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THE INTENTIONAL FATHER

When Sherry and I were confident that Jayden and Brody would be moving in with us to hopefully become part of our family, I leaned in pretty hard to asking some questions of myself...How can you make yourself ready for this? How can do all that you can to add value and love to these two lives? How can you be intentional with this opportunity?

Just a few months into them living with us, a new book came out that I have read multiple times, and returned to often for guidance: **The Intentional Father**. In it, the author speaks to the lack of American cultural rituals and ceremonies to celebrate a boy's path into manhood that have been part of the human experience for centuries in all cultures, and how vital that is. I was quickly convinced, and thought of how I might lean into that process with our boys.

To date, we have a few of these things in place. We have a "Family Values" sheet in our house that lays out characteristics that we seek to embody as a family. We have a "What It Takes to Be a Man" sheet that lays out some basic principles of behavior and character as well. Core to this process is conveying to the guys the core ideas behind the faith that guides our family's life. Basic building blocks of faith that, I think, are good reminders for all of us to return to from time to time. Some of these core teachings include:

- God loves you and gave Jesus for you.
- We strive to live like Jesus for our good and for the good of others.
- Questions in your faith are good things to grow—not something to be afraid of.
- Life can be unfair, but it is still beautiful.
- Hard work is necessary and rewarding.
- Suffering and "tough love" can form us more into the likeness of Jesus.

These are ideas that we try to weave through our lives in different ways as we raise our guys, but they are also important reminders for all of us as we seek to embody the likeness of Jesus!

Alongside this, the final thing that I try to do is to create some formational experiences at pivotal ages—specifically ages 13, 16, and 18. And in case you didn't know, Brody turns 13 this week! Y'all be sure to say a prayer for him as he takes this first step into "manhood" in our house—with all that entails! *And when you get a moment, remind yourself of God's love for you, and the ways you can live in it most fully.* **-Josh**

SUNDAY MORNING

9:45 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00 AM - MORNING WORSHIP

SPECIAL ELEMENTS

Reverend Josh Beeler - "Repent"

Luke 13:1-9

Chancel Choir - "All Because of the Cross"

Children's Choir



MISSIONS

CHRISTMAS CHEER BASKETS

April items are canned hams and meats.

WOM APRIL PROJECT - DAILY BREAD

Boxes of cereal and individual packs of snack crackers and chips.

MISSION TRIP

Pray for the mission team as they travel to Nickelsville, VA. April 6-11
Mission projects include construction and music ministry.



FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY MINISTRIES

6:30 p.m. Music & Disciple Kids, and Youth Bible Study
6:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study

KOINANIAS

Tuesday, April 1 at 9:15 a.m.
Depart for The Summit

SPAGHETTI LUNCH- BE OUR GUEST

April 6 - following worship
Sign up by April 2 (main hallway) to attend the spaghetti lunch hosted by our youth.



CHURCH LIFE

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

March 30 Benny Brooks & Mary Ellen Bryant

DEACONS SERVING MARCH 30

Beth Freeman Carl Laferney
Donna Massie Cary Murphy
Angela Sale Sharon Walters-Bower

MARCH 23, 2025 OFFERINGS

Budget Envelopes.....\$6,418.00
(Weekly Budget Needs \$9510.00)
Plate Offering.....\$ 17.00
Designated Offering.....\$2,665.00

TOTAL DEPOSIT..... \$ 9,100.00
Find Us Faithful.....\$ 215.00

USHERS FOR MARCH

Steve Owen and Brad Burchette

LENTEN SERVICES

April 2 - Rose Chapel BC
April 9 - Madison Heights BC
(lunch following service at MHBC)

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19
Madison Heights Library front lawn
2:00 p.m.

LOTS of individual packs/pieces of candy are needed - no chocolate.
Collection containers are by the bulletin board in the main hallway.
Collection ends April 15.

MADISON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
329 Main Street
MADISON HEIGHTS, VA 24572
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