



St. Andrew Moms



March 2009

Volume 11, Issue 2

Dear S.A.M.S Members,

Blessings to you and your family. Lent is now upon us and I hope you find a few ways to bring the spirituality of the season into yours and your children's lives. S.A.M.S has a special Children's Stations of the Cross planned for March 27th at 7:00pm. Please contact Jeaneen if you or your children are interested in helping out in this walk with Jesus created just for our kids.

Many thanks to Jody for planning another spectacular Valentines party this month. The kids loved the crafts and food, as usual, and even played a rousing game of "red light, green light" with the help of our very own Annemarie as the leader. Our next party will be the Family picnic in early April. Please contact Jody if you would like to help. This is a perfect event to volunteer just a little bit of your time and energy to help make our picnic a fabulous success!

Megan and Molly are off to a wonderful start as calendar planners. We have some great events planned this month, including a farm tour and a butterfly watch during spring break. We hope to see some of our teachers there as well as some of the older children of our members!

I would also like to invite all of you to contact Kristi or myself with any ideas you have for S.A.M.S. We feel strongly that this ministry is a wonderful way for moms with young children to find support and friendship during the early years of child rearing. We would love to hear any ideas you have to help us make it a ministry that meets your needs!

Blessings,
Holly & Kristi

The mission of the St. Andrews Moms (S.A.M.S) Ministry is to support mothers and their children through friendship, faith sharing, and service.

S.A.M.S Board

Ministry Co-Chairs

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Calendar Planning Coordinators

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Molly Swindler 763-1170

Charitable Works Coordinator

Mercedes Brandt 897-6644

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Annemarie Mulligan 247-9764
Laura Mehall 491-2646

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Kristen Ackerman 287-2621

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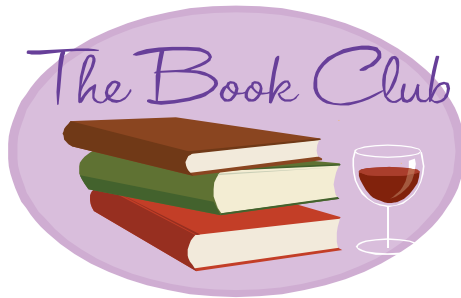
S.A.M.S Liaisons

Book Club

Denise Goodman 775-1299

Special Events

Gail Pavelschak 792-0670



The next book club will be meeting March 23rd at 7:30pm at the home of Annemarie Mulligan.

To RSVP and for directions, contact Annemarie at (480) 247-9764 or mulligan_family@cox.net

Our book for discussion will be **Evening Class** by Maeve Binchy.

Maeve Binchy can always be counted on to spin an involving tale about ordinary people that brings out the extraordinary in everyone. In *Evening Class*, Binchy zooms in on the working-class of Dublin. Schoolteacher Aidan Dunne organizes an evening class in Italian with the help of Nora O'Donoghue, an Irishwoman returning home after 26 years in Sicily. When the somewhat squashed-by-life denizens of the surrounding neighborhood take the unexpected step of enrolling in the class, they find their lives transformed.

Binchy tells her story from the viewpoints of eight different characters and rewards both them and her readers with happy endings after the requisite rocky road. Reading a novel by Maeve Binchy is like catching up with old friends--you know everything will turn out fine in the end, but you're still interested in how things get that way.

The book club meets once a month for dessert and discussion. The location varies month-to-month and will be listed in the newsletter and on the S.A.M.S. calendar of events.

Remember, ANYONE can join the book club!
Just read the book and show up for discussion!!!

Hope to see you there!

Sesame Street Live presents Elmo's GREEN THUMB

Friday, May 1st at 10:30am at Dodge Theater



Sunny isn't just the weather forecast on Sesame Street - it's also the name of Elmo's sunflower friend! Join all your favorite friends on an amazing adventure as they help Elmo find a new home for Sunny in the all new Sesame Street Live stage show, "Elmo's Green Thumb."

Elmo has raised his sunflower, Sunny, from a seed, but his floral friend has outgrown the flower pot. Elmo and friends find Big Bird's garden the ideal place for Sunny to flourish and grow but they are too excited to wait. Rather than let Sunny follow nature's course, Abby Cadabby, Sesame Street's fairy-in-training, casts a spell to make Sunny grow. The spell does just the opposite and, instead of growing, Elmo and all of his friends shrink! While Abby searches for just the right words to reverse the spell, Elmo, Zoe, Telly and friends explore Big Bird's garden from a smaller perspective and learn some big lessons about patience, overcoming their fears and appreciating the role that each creature plays in our ecosystem – from dancing ladybugs and beautiful butterflies to grouchy beetles that scavenge the garden floor. Will being small help Sunny grow tall? It's a fresh, original Sesame Street Live from a whole new point of view!

Tickets are \$13 each plus \$1 handling fee per family. Seats are in section 5 rows 16-18.(children over one need a ticket).

**Money for tickets will be collected at the
Tumbleweed Playgroup on March 18th.**

RSVP by March 19th to Gail Pavelschak at 792-0670 or
gpavelschak@yahoo.com

CHARITABLE WORKS UPDATE!!!

FUTURE CHARITABLE WORKS:

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – WELCOME BASKET

St. Andrew the Apostle has partnered with Habitat to build a 2-story home in the Chandler area. We are being asked to prepare a welcome basket for the family that will be moving into their new home sometime in the month of May. Please check upcoming “Weekend Reminder” emails to find out how you can help!



SAVE THE DATE!

Our Spring family potluck picnic will be on Saturday, April 4th starting at 4:00 p.m. at “little” Desert Breeze park. The Chandler Fire Department has agreed to stop by with a fire truck (barring a fire that is!) for the kids to tour, so be sure to check next month’s newsletter for directions to the park and all the final details.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help either set up before or clean up after, please contact Jody McDonald at jody.mcdonald@cox.net or 480-782-8888.

Welcome Baby Christian! Cara Marx gave birth to baby boy, Christian William, on Feb 6th. He was a healthy 8 lb 4 oz and 21" long. The family is home and doing great. THANK YOU to all of the SAMS Members who volunteered to bring meals to the Marx family!



Are you expecting???

If so, please contact Kristen Ackerman at kristen.e.ackerman@intel.com or 480-287-2621 to let her know. We would love to deliver meals to your family or assist you with whatever help you may need.

Volunteers Needed: We are always looking for Outreach volunteers! Responsibilities include contacting expectant mothers, coordinating meal delivery, and delivering a welcome gift. If you are interested in helping out with the Outreach Ministry, please contact Kristen Ackerman.

A Special Prayer for Lent

Loving God, we enter the season of Lent in the spirit of joy giving ourselves to spiritual strife, cleansing our soul and body, controlling our passions, as we limit our food, living on the virtues of the Holy Spirit; May we persevere in our longing for Christ so as to be worthy to behold His most solemn Passion and the most holy Passover, rejoicing the while with spiritual joy. Amen.



Stations of the Cross



Hi Moms! It is that time of year again and Lent is in full swing! The S.A.M.S ministry has been asked to host one of St. Andrew's Friday evening Stations of the Cross. We are scheduled to lead the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 27, at 7:00pm. We are in need of moms, dads and children who would be willing to help participate with the Stations readings. This is a great opportunity as a family to serve during Lent. If you would like to take part in this prayerful experience, please contact Jeaneen at your earliest convenience at fredneen@aol.com or on her cell phone at 602-330-5937.

Thank you and God Bless!

S.A.M.S March General Meeting

Are you thriving or are you just surviving? Are you the best possible version of yourself? If you would like to learn more about these and other questions, then join us for an evening with New York Times best-selling author and world-renowned catholic speaker **Matthew Kelly**. We will join the rest of the parish on **Tuesday, March 24th from 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm in the church**. Afterward, we'll make our way to The Cheesecake Factory at Chandler Mall for dessert, coffee and discussion.

DISNEY ON ICE presents...



DISNEYLAND ADVENTURE

Catch the next ride to laugh-out-loud fun with Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse on a trip to the park in Disney on Ice presents a Disneyland Adventure. Swing to the beat on the Jungle Cruise with Baloo, have a blast with Buzz Lightyear on Space Mountain and take a wild spin on the Mad Tea Party with Alice and the Mad Hatter! You'll see Snow White and Cinderella during the Main Street U.S.A. parade and thrill to "Incredible" edge-of-your-seat excitement when everyone's favorite superhero family shows up to save the day!

When: Friday, April 10th at 10:30am

Where: US Airways Center

Tickets: \$12.50 (Children 2 & Older Must Have a Ticket)

RSVP by March 19th to Gail Pavelschak at 792-0670 or gpavelschak@yahoo.com.

Money for tickets will be collected at Tumbleweed Playgroup on March 18th.

March 2009 Calendar Highlights

Breakfast at Hanger Cafe

Thursday, March 5th 9:00AM

1725 E. Ryan Rd. at the Chandler Airport

Come watch the planes take off and land while we eat breakfast! We can sit outside on the patio so the kids can get a good look at the planes taking off and landing. Your little ones are sure to love it!

Superstition Farm Tour and Lunch

Friday, March 13th 10:00AM

3440 S. Hawes Rd., Mesa

Come out to Superstition Farm to see where the milk on your cereal comes from! Cost is \$6.50/adult and \$4.50/child. Bring your lunch and we'll eat together. Please RSVP to Megan by March 12th at 480-215-8039. Check out the Superstition Farm website at <http://www.superstitionfarmtours.com/Tours.html>

Mom's Night Out - Rula Bula & Light Rail Adventure!

Monday, March 16th 6:30PM

401 S. Mill Ave, Tempe

Let's have an adventure! We're going to ride the light rail to dinner! We'll meet at Price Rd (101) and Apache (park in the Park & Ride lot) and catch the 6:38:05 train. Please arrive with enough time to park and purchase your ticket. The cost is \$2.50 for a round trip pass. Please don't be late...or you will have to catch the next train without us. We will arrive at Mill Ave. at 6:52:35 and walk the short block to Rula Bula and celebrate St. Patrick's Day a day early. After dinner, we'll catch the train back to the 101/Apache location. Please RSVP to Megan at 480-215-8039 by noon on 3/16. If you'd rather meet us at the restaurant, we'll arrive around 7pm.

Butterfly Exhibit at the Botanical Garden

Friday, March 20th 9:30AM

Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix 480-941-1225

See hundreds of colorful butterflies in a lush flower garden. Admission to the garden is \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for ages 3-12. The butterfly exhibit is an additional \$3.00/person (the garden and exhibit are free for ages 2 and under). Contact person: Megan at 480-215-8039.

Lakeshore Learning Store Craft

Thursday, March 26th 10:00AM

4819 E. Ray Rd. #2, Phoenix

Let's get ready for Easter with a FREE craft! Please RSVP to Megan at 480-215-8039.

Wildflower Bread Company

Wednesday, April 1st 8:30AM

3111 W. Chandler Blvd., at the Chandler Mall downstairs between Macy's and Dillards

Get the big kids off to school (if you have them!) and then head over to Wildflower for breakfast and some mall time play.

Infant and Toddler Playgroup

Friday, April 3rd 9:00AM

In Rooms J & K at Church

Let's help fold Easter worship aides for the church. Bring a toy to share. (Bigger kids welcome too!) P.S. There will be no pressure to finish all the folding...we have a back-up plan!