

KIDS COVE FALL NEWSLETTER

We are so glad to have you all back in the cove

The start of the new ministry season is always a wonderful time, as we get to meet the children returning after a few months of summer break. Although it was great to be able to provide a much needed rest for our hard-working volunteers, we missed spending time with the children, who bring such life and joy to our church family. We welcome you all back, and pray that you have had a good start to this new ministry year. We also pray for God's presence and faithfulness to guide and protect your families.

As always, we would love to hear from you. If you have good stories to tell about what you are hearing from your kids. If you notice something special that your child's small group leader or Junior Kids teacher did. If you have concerns or questions. We are serious about our mission to partner with families in teaching your children about God, and we want to do the best job we can in reaching that goal. You can contact any of the staff in the children's ministry office by e-mailing us at kidscove@eastview.org or by phoning us at 334-4675. If you would like to send an e-mail to one individual staff member, you can use the addresses listed below.

With Glowing Hearts . . .

Eastview Children's Ministry is blessed with a large team of caring and dedicated volunteers. They aim to provide a quality, Christ-centred Sunday morning experience for your child. Care and thought goes into the preparation of each lesson, giving consideration for the age-appropriate needs of each group. Our emphasis is on building relationships, and communicating God's love through our words and actions. We hope that God's light is evident in what your children experience in this glowing team each Sunday.

The Children's Ministry Staff



Andrea Toews	Children's Ministry Director	andrea@eastview.org
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Laura Kornelsen	Small Groups & Operations Coordinator	laura@eastview.org

Partnering with families in teaching who God is and guiding children into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

You Won't Want to Miss This

Focus on Parenting Conference

Saturday, November 14

8:30a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Perhaps one of Christianity's biggest challenges is the fact that the majority of children are abandoning their Christian faith upon entering college and adulthood. Parents invest countless hours and energy towards the physical and emotional health of their children. But, what about their spiritual health?

Join thousands of parents all across the country as we look at parenting through the eyes of God, the benefits of God's design for your family and learn how to help your children and family thrive.

With Focus on Parenting, you will receive wisdom, encouragement and practical everyday tools from leading parenting experts such as Dr. Keving Leman, Mark Holmen, Ron Luce, Phil Vischer, Dr. Juli Slattery, and more, all of whom have a passion for seeing kids thrive - specifically yours!

Visit www.focusonparenting.com

Register today: \$20/person

Call 334-4675

God Bless You and Your Family

MIDDLE OF THE WEEK: BOYS CLUB & SHINE

Wednesday evenings at Eastview will soon be buzzing with the activity of our mid-week children's programs. Grade 3-6 children are invited to participate in one of two programs which will start up again for this ministry season on October 7. Boys Club provides a fun time that promotes male bonding, instills Christian values and reinforces the ways of Jesus Christ, through gym time, special projects, story telling, and awards-based activities. SHINE (Serving Him In Excellence) provides opportunity for children to explore their interest and potential for creative artistry. For more information on either of these programs, or to register your child, visit the Kids Cove info desk.

OUR CHILDREN IN HONDURAS, RWANDA, AND PERU

One of the things children learn on Sunday mornings in Junior Kids Church and in Kids Cove, and in 56 Degrees, is that we have opportunity to share God's love with children in other countries, by praying for them and by collecting offering money to send and help enhance the lives of these children. Kids Cove Ministries are committed to sending three Honduran children, Blanca, Daniel, and (TBD) to school. Did you know that it costs only \$300.00 tuition for a Honduran child to attend Christian school? This means that we have a reachable goal of providing a Christ-centred education for these three children. We also have committed to sponsoring two children, Tito (Rwanda) and Puspa (Peru) through World Vision. If **every** child who attended one of the Kids Cove ministries on Sunday morning donated as little as **just two quarters** each Sunday, our goal would be easily to realize. (Of course, you can always give as much as you want.) We are grateful to our families for participating in these projects with us, and for partnering with us in training your children of the value of sharing from our hearts and our wealth.

FLU PREVENTION

A note of reminder that, especially in this season of increased potential for virus-sharing, it is asked that if your child is showing any symptoms of flu, that you keep your child at home, to protect from spreading the bugs around. Such symptoms would include, fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, headache, diarrhea or vomiting. Also, reminding your child about best hand-washing techniques will aid in the prevention of spreading germs. Several antibacterial hand cleansing stations have been set up throughout Eastview church. Each classroom also has a bottle of antibacterial cleanser available for children to use, under the supervision of their teacher. Thank-you for cooperating with us.

PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES: "LEADING A CHILD TO CHRIST" SEMINAR OCTOBER SUNDAY XL

Sunday, October 18 will kick off a new season of Sunday XL. Sunday XL is an Eastview initiative designed to assist us all in our journey towards becoming like Christ. The monthly Sunday afternoon experience begins with lunch, followed by several learning and discovery classes to choose from. We invite you to consider joining an option at the October Sunday XL, called "Leading a Child to Christ". As parents, you have been given the vital task of guiding your children in their spiritual journey. Children need leaders in their lives to help them in taking steps of faith. The responsibility can seem daunting at times, yet it is a thrill to be able to partner with God in such divine work. This learning experience will teach and help you practice the language and the steps in the process of leading a child into relationship with Jesus. To register for this class, just fill out the tear-off portion of the Sunday XL brochure available from the Information booth beginning October 4th.

God Bless You and Your Family

Creating a Keepsake

Prayerfully personalizing a Bible for your children gives them a treasure to live by
By Austine Keller

Recently, my mother gave me her prized strand of beautiful, hand-crafted silver beads that she purchased on a trip to Mexico years ago. She always wore these beads against a solid black dress or sweater, creating the most dramatic affect.

My father once gave me a memoir he wrote about his military service. Whenever I read it, I'm filled with love and pride. I will treasure these keepsakes from my parents always.

Because of this, in recent years it's become increasingly important to me to find meaningful keepsakes to give to my own children. I don't have special jewelry, and I can't think of anything in my house that anyone would want. But I remember seeing a Bible at my friend Peggie's house that she said she was reading "for a grandchild." I flipped through its pages and noticed handwritten notes in the margins. Peggie's love for that grandchild was written all over that Bible. Peggie said that while her friends were making quilts and creating needlepoint mementos for their grandchildren, she couldn't think of anything comparable that she was capable of doing.

"I wasn't good at any of those things," Peggie said, "but I love to read God's Word, and that's when I got the idea to read a Bible for my children and grandchildren."

And read she did. I received an e-mail from her that says: "I finished reading for my four grandchildren and my four children (two sons and their wives)." She read eight Bibles.

Following Peggie's example, I purchased a new Bible and read it in the course of a year, praying for my daughter Lauren and writing love notes to her in the margins. For me this was a precious time in God's presence and also time to focus on my eldest child. I presented it to her on her 21st birthday. I hope that when she reads this Bible she will know how much I love her. Now, I have begun reading a Bible for Lindsey, her sister.

If you'd like to pass on this special treasure to your children, you might want to keep a few things in mind:

1. Choose wisely. Wide margins are the most important factor in choosing a Bible for this purpose. You need room to write comments or personal prayers. For readability, I like one with large print.

2. Personalize your Bible. Most Christian bookstores will imprint your loved one's name on the cover, either free or for a nominal charge.

3. Seek God's guidance. Ask God to bless your reading and to show you how to pray for your loved one.

4. Think through a reading plan. When I started reading for my eldest daughter, I began in the most logical place, the beginning—Genesis. It might be fine for most people to read the Bible from front to back, but I soon realized—somewhere in the Old Testament genealogies, I think— that I needed a different strategy. I found that it worked better for me to skip around a bit. At one sitting, I might read a chapter each from the Old and New Testaments, and then I might read a Proverb and a Psalm. Another time, I might read a book in the New Testament in its entirety. I keep track of what I've read by marking the table of contents.

5. Write from the heart. While the Bible is God's love letter to us, I write my own love notes in the margins or at the end of the chapter—whispers from a mother to her child. "Today I prayed that you would have the courage of Queen Esther—that you would allow God to work in your life in a mighty way." Or, "Please, Lord, give Lindsey a passion for your Word and a heart for your people."

You can also write as Peggie did: "I wrote what I felt I had learned from a particular passage." She adds, "I was honest at the end of some of the books, telling them that I was reading with the Holy Spirit's leading, but even with his leading there remained much in that specific book of the Bible that I didn't understand." Whatever you choose to write in your margins, write with integrity and write from your heart.

I guess I could give my daughters engraved jewelry, crystal, or a scrapbook made with love—something precious that would remind them of me long after I'm gone. But I can't think of a greater gift to give my children than God's Word—his gift of hope, love, and faith. And when they read my little notes and prayers in the margins, they will remember that I love them too.

Austine Keller is a freelance writer and mother of three. She and her family live in Florida.