

# Link IV

News for and about Christian education/formation—linking Episcopal Christian Educators and churches at the local, diocesan, provincial, and National levels

## Province IV On the Road

On January 10th, several of the Province IV Committee members met in Birmingham, Alabama to lead our first workshop series. Working with the Diocesan Christian Formation Committee, the Province group volunteered to come and lead various workshops as a part of their Nuts and Bolts: A Christian Formation Toolbox. Three tracks—Adult, Youth and Children—offered participants the opportunity to hear, see and do, along with taking home many hands on resources.

The Province is committed for workshops in Jackson, Mississippi in October, 2009 and in Sarasota, Florida in January 2010. We would love to visit your diocese. Just contact Jenny Beaumont (information on page 4).



Here participants are working on ideas from the "Helping Children to Pray" workshop.

Cookie Cantwell leading a group during the Youth track.



Small group meeting with Jenny Beaumont on Adult Curriculum.



**FIFTYP**  
Money Wise, Caring Kids



## Teaching Children to Be Money-Wise and Compassionate: A Special Offer

We've just come across a new family Website that speaks to our financially tumultuous times. [FiftyP.com](http://FiftyP.com) shows children how to manage money—and inspires them to donate to worthy causes. Children learn to set savings goals, make investments, and spend responsibly. FiftyP also introduces charitable causes and the notion that each of us can make a difference.

March 2009

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Next Issue  
March 2009

**Just a Reminder**

The Province does not make endorsements or recommendations of any of the materials mentioned in this newsletter. It is our responsibility to provide you with information on materials available, and for you as a parish to determine if they fit the needs of your situation.

**heartfelt**

Supporting the spiritual development of families

*Heartfelt* is a monthly publication designed for busy families who want to grow body, mind and spirit, and who want support and encouragement. It is published by Logos and is available for free. Go to: <http://www.thelogosministry.org/heartfelt.html> and sign up.



**A Place to Remember**

This website provides Uplifting support materials and resources for those who have been touched by a crisis in pregnancy or the death of a baby. These also include a large amount of resources regarding grief and loss of family members—many helpful for children. <http://www.aplacetoremember.com/griefhome.html>



Church Divinity School of the Pacific

*The Episcopal Seminary of the West*

**On Line Courses**

Check out the offerings from Church Divinity School of the Pacific at:

[http://www.cdsp.edu/center\\_online.php](http://www.cdsp.edu/center_online.php)

<http://www.ssw.edu/curriculum/online>



SEMINARY OF THE  
**SOUTHWEST**  
AN EPISCOPAL SEMINARY

**Jeremiah (SCM 3223) April 20 - May 29, 2009** Dr. Woody Jenkins

Online Course: You think you've had a bad day? Consider the 40-year ministry of Jeremiah, the Prophet, a.k.a. "the weeping prophet", "the prophet of judgment", and "the prophet of hope". Discover where your life and Jeremiah's life intersect. Engage in thought-provoking discussion with class members and the instructor via threaded discussion forums.; \$125.00, 1.5 CEUs; School of Christian Ministry, 3400 Brook Road, Richmond, VA, 23227 (888)339-2877; [ksiegenthaler@btsr.edu](mailto:ksiegenthaler@btsr.edu) **More Info/Registration:** [http://www.btsr.edu/acad\\_course\\_SoCM\\_onlinecourses.html](http://www.btsr.edu/acad_course_SoCM_onlinecourses.html)

**Deepening Discipleship Through Bible Study** *This is an ongoing learning opportunity*

Dr. Janet Corpus, Assistant to Bishop in SEPA

Reproducible Study has teacher's guides, participants worksheet, and related resources. For five sessions. Can be ordered in hardcopy or downloaded from web site - [www.Ltsp.edu](http://www.Ltsp.edu) ; \$24.95 - \$34.95; Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, 7301 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119-1794, (800)286-4616 ; [mtairy@Ltsp.edu](mailto:mtairy@Ltsp.edu) **More Info/Registration:** [www.Ltsp.edu](http://www.Ltsp.edu)



**Christian Formation Conference  
Making Disciples: Proclaiming the Word  
June 14—19, 2009**

A week of Lifelong Learning for those who lead Christian education programs or simply want to nurture their family's faith. Attend one or both segments: Children's Faith Formation, June 14-17, and Adult Faith Formation, June 16-19. Keynoter: Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett, professor of historical theology, Episcopal Divinity School. Leadership certification will be offered for Education for Ministry (EfM), Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC), Transforming Literature of the Bible, Godly Play and Journey to Adulthood. <http://www.kanuga.org>

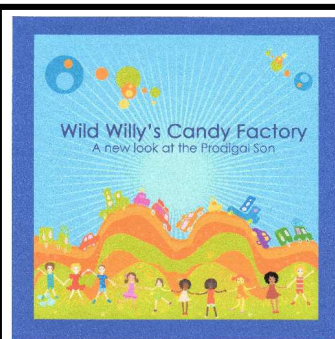


St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Huntsville, Alabama, celebrated All Saints in a most unique way this year. According to Ruth Erwin, nine saint symbols were chosen that could carve well. Patterns were enlarged and taped onto the pumpkins, after we had hollowed them out. They used pumpkin carving tools and made small holes along the patterns edges. 2 other adults helped her and each of them carved a pumpkin, so our youth could see what they were to look like. All the prepared pumpkins and carving tools were left on tables in our 9-12 grade classroom. The 7th and 8th graders joined them during Sunday School the next day and they carved the marked designs. It went really well and pretty quickly.

The saints chosen were: Joan of Arc: cross of Lorraine, St. Patrick: shamrock, St. Thomas: carpenter square and spear, St. Jude: ship, St. John the Evangelist: a serpent coming out of the chalice, St. Clement: Mariner's cross, The Maltese Cross which is a symbol for Christian soldiers, the Descending Dove and a crown to symbolize All Saints Day ( I also think that it could also stand for St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland from the song "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God." Some patterns were found on the internet but two books helpful were: *The Banner Book* by Betty Wolf, published by Morehouse-Barlow Co, 1974 and *Christian Symbols Handbook* by Dean Moe, published by Augsburg Publishing House, 1985. The Descending Dove came from the *Christian Symbols Handbook*.

Every year St. Thomas has an "All Hallows Eve" service where they come to in costume, followed by dinner and "trunk or treat." So the carved pumpkins were used on the altar that evening. The church was dimly lit and they lit the candle sconces that are on the walls along each side of the church. It was very dramatic!

newMOON GIRLS



Written by Sabrina Evans  
Developed at St. John's Episcopal Church  
Montgomery, Alabama



*Wild Willy's Candy Factory—A New Look at the Prodigal Son* is based on *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, a children's book by Roald Dahl, published in 1964. This resource was originally conceived as a five-week series to be used in a midweek program for children during Lent, but it can be adapted for other formats and uses, such as Sunday School or VBS. It is published by Leader Resources and can be purchased at:

<http://leaderresources.org/wildwillytheprodigalson>

New Moon, is a great advertising-free alternative to the mainstream magazines that focus on clothing, hairstyle, and fame. Here is their own description, "New Moon Girls magazine is about helping girls discover and honor their true selves, engage in meaningful pursuits and dialogue, and express their voices in ways that matter." You can find more about the magazine on its website <http://www.newmoon.com>.

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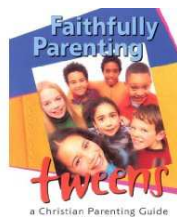


### **Advent Idea**

This idea was found on the internet but turned out much better than anticipated. Using a piece of canvass, a stump was drawn and then vines. This was done prior to the event beginning. This canvass was hung on a bulletin board. Then, children were given a 1 x 1 inch wooden block (found at a local craft store). Using permanent markers, they were asked to draw

something from the Jesse Tree suggestion list. (Can be found on the internet). When completed, children were asked to take a silk grape leaf and attach their block to the leaf using glue dots. (This worked for the immediate time but had to be glued for lasting effects.) The leaves were then attached with Velcro to the canvas. (This too had to be reinforced with glue.)

It really makes for a nice piece of art and will be put in a shadow box. This was made during our Advent Wreath making event. Sabrina Evans—St. John's.



Looking for help for you and your Tweens?

"Faithfully Parenting Tweens: A Christian Parenting Guide" by John R. Bucka ISBN 0-7586-0476-0 (Concordia, which is the Missouri Synod publisher). It's got some interesting strategies for parents on peer pressure, media, partying, grief, going to church, etc.

**New Godly Play Blog** 

<http://www.godlyplayfoundation.blogspot.com>