

Centered Parents



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Penny Herding

By Heather Miller

I am a tad bit embarrassed at the state of my purse. As I walk around it jingles and jangles around with all of the loose pennies that I fail to remove from it each day... well maybe more like each month or so.

If I look in my jacket pockets, there are always the healthy start to a penny collection. Even at my most strapped, I could

always find a good amount of change. Once I purchased a cat with all change. (I named her Angel "All Change" Miller). Also when I was little, I purchased a Barbie Doll completely with Pennies. Boy was the cashier annoyed with my 20 piles of 100 pennies.

People don't know what to do with pennies, because they never seem to add up to that much. But together, they can add up to something. In December of 2007 the following article was posted on yahoo.com

NEW YORK - One hundred million pennies for your thoughts on the latest display in Rockefeller Center. New York first lady Silda Wall Spitzer joined hundreds of public school children on Monday to unveil a mass of \$1 million in pennies collected for charity. The display, called the Penny Harvest Field, includes an estimated 100 million pennies — plus a few nickels, dimes and quarters that slipped in by mistake.

The exhibit, 30 feet by 165 feet, as long as a city block, is the culmination of the nonprofit organization Common Cents' 17th annual Penny Harvest, a national educational program designed to teach children about their value as

contributors to society. Hundreds of thousands of city students from more than 800 schools spent the weeks between Oct. 22 and Thanksgiving going door to door and collecting the pennies, which will be donated to organizations of their choice for causes such as protecting the environment and helping the elderly.

The exhibit was designed by architect James Polshek and will be on display in Rockefeller Center, near the famous Christmas tree, through the end of the year.

The Grinning Givers are going to follow the children of NYC's lead and begin collecting pennies from our community. Starting April 4, at the Lunch with Peter Rabbit, we will be collecting pennies to donate to a worthy local cause. We will have dates throughout the year for people to bring in their pennies. Most of the dates will be in the Spring and Fall to coincide with Spring and Fall Cleaning.

We are looking for volunteers to man Center Church Penny Herding tables at Community Events and to assist in our Community Collection days at the church. Also we are looking for donations of big jugs to collect the pennies in.

People need help more than ever in this economic crisis we are living but it's difficult for people to donate to charities. This is a great way to be able to give without breaking the bank (excuse the pun.)





A Word from the Director, Heather Valenti Miller

Please remember to bring in baked goods for the

Compassion Bake Sale on Sunday, April 5. I know it's a weekend of baking with the Potluck lunch the day before but it would be so helpful for Denilson in Bolivia if we could get some assistance to him.

Thank you for all of your help!

UPCOMING EVENTS	APRIL 4 Start of Penny Herding	APRIL 4 Lunch with Easter Bunny	APRIL 5 Compassion Bake Sale	APRIL 12 Easter Sunday
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Bible in 50 Words

We are challenging members of the congregation to earn their own Bible Memory Award by memorizing the following...

“God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, Bush talked, Moses balked, Pharoah plagues, people walked, sea divided, tablets guided, Promise landed, Saul freaked, David peeked, prophets warned, Jesus born, God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died, Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.”

Parents, please memorize this passage and present it to Mrs. Miller by May 3.

Also, kids, keep working on your Bible Memory verses! I am positive that every one of our students can earn an award in May!

Let's do it!

March Birthdays



- 3/3 Lauren Gardner
- 3/4 Jacob Florio
- 3/11 Joseph Cerruto
- 3/17 Jonathan Kulinski
- 3/18 Chris Swearingen
- 3/18 David Swearingen
- 3/19 Rachel Benson
- 3/24 Jake Thulin
- 3/25 Matthew Groebel
- 3/26 Jessica Hodge
- 3/30 Aaron Bronson
- 3/30 Shannon Bronson
- 3/31 Gabrielle Storrs

If you're child's name is not listed and they have a February birthday, please drop an email to centerchurch@snet.net.

Fill the Truck



Let's go! Let's go! Bring in those items!!!! You guys are doing so great!!! The first and second graders are off to a start but it's still anybody's game! Bring in those cans of food. We are making a real difference. I actually had to go searching for more boxes to put all the food in! This is a difficult time and more and more people are losing their job and many are needing to rely on FISH's services. Let's make sure their shelves are well-stocked. You are making a difference. I am so proud of our Grinning Givers!