



imagine

Children's Ministry Newsletter

February 2012

Our Staff

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Childcare Director
Birth - 24 months
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Sarah Brenning
Preschool Director
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Children's Ministry
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Todd Hostetler
Children's Pastor
K - 5th grade
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Preschool Valentine's Day Party

Parents and Preschoolers, join us for an evening of fun, games, crafts, and snacks!

Friday, February 3

6:30-8 p.m. in the Preschool area

Cost is free

Please R.S.V.P. to Sarah Brenning at 303-519-3049 or sbrenning@gracechapel.org by Wednesday, February 1.



Vacation Bible School
Coming in June!



8505 S Valley Hwy
Englewood, CO 80112
303-799-4900 | www.gracechapel.org

Announcement from Pastor John on January 10:

“Over the past few months, we have been informing the congregation about Grace’s financial health. I know you have joined us in praying diligently for the Lord to provide the financial resources we need to maintain ministry and staffing at its present level. Unfortunately, December giving was not as we hoped. With current giving levels as they are and after much prayer, we had to make several difficult decisions to address the financial shortfall.

- First, each ministry reduced their operating budgets by 10 percent, effective immediately.
- Second, changes were made to staffing resulting in one full-time staff moving to part-time, four support staff were released, and one staff member volunteered to take a reduction in compensation.
- Third, we will be asking the congregation to prayerfully consider increasing their giving.



As difficult as this process has been, we understand that these decisions affect individuals and their families. We would ask that all of you join with us in praying for the staff that was affected, for their families, and for God’s provision for them.”

A personal note from Pastor Todd:

Sadly, one of the support staff released was Susie Franklin, our Children’s Elementary Director. I have worked with Susie since August of 2008 when she joined our Children’s Ministry staff. Susie has a great sense of humor, has been a joy to work with, and has served the kids, families, and leaders in our Elementary ministry at Grace with excellence.



Susie provided tremendous leadership in overseeing Sunday morning ministry for our Kindergarten – 5th Graders as well as family events for both K – 3rd graders and monthly events for 4th – 5th graders. She has also been a lead communicator for our summer Vacation Bible School and does an awesome job of leading our large group times with the kids. We will miss having her on staff!



As we move forward, I ask that you pray for Susie and her family, for the elementary families and leaders, and for Children’s Ministry. As Children’s Pastor at Grace Chapel, I will begin providing leadership to our Elementary Ministry.

Join the women of Grace Chapel as we watch the movie that God has used to transform lives of women around the world. Look at your own journey, connect with other women, and bring your daughters, neighbors, and friends as we join together for a movie night with purpose!



Register at the Information Counter or online at www.gracechapel.org

Celebrating February Birthdays

- Carter Acree
- Nicole Bondurant
- Joel Cackowski
- Addison Darr
- Grant Espinosa
- Kate Hall
- Addison Horner
- Carson James
- Adam Johnson
- Auriane Kirkendall
- Rachel Larsen
- Leila Lee
- Enzo Lens
- Zoey Moore
- Noah Nielson
- Phoebe Nielson
- Owen Pickford
- Abigale Poyner
- Ashley Rice
- Savannah Scholz
- Skylar VanDeWeert
- Madison Williams
- Griffin Witty
- Alexis Ewing

What we’re learning about in February...

Elementary

Preschool

Monthly virtue:

Honor (*Letting others know you see how valuable they really are.*)

Monthly theme:

L.O.V.E. (*Love God with all your heart*)

Memory verse:

“Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves.”
Romans 12:10, NIrV

Memory verse:

“Love...God with all your heart.”
Matthew 22:37, NIrV



MEDIA MADNESS



MOVIES

Movie: *Big Miracle*

Genre: Drama, Romance

Rating: PG (for language)

Cast: Drew Barrymore, John Krasinski, Kristen Bell

Synopsis: This film is based on the 1989 book *Freeing the Whales*. An Alaskan reporter and a Greenpeace volunteer work to save a family of gray whales trapped in ice in the Arctic Circle.

Our Take: Nature lovers and fans of *Dolphin Tale* will likely enjoy this movie. It can spark discussion about people's responsibilities to care for God's creation.



MUSIC

Artist: Kari Jobe

Album: *Where I Find You*

Artist Info: Jobe, a 30-year-old worship leader in Texas, knew her career path by age 10. Her self-titled debut album from 2009 was accompanied by a Spanish-language version, *Le Canto*.

Summary: Jobe uses music to bring people to Jesus, where they find peace, life, and healing. In her hit single "We Are," she reminds Christians that we "impact people's lives in everything we do."

Our Take: Jobe's voice and message shine in her pop tunes and acoustic ballads.



CULTURE & TRENDS

- More new moms are getting inked to honor their offspring. Mothers say tattoos bearing their children's names leave little room for regret, unlike other types of tattoos. Tats also remind moms they're still "cool," even though they're parents. (babycenter.com)

- Last year at ClubPenguin.com, children adopted more than 25 million Puffles, or virtual pets. The *Club Penguin Times* is read as much as *The New York Times*. (Mashable.com)

QUICK STATS

- One-quarter of America's 16 million Latino children live in poverty. (pewhispanic.org)
- 80 percent of a person's brain develops by age 3. The intellectual, social, and spiritual information you instill early on sets an important foundation. (firststeps.us)
- 52 percent of families have been members of their current church for 10 years or more. (Children's Ministry)



GAMES

Title	Content	Rating & Platform
<i>National Geographic Challenge</i>	Players can brush up on geography, science, and history as they answer questions and complete puzzles. Best for kids ages 8 and up.	E; Xbox 360, Wii, PS3
<i>YourSphere</i>	This kids-only social-networking site offers blogging, games, social interaction, and more. Parents can view all their children's online activity.	YourSphere.com is appropriate for preteens.
<i>iSock</i>	A sock puppet's mouth mimics your speech as you talk. Young children—and their parents—will have fun being creative with this app.	Requires a smart phone with sound; 99 cents at iTunes.

This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our prayer is that you'll make informed decisions about what your children watch, listen to, and wear.





February at a glance



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Preschool Valentine's Day Party 6:30-8 p.m.	4
PJ: 5 Grandparenting 9 a.m. PJ: Discipline that Works 10:45 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 Presidents' Day OFFICE CLOSED	21	22 Ash Wednesday	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Leap Day			

Legend: PJ – Parenting Journey