

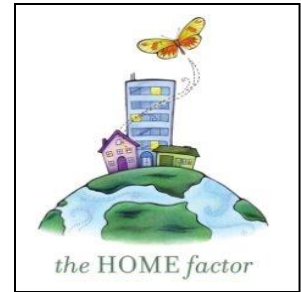
IVC MOPS "WELCOME HOME" NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Volume 8

By Megan Pickering, Publicity
<http://www.geocities.com/MOPSIVC>

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE—IT HAS EVERYTHING FROM BLOGS TO TABLE INFO TO GREAT MOM LINKS!



Moms need MOPS and We need YOU!!!

Please prayerfully consider how you want to serve this next year. MOPS Steering and Leadership positions are absolutely a place for you to thrive and grow not only as a leader, but also in the position you choose to serve in. You are valued and you are a needed facet of this group. If you have any questions, please contact any of the Steering Members listed at the end of this newsletter. Positions include:

- Finance
- Publicity
- Discussion Group Team Leader
- Discussion Group Leaders
- Hospitality Team Members
- Creative Activities Team Members

How about a Digital Girls Night Out?

www.Swapstyle.com

Website for trading your clothing, shoes and bags...And it is all FREE!

www.Swaptree.com

Website for trading your extra books, CDs or DVDs. Trade them for only the cost of postage.

www.Makeupalley.com/swap/

Website dedicated for exchanging NEW and SEALED beauty products.

A Powerful Story (especially when thought of in the perspective of parenting too...)! *Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Houston, Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had an occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet."*

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change." The driver, with a smile, replied, "Aren't you the new preacher in town?" "Yes" he replied.

"Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you at church on Sunday."

When the preacher stepped off of the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, "Oh God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter."

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test! Always be on guard -- and remember -- You carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself "Christian."

*Watch your thoughts; they become words.
Watch your words; they become actions.
Watch your actions; they become habits.
Watch your habits; they become character.
Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.*

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Don't Forget

***The **Blessed Sanctuary Table** is bringing *Tea Party fare* for our next MOPS meeting on **April 10, 2008**.

***Are you thinking of what MOPS Leadership position you want to serve in for 2008-2009? If not, you should be ☺! We NEED You!!



In the Garage

Debby H-M. (981-1200) **NEEDS** wall mountable baby gates and an infant car seat

To place a **NEED** or a **DONATE** item in this section, email Megan at:

Megan@
vineyardfamilyservices.org

Some Great Advice from a Mentor....

A young wife sat on a sofa on a hot humid day, drinking iced tea and visiting with her Mother. As they talked about life, about marriage, about the responsibilities of life and the obligations of adulthood, the mother clinked the ice cubes in her glass thoughtfully and turned a clear, sober glance upon her daughter 'Don't forget your Sisters,' she advised, swirling the tea leaves to the bottom of her glass. 'They'll be more important as you get older. No matter how much you love your husband, no matter how much you love the children you may have, you are still going to need Sisters. Remember to go places with them now and then; do things with them.'

'Remember that 'Sisters' means ALL the women...your girlfriends, your daughters, and all your other women relatives too. 'You'll need other women. Women always do.'

What a funny piece of advice!' the young woman thought. Haven't I just gotten married? Haven't I just joined the couple-world? I'm now a married woman, for goodness sake! A grownup! Surely my husband and the family we may start will be all I need to make my life worthwhile!

But she listened to her Mother. She kept contact with her Sisters and made more women friends each year. As the years tumbled by, one after another, she gradually came to understand that her Mom really knew what she was talking about. As time and nature work their changes and their mysteries upon a woman, Sisters are the mainstays of her life.

Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girl friend is never farther away than needing her can reach.

When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end. Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you...Or come in and carry you out.

Girlfriends, daughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, Mothers, Grandmothers, aunties, nieces, cousins, and extended family, all bless our life!

The world wouldn't be the same without women, and neither would I. When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead. Nor did we know how much we would need each other.

Meet a MOPS Member

This month's MOPS is: **Cara Leel!**

1. How many children do you have (and their ages)? **Two boys -ages 5 and 2**
2. Best advice you have ever received. **If you want to have good friends, focus on being a good friend to others.**
3. What is your favorite hobby? **Webkinz**
4. If you could have a superpower, what would you want? **The power to make people feel happy, healthy, and loved.**
5. Any confessions? **Nope!**
6. Beach or mountains? **I love the mountains for cabin retreats, horseback rides, fishing, and snow sports.**
7. Favorite movie? **The Major and the Minor**
8. Describe the perfect date for you. **A private jet awaits...my husband inside with roses and black tie. We have elaborate gourmet diner as we travel to our front row seats at a Celine Dion concert. On the return trip home we have a couples' massage.**

Thank you Cara for sharing a little more about yourself. You are a real gem @!!

MOPS Steering Members

Jennifer Warren (Coordinator): 358-8656
Rebecca Mitchell (Secretary): 663-5477
Brandi Mast (Hospitality): 664-0519
Melissa Wilson (Discussion Group Team Leader): 613-3844
Debby Howell-Moroney (Webmaster): 981-1200
Linda Harper (Mentor Leader): 995-2118
Lydia Hill (Creative Activities): 690-8082
Allison Carmichael (MOPPETS): 908-7916

For any questions regarding this newsletter or to add a mentor question, column of interest, or anything else, please contact Megan Pickering (Publicity): 664-7175 or Megan@VineyardFamilyServices.org