

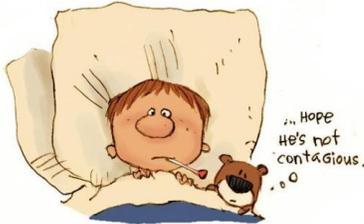


**Assisting Parents
in Bringing up their Children
in the Training
and Instruction of the Lord.**



THE PARTNERSHIP POST

November 18 – 22, 2019



Help Prevent the Spread of Illness

With it being cold and flu season, and because people tend to stay inside during this time of year, the spreading of germs becomes more common. Please help us prevent the spreading of germs and illness by keeping your child home if (s)he is ill. As a general rule, keep your child home if (s)he has a fever, nausea, bad pain, persistent coughing, or vomiting/diarrhea. For the health of your child and others at school- Please follow the 24-hour rule: only send your child back to school when (s)he is fever free (without meds) for 24 hours, has been on antibiotics for 24 hours, hasn't thrown up etc. for 24 hours, etc.

Sports pictures

Basketball team pictures will be taken this week. Girls will have their pictures taken on Wednesday. Boys will have their pictures taken on Thursday. these pictures will be taken at the beginning of their practice. They will be receiving their jerseys on picture day.

CPTA

Thank you to everyone who made it to Family Dinner Night! It was so great to see so many SVLS families. We will announce the location of the next Family Dinner Soon!

Congratulations to Everyone who participated in the Cereal Drive to benefit the Apple Valley Food Pantry! We collected a total of 138 boxes of cereal!

The Secret Criteria was Cheerios (any brand or flavor). The Winner of the drive is our 1-2 Graders with 6.8% of their donations being Cheerios! CPTA will be coordinating the classroom prize with Mrs Knorr!

Mark your calendars to help the CPTA on Sunday, November 24, from 11-4 when you come to the Learning Shop to get your gifts wrapped for free on all in store purchases. Toys will be 20% off this day as well! This is a fantastic way to shop early for Christmas and get your gifts wrapped. All tips that are given that day as well as a donation from the Learning Shop will go directly to the CPTA to help with many events and items at Shepherd of the Valley. Hope to see many familiar faces come out and support our school! If you want to help wrap during this time contact us at cpta@svls.com

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) Informational Presentation

On Monday, November 25, from 6:00-7:00 p.m., SVLS will be hosting a **WPCP Informational Night** at the K – 8 campus. Our presenter will be Terry Brown, Vice-President of School Choice Wisconsin (www.schoolchoicewi.org). His presentation will have information regarding WPCP, as well as answers to questions you might have. If you have other questions not answered by the presentation, he'll be able to answer those as well. All SVLS families and supporting congregation members are invited and encouraged to attend. Childcare will be provided.

<p>What: SVLS School Choice Information Night <i>Presentation by Terry Brown from School Choice Wisconsin</i></p> <p>When: Monday, November 25 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Where: SVLS K-8 Campus N8728 S. Coop Rd, Menasha</p> <p>Who: Preschool or K-8 families, or SVLS federation families are invited.</p> <p><i>Childcare will be provided.</i></p>	 
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Scrip

Remember, a variety of cards are available online! If you don't already have an account, visit www.shopwithscrip.com to create an account.

Also, check out www.shopwithscrip.com to see special one-day bonuses that will be available on Thursday, Nov. 21st!



Christmas for Kids
Saturday, December 7th
at
Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
For ages 4k – 6th grade
Registration begins at 12:15pm
Activities from 12:45 – 3:15pm
Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus!!
Music
Crafts
Photo booth
Christmas Bingo
Snacks
& more
Pre-registration is not necessary

THIS WEEK'S HOT LUNCH MENU-salad served every day	
Mon	fish sandwich + smilies
Tues	MYO sandwich +chips
Wed	scrambled egg +sausage links
Thurs	pizza + yogurt parfait
Fri	chicken noodle soup + bread or crackers

<p>Worship Services Bethel 920-725-1822-English 920-840-5490-Espanol Sunday Worship-English 8:00 & 10:30 am Los Domingos Misa-Espanol 12:00pm</p>	<p>Worship Services St. Luke 920-788-4408 Wednesday at 6:30pm Sunday at 9:00am</p>	<p>Worship Services Mt. Calvary 920-731-4001 Thursday at 6:30pm Sunday at 9:00am</p>
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Parenting Challenges

Cheryl Loomis



Family life can sometimes feel like a juggling act, and most parents strive for balance.

Tensions exist between work and play, needs and wants, and Christian values and the effects of culture in modern society. Raising young children to become responsible Christians poses many challenges along the way.

We live in an age of information. We are able to access it on a myriad of parenting topics. A generation ago Dr. Spock gave parents the advice to rely on common sense, to trust your own instincts, and to follow your doctor's directions. Some would contend that parenting in that age was easier. Today so much information presents a challenge.

Parenting magazines, blogs, and journals abound, all with differing opinions on the same topic. Previous generations could often rely on immediate family for advice on parenting matters. Now that family origins can be far-flung, parents are left to read and research on their own. Wading through too much information creates stress in trying to decide what is the best way to parent. We might well question what is available. What philosophy forms the basis of the information parents are reading? Parenting books are abundant in many bookstores. Online journals and blogs offer a multitude of perspectives on the same topic. Finding the balance and knowing whom to trust pose challenges.

Balance within a family is another challenge. It manifests itself in a variety of ways but boils down to the fact that

FAMILY LIFE CAN SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE A JUGGLING ACT, AND MOST PARENTS STRIVE FOR BALANCE.

we all have the same allotment of 24 hours in a day. How do parents find the time needed to recharge for the day-to-day demands of parenting? How do they balance parenting responsibilities with the need for personal time? Solo parents struggle to find some personal time along with juggling the needs of children, while married partners struggle to find some time to build their relationship as a couple. Many families are over scheduled with too many activities after school, causing some of them to feel that they are living a hurried, disconnected lifestyle.

Finances also create varying challenges. Families today struggle to make ends meet, and children feel this stress. Entitlement abounds, and raising children to think past the idea that they deserve everything they want is difficult. Teaching children to distinguish between needs and wants is difficult

when they live in a consumer society. Guiding children to a

wise use of money has been

redesigned from a round, pink piggy bank to one that is compartmentalized—save, spend, donate, invest—to help children understand money management.

Teaching values, another challenge, in a culture that is saturated with media influence poses problems. Young children are imitators of superheroes, while older children may be exposed to inappropriate reality TV situations. Ellen Goodman, a *Boston Globe* columnist, once wrote that the main job of parents is to “counter the culture.” So much more so for Christian parents, whether it be for sports heroes, clothing, advertising, or social media. Being able to screen the content of things a child sees is a challenge as newer technologies are introduced. Often children are more technologically savvy than their parents.

Raising children with Christian values when the world they see goes contrary to Scripture is the biggest challenge. Modern thinking insists there are no absolutes; people make their own truth. Christian parents know where to look for help in raising the next generation. God's Word gives us the absolute truth. Parents can turn to Scripture for help in meeting the challenges. Open up the Scriptures with your children so that they find the same help for their own challenges.

Cheryl Loomis is a professor of early childhood education at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota.

WITH MY BASEBALL CAREER SEEMINGLY HANGING IN THE BALANCE, THE DECISION TOOK MY DAD ZERO SECONDS. CHURCH FIRST. THEN THE GAME.

I once read an article written by Harvard Business School professor Clayton M. Christensen. Entitled “The Bottom Line on Happiness,” it is based on a lecture he gives his students on their last day in his class. Christensen’s point is that the business principles students learn must also be applied to their personal lives. One of the subheads is “Avoid ‘Just This Once’”.

As parents, we’ve heard this phrase uttered by our children. “Can’t I stay over at my friend’s house, *just this once*?” Or “I promise I won’t ruin it. Let me use it . . . *just this once!*” Do you remember using the same phrase? I do.

I wasn’t very girly for being a girl. I didn’t like to wear dresses, cringed at the sight of pink, played baseball in an all-boy league, and prided myself in the fact that I could hold my own in that league. There was one problem. We played games on Wednesday nights. That might not seem like such a big deal, but for a pastor’s kid during Lent . . . it was huge. Lenten services began at the same time my games did. To a middle schooler full of drama, the answer was “My team needs me!” Week after week, I begged, pleaded, rolled my eyes, slammed doors, and cast wrath on any sibling in my path. *Just this once* couldn’t I play and skip church?

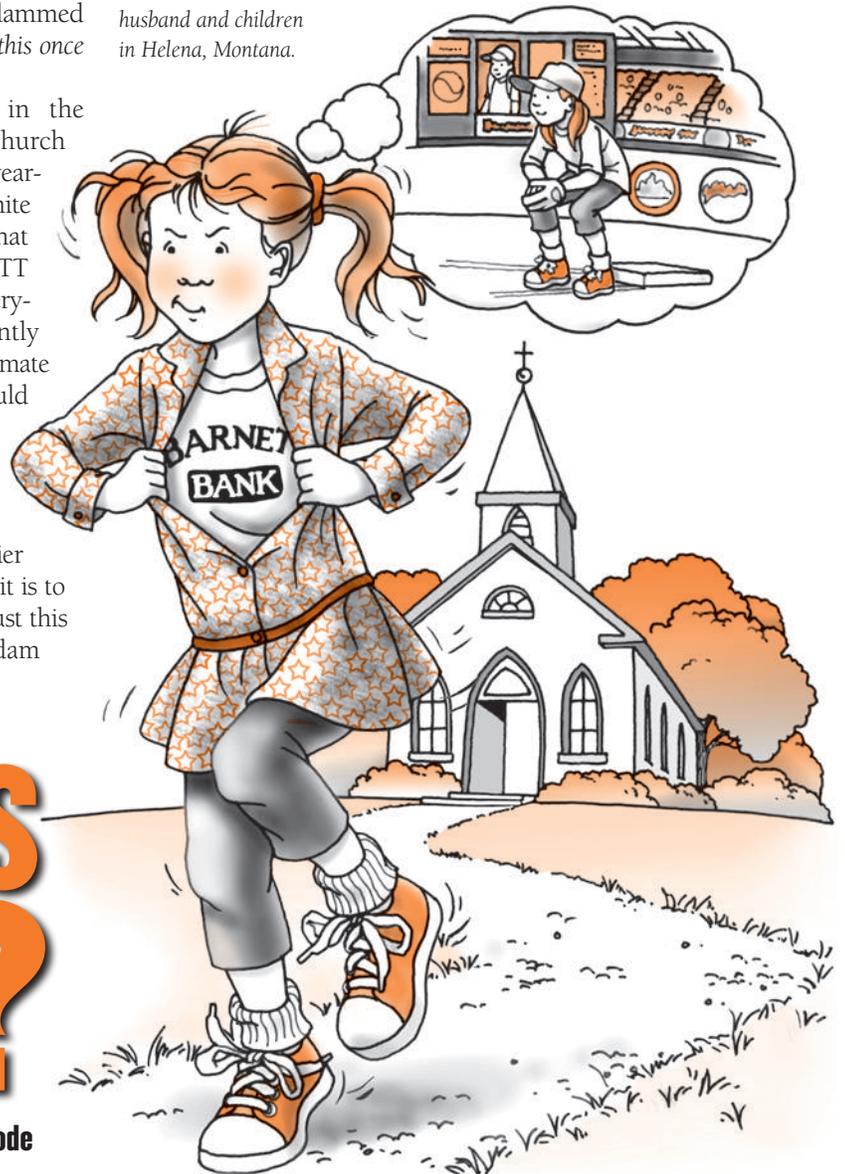
With my baseball career seemingly hanging in the balance, the decision took my dad zero seconds. Church first. Then the game. So each week I went to church, wearing my little league uniform under a brown and white dress that snapped down the front. I didn’t care that everyone could see my green uniform with BARNETT BANK clearly visible through the dress. I wanted everyone to know the sacrifice I was making. Apparently I had forgotten the purpose of Lent: to focus on the ultimate sacrifice Christ made. As soon as church ended, I would rip off my dress, Superman-style, as I ran to the car, and my mom would drive me to the ball field, where I would assume my position at first base . . . in the middle of the fourth inning.

Christensen says, “The lesson I learned is that it’s easier to hold to your principles 100 percent of the time than it is to hold to them 98 percent of the time. If you give in to ‘just this once,’ . . . you’ll regret where you end up.” Just ask Adam and Eve.

What significance do the words *just this once* have in our lives? Maybe we need to ask the teenage mom or the alcoholic or the drug addict. What would their lives be like if not for the words *just this once*? Thinking in Bible terms: What if Noah had said, “Just this once I won’t build the ark,” when God issued his command? What if, *just once*, Jesus had given in to Satan’s temptations? What if, *just once*, Jesus had decided that suffering and dying for the sins of all people was crazy? What if . . . ?

I am thankful today for my mom and dad who stood their ground, who listened to my screams of “*Just this once!*” and then proceeded to teach me a life lesson about the importance of God’s Word in our lives. Their grandchildren are now learning the same one. I am also thankful to our Savior, who suffered and died for that selfish middle-school sinner: me. How amazing that Jesus can take some little words that cause us such grief, *just this once*, and turn them into something incredible: *Just this once* I died for you! There is our bottom line on happiness.

Heather Bode lives with her husband and children in Helena, Montana.



Just this ONCE?

Heather Bode