



Lutheran Church of the Lakes

# FAMILY ministry

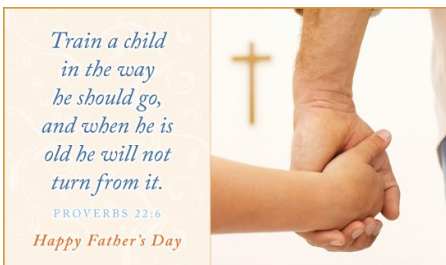
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## How to be a Great Christian Dad

**Keep the Sabbath Day Holy [and other days too]**—In too many Lutheran households [and I suspect other denominations] Mom is the ‘keeper of the faith’. She rounds everyone up and gets them to church, listens to their prayers and helps them memorize Catechism verses. But this can’t be good enough for us. Our kids



our watching. I recently read an article that indicated if only Mom attends church with the kids, approximately 30% of the children will grow up to continue in the faith. If, however, Dad

attends church and makes God a priority in family life, more than 70% of children grow up to embrace their faith and teach their children to do so. Wow! That means that even though Moms may ‘set the tone’ of the home, Dads have an incredible influence in their children’s lives.

Dads need to nurture their own faith, of course, in order to be able to pass it on to their children. This may be done through regular prayer time and scripture reading as well as being actively involved in the church.

Faith is learned best by example. That means, Dad [and Moms], that you must live your faith every day and in every area of your life. It means being humble enough to let your family see your vulnerability and your total reliance on your heavenly Father. Pray with your children. Ask for forgiveness for your mistakes and in turn forgive and bless your children. You’re incredibly important to your family, both today and for eternity. May God bless you as you lead your household in the faith.

# Happy Father's Day!

**Summer Christ Connections meets Sundays 9:40-10:15AM**

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## Thank you Dads!

Did you know that, according to a recent poll, Father's Day ranks at the bottom in church attendance? As a Dad myself, that poll surprised me, especially since both Mother's Day and Father's Day began as church events a century ago.

Now Mother's Day does tend to 'pack the pews' of the Christian Church. It seems that on Mother's Day, moms say: "Let's all go to church!" and the entire family goes and listens as the pastor gushes over women in his sermon. But on Father's Day, many Dads say: "I'm going to play golf." Besides that, many Dads assert that: "While pastors tend to gush over the Moms on Mother's Day, we men get a 'straighten up lecture' on Father's Day!"

I am going to change that perception. I would like to thank you Christian Fathers who support and lead your families by giving them a strong spiritual example - and by seeing yourself as a 'family pastor' - leading the 'little flock' of your 'little church'.

Lately I have seen numerous commercials on television and in USA Today for the Stihl Corporation - makers of chain saws, leaf-blowers and other 'man-sized' tools for outdoor work. The advertisements promote the phrase 'REAL FATHERHOOD' - usually showing young children hugging and running into the arms of their loving father - and suggesting that a Stihl chain saw or leaf-blower is a *REAL GIFT* for a *REAL FATHER*. This time, Dads, I am walking and talking right with you since I am a Father and Dad myself. When we lead our Wives, Moms and Children to love the Lord and love the church, we become a *REAL GIFT* to our families. Thank you so very much in Jesus' name for giving your family the gift of *REAL FATHERHOOD*.

Pastor Mike Ruhl

## Roll up your sleeves

Dads [and all of us] are sinners. We daily fall short of doing all that we should. But God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to pay the price [perfect sacrifice] for all of your sins. He loves you, Dad. He will never leave you alone in this huge task of fatherhood. Lean on Him, listen to Him and then share His love with your entire household by being quick to forgive wrongs and to love unconditionally.

**Christ Connection:** As you listen to your child confess a wrong he has done, remember, you are not his god. Jesus Christ died and rose again for your kids and He longs to see them in heaven. Let her know that she is forgiven because of Jesus' work and that you forgive and love him too.



TV

**Title:** *Webs & Tiaras*

**Network:** YouTube

**Synopsis:** This popular channel directed at children features adults dressed as superheroes, princesses, and villains. Without dialogue, the episodes tell stories about how the villains are out to "kill" the good guys (and gals) in various ways. Children have become one of the biggest drivers of YouTube viewing.

**Our Take:** Despite the slapstick violence, these videos are considered appropriate for preteens. Unfortunately, because of the nature of YouTube, many inappropriate and sexually charged videos appear as "related" suggestions afterward. Turn off the autoplay feature, and closely monitor which superhero videos your preteens are actually watching.

This review is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our goal is to help you make informed decisions about what your children watch, read, listen to, and play.



Jcplayzone.org

## As the Head of the Family should teach...

### POWERSOURCE

Pray that God:

- Will strengthen your faith through prayer, Bible reading and worship
- Will lead you to teach your family the importance of a life totally committed to Christ.
- Will keep your family faithful to eternity.

**Luther's Small Catechism** is very specific in its instruction to parents, especially fathers: *"How the head of the family should teach his household to pray."*

Then it goes on to tell us to make the sign of the holy cross and say: *"In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

It suggests that we say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. This is to be done both in the morning and in the evening and include any other prayers that you use in your family.

Why is Martin Luther so specific and insistent in this practice? So that *"You go joyfully to your work"* and *"So that you go to sleep at once and in good cheer."*

*"If ever the church is to flourish again, one must begin by instructing the young."* -Martin Luther

**New !! Youth Group meets Sundays in the loft 9:40-10:15AM**

## Christ Connections for Adults

You are always invited to join any of the below groups. If you haven't been in a Bible study or small group for a while, check one out. If it isn't quite the best fit, try another group or call and talk to the hosts who will be able to answer your questions.

There are several Bible studies offered at and through Lutheran Church of the Lakes:

**Sunday morning Bible study** Currently: "Resilient- Invite to a Jesus Shaped Life" Based on Matthew 5-7 The Sermon on the Mount. Each Sunday at 9:40AM. Everyone is welcome.

**Tuesday morning Bible study** meets every Tuesday at 10AM in the church library.

**Men's Bible Breakfast** meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month at 8AM in the Brooklyn Big Boy.

**Bible Babes** for women meets Thursdays, Sept-May at 9AM at the church.

**Bauer Small Group**  
517.962.8853

**Wyman Small Group,**  
517.547.5257

**Schmidt Small Group,**  
517.592.5225, are open to new friends. Please contact any group for days and times.

**Let the  
Word of God  
Transform  
You.**



Need help finding the right group? Contact the small group representative, **Richard Moran**, 517.812.5277

**Lutheran Church  
of the Lakes  
Family Ministry**

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**We're on the  
web:  
lcol.org**

**Connecting People to Christ  
and Christ to Communities**



## Welcome to the Lutheran Church

STANDING SQUARELY at the intersection of Faith and Love, Lutheran Church of the Lakes is committed to your spiritual and educational journey.

The soul of a varied and thoroughly rural/resort area in the Irish Hills, Lutheran Church of the Lakes welcomes everyone. Joined by a faith that celebrates Lutheran values of

Word and Sacrament, we treasure each individual's unique God-given gifts. In church we build values for living, friendships for life and faith that leads us to our Savior, Jesus.

Welcome to our vibrant, nourishing, and faith-filled community that is the heart of a life well-lived from infancy to eternity.

*"Father, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.."*

*Ephesians 6:4*

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Change Service Requested

**+ Christ Connections from birth through high school & Adult  
meets every Sunday+**