

# Shoreline MOPS

November 2011

Ready for the holidays?? It has started! The next few weeks will whizz by at light speed and Thanksgiving will be here! Blink, and before you can finish the leftovers, it will be Christmas! While this is certainly a wonderful time for family and celebration, it sometimes leaves us asking, "Where did the year go?!" Take time to talk with your children about how we as Christians are called to be thankful and praise God for our blessings every day. Spend time writing down your daily blessings in a journal to remember the holidays- and your children at their ages and stages. You'll be glad you did!

## Upcoming Meetings

11/8  
Meeting with craft: advent  
calendars!

11/22  
Speakers: Terri & Andy Belleci  
talk marriage

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

## Shoreline Events

Worship Service Times:  
Sundays 8:30, 10:00, 11:30a  
Monday: 6:30pm

Women's Bible Study:  
Tuesdays, 6:30 pm and  
Wednesdays, 9 am

AWANA: Wednesdays @ 6:30

Convalescent Home Visit: 1<sup>st</sup>  
& 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 9:45 am

Thirst for God Study:  
Tuesdays, 7pm. 655-0100

Celebrate Recovery:  
Tuesdays, 6:30pm

8 Pillars of Health:  
Thursdays, 7pm

11/10-12 Organic Outreach  
Conference

11/16 Night of Worship:  
Wednesday, 6:30pm

12/6 Women's Christmas  
Dinner, 6-9pm. \$10

12/13 MOPS Christmas  
Party

## Giving Thanks:

As the turkey, stuffing, and schmorgasboard of food go on the table this Thanksgiving day, does your family pause to thank God for blessings? Even if your family has struggled with health, finances, or in relationships, consider this:

- If you have food in your fridge, clothes on your back, and a place to sleep at night you are richer than 75% of the world
- If you have a savings account and money in your wallet, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy
- If you have a home computer you are part of only 1% of the world with that luxury
- If you can attend a church meeting without fear of harassment, arrest, torture, or death you are more blessed than three billion people in the world

Here are some creative ideas how your family can show thanks each Thanksgiving:

**Leaves of Thanks.** Cut out fall colored paper in the shapes of leaves and give one to each dinner guest. Have them write or draw something they are thankful for and during the blessing have each guest share their blessing. You can have children make wreaths or a "tree of thanks" by cutting out a large hollow circle or tree trunk from cardboard and gluing the leaves onto them.



**Double Batch.** When making your favorite Thanksgiving items, make a double quantity and deliver it to a local shelter or convalescent hospital. Let the kids help make and deliver the items with "Happy Thanksgiving!" notes and they can experience the joy of blessing others!

**Notes of thanks.** Have children write or decorate cards thanking soldiers, police officers, and/or firemen for their service. Talk to your children about how these service members work to keep us safe and many times have to spend holidays and time away from their families to do their jobs. Visit [anysoldier.com](http://anysoldier.com) or [amillionthanks.org](http://amillionthanks.org) for where to send your cards.

**Increase your guest list.** Invite someone away from or without family to your Thanksgiving. Single soldiers, a college student babysitter not able to fly home, or elderly neighbor would greatly appreciate being a part of your celebration and your children can see how easy and fun thinking of others can be!



## Operation Christmas Child

Don't forget to fill your shoeboxes with goodies and bring them in for this wonderful life changing program!

Popular items include school supplies, shoes, coloring books, hygiene items, non-military/violent toys, and personal notes from children. Wrap the top and bottom of the box (separately) and affix the gift tag along with shipping postage (\$7 is the cost to prepare and ship the box) and drop off the box / boxes to Shoreline Church or another drop off Collection Center. National collection week for the OCC shoeboxes is November 14-21. For more information, visit the website: [www.samaritanpurse.org/occ](http://www.samaritanpurse.org/occ)

### Pumpkin Lasagna:

This is one of my faves. It's fun fall version of a family favorite meal, using doctored up pasta sauce and canned pumpkin- which is high in vitamin A and using canned pumpkin makes your average lasagna half the cost to make! It's also a great make ahead meal.

#### Ingredients:

- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 - 16oz can pumpkin             | 1 - 16 oz box lasagna noodles |
| 1 T EVOO                         | 1 egg                         |
| 1 med onion, chopped             | 2 ½ c ricotta                 |
| 5 cloves garlic, pressed         | 2 c shredded mozz cheese      |
| ½ c red wine (or chic broth)     | ½ c shredded romano cheese    |
| ¼ c each fresh basil and parsley | ½ t dried oregano             |

Place pumpkin puree in a fine sieve over a bowl to drain while you prepare the sauce. Heat EVOO in a medium saucepan and sauté onion, 6 min. Add garlic and cook 2 min. Pour in wine and cook until reduced in half. Stir in tomato sauce and herbs; simmer 15 min. Season with salt and pepper.

Boil the lasagna noodles according to directions. Mixed strained pumpkin with egg. Season with salt and pepper. Mix ricotta and 1 c of mozz plus the romano cheese in a bowl. Assemble layers of lasagna in a 9x13 pan: sauce, noodles, pumpkin, cheese and repeat. Top with remaining cheese and bake, covered, for 30 min at 350. Remove foil and bake additional 10 min until cheese is bubbly.

## Mom Tip:

Looking for something to make for a quick and healthy dinner? Soup is a great fall and winter supper! Ditch the canned soups, which are high in sodium and use leftover meat, frozen and fresh veggies, and top with shredded cheese. For picky eaters, puree the soup...they'll never know!

## Bible Verse for the Season:

As Christians, every day is a day of thanksgiving. However busy your day is, take time to give thanks- and let your children see you do it! Teaching our children to have grateful hearts helps prepare them to respond gracefully to life's trials and help find the silver lining in every stormy cloud!

*"Give thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus."  
Eph 5:20*

## October Birthdays:

11/2 Molly Fromille

11/13 Anisa Chupp

11/18 Adriana Ramsey

11/24 Stephanie Deckart

Happy Birthday, ladies!

## 2010-11 MOPS Shoreline Steering Team

### *Coordinators*

Program Coordinator

Registration

Creative Activities

Publicity

Community Care

Discussion Group Leader

Mentor Moms

MOPPETS Liason

MOPS Playdate Coordinator

Debbie Fosmark & Sarah Schramm

Erin Keller

D'Anne Peterson

Katie Lamarque & Cat Yanez

Christina Herschelman

Jennifer Hauser

Shelley Grahl

Pam Bell, Kristy Fudenna, Nancy Kreer

Robin Maguire, Terry Reeves, & Lisa York

Katie Pendle

Ofelia Harkavy

