



November 4, 2016

"PREPARING KIDS FOR TOMORROW"

STANDING FIRM IN CHRIST...I CAN'T BE SHAKEN!

Our chapel service this week was led by Mrs. Moeller's Servant Living Class. The class emphasized the need for items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Next week will have chapel on Friday with our Grandparents.



CHAPEL OFFERINGS

This trimester's chapel offerings are being used to help support a mission school in Africa. So far to date we have collected \$137 which will be used to help send items to be collected later on for the students to use while in school. Here is a suggested list of donations for each classroom, but feel free to bring anything on the list!



HAVE YOU INVITED YOUR GRANDPERSON?

On Friday, November 11, Immanuel Lutheran School will host the Annual Grandpersons' Day! Invite your Grandma and Grandpa or another favorite person to spend the morning with you that day. We will start off with a worship service at 8:00 am led by the students in grades Little Ark through 4th. Following the worship service, Grandpersons will spend time visiting the classrooms. At 10:00 we will all gather in the Commons for a late morning performance by the Disciple Choir, the Glory Singers, the Bell Choirs and the Intermediate and Advanced Bands. During this time we will also be recognizing our veterans from all the branches of service. Student dress for the day is as follows: Grades Little Ark through 2nd should "dress their best!" while grades 3 through 8 should wear jeans with white or red shirts. Registration forms for the grandparents/grandpersons who will be visiting will be sent home Monday. Please return them by Wednesday, Nov. 9 to register your guest for the day.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We have collected over \$200 in Box Tops so far this year. Keep saving and submitting so we can make our goal of \$2,000.



SYCAMORE HINTS

Several parents have talked about not being able to get email addresses for families. When you signed in last August, you were directed to go to MY FAMILY where you could complete the information profile. In this area, you have your address, phone number, etc. On the right hand side in the upper corner you will find several items that are defaults. The email section was checked which meant that you do not want your email address shared. This is why there are not emails shown for the vast majority of families. Parents, you must go to this area and uncheck your email address so that it will be listed in the directory and open to other parents to use.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Don't forget to save your empty shoeboxes from back to school shopping for Operation Christmas Child. Now is also a great time to pick up some extra school supplies to fill up the boxes. More information will come in the following weeks, so keep checking the announcements. Last year we packed 211 boxes, how many can we do this year?



LIBRARY CORNER

Some years ago a book was given to our library by Jan Smith. It is entitled *In Jessie's Shoes* and was written by Beverly Lewis. It is a heartfelt story about a little girl who has a disabled brother and learns to understand and appreciate him in a new way. We are encouraged to teach our children to offer patience, gentleness and of course, love to those who struggle with physical and developmental disabilities. This is a great book. Thanks Jan!



13TH ANNUAL FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL GALA

Friday, November 11 at D'Andrea's in Crystal Lake at 6 pm. Tickets can be ordered by going to www.flhsgala.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to move Community Harvest food bags from the Commons to the warehouse on Sunday, November 21 at 12 noon. Please contact Linda Mader at 815-459-3349 to sign up for this opportunity.



MEDIA ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Additional media assistants are needed for the contemporary services to assist the Praise Team behind the scenes. One—two Thursday evening rehearsals and Sunday services each month. Training provided! In interested, please contact Amber Rogers at 815-236-7736 or be email to buggybubby@gamil.com.



WANT A FUNDRAISER THAT EVERYONE LOVES?

Purchase gift cards through Manna! A designated percentage of every card sold will go to your family account and can be used at any time, and another percentage goes to the school, so you get the cards you want for shopping, dining, movies, golfing, gas, hotels, Visa cards, the list goes on and on, to use for yourself or to give as gifts. Not a school family? You can designate the profit to a school family, or just to the school. Please stop by the Manna table in the foyer and check it out! Only 58 days till Christmas!



TRUNK OR TREAT PICTURES

For access to the Trunk or Treat pictures taken by Mrs. Martell, go to <http://studiopop.pixieset.com/immanueltrunkortreat/>. 9395 is the download code.



NO BUS SERVICE, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8

11:30 AM DISMISSAL ON FRIDAY, NOV 11

NO BUS SERVICE HOME

ANNUAL CANTIGNY CATAPULT CONTEST

Last Saturday, October 29, our middle school Catapult Team competed in the Annual Cantigny Catapult Contest. About 14 teams competed in the event. The teams were composed of participants from Cub Scouts, Middle School Science Classes, general hobbyists, and one team of engineers who did this for fun. Immanuel had three catapults entered. All the catapults



were designed and built by the elective class. Working during their elective periods and several days afterschool, the students did a wonderful job. Thank you to Mr. McWilliams, who was able to contribute a large number of hours to help

the kids with their projects and to Mr. Davies for help in transporting the catapults to Cantigny. Last year's Immanuel entry went a total of 39 feet. This year the students had a catapult which went over 99 feet. They kids had great weather and



there was a good showing of parents and supporters at the event. On the following Tuesday, the class put on an exhibition of their work to the delight of the other classes in school.

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BE TALKING TO YOUR KID ABOUT POLITICS THIS YEAR

By Matthew Paul Turner

Like a lot of Americans, watching the events of this current election cycle unfold has, on numerous occasions, left me shaking my head. Dirty politics are nothing new, of course; but this election seems, at times, to be downright unclean. As a parent of three children—Elias, 7; Adeline, 4; and Ezra, 15 months—I spent the early part of this current primary season trying to shelter my kids from as much of this election as possible. And at the time, I not only thought I was doing a good job of shielding them from the political drama, I believed I was doing the right thing, too. But on the morning after the Iowa Caucus, as I watched a panel of CNN pundits wax political about Iowan voters, my 7-year-old pranced happily into the living room. Before I could grab the remote and switch the channel, Elias looked at the TV and then at me and said, "Daddy, is *he* going to be our president?" As it turns out, Elias and some of his buddies at school had been chatting about the election behind my back, discussing who their parents (and consequently, they) wanted their next president to be. "Nobody in my class likes him. I don't want him to be our president." Though I agreed with his sentiment, in an effort to engage my son, I asked him why he was so vehemently against [that guy] being president. "Uh," he said, with a toothy grin spreading across his face, "I don't know." And that's when I realized that my first parental inclination—the one that led me to shelter my kids from the ugliness of this year's election hoopla—was wrong. Since that conversation, I've made a point to talk with Elias (and to a smaller degree, Adeline) about this election and why our participation matters. Here are five reasons why I think all of us should be talking to our kids about this election:

1. Kids are already talking about it. Chances are, our kids are already having big and small discussions about the election. Whether their conversations are sparked by what they're learning in the classroom or they're happening more organically around the lunch table, kids often know and/or pick up on far more than what we realize.

"Whether your child is 6 or 16, parents absolutely must discuss political issues with them [because] kids have ears and are very aware of issues, sometimes more so than their parents because of greater skill with the Internet and social media," Al Carroll, a professor of history at Northern Virginia Community College, tells [Parenting.com](#). He adds that engaging our kids with information and stories regarding age-appropriate topics help children navigate between what is fact and what is fiction.

2. Children learn by participation. While schools will attempt to teach our kids the basic facts about how Americans choose a president, by letting them become a part of our political activities, we parents have the ability to showcase why our country's election processes make a difference. In other words, when we let our kids join us in our political process, they're not only learning the facts about how elections work, but those facts start to become personal because they're experiencing them with us.

"We believe firmly in educating our kids about the election process, especially during *this* election, Kelley Kitley, a psychotherapist and mom-of-four, all under the age of 10, tells [Parenting.com](#). Which is why Kitley doesn't just talk civics with her kids, she invites them to be a part of her political story. "We watch the debates together, and they go with me to the voting booth." Professor Carroll believes it's important for kids to see and learn how elections affect their lives: "Politics affects them as much as adults. Kids certainly are impacted if a parent is in the military or if a parent loses a job or is in danger of doing so." Learning firsthand, outside of the classroom, helps kids realize not only the personal nature of politics but teaches them why it's important for us as citizens to engage in the political process.

3. Information can ease kids' fears and concerns. Helping our kids navigate this year's election is crucial, says Kitley, "[Because] there's so much fear in our society—there's lots of people protesting, and of course, there's Trump." As we all know, politically charged topics often induce fear and worry in our kids, especially young children who often only pick up on soundbites or pay attention to small parts of a conversation. What they don't know or don't understand can cause unnecessary worry. Offering our kids context to an issue can go a long way toward helping them process and learn about important issues of our time without becoming anxious or afraid.

4. Kids need to learn how to disagree respectfully. Over and over again during this election, we've watched candidates showcase poor taste in how they communicate with each other, especially when engaging in a heated disagreement.

"I try to use those instances to talk to my kids about how we as people should disagree," Micah Smart, a stay-at-home father-of-three, tells [Parenting.com](#). Smart says he openly tells his kids that it's not wrong to disagree with other people but *how* we disagree that matters. "My hope," says Smart, "is that my kids will be passionate about their opinions and their values, but that most importantly, that they will learn how to disagree well." "And we can't just talk about disagreeing with respect; we have to emulate it, too," he adds.

5. Politics isn't just about you and me, it's about other people, too. Politics isn't only about how a government or law affects us; it's also about how they affect other people, those we know and see every day and others that we will never meet.

A month or so ago, Elias asked me why I was voting for a particular candidate. "Well," I said, "because I believe in helping people who are in difficult situations. And I believe that all people are equal and should be treated as such." While I was prepared to go on and on, I could see that that was all his 7-year-old brain wanted to hear for now. But that conversation was the beginning of a story that I will continue to tell my son, not because I want to indoctrinate him, but because I want him to know that our politics—how we vote and what we stand for or against—doesn't merely affect us, but it can also have positive and adverse effects on other people, too.

