



PARENTING IS TOUGH

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PEARLS OF WISDOM

Senior Adults' Pearls of Wisdom on parenting.

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PARENTING CLASS



TODAY!



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- ▶ MISSION: We exist to bring glory to God by turning all people into fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
- ▶ PURPOSE: Making Disciples—More Christians and better Christians.
- ▶ DISCIPLE: Someone who is continuously learning to live and love like Jesus and leads others to do the same.



Welcome to Creekside Life

The theme of this edition of *Creekside Life* is Parenting and Family, based on Ephesians 6:4.

"Fathers, don't exasperate your children by coming down hard on them. Take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master." MSG

The Message translation of this passage resonates with me the most—it forms in my mind a sweet, endearing image of a dad taking his child by the hand and leading them. Now put yourself in the place of the child. Imagine God taking your hand and leading you with that same gentle but firm, loving grasp! I find this image of God holding my hand to be incredibly comforting—it invokes feelings of being safe, secure and loved. It also fortifies me and gives me confidence in the way I should go.

As you read through this issue of *Creekside Life*:

- Be encouraged and glean from the wisdom and experience of well-seasoned parents.
- Be reminded of the importance of exemplifying Christ-like character in your parenting strategies.
- Find fun, practical and inexpensive ways to spend time together as a family.
- Learn how to leverage online reading resources and take part in a local school service project as you encourage your children to explore and grow in faith.
- Check out the *WHAT'S HAPPENING* section to find out about growth opportunities and classes like, *Parenting with Love and Logic*.

My hope is that through this issue, you would not only find practical tips and biblical advice to help you live family life together, but that you might experience a sense of fortification and confidence as you parent your children/grandchildren and *"take them by the hand and lead them in the way of the Master."*



Sherry

Sherry Ju, Children's Pastor

P.S. Don't miss the July 29-August 19 sermon series: *Family Matters*. Hear from Pastor Phil Fuller and Pastor Scott Hansen as they share their own experiences as parents and unpack what God's Word says about topics like Communication, Conflict Resolution, Honor and Discipline, and Spiritual Leadership. **CL**

CREEKSIDE LIFE

creeksideeg.com/creekside-life

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Pulse

f t CREEKSIDE EG

All responses taken from Creekside Christian Church social media. Send us feedback on Facebook, Twitter or email us at creeksidelife@creeksideeg.com

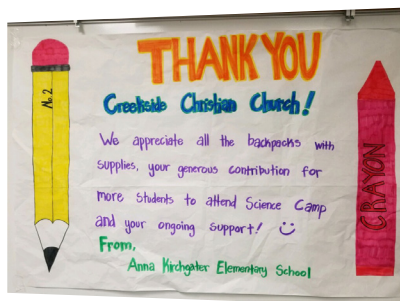
PULSE

“This is one of the best bodies of Christ that I have joined since I have become a Christian more than 20 years ago! The Word is rich and very respected! The Lord Jesus Christ is worshipped in His fullest. I came to this church after an extended time of living in a backslidden state and...

...the people here loved me back to health.

This is now my home Church until the Lord comes or He takes me home. The Pastoral staff is excellent and strives to show the love of Christ through the written Word, worship and just hand-to-hand hospitality! ”

Precious Pearl | via google



Acknowledgement of Creekside's generosity to local schools.

See page 17 for more details and to learn how you can participate.

At the 2018 AWANA VERSE-A-THON

98 CREEKSIDE MEMBERS PARTICIPATED
AGES 3—ADULT

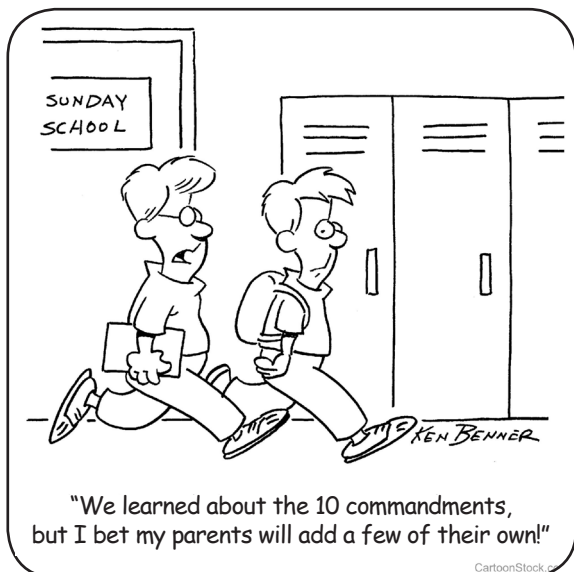
1,757 VERSES WERE RECITED

\$5,702 WAS EARNED

RESULTING IN



570
NEPALESE CHILDREN
REACHED WITH THE GOSPEL AT THE
AWANA MISSION IN NEPAL.



“We learned about the 10 commandments, but I bet my parents will add a few of their own!”

CartoonStock.com



Easter Sunrise Service



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunday



Easter Sunrise Service



Junior High Mission Trip



Junior High Mission Trip



Junior High Mission Trip



Junior High Mission Trip



Junior High Mission Trip



Junior High Mission Trip



Senior Adult Spring Fling



Junior High Mission Trip

HIGH FIVE

Q

MY PROUDEST MOMENT?

A

Seeing my parents shed tears at my graduation from a demanding military school, receiving a commission as an officer. That opened the door for me to enter flight training from which I became a pilot in the Air Force. Another of my proudest moments was watching my children as they accepted Christ and persevered to achieve difficult educational goals, and as they established their own loving families, who are all believers.

Q

WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE DAY?

A

- Witnessing and/or being used by the Holy Spirit to help lead someone to Christ.
- Feeling good physically and emotionally on a beautiful sunny, spring day.
- A nice quiet dinner and time of fellowship with family and friends.
- Waking up and realizing I have another day from the Lord!



CHUCK GAINES

PASTOR, SENIOR ADULTS

Q

WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU WERE GROWING UP?

A

I grew up during the depression years on a farm in Nebraska. The hard work and accountability required with farming molded and motivated me to look elsewhere for a professional career. Because of a neighbor who had an airplane, I became inspired with the potential that aviation might someday offer. My dream came true and I became a pilot in the military. After several years in aviation and several combat tours in Vietnam, I fulfilled that dream and developed a closer relationship with our precious Lord. I retired from the military in 1973 and began the journey to become a minister of the Gospel.

Q

IF YOU COULD HAVE COFFEE WITH ANYONE, LIVING OR SOMEONE FROM HISTORY, WHO WOULD IT BE?

A

Having coffee with Jesus would be my first choice. I have some questions! I'd like to learn more about who He created me to be. I would like to thank Him for loving me enough to sacrifice His life for me and to entrust me with the lives of a loving family, many wonderful friends and the opportunity to minister in His name.

Q

HOBBIES?

A

Golf, snow skiing and water skiing with the family—these have given me great memories of the times we spent together when the children were younger. I still enjoy golfing to this very day. Flying my own airplane, and a company plane as a business man, (many times with family along) was also thrilling. Later, I was a flight instructor and examiner which allowed me to train and certify new pilots; I also flew for Flying Doctors Association.

Believe God when it doesn't make sense!



Sullen and angry, Kyle kept to himself. From the start, he danced to the beat of a different drummer.

After years of rejection and misunderstandings, he developed a protective barrier of "I don't really care." No one seemed to be able to see the potential inside this teenager who had such an ability to love.

Yet, his behavior began to change the more he trusted God.

Flashback: Thanksgiving 2015, Kyle's family broke their Thanksgiving tradition of participating in the Elk Grove Turkey Trot to spend time with family out of state, specifically with Kyle's favorite cousin David. Not long after, tragedy struck when David suddenly and mysteriously died just days after his high school graduation.

Kyle teetered from his newly found confidence of being heard, valued and choosing to be joyful to reverting back to the brooding, offended youth he was in light of this tragedy.

The following year, he participated in a mission trip to Baja, Mexico with the Creekside Student Ministries. Armed with only a sledgehammer, Kyle was chosen to demolish a concrete path and take chunks to the city dump... for four days. While at the Mexican dump, he found an Elk Grove Turkey Trot medal from 2015—the year his family missed because of time spent with David's family.

For Kyle, finding something in a foreign country from his hometown was "pretty cool," and add to that the exact year of a difficult chapter in Kyle's life; he knew it could only come from Someone who knew him and loved him intimately.

A few months later, Kyle was recognized by a server at a local eatery. She told him that her two children attended his high school and had talked about Kyle—the student who lives out his faith on the school

campus. She was so impressed, she gave him free muffins and said, "You made an impact on my kids. Continue to live for Jesus!"

Kyle learned that when you profess to follow Christ, people are watching. He learned that he serves a

God of details who loves him with a deep passion and who meets him in his everyday life. Kyle is a living testament of how following Jesus really does change a life.

Kyle emerged from his tragedy with another intentional step of faith, deciding to believe God even when

life doesn't make sense. He knows that's who God is: one who loves us with a deep passion that is difficult to grasp. He is a God involved with our days, one who invites us to participate in His work.

As a living testament in how following Jesus really does change life, Kyle now looks to the future with an inclusive lens; so many people still need to hear about Jesus. He believes that being weird can be channeled into being used for His glory.

You may come across Kyle and his outgoing personality here at Creekside. He'll be the one in the remarkable suit. **CL**

by Kari Mann who is the Administrative Support for Student and College

"You alone created my inner being. You knitted me together inside my mother. I will give thanks to you because I have been so amazingly and miraculously made. Your works are miraculous, and my soul is fully aware of this."

—PSALM 139:13-14



Creekside Seniors give us "pearls of wisdom" *on raising their children*

WORSHIP

I WAS THE ORGANIST of my village church; now, two of my three children are instrumentalists in churches as well. This has kept them connected to worshipping God on a regular basis. —NZEKWE OFODIRE

MY HUSBAND AND I took our three sons to Sunday School and church each week. We also took them camping out in God's creation at least once or twice a year plus going every year to family camp with our church.
—BETTY PRITTEN

GET THEM IN SUNDAY SCHOOL at a very early age. Keep very close watch on who their friends are as they grow up. Have family activities as much as possible before they are in high school. It's a tough job; stay with it!
—MERLE LARRAREE

LOVING-KNOWING-LOVE GOD. Respect God, others—even old people and young people. We took them to church and looked for ways to serve. We taught them to enjoy learning. Camping to understand many things—what you have at home—God has blessed us with. —ANONYMOUS

OUR WHOLE FAMILY regularly attended church together. Our daughter now is active in music at her church. —ANONYMOUS

MOM MADE HER CHILDREN go to church to hear the Word of God—not the words of the Pastor. Our son went to camp and shared the gospel, and his friend was led to Christ.
—ANONYMOUS

TEACH THEM the fear of God; send them to Christian camps, to Awana and to Christian schools. Be in the Word of God. Sacrifice everything to teach them to know and to love the Lord. Pray all the time; teach them to pray. Be an example and pray and pray.
—AGATHA GARRETT

PRAYER

WE PRAYED at the evening meal with a sense of appreciation for all the food resources that God provides and to be thankful to God. My sons are men now, and when we get together, we still pray. —ANONYMOUS

WE TOOK THE KIDS on a cruise as a high school graduation gift. My son was a "homing pigeon" for Christians on board. Once there was an autistic child who ran off, and we ran after him. We stopped to pray and God answered our prayers immediately as we found the child and led him back to his family. We lived life together. —LINDA CHRYSLER

EXAMPLE

ENCOURAGE THEM to develop good habits and to follow the golden rule; and to pass this on to their own children. I never regretted this kind of parenting. — MARY LOU LOUIE

ALWAYS KEEP IN MIND that while they are too young to understand God, we, as parents, are examples of who God is. Be careful of your words when angry. Have unexpected fun—announce an impromptu “family hokey-pokey.” Let your children see you and your spouse showing love and affection for each other—for example: hugs and holding hands, complimenting each other, and hearing plenty of “I love you’s!” — AMY BORGHESI

WE LISTENED. Even when they were little toddlers, we listened. We taught them from that young age, you can tell us anything. We will always listen. When they were teens, they knew one thing for sure, that we would listen.

— ANONYMOUS

I HAD A SIDE JOB installing sprinklers, and my son worked with me. We spent Saturdays working together, forming relationship.

— ANONYMOUS

LOVE, DISCIPLINE, CHURCH. “No” meant “no.” They turned out well! Lots of activities in wholesome things to keep them out of trouble. At least once a month, to their grandparents. Love from extended family very important. Family vacations each year.

— ANONYMOUS

WE TOOK ROAD TRIPS to Idaho/Oregon—we did not have radio music, but instead, we listened to travel guides along the road from the Parks Services teaching the history and development of the areas we were driving through. The cassette tapes were provided by the Parks Services—you picked them up in one location and dropped them off in another. The kids loved learning. Added bonus: there was no arguing. — RINNY & JAN RAU

MY WIFE AND I took many trips with our three sons to many state and federal parks. We started tent camping, then updated to a tent trailer. We also read Bible stories each evening prior to prayer. — ANONYMOUS **CL**

BE TOGETHER

WE TAUGHT OUR BOYS the difference between a joke and teasing. A joke is funny—it’s a one-time thing. We can laugh. Teasing is where they kept it up (even when) it is no longer funny. We said, it’s not uplifting. Don’t do it. Camping, camping, camping: a great time to just “be”—no screen time allowed.

— ROHN AND JANE RITZEMA



Gary and Kelly Grace

“...when God calls people to serve, Creekside offers ample opportunities to get involved.”

Meet Gary and Kelly Grace.

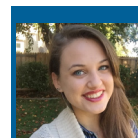
For the past year, they’ve been encouraging and guiding the lives of several young families in Creekside’s community. With 33 years of marriage, five kids, fourteen grandkids and several great grandchildren, the Graces ooze with love for Jesus, love for their family and love for their community.

Gary leads a men’s group on Wednesday mornings, and together they lead a young families group on Tuesdays. When they are not doing either of those or spending time with their family, they enjoy participation in a Bible Teaching Ministry in Ghana. They are passionate about the work that happens there.

Their wisdom and delight in living a life fully devoted to Christ is definitely their mission, and in fact, during their second week at Creekside, they volunteered to lead a LifeGroup. The Graces are so encouraged that Creekside is a place “where people can come with no expectations and just be allowed to learn and grow.” Further, they feel that when God calls people to serve, Creekside offers ample opportunities to get involved.

As they have decided to lead a young families LifeGroup, Kelly shares that “young families have captured [their] hearts.” With Gary being a pastor and Kelly being a pastor’s wife, they love to come alongside and encourage these families. Smiling, Gary continues, “It’s really their group, we’re the grandparents. The young families group in essence ministers to each other as well as to their leaders.”

Warmly, Kelly shares, “We get to come alongside them and help them discover the very best way to raise their children as they teach them to love Jesus.” **CL**



This issue’s Profile article is written by Kayla Hallman who is a contributing copywriter for Creekside Life.



CREEKSIDE PASTORS ANSWER DIFFICULT QUESTIONS:

How can I be patient when my kids continuously push me past my limits?

by **PASTOR PHIL FULLER**

Being a parent is exhausting. How can I be patient when my kids push me past my limits all the time?

This one hits home for me. As a dad of three, I know well the struggle behind this question. It seems as though I am constantly asking the kids to obey, to clean up their messes, to complete their homework, or to stop fighting... sometimes I wonder if they are purposely testing my patience! And here's the truth: I don't always respond well. Far too often I am short-tempered and easily agitated.

A verse in scripture haunts me on this topic: **EPHESIANS 6:4** says similarly, *"do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."*

I know all too well the tendency to be harsh and overly critical. I know that—left to my own strategies and personality—I could very easily wear my kids out by barking demands and expecting too much out of them. I know I'm not the only one who struggles with this.

Something I'm learning that helps to cultivate patience while making me more effective is to lead my kids with questions more than demands. I'm trying to replace, "Make your bed!" with the question, "Did you make your bed?" Instead of "Stop hitting your brother!" I'm trying to create a conversation by asking, "Are you treating your brother with honor and respect right now?"

If we only ever bark demands at our children it will wear all of us out—parents and children. But by asking questions, we create learning opportunities and cultivate their ability to make wise decisions while considering consequences.

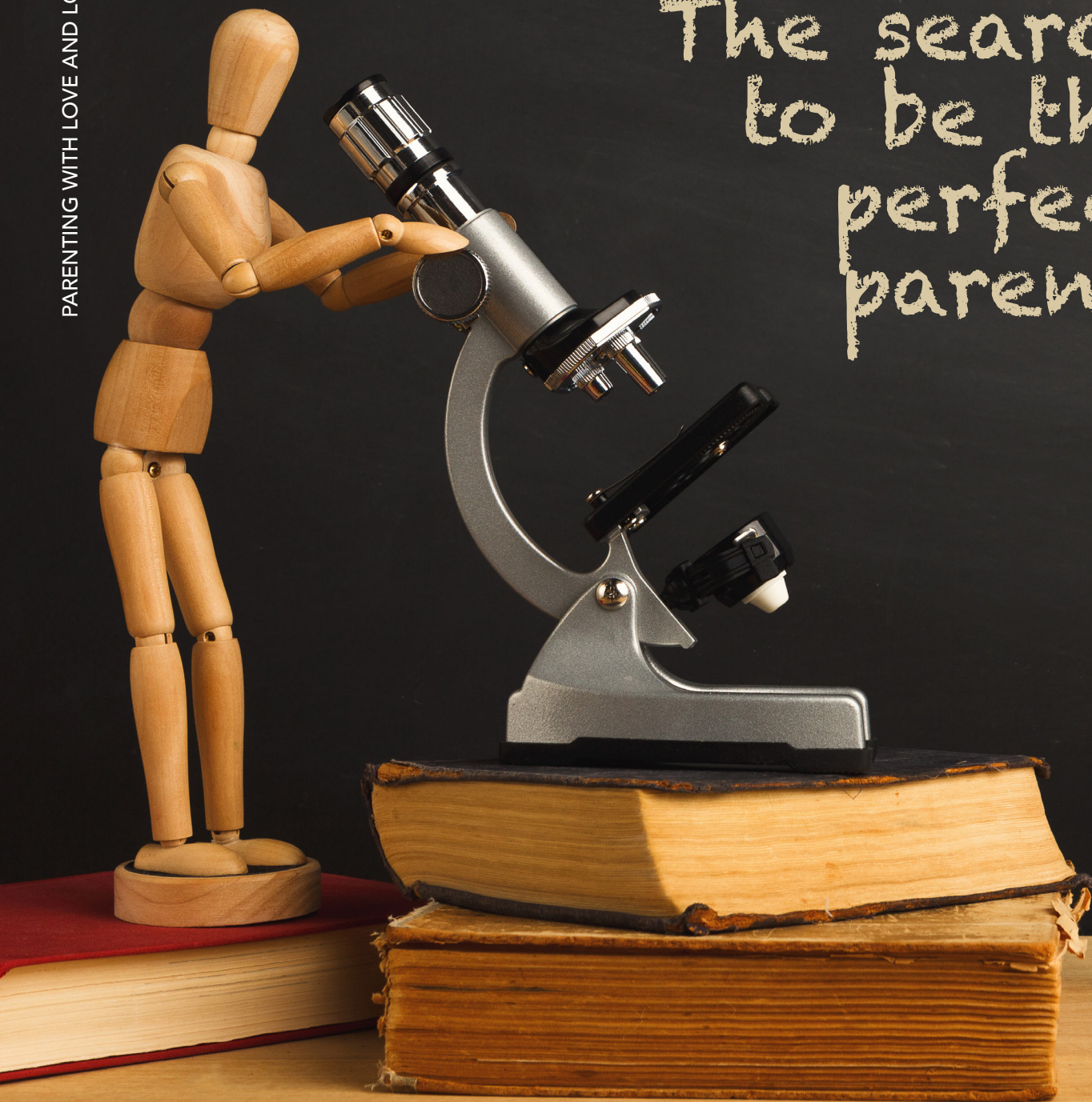
Here's what's fascinating: this is exactly how Jesus operated. Of the 180 or so direct questions He was asked in the gospels, He very rarely responds with a command or direct answer; most of the time He gives a question or story in response. So when we learn to lead our kids like this, we're learning to lead like Jesus. And—true to Paul's words in **Ephesians 6**—rather than exasperate them, we're bringing our kids up *"in the training and instruction of the Lord."* **CL**



This issue's Ask a Pastor is written by Phil Fuller who is the Associate Pastor at Creekside.

Have a difficult question? Email creeksideeg.com and look for your answer in a future issue of Creekside Life.

The search to be the perfect parent!



This issue's feature article is written by Sheryl Sturis, Registered Associate Marriage & Family Therapist-AMFT #93767. Supervised by Michael Beckner, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist-LMFT43050 & LPCC878

Parenting is tough.

Most parents have endured power struggles with their children, have tried many tactics, read many self-help books, asked advice from friends, family and experts, and even attended numerous parenting classes, but often they're still frustrated with lackluster results.

As a counselor, I know how important it is for parents to learn about active listening, I-messages, and about who owns the problem. But knowing and embracing these concepts does not always offer strategies of what to do, when, and how. So, often these parents still resort to the habitual rant-rave-rescue-repeat dysfunction.

With this in mind, *Love and Logic* really is an answer to what has eluded parents in their quest to be effective. *Love and Logic* is like striking gold.

Parenting with Love and Logic curriculum offers a powerful combination of storytelling and humor to impart simple, logical, and effective techniques. Best of all there are no lengthy steps or details to remember. Each week facilitators watch as parents relax and laugh for two hours as they are entertained and challenged by parenting experts. In a light fun atmosphere, each session offers new ideas and practices.

Apprehensive at the start of session one, these same parents leave confident with their new skills to a clear path of happy healthy parenting by the end of session six. Meetings build on the previous ideas, adding new concepts and previewing what's next, in a way that's just like the *Goldilocks* principal: not too much, not too little, but just about the right amount for participants to digest and attempt during the next week.

The reward comes seeing these same parents, who were frustrated before learning the tools from *Love and Logic*, later become confident in their parenting.

Armed with the new knowledge of simple effective strategies of empathy, providing choices, natural, and delayed consequences to name a few, parents who begin to implement them with their children soon learn that these strategies not only produce positive results in their children's behavior, but also have a positive effect on the relationships with their children.

And of course, another wonderful bonus is that *Love and Logic* aligns with our biblical value system. Just like we learn in our own walks with Christ and in our relationships with others, we can't change people, including our kids, and we can't force them to do what is right.

Get ready to giggle and have fun learning parenting techniques that work!

As counselors, we want nothing more than to help people with their personal lives and relationships. *Love and Logic* really offers a great way to make that impact. The moment of truth is watching the genuine surprise the participants experience when they compare their pre-questionnaires responses to their post-questionnaires. In a few short sessions, the initial negative responses often shift to significantly more positive ones.

For any parent who is considering taking the *Love and Logic* course, turn the page to find out how, and get ready to giggle and have fun, and learn specific techniques that work. [CL](#)

See page 14 for details on the *Parenting With Love and Logic* course offered right here at Creekside.

Raise great kids with techniques that are practical, proven, and fun!

Let's be honest: parenting is tough. But Creekside is offering this course to give parents the tools needed to raise God-honoring kids.

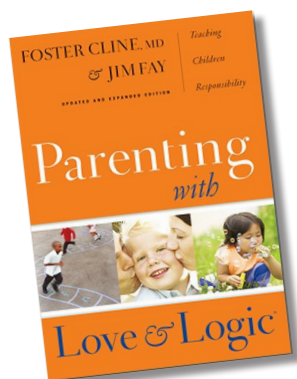


Never before in history have parents faced so many challenges! That's why the *Love and Logic* approach provides a variety of simple and effective strategies for parenting children.

- Are you tired of having to work so hard to get your children at home to calm down and behave?
- Are you concerned that they may not be developing the level of responsibility and self-control they'll need to lead happy and successful lives?

The "Love" in *Love and Logic* means that we love our kids so much that we are willing to set and enforce limits. This "Love" also means that we do so with sincere compassion and empathy.

The "Logic" in *Love and Logic* happens when we allow children to make decisions, make affordable mistakes and experience the natural or logical consequences.



PARENTING WITH LOVE AND LOGIC



- 7 week course
- Tuesdays, June 26 – August 14 (no meeting July 3)
- 6:30-8:30pm
- Room E-108
- \$40 per family
- Instructor: Mike Beckner
Mike is a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and oversees the Community Counseling Center at Creekside. Through his own family and the counseling office, he will draw on years of experience to help you parent with Love and Logic.

COURSE TOPICS

- June 26: Raising Responsible Kids
- July 10: Love & Logic Formula
- July 17: Control That is Shared
- July 24: Ownership of the Problem
- July 31: Opportunity for Thinking/Decision Making
- August 7: Let Consequences Do the Teaching
- August 14: Let's Wrap It Up and Take it Home

REGISTER for Parenting With Love and Logic at:
creeksideeg.com/university or contact Sheryl Sturis | 916-509-8285

Childcare for infants through sixth grade is available through Creekside's Adventure Crew Ministry. You will have an opportunity to register your children when you register yourself for classes. Cost: \$50 per family for 7 week course.



Put down the phone!

It's hard, but, again I say... put down the phone.

I am probably not the first person to say this, but it's worth repeating: I beg you to limit screen time for you and your family as much as possible.

Life is just better when we put the phone down, turn off the TV, stay off the computer and choose each other, choose to spend time together.

However, I realize that sometimes this really good choice can be hard. I confess there are times I just need a little peace and quiet and know that media can help make that happen.

But as parents we still have a responsibility to make good media choices for our kids. So, if we are going to have media time let's skip the mind-numbing, brainless media time; let's have positive, thought provoking, uplifting media time.

A great resource to have for your whole family is called RightNow Media. You can access RightNow Media online, or on pretty much any streaming device imaginable. You can watch over 2000 kids' episodes in the RightNow Media' Kids' Library. Stream them in the living room or on the road. These Bible-based shows will educate and entertain children of all ages.

It's like *Netflix* for Christians

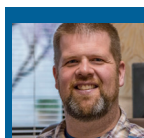


RightNow Media is also great for parents. Matt Chandler, lead pastor of the Village Church, calls it the *Netflix* of Christian Bible Study. You can stream high quality Bible studies as well as great resources for marriage, parenting, and more.

And guess what?! Creekside has purchased a subscription to RightNow Media for the entire church!

Contact Sharon (sharon@creeksideeg.com) and she will help get the process rolling for you and your family to start enjoying so many options. You'll receive an email with a link to create your own login so you, and your family have access to an amazing library of Christian resources.

So, again, when choosing electronics, keep the family in mind. Enjoy options together. **CL**



This issue's Family Ministry article is written by Joel Neufeld who is a Worship Leader and Pastor to Young Families at Creekside.

INTERSECTION

FAITH + POP CULTURE

Pop Culture... It's not for the faint of heart!

For seemingly so long now I have felt “in the know” of youth culture and what students are experiencing at school and in their worlds. I could name, and even horribly sing, the latest song or band that students loved. I intuitively knew what the coolest new game apps were, what movie was most popular, or even what some of the gossip was around teen celebrities. After all it's been my job to live in the worlds of middle school and high school students.

But now, almost overnight, I am starting to feel old... I know... I know... cue the eye-rol from everyone older than I am!

Seriously, the other day one of our youth mentioned something about a “fort night,” to which I asked the question, “who had the sleepover?” And, “how big was the fort that you built? That sounds cool!” They simultaneously laughed and rolled their eyes at me to express in no uncertain terms, “oh you're so old!”

So in my moment of embarrassment I pulled out my phone and resorted to “googling” what it was. Quickly I discovered that “Fortnite” is a new video game that is unbelievably popular with many of my students.

Since that moment things are popping up left and right in teen culture, technology, or social media that I am struggling to keep up with. I have officially reached the age where I am now that uncool old guy who doesn't know what the students are talking about.

I am finding myself in the position that probably many of you can relate to while you try to walk through the confusion and

frustration of not understanding what your kids are going through as they navigate the culture around them. If you are anything like I am, that confusion really does lead to fear.

It is scary not knowing. It is scary wondering what your kids are seeing or learning when you're not around, and maybe an even bigger fear is that you cannot relate or connect to your kids anymore because of that. The thing that scares me the most about not fully understanding the culture that our kids are faced with is the very starting point into what I think our response should be to that fear! The “not knowing” may be scary, but it is probably the greatest point of conversation we have with our kids at times.

One thing I have learned about students is that the more I act like I know what's going on, the more they know that I'm a fraud. However, as soon as I embrace the “old man” persona, as I call it, the more we can

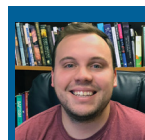
corporate laugh and bond over our differences.

Students need adults who care enough to ask and engage with them even if they have no clue what is going on. The very fact that you don't understand something about your kids' habits is actually the greatest place for you to engage and ask questions: not from a place

of policing what they are doing, but from a place of genuinely caring about who they are!

So join me as we embrace our “old man” and “old woman” selves and lean in to the unknown! **CL**

“It is scary wondering what your kids are seeing when you're not around...”



This issue's INTERSECTION is written by Steven Rossi who is Student Ministries Pastor at Creekside.

BACKPACKS & SHOES...

...tangible expressions of love to underprivileged children in our community.

For the past 11 years Creekside families have been providing **backpacks**, school supplies and science camp scholarships to Kirchgater Elementary students.



And, for the last three years Creekside families have joined with other Elk Grove churches to provide thousands of **new shoes** to students in 17 schools in the Elk Grove Unified School District through Share-A-Sole.



Why do we do this?

- Because we want to equip students with the tools they need to be successful in school.
- Because we want to equip Creekside families to live missionally by meeting the needs of others.
- Because we want to honor God as we represent Jesus to those around us. "Whoever is kind to the needy honors God." PROVERBS 14:31, and "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." MATTHEW 25:40
- Because we want to put smiles on the faces of others (plus the added bonus of the blessing our hearts feel from giving). [CL](#)

Want to help?



DONATE!

Donations accepted through August 12 at Creekside.



VISIT A FUNDRAISER!



JULY FUNDRAISER

8430 Bond Road
Elk Grove, CA 95624
Date and Time: tbd



OCTOBER FUNDRAISER

7400 Laguna Blvd.
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Date and Time: tbd

VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer for prep teams and fittings at the schools.
Recruitment begins in Sept.

For more details about these two opportunities, check the website creeksideeg.com/missions or contact Karen Stoneburner: karen.s@creeksideeg.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING CREEKSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Opportunities developed for those seeking to move closer to Jesus

*CREEKSIDE UNIVERSITY

Tuesdays, June 26-Aug 14
Creekside Campus

A series of courses to help you grow in your faith this summer and take that next step in your walk with Jesus. Choose from four electives: Doctrine, Parenting with Love and Logic, Heart Habits, and Missional Living.

Visit creeksideeg.com/university for details and registration. Phil Fuller | phil.f@creeksideeg.com

SHAPE WORKSHOP

Sunday, Aug 5, 1-4:30pm | M-3

We are all uniquely shaped by God for His purpose. Come have fun and discover your personal SHAPE (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences) and your God-given hardwiring for serving Him. Jennifer Sandlin | jennifer@creeksideeg.com

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Wednesdays, Aug 29-Nov 7, 6:30pm | A-1

A life-altering, light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel resource that will help you learn to manage the money God has entrusted to you. Classes take place once a week for nine weeks, approximately 90 minutes long. Cost: \$99/family. Register at daveramsey.com

PRAYER WORKSHOP

Saturday, Sept 8, 9am-noon | E-102

A practical approach to increasing intimacy between you and the God

who loves us, and will bring life into your times of conversation with God. Jennifer Sandlin | jennifer@creeksideeg.com

GETTING COMFORTABLE WITH THE BIBLE

Sundays, Sept 16, 23, 30, 9:30-11am | A-5

A three-week course especially for people who are new to the Bible. Topics include an overview of the Bible, why you can trust the Bible, and Bible study basics.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

MEMBERSHIP

Sunday, Sept 16, 1:30-4:30pm | A-1

What is church membership at Creekside? What is our history? What do we believe? This class will answer those questions and more!

Melissa Yocum | melissa@creeksideeg.com

BAPTISM CLASS

Sunday, Sept 23, 12:45-2pm | D-5

This class will answer your questions about baptism and prepare you for this step of faith with Jesus.

Karen Nowlan | karen.n@creeksideeg.com

PRAYER RENEWAL

Friday-Sunday, Oct 19-21 | Camp Del Oro

Hungry for a more intimate and conversational prayer life? In this small group we will spend time in reflection, structured silence, and solitude as we learn to be still and know God.

\$150/person

Jennifer Sandlin | jennifer@creeksideeg.com

CHILDREN

*SUMMER MEGA CAMP BASIC TRAINING

Wednesday, June 13, 6:30-8pm | A-1

Saturday, June 16, 10-11:30am | A-1

Basic training for new Mega Camp volunteers. Refreshments provided. Sorry, no childcare.

Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com

SUMMER MEGA CAMP FINAL TRAINING & SET UP

Sunday, June 24, 1-5pm | E-205

Training, dry run and set up for Mega Camp volunteers. Lunch provided. Sorry, no childcare.

Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com

SUMMER MEGA CAMP

Monday-Friday, June 25-29, 9-noon

Creekside campus

Registration open through June 17

Weekday Bible camp for children

3ys – 6th grade. Pre-registration

required. Cost \$35/child

summermegacamp.org

Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com



AWANA CLUBS

July 22-Aug 12 | Pre-registration open

1st Night Club. Aug 22, 6:15-8pm

Wednesdays, 6:15-8pm

Yearly Bible club. Pre-registration

required. Cost \$45/child

Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com

*AWANA VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Tuesday, Aug 7, 6:30-9pm | M-5

Saturday, Aug 11, 9-11:30am | M-5

Getting Started Training for new Awana Volunteers. Childcare provided by Adventure Crew KidsCare; pre-registration for childcare required via creeksideeg.com/adventure-crew/ [Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ShelbyArriaga@shelby@creeksideeg.com)

AWANA VOLUNTEER DRY RUN

Wednesday, Aug 15, 6:15-8pm | E-205

Training for all Awana Volunteers. Review of safety policies and best practices, vision casting and mock run-through of club night.

[Shelby Arriaga | shelby@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ShelbyArriaga@shelby@creeksideeg.com)

56 BLOWOUT

Friday, Sept 14, 6:30-8:45pm | E-108

A time for 5th & 6th graders to grow in faith while enjoying social time with their peers in a fun, creative setting [Justine Donnelly | justine@creeksideeg.com](mailto:JustineDonnelly@justine@creeksideeg.com)

SHINING STARS PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN-HELPING STARS

We provide a safe, nurturing, creative environment where children begin to lay a foundation of life-long learning and discovery while experiencing God's love.

Enrollment for the 2018/2019 school year is under way. Check our website for details: shiningstarseg.com | 916-714-0735



YOUTH

SYNERGY BASKETBALL

JH-Mondays, 6pm | Main Auditorium

HS-Fridays, 6pm | Main Auditorium

Weekly games of basketball with a short devotion.

[Jan James | jan@creeksideeg.com](mailto:JanJames@jan@creeksideeg.com)

UNION GOSPEL MISSION

Tuesdays, 7-9:30pm | Union Gospel Mission

Serve dinner to the homeless.

Meet in the Creekside parking lot for carpooling.

[Jonny Hansen | jonny@creeksideeg.com](mailto:JonnyHansen@jonny@creeksideeg.com)

JH SUMMER CHAOS

Wednesdays, June 13, July 11, 25, Aug 1

6:30-8:30pm | MacNeill's home

Part swim party, part Bible study. Come join us for a time of connection and growth!

[Jonny Hansen | jonny@creeksideeg.com](mailto:JonnyHansen@jonny@creeksideeg.com)

HS SUMMER SLAM

Wednesdays, 6:45-8:45pm | Boyd's home

June 6, 13, 20, July 11, 25, Aug 1

Part swim party, part small group.

Come join us for a time of fun and fellowship!

[Hannah Schmidt | hannah@creeksideeg.com](mailto:HannahSchmidt@hannah@creeksideeg.com)

FIRESIDE WORSHIP NIGHTS

Thursdays, June 14 & July 19

Creekside Back Lawn

A night of fellowship, worship and s'mores with JH, HS and College students.

[Jonny Hansen | jonny@creeksideeg.com](mailto:JonnyHansen@jonny@creeksideeg.com)

HUME LAKE CAMP FOR JH & HS

Sunday-Saturday, June 24-30

Summer Camp

[Hannah Schmidt | hannah@creeksideeg.com](mailto:HannahSchmidt@hannah@creeksideeg.com)

Calendars are available online at creeksideeg.com/student-ministries

COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULTS

THE VINE LIFEGROUP

Thursdays, 7-9pm | E-108

College and Young Adults rooted in Christ, branching out to those in need, to challenge and equip you for the ministry of God's kingdom.

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

SATURDAY WITH THE BOYZ

Saturday, June 9 & July 14

Men's Huddle and BBQ

Join us for the Men's Huddle at 8am, then join us at 1pm for an afternoon BBQ and Ultimate Frisbee in the park.

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)



FIRESIDE WORSHIP NIGHT

Thursday, June 14 & July 19, 6:30pm

Creekside back lawn

A night of fellowship, worship and s'mores with JH, HS and College/Young Adult students.

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

HIKING WITH THE VINE

Saturday, June 30 | Sierra Mountains

Come join us as we explore and enjoy God's creation.

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

CITY SCAVENGER HUNT

Thursday, Aug 9, 6pm

Meet at Creekside for carpool before we hit the streets for a fun night out!

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

COLLEGE RETREAT

Friday-Sunday, Aug 10-12

Zephyr Point, Lake Tahoe

Get away for a weekend and together experience God's creation in community and worship as College and Young Adults. Limited space.

Details and registration available online.

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

END OF SUMMER BLOWOUT

Thursday, Aug 16, 6:30pm

Darrell Frick's House

Celebrate the end of summer with food, games, and more!

[Zach Carriker | zach@creeksideeg.com](mailto:ZachCarriker@zach@creeksideeg.com)

WHAT'S HAPPENING CREEKSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MEN

PRAYER GROUP / BIBLE STUDY

Sundays | M-2

Prayer: 7:30-8am / Study: 8-9:15am

An awesome, biblically sound, unbiased Bible study. The first 30 minutes is spent praying for our families and other concerns.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, 6-7am | A-1

A perfect morning start, seeking God first! Spend time contemplating Sunday's sermon, followed by Bible study. Led by Gary Grace.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com



FATHER SON CAMPOUT

Friday-Sunday, Oct 5-7 | Rancho Seco Park

Make memories to last a lifetime!

Join us for camping, campfires, lots of laughter and guy-time. Online registration starts in August.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

HOMELESS MINISTRY OUTREACH

1st Friday, 7:15-8:45pm

Union Gospel Mission, Sacramento

Join us as we serve the homeless by conducting Chapel.

Tony Bell | tony@creeksideeg.com

MEN'S CAMPOUT

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22

Loon Lake, El Dorado National Forest

A weekend filled with fellowship, outdoor activities, worship and God's Word.

Details and registration available online.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

MEN'S HUDDLE

2nd Saturday, 8-9:45am | Auditorium

For guys in all stages of life. Join us for breakfast, worship and inspiring speakers. Bring a friend along!

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

WOMEN

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, 9:30-10:45am | M-2

Study the Bible with a loving, prayerful group of women. All ages are welcome. Led by Ruby Parsley.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

2nd Monday, 7-9pm | E-204

Offsite in July, no meeting in Aug

Knit and crochet shawls and pray for those who receive them.

Donate completed shawls at the Women's kiosk.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

2nd Monday, 7-9pm | E-203

Offsite in July, no meeting in Aug

Serving people both locally and internationally. Using crafting abilities to serve local children's hospital and hospitals in Africa.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

DORCAS CIRCLE

1st Wednesday, 9-11:30am | E-203

No meeting in July

A service group ministering to the needs of our local community and missionaries overseas by making quilts, rolling bandages, and more.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

*HEART2HEART MOMS

Alternating Thursdays, Resumes in Sept 9-11:30am

For mothers of all ages and stages. Time together includes breakfast, special events and guest speakers.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

*HEART2HEART MOMS - WEEKEND EDITION

2nd Saturday, Resumes in Sept, 9-11am

For working moms to come together once a month. Enjoy food, friendship and guest speakers.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

WOMEN ALONE FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, June 30, July 28 & Aug 25, noon-2pm | Atrium

For all ages, but mostly senior ladies widowed, divorced or single. Share a potluck lunch, meet new friends and enjoy inspiring speakers and music.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, July 11-Aug 15, 9-11am | E-108

Grow in your relationship with God, whether you've studied the Bible for years, or are just getting started.

Details and registration available online.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

NOW WHAT?

Saturday, July 21, 9am-noon | E-205

A brunch with uplifting testimonies about navigating life's transitions, especially during mid-life challenges. Register in the Atrium.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

BRUNCH BUNCH

Saturday, Aug 25, 10am-noon | Auditorium

A bunch of women doing brunch and talking about Jesus, striving to live fully and love deeply. All women welcome. Register online. Cost: \$10

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

RETREAT

Friday-Sunday, Oct 26-28

Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe

SOLD OUT! To join the waiting list contact Nancy.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

SENIOR ADULTS 55+

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, 9:30-10:30am | A-1

A warm and friendly crowd will be pleased to welcome you to this on-going, in-depth Bible study. Led by Mike Jones.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

On summer break until Sept

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

GAME DAY WITH JR HIGH

Thursday, July 18, 11am-1pm | Atrium

Games and entertainment led by Jr High Ministry, and a potluck lunch provided by the Seniors. Sign up in the Atrium.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

FAMILIES

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday, June 3, 12:30-3pm

Hot dogs, chips, watermelon and bottled water provided; soda and sweet treats at a nominal cost. Bounce houses for kids, volleyball for adults and more!

Joel Neufeld | joel@creeksideeg.com

MARRIAGE



"LAUGH YOUR WAY TO A BETTER MARRIAGE" SEMINAR

Friday, Sept 21, 7-10pm

*Saturday, Sept 22, 9am-noon

Mark Gungor explores the dynamics of male/female relationships, with humor that makes his teaching enjoyable, effective and memorable. Details and registration available online.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

"THE ULTIMATE MARRIAGE WEEKEND"

Friday-Sunday, Aug 10-12

Zephyr Point Conference Center, Lake Tahoe

SOLD OUT! To join the waiting list, contact Nancy.

Nancy Aird | nancy@creeksideeg.com

MARRIAGE & FAMILY COUNSELING

Creekside has a great Community Counseling Center which provides Christian Marriage and Family Therapy and Professional Counseling at affordable prices.

Contact: 916-509-8285, leave a voicemail.

*PARENTING WITH LOVE AND LOGIC

7 week course

Tuesdays, June 26-Aug 14 | E-108

Get ready to giggle and have fun while learning specific parenting techniques that work. Cost: \$40 per family. Class instructor: Mike Beckner, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist. (See pages 12-14 for more details.)

Contact: Sheryl Sturis | 916-509-8285

WORSHIP

WORSHIP PREVIEW

Sunday, July 15, 12:45pm | B-4

An exciting time for musicians to learn about Worship Arts Ministry. If you are a vocalist, instrumentalist or interested in being part of our technical ministry, please join us.

Shannon Schulze | shannon@creeksideeg.com



SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES

CHURCH SERVICE

- 8am | Classic
- 9:30am | Contemporary
- 11:15am | Contemporary

NURSERY

- 8am | Newborn to 4 yrs.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 9:30 & 11:15am
- Check-in: Rm. M-9 or South Wing/Main Bldg.

SPECIAL NEEDS FOR KIDS

- 9:30am | Rm. B-4

PRETEEN MINISTRY 56'ers

- 9:30am | Rm. E-201

JUNIOR HIGH

- 9:30 | Rm. E-108

HIGH SCHOOL

- 9:30 | Rm. E-205

SENIOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 9:30 | Rm. A-1

SUPPORT

SCALES

2nd Friday, 7-9pm | E-103

A monthly confidential support group for families and friends impacted by a loved one with mental illness.

Greg & Marti | westee4@sbcglobal.net

DIVORCECARE

Mondays, through Aug 13 | 7-9pm | E-210

This professionally designed 13-week video series blends discussion and support. It is led by a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist of the Community Counseling Center. Confidentiality assured! Cost: \$20

Contact: Sheryl Sturis | 916-509-8285

FUN FAMILY THINGS-TO-DO... FOR UNDER \$10

If you know the Doty family, you know we are a frugal and fun loving family. Having five children means the cost to do things adds up quickly. So, we compiled a list of summer family fun things to do in Elk Grove that are under \$10.

15

Look at the stars—

Especially in August around the 12th during the peak of the annual Perseid meteor shower (July 17 to August 24).

14

Tour a fire station— for free.



Visit a farm—

Davis Ranch*, local strawberry stands off Bond Road, Grantline Road, etc. FALL: Fog Willow Pumpkin Patch. Farther away but we just can't ignore these: Apple Hill and Newcastle Mandarin Ranch.

* Davis Ranch: "You Pick" option (in photo) is only certain days and times, and requires a minimum purchase amount.



Volunteer as a family—

Try the Elk Grove Food Bank, CSD, creek clean-up, church, or visit the elderly.

11

Pick-up sports game—

Join an existing group or start your own: baseball, volleyball, soccer, etc. Many families meet in different locations around town. If you decide to start one, don't forget to invite the Dotys! 😊

*The Doty Children—
taking a break at the
Cosumnes River Preserve.*

10

Check out the critters— at the Serpentarium or Petsmart.



Visit local historical towns— Hood, Franklin, Elk Grove, Sheldon, Locke.



Visit a Sprayground Park—

Backer Park, Derr-Okamoto Park, George Park, Horseshoe Park, Kunsting Park, Nottoli Park, Stephenson Park, Wright Park, or Morse Community Park; Check online for sprayground park hours.

7

Visit a Library—Elk Grove, Franklin, or North Laguna. Also, attend a story time, free movie, or other activities while there.



6

Head to Elk Grove Regional Park—Visit Pirates Island and play hide and seek, try out the Off-Road Bike Track, discus/Frisbee golf, fly a kite, fish, or feed the ducks and have a picnic.



5

Visit—Food Truck Mania or Elk Grove farmers markets (bike there for fun!).

4

Free summer events—Enjoy a free summer concert and/or movie in the park through Cosumnes Community Services District or neighborhood associations. Also noteworthy is the CSD Multicultural Festival and Big Truck Day.



3

Creek Trails—Walk or bike the Laguna or Elk Grove Creek trails. Special events occur occasionally on the trails hosted by Elk Grove Trails Advocates. We also see people fishing in the creeks and lakes.



2

Appreciate a Local Preserve—Cosumnes River Preserve—museum, bird watching, hike, fish, and kayak. A less accessible preserve, Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, hosts regularly scheduled tours.

1

Visit Creekside Church—Join in fun family events or learn how to get a free subscription to RightNow Media (see page 15). **CL**

This issue's ACTIVITY article was written by Melina Doty who is a Creekside member and mother to these five adorable children. We thank her for sharing her wonderful ideas.

For more ideas and for a full list of community events, activities and resources, we recommend you check out the Elk Grove CSD website at: yourcsd.com





BROVEERS

15 Ancient Proverbs For Bros

01

If a bro dies while lifting weights, first add more weight, then call 911.

06

A bro looking for a Proverbs 31 wife better be an Ephesians 5:25 bro.

11

A bro never wears socks with sandals.

02

A bro isn't obligated to comment on another bro's haircut.

07

A bro doesn't listen to chick music around other bros.

12

If a bro fails a challenge, it's always the equipment's fault.

03

Skinny jeans do not make a bro skinny.

08

A bro doesn't apply sunscreen on another bro.

13

If a bro gets a dog it must be at least knee height when fully grown.

04

A bearded bro who cannot change a tire must shave his beard.

09

A bro never admits to other bros that he lost a video game to his kid.

14

Bros never share desserts.

05

A bro never willingly relinquishes control of the remote.

10

Bros start at least one fire a year.

15

*A bro doesn't ask his wife to go to the game. **CL***

For more bro wisdom, attend the Men's Campout on July 20-22. See page 20 for more details or visit the website: creeksideeg.com

A photograph of a person's legs sitting on a wooden chair in a church setting. The person is wearing dark shorts and is barefoot. The background is softly blurred, showing other chairs and a warm, golden light. The text 'the Venue at creekside' is overlaid in white, with 'the' in a smaller font, 'Venue' in a large, stylized font with a wavy underline, and 'at creekside' in a smaller font below it.

the Venue at creekside

the Venue | Sundays at 9:30am

The Family Room in *The Venue* will provide space for your little ones to play quietly or learn beside you as you worship and grow together.

Coming Soon



**DOWNLOAD THE CREEKSIDE EG APP AND
READ CREEKSIDE LIFE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.**

CREEKSIDE EG.COM

*Available for iPhone, Android
and iPad.*