



## 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: Nic Skinner

Nic Skinner is our guest speaker today, welcoming our MOPS group to TCCC's facilities.

*Q: Where are you from?*

Nic: I am originally from Clayton, Indiana.

*Q: How long have you been married?*

Nic: Elizabeth and I have been married for 5 years.

*Q: What is your positions in the church and what do you do?*

Nic: I am the Evangelism and Discipleship Minister at Tates Creek Christian Church.

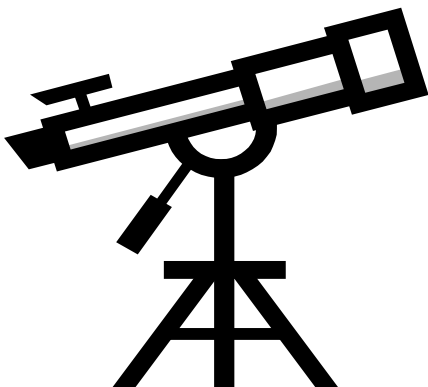
*Q: Please tell us a little bit about your family and being a parent.*

We have a beautiful 2 year old daughter named Kensington ("Kensie" for short).

Being a parent is a blessing. Everything people told me that I wouldn't understand until I was a parent is true. It's a new kind of love, a new kind of responsibility, and a new perspective on life; and God has used this to help me grow deeper with Him as I now look through the eyes of my child.

*Q: What would you most like to tell mothers of young kids?*

Nic: I know that parenting young children often seems to be as much a struggle as it is a joy. Getting them to take naps, getting them to eat each item of food on their plate (not just the mac and cheese), getting them to understand why we can't watch that Disney movie for the 42<sup>nd</sup> time...you get the picture...on many days can be a lot to handle. But I would encourage you to take a step back each day and look at the masterpiece that God is not only using you to create in your



## Captain's Log

-Cheri Eastwood,  
Coordinator TCCC MOPS

Welcome to MOPS! Mothers Of Preschoolers is a group for moms who have children ages 0-Kindergarten. This particular group meets at Tates Creek Christian Church once a month on the second Tuesday of the month from September through May. Our group is celebrating 10 years together this year! What a great accomplishment!

At our meetings we will hear from a variety of special speakers on relevant topics to mothering and our relationships. Our theme for this year as a part of an international group is called Together on Planet Mom. We also have time in our meetings for small group discussions and fun activities. All the while our children are cared for by wonderful volunteers.

We hope you will join us each month for delicious brunches as well as other exciting events through the months for both you and your children. Through these activities and events, you can really feel connected to other moms just like you, find great friendships, and help each other enjoy the challenges of motherhood together! Please see any of our steering team members if you have any questions or suggestions. We are so very happy to have you here!



## 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**  
**@yahoogroups.com**

## MOPportunities

Tupperware business:

Lori Settles, 859-492-3299,  
[loristupperware@insightbb.com](mailto:loristupperware@insightbb.com),  
[www.my.tupperware.com/lorissetles](http://www.my.tupperware.com/lorissetles)

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](mailto:accstc@yahoo.com) or  
(859)263-9362.

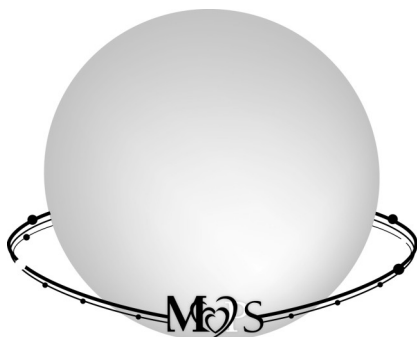
## Mission Specialist, Continued from P1.

child, but that He is using *you* and your child to create in *you*. James 1:2-4 reminds us that God uses the challenges in our lives to cultivate maturity and completeness, so that we will be properly equipped to do the work He has ahead of us.

God is equipping you and me, as parents, with a greater level of spiritual maturity, not just so that we can be better parents, but better Christians.

You see, the more we faithfully persevere as parents, the more we are able to understand the love of God for *His* children. That's a unique opportunity that, in many ways, only we as parents are able to embrace.

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*  
- James 1:2-4 NIV



## Registration Form + Fee = Sweet Treats

Planning on joining MOPS for the year? You can pay for the whole year at once (\$74) or pay for MOPS International Membership and Fall Semester Fees now (\$49) and pay the Spring Semester Fees (\$25) in January. Please make checks payable to TCCC MOPS.

Please ask for scholarship help if the cost presents a financial hardship. We want everyone to have the opportunity to be a part of MOPS.

When you turn in your registration form and money you will receive a welcome bag with a sweet treat.

Even if you aren't prepared to pay today but you would like to be a part of MOPS for this year, please go ahead and fill out the registration form and leave it at the Check-In Table today. This helps us better plan for the upcoming year.

Contact Elizabeth Skinner, Finance Coordinator at [nicadliz@windstream.net](mailto:nicadliz@windstream.net) or 255-0229



## Little Dipper (Moppet Children)

Children are cared for during MOPS meetings in a parallel program called MOPPETS where they experience love in a preschool-like setting.

The children who are 2 and older in MOPPETS will have songs, stories, crafts, snacks, and other activities, such as playground time and Bible games.

There will also be special stories, parties, and events for holidays, such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter.

This month's lesson is "Caring for God's World". Our Bible verse for today is "They will rule over the earth" (adapted from Genesis 1:26).

Children will be taking a nature walk and making bird feeders to take home. They will also

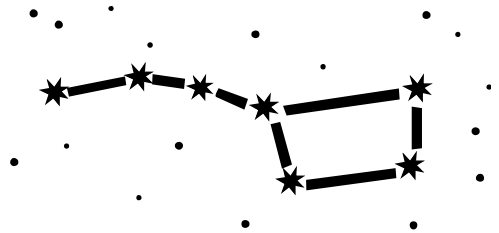
be commissioned to "Earth Patrol" and talk about ways to take care of the earth.

They will sing the song below about God's good creation.

Can you feel it?  
Can you feel it?  
That warm sun,  
That warm sun.  
It's God's good creation.  
It's God's good creation.  
Oh, how fun.  
Oh, how fun.

Can you hear it?  
Can you hear it?  
That small bird,  
That small bird.  
It's God's good creation.  
It's God's good creation  
That we heard,  
That we heard.

Can you taste it  
Can you taste it?  
That nice treat,  
That nice treat.  
It's God's good creation.  
It's God's good creation.  
God is sweet.  
God is sweet.





## Websites for Moms

Find the **lowest gas prices** in your area:

<http://www.gasbuddy.com/>

Check **movie reviews from a Christian view:**  
[www.pluggedinonline.com](http://www.pluggedinonline.com)  
or  
<http://www.dove.org/>

**5 Free Lullaby Downloads** from Johnson's Baby

Click the top right corner "Tools for better sleep" and you'll see a drop-down box. Click the "Sweet Lullabies" box for the free downloads...

<http://tinyurl.com/r5fnbd>

If you know of another website that would be of use to moms, please email [accstc@yahoo.com](mailto:accstc@yahoo.com) or call (859) 263-9362.

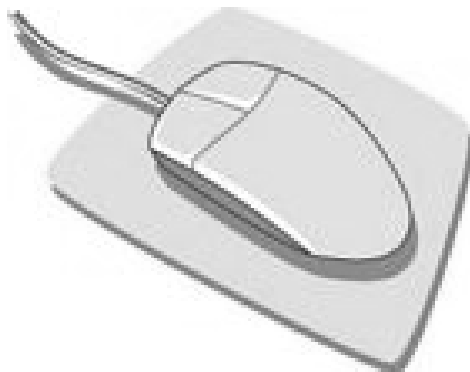
## Free Stuff

You may request a **Child Safety ID Kit** without applying for insurance by writing to: Gerber Life Insurance Company, 445 State Street, Fremont, MI 49412

**3 Free Pairs Of Huggies Diapers** (Choose Newborn Up To 10 lbs Or Size 1 Up To 14lbs

<http://tinyurl.com/d5qmu9>

If you know of other free stuff for moms or kids, please email [accstc@yahoo.com](mailto:accstc@yahoo.com) or call (859) 263-9362.



## Car Line Chaos

The scurry to get my kindergartener Rebecca to school on time took every ounce of strategy, quick-action, and determination I could muster - daily. Our youngest child, Bethany, was born the year our oldest began school, so in a single day, after our time to leave had come and gone, I routinely faced last minute baby dirty-diapers, a mess or potty accident from our toddler, Emily, and knots in Rebecca's shoelaces, as she learned to tie them all herself. Or, Emily got bath powder all over my dresser. Or puzzles all over the floor.

One day, we couldn't find Emily's missing shoes, so I put her in the car barefoot, which caused a tantrum. (Only Rebecca actually needed get out of the car.) Another day, we arrived to drop off Rebecca, while Bethany screamed from hunger and Emily cried because the baby was "too loud."

We received notices to take the back route to the school to improve traffic flow around some construction. I didn't have time to consult a map, never dreaming that the roads would not form square blocks. At just the right moment, I recognized a friend's blue *Odyssey* van in front of me and followed her through several stops and turns. Without even being aware, she led me to the school safely and on time.

Picking up Rebecca from school was even worse. More times than I could count, I had to park the car on the side of the road on the way to hop out to run to her door to pop the

## Car Line Chaos,

*continued from page 4*

paci in Bethany's mouth - as many as three times in a single drive to school. I've become an expert at that sort of "Chinese fire drill" at stoplights and drive-ways.

One time, when both my younger children fell asleep in the backseat, I actually dozed off at the wheel. That could have been disastrous, but the engine was off. More often, Bethany loudly protested the confinement of the car seat. Several times, I cut the engine while we waited in line and walked her all around outside my car, with the windows down so I could still hear Emily.

I also had to nurse Bethany in the car line on several days. "Hurry up, Bethany! We've only got 12 minutes!"

Once, I had to detach her when the car in front of me moved. I raced to put her in her car seat. Just to drive 15 feet to a parking spot! She was furious! There, I nursed her until the car line ended. I was afraid that they would put Rebecca in the expensive after-school care, and that she'd panic, missing us. So, I detached Bethany again, who cried even louder. When the receptionist helped Rebecca into the car, she said, "That baby is really upset!"

"So, can I pull into the handi-capped parking right here and nurse her?"

It took Bethany awhile to calm down from being tricked and betrayed before she nursed, and even then she mumbled a complaint in some unintelligible baby language.

Another day I had to nurse Bethany in the car line, it was much too hot to nurse her in the car. Poor hot, sweaty thing! After a hot day at the park, I could not cool the car off enough, and I could not go into the school carrying the baby **and** my hefty, sleeping three-year-old. I ended up stripping the baby down to her diaper and **not** covering her with a blanket. I just hoped I was short enough and the dash was tall enough.

One day, while I paced by my car consoling Bethany, the mother of one of Rebecca's schoolmates walked up behind me from her car. She offered to drive Rebecca to our home a couple of days a week for me so that I would not have to endure the car line chaos with my younger two children.

It had never occurred to me to ask for help and this offer was one of God's gifts.



I opened a book and immediately read about God (by His "coincidence,")

*"You hem me in - behind and before;  
You have laid Your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
Too lofty for me to attain."  
- Psalm 139:5-6*

The thought humbled and reminded me how God cares about the details of our lives. He had been behind me in car line, urging one Christian friend to offer help, and in front of me, guiding me through my other Christian friend. He hemmed me in behind and before.

Look in front of you and behind you. What friends has God gifted you with today? Thank God. Now, look in front of you and behind you again. Whom else do you see next to you who really needs a friend?  
- Cathy Cramer, Publicity



## Out of This World

Events for Kids around Town (Not associated with MOPS)

**Central Public Library Theater** — **free Movies on the Big Screen:** Sleeping Beauty, Sat. Sept. 12 2-3:30 PM. Rated G.

**Explorium**—Sat. Sept. 19th, 1:30 PM. **Fire Prevention Day.** The **Lexington Fire Department** will bring their Hazard House to the Explorium and **Smokey the Bear** will talk about preventing fires.

**Musikgarten of Lexington**—Great music and movement classes for 0-10 year olds. Call Jennifer Tutt at 245-5887.

# Upcoming Missions

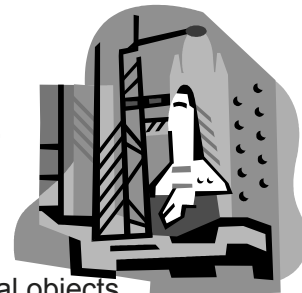
## Upcoming MOPS Events:

### Monday, September 14 – Moms Night Out

Looking for a great way to get to know each other while having lots of fun and some yummy snacks? Join us for BUNCO – Ann Combs will teach us this fun, easy game that we'll be able to enjoy all year. We'll meet at TCCC at 7:00pm

### Wednesday, September 16 – Moms & Kids

We'll meet at the UK Arboretum at 10:00am and join in a scavenger hunt for all the colors of the rainbow. We'll work together to create a color wheel of natural objects we find in the garden. Bring a picnic lunch if you like to stay a bit longer. **\$1 per child**, visit [www.ca.uky.edu/arboretum/cal\\_events.php](http://www.ca.uky.edu/arboretum/cal_events.php) for information



### Thursday, September 24 – Moms & Kids

Playdate at 10:00am at Ann Combs' house (3423 Coldstream Court, off Gainesway Drive). Directions will be posted on our Yahoo group. Ann's number is 859-271-8197. All moms & kids are welcome.

### Wednesday, September 30 – Moms Night Out

Let's start getting to know each other – we'll meet at 6:30 and chat over dinner (or dessert) at Calistoga Café in Hamburg. (Near Winchester Road)

### Monday, October 5 – Moms & Kids

Playdate at 10:00am at TCCC in Critterland.

### Monday, October 12th – Moms Night Out

Looking for a great way to get to know each other while having lots of fun and some yummy snacks? Join us for BUNCO – no experience necessary!! BUNCO is an easy game you can learn quickly. We'll meet at TCCC at 7:00pm. If you like, bring either a snack or dessert to share!

### Saturday, October 17 – Family event

Join us at 6:00pm for an evening of fun for the whole family. You bring something for our Potluck dinner and we'll bring the ice cream! TCCC – room to be determined.

### Wednesday, October 21 – Moms & Kids

STRANGER DANGER! Join us as at 10:30am at TCCC as one of Lexington's finest talks with our kids. Weather permitting the police officer will have their cruiser available for "inspection" by the kids. Bring a picnic lunch if you like and we'll go to Kirklevington Park after the program for some play-time & lunch.

### Tuesday, October 27 – Moms Night Out

Cajun anyone? Let's meet at Joe's Bayou in the Beaumont Shopping Center at 6:30 for some yummy dinner. If you save room – they have GREAT Bread Pudding!

### Thursday, October 29 – Moms & Kids

We'll meet at Lexington Gymnastics at 10:00am and let the kids have some fun bouncing around. \$4.00 per child, plus discount if we have more than 10 kids

# Stardate September 2009

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 MOPS 9:15 AM	9	10	11	12
13	14 Bunco 7:00 PM	15	16 Arboretum 10:00 AM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Ann's 10:00 AM	25	26
27	28	29	30 Calistoga 6:30			

# October 2009

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

				1	2	3
4	5 Crittterland 10:00	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Bunco 7:00 PM	13 MOPS 9:15 AM	14	15	16	17 Potluck 6:00
18	19	20	21 Stranger 10:30	22	23	24
25	26	27 Joe's Bayou 6:30	28	29 Lex Gym 10:00	30	31