

MOPS @ GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

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*"A Mother's
love is like a
cup of tea, they
are always
there to
comfort!"
Author:
unknown*

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MAY 3RD, 2011

Good Morning Ladies,

This is always such a special morning! We have Michelle Blubaugh & Julie Watson giving their testimony this morning! Please respect them and silence your phone and you might just want to grab a few tissues... you might need them! I hope you enjoy this morning and are able to have good quality time with your table!

~Your Steering Team

My name is Michelle Blubaugh, I am a stay at home mom, working from home as a PartyLite Consultant and for my family on our Christmas Tree farm. I have been married to my wonderful husband, Jamie, for almost 10 years. He is a Chief in the Navy aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln stationed in Everett and we have 2 beautiful daughters, Emily 8 and Katelyn 4. I graduated from Auburn High in '97 and attended the University of Washington for 3 years where I met Jamie and we started our life together in 1999, I still have a dream of going back to school to finish a degree. He grew up a pastor's kid and because of my mom I grew up with the knowledge there was a God, but never attended church or truly understood. I was invited to MOPS by a friend in the fall of 2008 and I loved it, I got involved with the craft team immediately. On January 29th 2009, Jean Milliken spoke to MOPS about Heaven, it was during her talk that I accepted Jesus into my life and heart. That spring, I was accepted onto the steering team as a "baby" Christian as Co-Craft Coordinator. During this time, Jamie, the girls, and I were living with my parents while looking for a house to buy in the Auburn area. This was a difficult time to be a new believer in Jesus because of my father's view of religion. It has been a blessing to be so involved with MOPS, which I believe is how God kept me on a journey with Him. In March 2010, my life was tossed upside down, my father passed of a massive sudden heart attack. It is funny that you don't really realize the relationship you have with someone until they are gone. Being a new believer and having an understanding of Heaven, I struggled with his death, not knowing where he ended up. I cried out to Him, Psalm 31:9 "Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief." It was after this God, in his own ways, have let me know the Dad is with Him. The Lord set up my life in such that I would have the best support system, I can not even being to explain how blessed I have been these last few years. A verse my Mentor Mom sent me that helped me through, Psalm 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."



I am a southern transplant to the Pacific Northwest. In August, we will have been here for six years. Even though I am far away from home and the culture I love, I feel at home here as well. My family and I love the amazing people and the gorgeous landscapes.

I have been married to my amazing husband Geoff for 13 years this coming fall. I could not ask for a more loving and devoted husband. He has not only shown me the most unconditional love this past year, he truly supports me in any endeavor I wish to undertake. He is very active as a father and as a coach with the boys.

We have two boys Hamilton, 7 and Henry, 6. I started coming to MOPS when Henry was 9 months old and Hamilton was 22 months old. They have grown up in MOPS. Hamilton and Henry are truly best friends. I feel so blessed that they love each other much and are constantly looking over one another. Hamilton is in first grade. Henry is in kindergarten. They both are crazy about sports. They play football, soccer, baseball and basketball. It is such a joy to watch them play and excel. We are blessed that God has given them such athleticism.



SO

Julie Watson & family

My life before I was a mother was a VP of a medical supply company. I had sales people all over the United States. I feel blessed by God that He allowed me to excel professionally. I have no regrets at all as a stay at home mom because I was fortunate enough to have my career. My favorite memory was the ability to travel and explore the entire United States and beyond. I have had a truly blessed life and I give God all the glory!

A Mother's Prayer

Dear Lord, it's such a hectic day, With little time to stop and pray,
 For Life's been anything but calm, Since You called me to be a mom -
 Running errands, matching socks, Building dreams with matching blocks,
 Cooking, cleaning and finding shoes And other stuff that children lose,
 Fitting lids on bottled bugs, Wiping tears and giving hugs,
 A stack of last week's mail to read - So where's the quiet time I need?
 Yet, when I steal a moment, Lord, Just at the sink or ironing board,
 To ask the blessings of Your grace, I see then, in my small one's face,
 That You have blessed me all the while -
 And I stoop to kiss... That precious smile.

Source Unknown

Anyone Spring Cleaning?

Here's a few tips to get organized

1. Start Right– pick ONE place to organize-Keep it clean for 21 days
2. Just 2 Things-write down 2 things that you need to get done the next day
3. Give it a Home-Crete a place for everything-keys, purse, kid's papers, shoes, etc.
4. Enlist help-give children chores...make it easy, one bucket for little ones, drawer with all their plates and cups at their level
5. Plan Ahead MEALS-create a monthly meal plan-freeze, double duty, short cut cooking...
6. Plan Ahead-TIME-Map out your day-make minutes count-avoid time wasters-place routines, schedule the important stuff first in your day
7. Plan Ahead DAY– Set clocks ahead, set out clothes the night before, pack diaper bag, plan a TOGO bag for the car and/or activities for you and kids
8. Less is More-Reduce & Recycle Challenge:5-4-5 (5items, 5 days a week)
9. Speed Clean-Take 15 minutes every morning/night and EVERYONE helps
10. DREAM-Set Goals and write them down– Have a dream and a plan



Resources:

More *Hours in My Day* by Emilie Barnes
 Emilie's Creative Home Organizer by Emilie Barnes
 Desperate Households by Kathy Peel
 Family Manager by Kathy Peel

www.flylady.com
www.lifeorganizers.com

Pina Colada French Toast! Who wouldn't want this served to them Mother's Day?

- 8 eggs
- 2/3 cup of milk
- 1/2 cup bottled pina colada drink mix
- 12 slices of French bread
- 2 bananas sliced

1. Whisk together the eggs, milk, and pina colada mix in a bowl. Heat a skillet over medium heat; melt butter in the skillet until the foam disappears. Soak the bread slices in the egg mixture, turning the slices over a couple of times.

Gently lay the soaked bread slices into the hot skillet 2 at a time and pan-fry until the French toast is golden brown, about 2 minutes per side. Serve with several slices of banana!



MOPPET WORKERS!

Next Meeting is our last meeting!
Make sure that you gift or make a card
for these special
people that
volunteer their time
watching our little
ones!



Thank you to the **Purple**,
Blue and **Green** tables for
brunch this morning.
Next up is Steering/Table
Leaders!



Thanks to all who

brought items
For the baby shower
this morning!

Save the Date:
Community Baby
Shower is May 21st.
At GCC!



2010-2011 Steering Team

MOPS @ Grace Community Church

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