

# Children and Family

December 2019



The weather is crisp. The days are shorter. The turkey has been stuffed, carved, and enjoyed. It is time for Advent and Christmas. And the end of 2019. What a whirlwind this time of year is for me and most of you. As we approach this wonderful season, I want to remind you of the importance of preparing your family for celebrating the arrival of Jesus. This is a great time of year to come together as a family, even if you have never done so in the past. If your children say something like, "we have never done this before", that is OK. Use this as a jumping off point for sharing your faith and discipleship. If you were at worship on November 24, you were offered a copy of HOPE of Christmas Past, Present & Yet to Come, a mini book of daily prayers for advent. You can also check out the various links on the MUMC Positive Parenting page [www.mentorunc.org/positive-parenting](http://www.mentorunc.org/positive-parenting).

Be sure to mark your calendars for Christmas CrafterNoon: An Ornament ADVENTure! It will be Saturday, December 7 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. This is an outreach event, so please invite people to join in the fun. Then the following week, the annual Christmas play will be performed. This year the play is *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Reserved seats are available at [www.mumctlp.booktix.com/](http://www.mumctlp.booktix.com/).

I was a little sad that no one took me up on the November Positive Parenting Book Club. The next one is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Sign up at this link <https://bit.ly/2QavOUE> The book is Queen Bees & Wanna Bees by Rosalind Wiseman . This is the book that Tina Fey used to create the movie and Broadway musical Mean Girls. You will want to read the third edition as it is updated to include technology. This book might make a great Christmas present...

In my efforts to continue to share with you some insights from the ETCH Conference, I want to share from Josh Straub, Ph. D. He and his wife, Christi, cohost a podcast called "In This Together" and coauthored a children's book titled What Am I Feeling? I have been sharing this message from him with many people: "We don't need therapy; we deserve therapy." Parents, as you consider your parenting style and methods, it is so important that you are modeling for your children. What we do, what we say, how we act, and how we react are all being watched by our children. While that seems like a daunting thing to consider, I want to point out that we are all broken. It is how we react to our brokenness that our children will model. When we own our brokenness and react in the way that God calls us to react, we are showing our children how to handle life. What are you going to do to tend to your soul?

I am here for YOU! Please let me know how I can resource you in your journey of being your child's primary spiritual trainer. My prayer is for you to be the parent God wants you to be. I know that it is difficult as I am in the throes of parenting as well. I want to come alongside you in this journey. Let me know how I can do just that.

By HIS Grace and through HIS love,

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