

Dear Faith Shapers,

As summer approaches, I start to think about summer plans. I try to have a "toolbox" of ideas to keep my kids busy. Just as I have a "toolbox" of fun ideas, I also have a "toolbox" of faith formation ideas. Here's some of my best summer faith tools:

- ◇ Service projects
- ◇ Listening to the audio Bible or reading it
- ◇ Summer Bible Camp
- ◇ Lemonade stand to support a cause
- ◇ Retelling my own faith shaping experiences
- ◇ Visiting Godparents
- ◇ Hands on Bible experiments (google/Pinterest)
- ◇ Faith filled art projects
- ◇ Vacation Bible School
- ◇ Family book club
- ◇ Mailing notes of encouragement or love
- ◇ Field trips to places where ministry happens
- ◇ Random Acts of Kindness

May your summer be filled with Holy Joy & family fun,
Lisa Kammerer
Associate in Ministry

Pentecost

The day of Pentecost falls on Sunday, May 24th this year. On the day of Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Here are some ways to explore the themes of Pentecost.

Balloons



Blow up red balloons, but don't tie them. Use sharpies to write gifts of the Holy Spirit that you see in this group of people. On cue, have everyone release them and enjoy the moment of mayhem as they fly all over. Reflect on gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Kites

Head outdoors and fly a kite. Afterwards, brainstorm how the movement of the kites (and our attempt to control that movement) is like our experience of the Holy Spirit.



Paper Airplanes

Make your favorite paper airplane and fly them. Reflect on how the different styles and flight paths of the airplanes can be like the diversity of the spiritual gifts we possess and the way the Holy Spirit works through them.



Random Acts of Mission

Put your spiritual gifts to use by going out and performing random acts of mission.



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5 Reasons Why Kids Should Go To Bible Camp

1. Kids Will Encounter God.

Church camp has a way of shaping faith. Kids meet God there and learn to live their faith. God speaks to us through: God's creation, God's Word, and through God's people. Church camp is a perfect place for kids to experience God and make their faith their own.

2. Positive Role Models

Church camps work hard to fill their staff with godly role models who are equipped to encourage and lead our kids. Kids can be known and loved for who they are. Church camp also gives kids the chance to build healthy Christian friendships. These friendships can be such a support throughout the year (and maybe even many years) as life unfolds.

3. It's Super Fun!

Camp is a new adventure to be experienced! Have you ever: played a large group game running through the woods, jumped off a platform in a high ropes course, been on the back of a horse, cooked a meal over a campfire, hiked a mountain, gone canoeing, laughed until your stomach hurt? These experiences are the things great memories are made of! When a kid conquers a new adventure at camp, they quickly store it away as a reminder of their courage!

4. A Chance to Unplug

Our world is loud and busy. Between school, sports, cell phones, and homework, kids are spread so thin. Camp offers us a change to unplug, turn off cell phones, and breath deeply again. There is also the added joy of being in God's awesome creation.

5. It's Confidence Building

Many kids are scared at the idea of going to camp, however, when they get through it and realize they did it, it is great to see what it does to their confidence. Being away from parents, making new friends, trying activities they never thought they would do— all help our kids gain confidence as they grow up.

As a parent, I fill my bag full of tools to help me share my faith with my kids. Bible Camp is one of the amazing tools I use! I hope you will too!



Go to www.lomnetwork.org to find a Lutheran Bible Camp near you!

Technology Corner

Keeping kids safe on our devices.



Mobicip is a cloud-filtering service that helps you create a secure internet for your family. You can turn off safari and kids can search the internet using the mobicip app. I am very impressed! You can set your filter level to elementary, middle or high school. You can also get reports of what sites your kids are visiting. This app also filters YouTube (that's where our family's problem began)! The basic subscription is free! Go to www.mobicip.com to see all the features. Our kids have filters at school but home and hotspots are our responsibility. This is one free option to keep our kids safe!