



Take Me To Your Leaders

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"For where two or three come together in My name, there I am with them." Matthew 18:20

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Mission Specialist: Anne Layton

I was born and raised on a farm near Cynthia, KY. I was the only daughter with two older brothers. My husband, Dick, and I have been married 54 years. We have 3 children, a son and two daughters and 7 grandchildren.

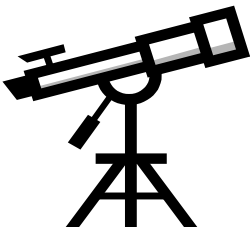
I have been involved in church all of my life. I have been active in circles and have served on Women's Ministry Teams. I have served in leadership in these areas. My husband and I serve as greet-

ers and also work the Information Center.

I would tell young mothers to have patience and carry through with what you ask your children to do. Be consistent with your discipline. It is so easy for these young ones to "wear us down" and we ease up on what is expected. Always let them know they are loved not only by showing them but also by your words "I Love You".

I had a wonderful mother-in-law. She was one of the most godly people I have ever known. She lived a simple life that was dependent on God. Her husband had been crippled early in their marriage and much responsibility fell on her. Even with that she lived to be 100 years of age!

I had a good relationship with all of my husband's sisters and was especially close to one that lived near us in Lexington and had young children the ages of ours. —Anne Layton, our very own Mentor Mom



MOPportunities

Tupperware business:

Lori Settles

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Rodan & Fields Dermatology

The Creators of Proactive

Contact Rachelle H. Brown

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If you, as a MOPS mom, have a home-based business, you can advertize it here for free.

Contact Cathy Cramer at

accstc@yahoo.com or

(859)263-9362

Website for Moms

I really like

familylife.com

and subscribe to their various email lists for marriage and parenting help/idea/articles.

- Ann Combs



Mission: Cookies

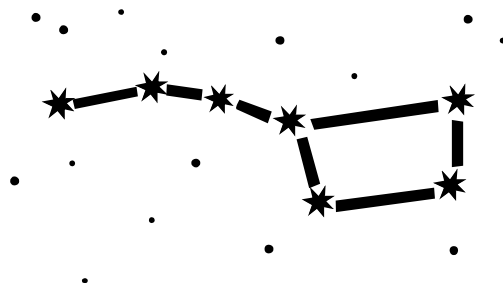
Thank you for bringing a dozen cookies today. These will be used as a special thank-you Christmas gift to the MOPPET volunteers.

Mission Updates

To make sure you get all updates and reminders on special events and other MOPS happenings, join our website at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tcccmopsmoms/>

This will enable us to send notices directly to your own email. Once you have joined the group, you can send an email to our entire MOPS group, simply by emailing tcccmopsmoms@yahoo.com



Little Dipper (Moppet Children)

By Sherry Kenney

This month our children will be learning about and celebrating the birth of Jesus! Our Bible story comes from Luke chapter 2.

The children will be making angel crafts and Christmas cards. Children will play a game similar to "Duck, Duck, Goose" called "You Can't Come Inn!".

Children will also use their fingers to learn this rhyme about the shepherds:

Five little shepherds,
watching their sheep.
One little shepherd fell
fast asleep.

(Continue counting down until all shepherds are asleep. Then finish the rhyme below.)

No little shepherds watching their sheep.
Angels sang and made them leap!
Wake up! Wake up!
Jesus is born!
Glory to God on this happy morn!

Bring a Friend Month

January is Bring-A-Friend month., so bring a friend!

White Elephant Gift Exchange

January is also the white elephant gift exchange. Come bring your least appreciated Christmas gift (rewrapped), and be prepared to exchange.

Books for You

Have you gotten the book, "Life on Planet Mom" with your MOPS membership yet? If you haven't, please see Elizabeth Skinner at the registration desk.

Look for a coming book club. Contact Jessica Holbrook for more info.

Stellar Commendations

Thanks goes to Chic-Fil-A for the gift basket door prize today.

Thank you, Luna Ladies, for today's brunch.



Dueling Duo

By LauraLee Shaw
5/29/2008/Family

"Jan jerked the slippery strap of her purse back onto her shoulder for the umpteenth time. She could feel her frustration rising with each strained step.

"I SO do not need this today," she grumbled. "Stupid school. This'd better be important."

She flipped her overgrown bangs from her face as she approached her son's fourth grade classroom. Opening the door, her purse slid down to her wrist yet again. She grumbled and then looked up to see that Mrs. Kern was not alone.

"Helen?" Jan grimaced at the sight of her mother-in-law sitting in front of Mrs. Kern's desk. Just add to my nightmare.

Helen smirked, looking at her watch. "Yes, Jan, at least one of us was here on time."

"Well, some of us have a full-time-job," Jan snipped.

"I had a job, too, remember? It was called Full-Time Mom."

Mrs. Kern cleared her throat. "Hello, Mrs. Jacobs. The other Mrs. Jacobs and I have already become acquainted."

Reaching out to shake Mrs. Kern's hand, Jan was suddenly aware of the pitiful scene her son's teacher had just witnessed. "I'm sorry, Mrs. Kern. I'm sorry, Helen. I've just had a tough day."

"And I'm sorry, too. That was disrespectful of us to carry on in front of you, Lois."

Did she just call Mrs. Kern "Lois"? Talk about disrespectful.

"It's ok." Mrs. Kern forced a semi-smile on her face and continued. "The reason I called you both in here today is to discuss Justin with you."

Helen gasped. "Justin's not in trouble, is

he?"

"No," Mrs. Kern reassured her. "He's a good kid. But--um--he's been rather...sad lately."

"Sad? What on earth makes you think he's sad?" Helen squawked.

"Helen, just let her talk, for goodness' sake."

Mrs. Kern squirmed in her chair. "Well, he hasn't been participating much, and he's been doodling and daydreaming during the time that he's supposed to be learning."

"You called us here about some doodling and daydreaming?" Jan complained.

"Well," Helen chastised, "some people would call that a problem."

Jan deliberately ignored Helen's remarks. "So, Mrs. Kern, if you don't mind my asking, why did you choose to involve



Justin's grandmother with this?"

"She obviously doesn't think his mother will take care of it on her own," Helen mumbled, tucking her chin in her neck.

Clearing her throat a second time, Mrs. Kern brought out some papers from her top desk drawer. "I want you to see the poem Justin wrote for English class. Since both of you are subjects of the content, I thought it wise to invite both of you to come in and read it. But before I show it to you, I'd like to tell you one more thing: After class on the same day he turned in the poem, Justin asked if he could have it back.

Now I had already read it, but he didn't know that. I thought maybe he was embarrassed and wanted to re-write it. However, when he re-

turned it to me, he had added the last stanza. That last stanza is the reason I asked you here today. Please take your time reading it and discussing what Justin felt compelled to share. Thank you for coming."

At that, Mrs. Kern handed them a copy of the poem and made a deliberate exit, shutting the door behind her.

Unsettling silence hung over them as they each read Justin's poem.

Dueling Voices
by Justin H. Jacobs

*Mom tucks me in and
reads me a story.
Grandma gives me hugs
and tells me not to worry.
Mom sings me songs and
helps me with my math.
Grandma tells me jokes
and always makes me
laugh.*

*But I'm sick of them both
just acting like kids!
Don't they know what it's
like when they blow their
lids?*

*I wonder why they can't
just try to get along.
The Bible says that their
attitudes are wrong.*

*As my teacher, can you
please give them both a
detention?*

Then-maybe then-it will get their attention.

"Gramma, love my mom. She's your son's loving wife."

"Mom, respect Gramma. She's lived a long, wise life."

They looked up at each other, stunned.

Helen's face was as white as a blank sheet of paper. Jan shifted awkwardly in her seat, pinching the temple of her throbbing forehead. The sound of the school bell shattered their silence.

"Well, well, well," Helen declared, "I do believe that Mrs. Kern has given us an after-school detention."

"Yes, Helen--And Justin's definitely managed to get our attention."

LauraLee Shaw is a disci-



ple of Jesus Christ disguised as a wife, mom and writer. She is a contributing author to "Women of Passions," and a writer for "Internet Cafe Devotions." You can visit LauraLee at <http://lovinthearts.blogspot.com> <http://lovinthearts.com> <http://www.internetcafedevisions.com>

Article Source: <http://www.faithwriters.com-CHRISTIAN WRITERS>



Book Review: *A Woman of Love, Ruth* By Dee Brestin

Dee Brestin's *A Woman of Love* about the Biblical book of Ruth covers many topics, including in-law relationships and romantic relationships.

After her husband's death, Ruth committed herself to traveling with her mother-in-law, leaving her parents and her nation behind.

Dee Brestin's book looks at times when those we love let us down, advice about visiting, loving those who are deeply hurting, choosing to bless others in spite of our own hurt, understanding and forgiving first impressions, making a home into a "menuchah" or place of rest and peace, choosing to love even when an in-law pushes you away, relational idolatry, giving grace for insults, loving past someone's sin, and restoring the broken-hearted

This is not a book for the timid. Tough issues are discussed.



Further Advice on In-Laws

“Just love them. If I ever got tired of them being around, I would still enjoy seeing their relationship with the others.”
- Margaret Coons, whose father-in-law lived with them for a decade. Occasionally other relations would stay as well.

“Always remember that they must’ve done something right to give you such a wonderful spouse. Always be grateful for that.”
- Elizabeth Scott, who

mentioned that her in-laws did things “differently.”

I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to *agree* with each other in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, loyal yokefellow, *help these women* who have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel...

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your *gentleness* be evident to all. The Lord is near. *Do not be anxious* about anything, but in everything, by *prayer* and petition, with *thanksgiving*, present your requests to God. And the *peace* of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- The Apostle Paul, Phil 4:2-7, NIV, emphasis, mine

Happy Birthday, Jesus

Some Iranian Christian families celebrated Christmas with a chocolate birthday cake topped with an ornate white cross for Jesus’s birthday. They face the threats of arrest and persecution simply for celebrating Christmas in Iran, simply for having chocolate cake.

Even so, “with their simple ‘chocolate cake’ gratitude, [they] find a way to express their love for deliverance from darkness into light.” (*The Voice of the Martyrs* magazine, “Chocolate Cakes for Jesus” by Tom White, Christmas 2007)



Out of This World

Events for Kids around Town (Not associated with MOPS)

Lit’ Sprouts Pine Cone Bird Feeder at the **Arboretum** Wed. Dec. 9th 10:00-11:00 AM. Cost is \$1.00. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! Call 859-257-6955 to register. Ages Pre-K and K. Come make a winter bird feeder and (weather-permitting) plant bulbs for the spring.

The Little Mermaid at **Lexington Children’s Theater**. Ages 4+. Sunday Dec. 13th 2:00 PM, Sat. Dec. 19th, 2:00 & 7:00, Sun. Dec. 20th, 2:00. \$13 adults, \$11 children.

Upcoming Missions

Special Events—Denise Bauer

Thursday, December 10 – Moms Night Out ** DATE CHANGE **

Join us for a holiday cookie exchange and game night. We'll meet at TCCC at 7:00pm for a fun filled evening. Bring your favorite board game!

Tuesday, December 15 – Moms & Kids

Do your kids need to burn off some energy? Let's meet at 11:00am for some playtime and lunch at Chick-Fil-A on Nicholasville Road.

Monday, December 28 – Moms & Kids ** DATE CHANGE **

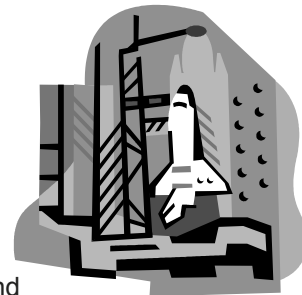
Have you been missing your weekly storytime? If you can pry your kids away from their new toys, let's meet at 10:00am for some reading and playtime at Tates Creek Library. This is not a library event, there is no formal storytime.

Holiday babysitting co-op –

Thursday December 3rd & 10th (9am-12noon)

Watch your Calendars for an Upcoming **Gymboree Playdate** in January.

January is also **Bring a Friend Month**, and the **White Elephant Gift Exchange!**



StarDate December 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3 Babysitting Co-op	4	5
6	7	8 MOPS 9:00	9	10 Babysit- ting AM Cookies PM	11	12
13	14	15 Chic-Fil-A	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26
27	28 Tates Creek Library	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		