Place slips of paper with prayer topics inside the eggs. Make enough eggs for each person to open one per day during Holy Week. Include praises and gratitude, as well as prayer requests for friends, family, and the community. Open the eggs at meals or bedtime, and pray together for the requests. Place special prayer eggs in the basket on Easter morning to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Cookie Pops Use your favorite sugar cookie recipe to make crosses on a stick. If you don't have a cross-shaped cookie cutter, you can create a template or freehand the shape with a knife. Press a cookie stick (available at craft stores)

about 2 inches into each cookie. Bake until golden. Frost when cool. Share the treats with friends and neighbors, along with an Easter card or verse.

Jelly Bean Joy Use the colorful candy to remind them of Jesus' love. In this poem, each color represents part of the Easter account.

Orange - sins we've done.

Red - the blood of God's Son.

White - the grace he gives.

Green - new life in him.

Yellow - your place in heaven.

Invite Jesus into your life and be forgiven!

Why Jesus Stayed on the Cross

Give each family member an ice cube, and paper towel. Say: "Hold the ice cube in your bare hand while I read from the Bible." Read aloud Matthew 27:27-36, 45-50. Ask: "How did it feel to hold the ice? What did you want to do with it? What do you think it was like for Jesus to be crucified on a cross? Why do you think he stayed up there?" Say: "I don't think the soldiers or the nails kept Jesus on the cross. I think his love for us is what kept him up there. Jesus died and came back to life so we can live with him in heaven!"

MEDIA MADNESS



MOVIE

Title: *Wonder*

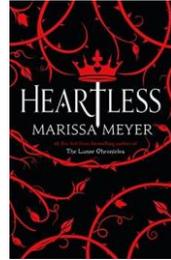
Genre: Drama

Rating: Not yet rated

Cast: Jacob Tremblay, Julia Roberts, Mandy Patinkin, Owen Wilson

Synopsis: This film is based on R.J. Palacio's 2012 *New York Times* best-selling novel, now required reading in many middle schools. It features Auggie Pullman, a 10-year-old with a severe facial deformity. After years of surgeries and homeschooling, Auggie enters middle school and deals with friends, bullies, and self-esteem issues.

Our Take: Viewers will do some soul-searching about how they view and treat people who look different from them. Because the subject and situations can be intense, this film is best for kids ages 9 and up. Topics for follow-up discussions include appearance, character, and friendship.



BOOK

Title: *Heartless*

Author: Marissa Meyer

Synopsis: This young-adult fiction book tells how Catherine, the Queen of Hearts in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, became evil. Catherine was once an innocent girl who wanted to open a bakery and fall in love on her own terms. But in a world of magic where she's desired by the King of Hearts, things don't turn out as she hopes.

Our Take: The main character, described as "cold, heartless, ruthless female lead," certainly isn't a positive role model. Although *Heartless* is recommended for kids as young as 12, it's a dark love story with an unhappy ending, making it inappropriate for preteen readers.



CULTURE & TRENDS

Undocumented Students With the recent crackdown on undocumented immigrants, some school districts are denying federal authorities access to students and their records. Almost 4 million K to 12 students in the United States are children of undocumented immigrants. (*cnn.com*)

Oh, Boy! The popular American Girl doll line has introduced its first boy doll. Logan Everett, a drummer, represents an effort to appeal to a broader audience, says a company spokeswoman. "A boy character has been a top request from our fans for decades." (*USAToday*)

Games, Sites & Apps

1-2 Switch

This game for the new Nintendo Switch console features face-to-face play. Instead of staring at a screen, players look at one another to compete in duels, dance-offs, and more. With a portable console and Joy Con wireless controllers, this game will likely be a hit at parties.

iCivics.org

This site, founded by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, helps children learn about civics and encourages involvement. After setting up a free account, kids can try a variety of role-playing games. Activities are geared toward children ages 8 and up.

Taps to Riches

In this simulation game, players build virtual riches by tapping buttons onscreen. The goal is to make "money," which players do by buying and investing in homes and businesses. Players can take over towns—even towns in outer space. Despite the materialistic message, the game is appropriate for kids.

QUICK STATS

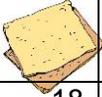
So Artificial The number of children who eat or drink artificial sweeteners (such as sucralose and aspartame) nearly tripled from 1999 to 2012, according to a recent study. The rate went from less than 9% of kids to 25% of kids in 13 years. (*time.com*)

On the Fence One-third of parents still don't feel they have enough information to decide whether to get their preteens vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV). But 57% of parents are okay with a law that requires preteens to be vaccinated, as long as there's an opt-out provision. (*wfdd.org*)



April

“Why are you looking among the dead
for someone who is alive? He isn’t here!
He is risen from the dead!”
—Luke 24:5-6, NLT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Preschool Easter Egg- stravaganza  1st-5th grade Passion Walk
9 	10	11 Passover Begins 	12	13	14  7pm	15
16 	17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day 
23 Trinity Annual Meeting 1pm	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						