

Resources from the parent and youth leader event...

Healthy Balance - Hope, Dreams & Wings

On April 7th parents and youth leaders were invited to a free resource event entitled **Healthy Balance - Hope, Dreams & Wings**. The evening started off with a keynote presentation on lessons learned while parenting and teaching youth from Marlene Frankenfield, Christopher Dock HS pastor and conference youth minister, and Mary Benner, pastor of children and youth at Souderton Mennonite Church. Mary and Marlene encouraged parents and youth leaders to provide balance, grounding, and opportunities for their youth to test their wings.

Afterwards the following seminars were offered by various youth pastors and workers:

An Approach to Biblical Modesty - Val & Mike Ford, *Franconia Mennonite Church*, mford@franconiamennonite.org

Looking at Genesis, we'll present the idea that woman is a treasure made for man, but only once he is ready to esteem her value. How can one be beautiful to the opposite gender? How does the way a girl presents herself in dress or demeanor attract? This seminar will offer a sustainable approach to modesty from Scripture and practical help to parents of teens.

Resources -

Does God Really Care What I Wear? by Nancy Leigh DeMoss

Guys Like Girls Who... by Chad Eastham

Secret Keeper: The Delicate Power of Modesty by Dannah Gresh

The Truth About Guys by Chad Eastham

Clothing stores with modest attire: www.mikarose.com; www.jenclimbing.com; www.christa-taylor.com; www.funkyfrum.com; www.landsend.com

Crisis Care: Being Christ's love in Desperate Times of Pain

- Angela Moyer, *Rockhill Mennonite Church*, & Jessica Walter, *Franconia Conference*; moyer1218@hotmail.com

Increased pain and violence in our society has taken its toll on our teenagers evidenced by the rising incidences of cutting, suicide, eating disorders, anxiety, depression, bullying, and traumatic accidents. Teenagers and families in our churches are dealing with these painful events in their own lives and/or in the lives of friends and family. What are parents to do? What is the role of the church? Where is God in these times of desperation? This seminar will offer information to better understand these circumstances as well as steps to take when a teenager confides this type of pain to you.

Resources -

Conquering the Inner Beast by Cait Irwin (1999)

The Disappearing Girl by Lisa Macholan (2005)

Living With Depression: A survival manual for families by Kim Poling (1989)

The Youth Worker's Guide to Helping Teenagers in Crisis by Richard Van Pelt & Jim Hancock (2005)

www.teenhelp.com/teen-health

www.youngwomenshealth.org

www.depression.org

www.teensuicide.us

1-800-DONTCUT

Monkey See Monkey Do

- Brent Camilleri, *Deep Run East Mennonite Church*, & Isaac Landis, *Franconia Mennonite Church*; bcamilleri@deep prune east.org

Study after study confirms that the home is the primary place where faith is caught and taught, and that parents are the number one influence. This can be a sobering statistic, yet it is also a reminder of the powerful influence that we as parents are in our children's lives. Our goal is to encourage parents to make their faith in Christ the central part of their lives, and to move away from seeking out the "perfect parenting formula" and towards allowing the love of Christ to flow through us and to our children.

Resources -

- Disconnected: Parenting Teens in a MySpace World** by Chap & Dee Clark (2007)
- Parent Fuel** by Barry St. Clair (2007)
- The Space Between: A Parent's Guide to Teenage Development** by Walt Mueller (2009)
- "The Myth of the Perfect Parent"** *Christianity Today*, Jan. 2010 by Leslie Leyland Fields

How does technology shape faith? - Joe Hackman, *Salford Mennonite Church*; jhackman@salfordmc.org

Have you ever wondered how the technological revolution is shaping the spirituality of your teenager. This workshop will provide a brief overview of how technology has influenced Christian faith in the past 2000 years. We will also look at how technology can be useful for your teenager's spiritual formation.

Resources -

- Flickering Pixels: How Technology Shapes Your Faith** by Shane Hipps (2009)
- faithandtechnology.org/blog** - A good collection of resources from various perspectives.
- peggykendall.com/technology-and-faith-blog** - An excellent resource for how technology impacts faith.
- heartsoulmind.missioninmotion.org** - Information on internet filters, iPhones and iPods.
- www.kchristieh.com** - Information on Facebook and MySpace.
- www.cpyu.org** - Walt Mueller's Center for Parent/Youth Understanding.
- www.safekids.com** - Videos and articles on Facebook settings, privacy software, and related items.
- www.getnetwise.com** - Lots of tips on how to keep kids safe online.
- www.mediafamily.org** - Information on how families can get the most out of social networking media.

Sideline Superstars: Parenting kids in sports

- Jim Ostlund & Jeff Hollenbach, *Blooming Glen Mennonite Church*; jim@bgmc.net

The sports culture of society is a huge driving force for many youth today. Parents are key players in how kids develop a healthy understanding of sports and a Christ-centered sense of self. What purpose do sports serve in adolescent development? How do parents give appropriate support without pushing their kids with unhelpful expectations? If you are walking with kids in sports, this seminar will offer you valuable insight from two guys with hands on experience.

Resources -

- Disconnected: Parenting Teens in a MySpace World** by Chap & Dee Clark (2007)
- Generation Me** by Jean M. Twenge (2006)
- Hurt: Inside the World of Today's Teenagers** by Chap Clark (2002)
- Season of Life** by Jeffery Marx (2004)
- The Hurried Child: Growing Up Too Fast, Too Soon** by David Elkind (2001)
- Why Johnny Hates Sports** by Fred Engh (2002)
- www.buildingmenandwomen.org**
- www.apa.org/pi/families/resources/develop.pdf** - APA's "Healthy Adolescent Project" (2002)

Keynote Presentation: Healthy Balance - Hope, Dreams & Wings

Resources -

- Like Dew Your Youth, Growing up With Your Teenager** by Eugene H. Peterson
- Thanks you for Asking, Conversing with young Adults about the Future Church** by Sara Wenger Shenk
- Parenting the Prodigal** by S. Rutherford McDill Jr.
- Memory Makers, 50 Moments Your Kids Will Never Forget** by Doug Fields, Duffy Robbins
- www.biblicalparenting.org** - Biblical, Practical Strategies for Parents and Churches
- www.drleman.com** - Dr. Kevin Leman influential author on parenting
- www.netsmartz.org** - Helping children to stay safe online

All presenters are available to present their seminars in your congregation, including Marelene and Mary (mfrankenfield@franconiaconference.org). Contact them directly via the email addresses provided for more information.