

Shoreline MOPS

April 2011

Do your children associate Easter with the Easter Bunny or the cross? It is difficult to compete with Easter movies, Easter Egg Hunts, Easter Bunnies at the mall, and Easter candy. But we are called to lead our children to Him, and Easter is such an important celebration in the Christian faith! Look for situations to share your faith and explain the symbols of Easter...the time of Lent, the observance of Good Friday, and the finale: Easter Sunday.

Here's a quick cheat sheet:

The egg symbolizes new birth. It's oval shape has no beginning and no end, and is a symbol of eternity. The outer shell represents the protective darkness. The egg shell is the "womb" of the tomb, where the Crucified was given new life. A hatching chick represents the risen Christ emerging from the tomb on Easter morning.

New life emerges from an egg; Christ emerges alive from the tomb. Life begets a new generation of life coming out of an egg; Christ generates a new life for all of creation!

The bunny symbolizes the abundance of new life and fertility; Jesus gives us a new life with him in heaven through his death and resurrection.

The Easter Lilly is white, a sign of the purity of Jesus. Lilies and other spring flowers emerge from the ground in the Spring, symbolizing a new life.

Palm Branches remind us of the time when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday and people waved the palm branches, welcoming him.

Lent is a time of sorrow from Ash Wednesday to Easter. It is a time of preparing for the death of Jesus. Lent is described as being 40 days, as Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting before going into public ministry. Just as Jesus prayed and fasted, we too use this time to fast, repent, pray, and alms (giving.)

Maudy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday is a feast that commemorates the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples.

Good Friday is also known as Holy Friday and observes the day Jesus was crucified at Calvary. History suggests that Jesus was crucified on a Friday (John 19:42.)

Easter Sunday celebrates Jesus rising from the dead on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is often celebrated with a feast, including foods that may have been abstained from during Lent.

Upcoming Meetings

April: STRAWBERRY FUNDRAISER event. Orders will be taken now-5/1

4/12
Guest speaker Nancy Cahalan talks on "Codependency & Enablers"

4/26
Craft: fleece blankets for community care outreach

Visit MOPS International online at <http://www.mops.org>

Shoreline Events

Women's Bible Study, Tuesdays @6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at @ 9 a.m.

AWANA Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

4/2 & 16 Convalescent Home Visit, 9:45 a.m.

4/3 & 17 Women's Shelter Visit, 7pm. (831) 655-0100.

4/6 Night of Worship 6:30p

4/22 Good Friday Service 12, 3 & 7 p.m.

4/24 EASTER SUNDAY Services 7:45, 9,10:30 & 11:59 a.m.

Ongoing -Community Care Donate non-perishable items. Donations are appreciated!

Fun Easter Craft : Cake pops!

Super cute and not too tricky, the kids will have fun making these! Start by making a box of cake mix as directed in a 13x9 cake pan. Crumble into a large bowl. (Fun for kids!)

Mix with 1 tub of frosting with fingers or large spoon. (Messy but fun!) Roll into quarter size balls and place on a wax paper covered cookie sheet. (Makes 40-50!) Melt yellow candy melts in the microwave at 30 sec intervals until smooth. Dip the tip of the lollipop stick in the candy and insert halfway into a cake ball. Freeze to firm. Remelt the candy and dip by rotating until covered. Tap excess softly and place in a styrofoam block. Once dry, dip into the candy coating with a toothpick and dab where you want to place the beak, feet, and wings. Use sprinkle shapes (flowers and candy colored chips) to make body parts. Draw the eyes on with a Wilton food pen.



Mom's Devotion

Our Mentor Mom, Kristen shares this parenting moment with us:

My son, Ryan, came home for Spring Break a few weeks ago. He is currently attending Cal Poly, and his big aspiration has been to be involved in politics and facilitate change for the better.

With some influence from my daughter, Delaney, my faith has strengthened immensely in the past few years and I've felt that the Lord may be leading my son on a different path. During Ryan's visit, he shared with me he had been offered a position with Shoreline Church as a summer internship in the middle school youth, and he felt God was guiding him to accept it. He felt like ministry might be his new career path as well!

At that moment, I knew that my faith in the Lord and my prayers for my children were so powerful...leaning on Him and trusting that he had a plan for my children was revealed! Putting it in God's hands has allowed the Lord to work in Ryan and bring him to a place of clear understanding.

Devotional verse: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to the Lord." Phil 4:6

April Recipe: Eggceptional Cupcakes

I remember making these in girl scouts many years ago. Kids can help color the eggs and blow out the contents of the eggs.



Ingredients:

Prepared pound cake mix, as directed on the box and colored, if desired
Homemade or tub of frosting
Easter Sprinkles
18 eggs

Prepare pound cake mix by pouring into a pastry bag or Ziplock bag. Using a straight pin, puncture each egg at the top and bottom with ½ inch diameter hole. (Hold the egg over a bowl to catch any egg dripping out of the shell. Remove shell bits. Like a balloon, blow the contents of the eggs into the bowl. Adjust the size of the holes if needed, but do not make the holes too large!

Wash and dry the egg shells. Color them with egg dye if desired. Place each egg upright into a mini muffin pan that has a small piece of tin foil in each (or you can spray with non stick spray.) Cut the corner of the piping bag and fill each egg ¾ full with the batter. Do not overfill! Bake according to cake directions, using the cupcake times as a guide. Use a toothpick to confirm doneness. Let cool. (Any cake on the shell can be wiped off easily.)

To serve, peel a bit of the shell off the top and decorate as desired.

Mom Tip:

Worried about the sugar high you children will be getting from their Easter baskets? Fill the basket with books, a spring time craft, a DVD, or next season's bathing suit and goggles instead! Target's dollar section is a great resource.

The kids won't notice the sugary treats are missing!!

Bible Verse for the Season:

"He is not here, but is risen" Luke 24:6

Don't forget about our Strawberry Fundraiser! Order by May 1st! ½ Dozen chocolate covered strawberries are only \$10!!!

March Birthdays

4/10 Julia Pelkington

4/23 Tina Priest
Sarah Schramm

4/29 Dana Redding

Happy Birthday, ladies!

Do you need prayer? Just ask! Prayer request boxes are on your table at every MOPS meeting.

2010-11 Shoreline Steer Team

Coordinator

Ashley Topping

Hospitality

Erin Keller, Laurel Clemmer, & Julie Cruz

Creative Activities

Joy Williams

Fundraising

Anne Cook

Community Care

Janet Webster

Discussion Group Leaders

Debbie Fosmark & Krissie Solomoun

Mentor Moms

Lisa York, Patty Whitmore, Kristen McKalson, Pam Bell, Kristy Fudenna

Newsletter

Christina Herschelman