

MOPS

A Message from your Coordinator

Welcome to Olive Knolls MOPS! We are so happy to have you a part of our Olive Knolls MOPS Family.

We have been praying for each of you even before you were registered. Each of us have stepped up into these leadership roles because we have seen first hand, in our own lives what this ministry does. It gives us a sense of community so we know we are not alone in our struggles, whether that is parenting, marriage, finances, health, guilt, the list goes on. MOPS gives us a better understanding that we have the greatest job their is which is raising the children God has blessed us with. Understanding that we may not be perfect moms but we are the perfect mom for our children. Through MOPS friendships are made. MOPS is a place that is loving and encouraging. A place to laugh and chat and learn from other moms that it's going to be ok.

So WELCOME to MOPS, a place you belong just as you are. Spit up and all.

Blessings, *Lynn Bradshaw*



YOUR MOPS 2011-2012 STEERING TEAM

We are very excited to kick-off our MOPS year! I wanted to introduce you to your Olive Knolls MOPS Steering Team: (Top Left to Right)

Mentor Mom - Rhonda Bassler

Hospitality - Kellie Herbert

Discussion Group
Team Leader - Kristi Brinar

Mentor Mom - Patti King

Finance - Michele Wilbert

Creative Activities - Cassie Conners

Coordinator - Lynn Bradshaw



How has MOPS helped you as either a mother/wife or your family or as a believer in Christ?

Since I am not a Bakersfield Native, it has provided friendships with other moms.

Fellowship with other mothers is SUCH a good thing!

-Sarah

Mops has helped me grow into a stronger christian woman, mother, and wife by giving me tools and ideas to put into practice! It has helped me realize I am not the only mom driven to insanity. haha!

- Haley Patty

The support and the spirit of the Lord that is the center of MOPS has helped me to be a more considerate, understanding and patient Wife and Mom.

- Brandi Abernathy

MOPS refocuses my attention to the fun & opportunities that come with those little ones who spit up on me & cause me to feel like I will never sleep again, while STILL sympathizing with the grossness of getting spit up on & the pains of exhaustion :) MOPS highlights the value of a mother thoughtfully raising little lives - the value truly held by God, society,

MEET YOUR DGLS

DGLs- Discussion Group Leaders

Sarah Botts: Wife and Mother of 2.
Been in MOPS for 2 Years:

Owen 2 Years old & Everett 10 Months



Haley Patty: Wife & Mother of 2 soon to be 3. Been in MOPS for 3 years:

Kensley 4 1/2, Konner 2 1/2, Weston due in October.



fathers, and the children themselves. MOPS requires me to look in the mirror & see MY OWN value - not always easy for any mom to do, but made MUCH easier with the eyes of 50 other moms warm with authentic encouragement. MOPS prays for me & with me when I feel like I don't have a prayer in the world. MOPS reminds me that love for & from my husband has been immeasurably deepened through the development of our family. MOPS reteaches me that my husband & I can

have an amazing future when I am distractedly looking back at our past & can't see through the chaos of our present. MOPS further opens me up to receive God's lessons - be them hard or easy. There is tremendous faith surrounding me - the faith of my children, my husband, my extended family, my MOPS sisters, & my God. MOPS rejuvenates me so I "may walk in the light of that faith." -Angela Lorraine



Nicole Mayo: Wife and Mother of 2 :

Brody - almost 4 and Brystol 1



Rece Davies: Wife and Mother of 2:

Noah 3 1/2 and Caden 2

Our DGLs' Favorite Games (Board Games, Cards, etc...)

If you had a FREE DAY to yourself, what would you do?

I would not want to go alone so I would take my husband. I would go on a day rode trip. -Nicole

I would go to a secluded island and lay in the sun, all by myself. haha and sleep. - Haley... who's pregnant =)

I would spend the whole day at a spa! - Jeannelle

Assuming that since I could do ANYTHING, and assuming that money would not be a factor, I would fly to Washington as a family to spend a day with my Mom, Dad, siblings, their spouses, and my nephew. :) If money were a factor, I would probably sew or bake or both! :) -Sarah

Right now...lay in bed, watching new chick flicks, drinking a decaf mocha, eating any kind of chocolate, knowing my kids & husband are having an amazing day, but not having to participate in any of it (just for one day :) -Angela... who's pregnant =)

I would sleep in, stay in my pj's all day and watch chick flicks and only eat popcorn. - Brandi

How would you describe Olive Knolls' MOPS

Genuinely welcoming, giving, & loving; well-organized & well-intentioned; beautifully diverse & open-minded; respectful, educational, relatable, & purposeful; PLUS, just plain old good fun!!! -Angela

Fun & friendly, warm & welcoming, giving & Godly. -Sarah

Olive Knolls MOPS is an amazing gift to everyone who is involved in it! It's a family of women who love the Lord and support one another and provides a safe loving and christ centered experience for our children! -Brandi

Loving, encouraging and healing - Jeannelle

A chance to connect with other moms. - Nicole

I would describe mops as a fantastic fellowship that encourages women to grow in God and with their relationships with other moms. It helps you know you are not alone in this thing called motherhood, and its center around God...I mean how cool is that! - Rece

A place where women can come and laugh about the craziness of life. To feel like we are all moms, who are just trying our best to be the best we can be. - Haley

1. Hand & Foot- Cards
2. The New Yorker
3. Double Solitaire- Cards
4. Hide & seek w/ my kids
5. Monopoly
6. Phase 10
7. Settlers of Catan

SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY GAME NIGHT TONIGHT!

Decades ago, families often spent more quality time together. There were significantly fewer distracting options than there are today, where we now cope with 300 channels on the television, personal computers, and sophisticated video games. Today, family time often takes a back seat to all the other directions that people are pulled, when it comes to work and entertainment. One way to bring back that quality time is to start a **dedicated family game night each week.**



Brandi Abernathy: Wife and Mother of 1:

Annalee Grace 3 Years Old



Angela Lorraine: Wife and Mother of 3 soon to be 4:

Tristen - 7, Reese 3 -Aiden 15 months old and The Grand Finale -Due February 4, 2012 :)



Jeannelle Mannia: Wife and Mother of 2:

Taylor 15 and Lexi 3

**Post-it Sized
Encouragements for your
husband**



- praying for you today.
- Those jeans are really working for you...
- I love you.
- You are the best dad!
- You're the kind of husband that makes the other wives jealous.
- You rock my world!
- Can't wait to see you tonight – meet me upstairs...
- Thanks for working hard to provide for us. I appreciate all that you do.
- You make me feel beautiful.
- I thank God for you everyday.
- How did I get so lucky, being married to a guy like you?
- You make everyday more fun.
- Have a great day.
- You're hot!
- I'm I feel so safe with you.
- Smart and good looking – I've got the whole package in you!
- You can be very distracting, you know...
- Our kids are so blessed to have a dad like you.
- That smile I wear – it is all because of you.
- God has blessed me in big ways by letting me be your wife.

A note from Mentor Mom: Patti King



(Patti and Husband Eldon)

AFFAIR - PROOFING YOUR MESSAGE:

It is important that we openly, and often show admiration for our husbands. It not only motivates them, but it also rewards their existing achievements. When you tell him you appreciate him for what he's done, it gives him more satisfaction than he receives from his paycheck.

A wife needs to appreciate her husband for what he already is, not for what he could become, if he lived up to her standards. (His Needs, Her Needs- W. Harley) And, we should never compare our husbands to our friend's husbands. We need to remind ourselves how we might feel if they compared us to other wives!

Love your husband where he is, and watch the cycle begin to take shape.

Have a Blessed day!

Patti King (Psalm 66:1)

The more you invest in a marriage, the more valuable it becomes.

And the Lord God said, it is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him an help meet for him.

--Genesis 2:18

Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

--Genesis 2:24

In marriage, each partner is to be an encourager rather than a critic, a forgiver rather than a collector of hurts, an enabler rather than a reformer.

--H. Norman Wright and Gary J. Oliver

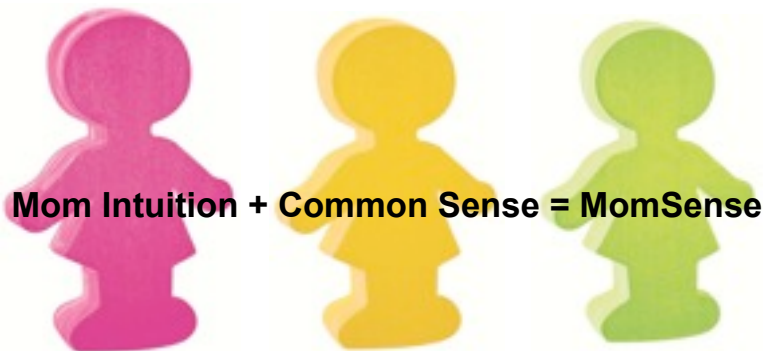


2011-2012 MOPS Theme

The 2011-12 MOPS theme uses the analogy of game playing to encourage us moms to find our own answers to parenting, as well as assuring each of us that we can become the moms we are meant to be.

Combining our mom intuition and our common

sense we will discover our own unique MomSense.



Theme Verse:

God doesn't want us to be shy with his gifts, but bold, and loving and sensible.
2 Timothy 1:7 – The Message

CASSIE CONNER'S: "MAD GAB" TIPS

In the game of life the stakes are high and the payoff is huge but I still have to remind myself to take lots of deep breaths and

KISS... (KEEP IT SIMPLE SILLY)...

I also try to kiss my husband alot too!!

Here are a few tips on how I keep it simple:

Diapers and wipes are stored in my entertainment center. If you're anything like me you know that diapers are not always changed on the changing table. I keep a hefty stock right next to our dvds so they are always handy. It's nice to grab and go when I'm in a rush too!

I store a laundry basket under the sink so that I can toss away dirty clothes right after my girls get in the tub. This cuts down on the bathroom mess. I check the bathroom laundry every few days an toss it in with the rest of our clothes.

Shoes and socks are stored in our pantry (which is right next to our garage). Shoes are always the last thing I grab on the way out so having them in a spot that is handy really cuts down on time that I would be running into my girls rooms.

Hope these tips help!! Remember that if you keep it simple that you will always be a winner!! Blessings, Cassie

Hungry Hungry Hippos:



Recipe from
Kristi Brinar's Kitchen:

Crockpot Pork Chops

4-6 Pork Chops
2 Cans of Cream of Mushroom Soup
Minute Rice

Place Pork Chops and Soup in the Crockpot on low in the morning.
An hour before eating, add your rice and a cup of water let cook.

Serve. It's quick and yummy.

This can also be made with chicken breasts

Dates to add to your Calendar

Sept. 13th: First MOPS
Meeting

Sept. 24th: MOPS
Family Apple Picking
and Picnic

Sept. 27th: MOPS
Meeting

What to Expect at our first MOPS Meeting:

- MOPPETS Classrooms Open at 8:45 am for Childcare Drop-Off. Please remember to label EVERYTHING (Diaper bags, bottles, sippy cups, etc...) Your DGL (Discussion Group Leader) will contact you to let you know where your child's class will be located at. Please feed your child breakfast before you drop your child off. Snacks will be served to them during their time in MOPPETS. Most of all know that your children are going to be having a GREAT time!
- MOPS Starts at 9:00 upstairs. At 9:00 breakfast will be served and 2 door prizes will be given out so you wont want to be late.
- MOPS goes from 9:00 am-11:30 am.
- 11:45 is Childcare Pickup.



Find us on Facebook:
Olive Knolls MOPS

Check out our
Olive Knolls MOPS Blog at:
oliveknollsmops.blogspot.com

Follow us on Twitter!

Even if you do not attend Olive Knolls you can still get connected with the resources that we have available.



Lifegroups:

Part of Olive Knolls' mission is to help people live a life of community & we believe that lifegroups are one of the main avenues of connecting in community. Last MOPS year we were able to start a LIFEGROUP (married with children) at Ryan & Lynn Bradshaw's Home that continues to meet on Thursday nights. Depending on what you are looking for there are other Lifegroups as well that meet on different nights throughout the week (Married with Children, Singles groups, etc...) ****If you are married this is a great chance for you and your husband to connect and grow in your faith together as a couple. Children are dropped off at childcare and you and your husband meet with other couples for studies on marriage, finances, parenting, etc...*

Saturday

- SNC 6:00 pm

Sunday

- Worship Service 9:00 or 10:45 am

- College Group 7:00 pm

Wednesday

-Middle School & High School 6:45 pm

Friday

- Celebrate Recovery & Teen Share Group 7:00 pm

If you would like ANY information on anything you see here please contact Lynn Bradshaw so she can get you more info. on who to speak with to get connected.

Invest in your marriage.

Invest in your family.

Invest in YOU.

Invest in HIS Kingdom.

Bradshaw4@sbcglobal.net

Children's Ministry:

Each month we discuss a Virtue based on a Bible story or character. Every family is offered a "Goin' Deeper Pack" with the weekly Refrigerator Door, God Time Cards and the supplies to continue learning the Sunday concepts at home (Visit www.oliveknolls.com/ministries/children for a sample).

A few things for the Men (husbands, Brothers, Fathers, Uncles...) in your life:

Men Rooted Tailgate Kickoff – Thursday, September 15th, 6:30—8:30 pm. All men are invited to come to this BBQ and hear what our Men's Ministry has planned for the year. **Men's Bible Study** – Men's Bible Study will start September 9th and meet on Fridays at 6:00 am in room 505 (across from the kitchen in the Worship Center). All men are welcome!

More information on getting connected with the Men's Ministry please contact : Nate Brinar (Men's Ministry) at: 747-5064

The image shows a logo for MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) with the letters M, O, P, and S in large, colorful, stylized fonts. Below the logo, it says "Mothers of Preschoolers" and provides contact information for Lynn Bradshaw. The text includes "2nd and 4th Tues. Sept.-May 9:00-11:30 am", "Olive Knolls Church", "6201 Fruitvale Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93308", and the slogan "Better Moms Make A Better World". A website URL is also provided at the bottom: <http://oliveknollsmops.blogspot.com/>.