

KIDS' CLUB CHRONICLE

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 8, Oct 6, Nov 3

Celebrating Birthdays

Sept 29

Family Sunday

Nov 22

Thanksgiving

BIRTHDAYS

Children

Benjamin Malabuyo	Sept 6
Madisen Schilling	Sept 7
Charlie Fleischer	Sept 12
Emma Salem	Sept 15
Chloe Salem	Sept 15
Kailani Mobley	Sept 20
Hannah Robinson	Oct 22
Canaan Gotelli	Oct 24
Rory Hayes	Nov 2
Samantha Conklin	Nov 4
Jude Milliron	Nov 6
Riley Salem	Nov 8
Isabel Bond	Nov 17

Leaders/Teachers/Helpers

Isabella Schilling	Sept 1
Bonnie Arnwine	Sept 3
Susan von Emster	Sept 5
Ysabella Hernandez	Sept 5
Isabel Patchin	Sept 11
Abby McDavitt	Sept 18
Paul Ottmer	Sept 19
Tamah Roby	Sept 20
Dan Conklin	Oct 9
Cai Hayes	Oct 10
Eveline Barnard	Oct 11
Mariah Rivera	Oct 15
Marc Lucca	Oct 16
Susan Ottmer	Nov 9
Brad Bond	Nov 14
Jeannette Conklin	Nov 30

Dear Parents,

I hope you all have had a wonderful summer together as a family. I am praying for everyone as they transition into the school year. This time of year can be very busy. As always, I want to encourage you to remember and to make time for what is most important. **Evaluate and pray about how to continue to love Jesus first!**

Our theme for this next school year is **"Powering Up in Prayer"**. We will be focusing on different topics to pray for each month.

I am so excited to share the praise that as a result of our church family's commitments to serve in CM, **we are once again able to provide two services for pre-school through 5th grade starting on September 1st**. We will continue providing Nursery care for the 1st service. Our first service will have the following classes: Nursery, Pre-school, K-2nd (Room 3) and 3rd-5th (Room 5). Our second service will have the following class: Pre-school (starting at age 2 ½) to 5th grade (Room 3).

Starting August 26th, Jamie Smith will be serving as the interim CM Director during the week. Bonnie Arnwine and Eveline Barnard will be the point people on Sunday mornings.

If you need assistance on Sunday, they are the ones to see.

New Harbor is still looking for a permanent CM Director. Please continue to be praying about this. It has been such a joy, honor, and privilege serving as your children's pastor for almost 7 years! I love you and your families!

WITH LOVE, GRATITUDE, AND PRAYERS,

Melanie Robbins, Children's Pastor

TEACHING CHILDREN TO VALUE ALL PEOPLE

By Leslie Barner. *Originally posted to FamilyLife.com*

A story recently circulated on social media about a little girl and a doll. After selecting a doll and taking it to the front of the toy store to pay, the cashier asked the girl if she was sure that was really the doll she wanted. The little girl responded with an emphatic "yes!" The cashier protested, "But she doesn't look like you." The little girl replied, "Yes, she does! She's a doctor, I'm a doctor! She's a pretty girl, and I'm a pretty girl."

The cashier saw only the difference in skin color. The little girl saw the more meaningful similarities.

The little girl got it right.

Most children do not regard outward appearances the way adults do or give credence to stereotypes. Generally speaking, children accept people who are different from themselves. But even if they don't, they can be taught to value the dignity of all people.

The poem "Children Learn What They Live," written by Dorothy Law Nolte in 1954, speaks to the powerful influence a child's environment has on the way he or she treats other people. It states, for instance, that "If children live with acceptance, they learn to love." Likewise, if children live with bigotry, they learn to hate.

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THE CHRONICLE CORNER MEET BONNIE ARNWINE, Teacher

Bonnie Arnwine found her way into the Children's Ministry, not realizing she had the gift of teaching. She was drawn to the people – the teachers, helpers, and kids – and building bonds with each individual has become one of her favorite parts of serving within the ministry.

Stepping into the ministry over twenty years ago when her own children were in preschool, Bonnie says "time flies when you're having fun!" She believes the fun in the classrooms is a vital part of the strategic ministry. "We're partnering with parents to build a solid, Christ-Centered foundation."

Bonnie shares that her service within the Children's Ministry allowed her to learn and grow within a safe environment. "The team is supportive, and so are the kids," she says, "There's a place for almost every spiritual gift in Children's Ministry."

Bonnie and her husband Geoffrey have two adult children, Geoffrey and Grace. When she's not serving, Bonnie enjoys reading, specifically Christian biographies and business books. Her most recent literary adventure: *The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace: Empowering Organizations by Encouraging People*.

During the time of transition, Bonnie has graciously agreed to serve as a Sunday point person, assisting teachers and greeting families on most Sundays of the month. Be sure to give her a warm welcome into this new position!



Teaching Children to Value All People, continued

As parents, we should think carefully about what we are teaching our children about valuing all people, about how we are—or aren't—modeling an attitude of love and respect toward all God's image bearers. But let's be honest, we can only teach our children to value all people if we value all people. And we will only truly model what we believe.

Here are some biblical truths that emphasize the value of all people. These give context for your own outlook as well as issues you want your children to understand.

God created the entire human race. Though we are a diversity of tribes, nations, languages, and families, we are one race with one common ancestor. The Bible says, "He himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth" (*Acts 17:25-26*). Every man, woman, and child was created in the image of God (*see Genesis 1:27*).

God loves all people equally. Jesus didn't come into the world to die for only one ethnic group or for certain types of people. He gave His life for all. The Bible tells us, "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world" (*1 John 2:2*). God paid the ultimate price of His own Son's life to ransom people for Himself "from every tribe and language and people and nation" (*Revelation 5:9*).

God is love. Any form of hatred, bigotry, feelings of superiority, or indifference toward others is sin. Hate is a complete contradiction of God's character and hinders one's ability to even know Him. *First John 4:7-8* says, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

With a heart of humility and love, we can teach our children to value all people. Here are four things we should keep in mind as we seek to influence our children in this way:

1. See people through God's eyes. "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good" (*Genesis 1:31*). Every human being, without exception, is "fearfully and

wonderfully made" by God (*Psalms 139:14*). Appreciate the beauty of God's diverse creation. Resist making judgments based on outward appearance, which reveals nothing about a person's heart (*see 1 Samuel 16:7*).

2. Practice Humility. To consider oneself better than another goes against what God expects of His children. Instead, we are to consider others as better than ourselves and to care about their interests as well as our own (*see Philippians 2:3-4*). This means that we are to acknowledge the sinful inclination of our own souls, that we are no less a sinner in need of God's mercy than any other. Additionally, we are to care about the interests of others, including the suffering and injustices they endure, even when we are not directly affected.

3. Reject stereotypes. It's impossible to assign a skill, ability, or behavior to an entire group of people. There are black people who couldn't shoot a ball through the hoop if they tried. And there are white people who have rhythm and some pretty great dance moves! Every ethnic group is made up of unique individuals. Get to know people for yourself.

4. Focus on the commonalities. As humans, we have more in common than we have differences. Most significantly, we are all created equally in the image of God (*Genesis 1:27, 5:1, James 3:9*) and we are all in desperate need of the Savior. "As it is written: None is righteous, no, not one" (*Romans 3:10*).

Christians share a common identity in Christ which takes precedence over ethnicity and every other difference that tends to divide us. John Piper explains, "All believers in Jesus Christ, of every ethnic group, are united to each other, not only in common humanity in the image of God, but even more, as brothers and sisters in Christ and members of the same body." Additionally, we have the same mission: to make disciples of all men (*see Matthew 18-20*).

God has a diverse family—by design and for His glory. We must learn to dwell together in unity (*see Psalm 133:1*). Pray for one another. Encourage one another. And above all, love one another. Jesus said, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (*John 13:35*).

Our children will know, too, and will live what they learn.