

# FAMILY FAITH ON THE FRIDGE

Jacob's Well - A Monthly Guide Connecting Home and Church - December 2016

## Wee Ones

Babes - 3 Year Olds

### Singin'

Baby Jesus, Please Don't Cry  
(Tune of Frere Jacques)

Baby Jesus, Baby Jesus  
Please don't cry, please don't cry  
Don't you know I love you?  
Don't you know I love you?  
Very much, very much.

Play in the Story: Waiting for Jesus' Birthday (Luke 1 & 2)

### Pretend!

Gather your stuffed animals. Pretend you are at the stable where Jesus was going to be born. Brush and feed the animals. Pretend to clean the stable to get it ready for Jesus.



**Hide It In Your Heart!**  
"For unto us a child is born."  
Isaiah 9:6



### Cupcakes for Jesus!

The children are learning that Christmas is Jesus' birthday! We will be making play-doh cupcakes for Jesus later this month. This is something easy to do at home with play-doh, candles and cupcake liners!

## The Loft

4 Year Olds - K

### Sing It!

#### Light One Candle

Light one candle for the  
King,  
One bright candle for the  
King.

He brings joy to every  
heart.

He comes,  
He comes.

Play in the Story: God's Biggest Surprise (Luke 1 & 2)

For Advent this year, Lofters will step into Nazareth with Mary, the Angel Gabriel, and Elizabeth. They'll experience God's BEST surprise - Baby Jesus!

### A Loft Favorite!

Song of The Stars  
by Sally Lloyd-Jones



### What Shall I Give Him?

This month, your child is using recyclables to make a present for Baby Jesus. If you have some recyclables at home, your child might turn into an elf & make gifts for the whole family!

### Advent Book List

Check out the Grade School page at [www.jacobswellchurch.org](http://www.jacobswellchurch.org)

# Wonderground

1st - 5th Grade

## Table Talk

What is an angel? What do angels do?

Do you ever think that you have a special purpose for your life?

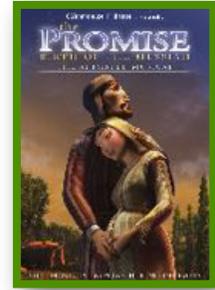
Have you ever been asked to do something that seemed impossible?

What's one thing that you feel like singing about?

Why do you think God chose to show up first as a baby and grow up with us?

## The Songs of Advent: Luke 1 & 2

The Wonderground is joining the adult worship community in engaging the season of Advent with a focus on the Nativity stories of Luke's gospel, specifically three of the four songs, as sung by Zechariah, Mary, and the angels.



### Movie Night!

Check out this animated musical, *The Promise, Birth of the Messiah*, based on the song-filled gospel of Luke. Isaiah 40:1-5

### Advent Resources

Check out the JW Family blog at [www.familiesatthewell.com](http://www.familiesatthewell.com) or the JW Family Co-Op Page on Facebook.

**December 18th** - Intergenerational Worship - 4 yr olds - High School will worship in sanctuary.

**December 24th** - Christmas Eve Gatherings - All children & youth worship in sanctuary. 3pm, 5pm, 7pm and 11pm.

**January 1st** - New Years Day Gatherings - All children & youth worship in sanctuary. Wear your pajamas!!!

## The Next Generation of Worshippers by Mimi Keel

At various times throughout the year, we gather as a whole church family - children, youth, adults, all generations, to worship together for the entire service. Why in the world do we do this? Kids seem bored. It's challenging. Is it good for anyone?

There is a reason behind this madness. We do it because we believe God is creating the next generation of worshippers. And in creating these intentional opportunities for intergenerational worship, we apprentice our children to be life-long worshippers of God.

Like any discipline, it takes practice. It's not easy. But it's valuable in the trajectory of life-long faith. The Barna Group research indicates that around 60% of teens who leave home at the age of 18 aren't transitioning into a life of worship as they head out on their own. They become disconnected in their spiritual journey. Robbie Castleman, author of *Parenting In The Pew*, writes "Right now, when our kids are formative, we have the opportunity to show them how to be worshippers and this will provide for them some scaffolding as they transition into adulthood."

You might be saying, "Okay, but how are we really going to survive this?" For starters, the pastors and kids staff are working in tandem to design a worship space to help families engage in faith formation together. The gatherings will be shorter in length and more family-friendly. Here are a few things you might try to make it a win/win for you and your child(ren):

- Talk about worshipping with your child before Sunday. Ask them what they like best when they worship in the sanctuary. Tell them how you connect with God in this place.
- Pick up a Lap Book, Worship Bag and journal in the foyer on your way into worship.
- Sit where your child can see what is happening.
- During the different parts of the service, explain to your child what is happening.
- After taking communion, invite your child to pray a prayer of thanks or confession.



**"Let each generation tell its children what glorious things He does." Psalm 145:4**