



# Mom's Day Out Times

November  
2011

Mom's Day Out is a ministry of First Free Church dedicated to providing support for mothers of young children through quality, Christ-centered child care.

3 pages

First Evangelical Free Church \* 2223 N. Mulford \* Rockford \* 815.877.7046 \* www.momsdayout.net

## Count Your Blessings

There is a song I grew up singing in church called "Count your Blessings." The verses in this hymn speak to the hardships and difficulties we often face in this life. Instead of becoming disheartened and discouraged, we are to remember what God has done for us and count our many blessings.

I recently read through the book of Deuteronomy in the Bible. Moses is giving his farewell address to the Israelites. Throughout his impassioned speech, he reminds the Israelites of all that God has done for them. God brought them out of slavery in Egypt, He parted the Red Sea before their very eyes, He fed them manna and brought water from a rock. Yet how often did the Israelites forget these mighty acts and complain about their current circumstances instead.

We all have a choice. We can dwell on the hardships and difficulties that are sure to confront us in this life or we can choose to remember all that God has done for us. Why not take some time to sit down and remember what God has done for you. Take it a step further and sit down with your family and remember together the many blessings you have received. Simply do what the chorus of "Count your Blessings" says... "Count your blessings, name them one by one, count your many blessings see what God has done."

*Deuteronomy 4:9*

*Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.*

Keri Early

Assistant Director, MDO



**SAVE THE DATE**

Our Mom's Day Out Christmas program is a hit every year! Make sure you put **Friday, December 9th** on your calendar and plan on meeting in the Main Sanctuary here at First Free at noon. Watch for more information to be coming home soon.



Doing Mason's art project to decorate the Butterfly room with Teacher Hazel

## Butterfly Room -Our "Little Angels"

Happy fall! Isn't it wonderful all the things God does to let us know that fall has arrived? I love the way the leaves change colors and the crisp coolness of the mornings.

We have already gone on our first walk. Usually we aren't able to do this until December. Amazing! They hold onto a rope that has colored rings on it. I was so proud of them.

We have been learning about Noah's Ark and singing "Jesus Loves Me". We have a plush moose that sings: "Jesus Loves Me", and the children seem to love that. The children love pressing his paw and watching him move and sing. Also, we have noticed how well all the little Butterflies are sharing their toys and taking turns going down the slide. They are all such little angels!

This month we will continue with Noah's Ark and learning our colors. The children in the past have always enjoyed this. Of, course we will also be doing more coloring. Hope your enjoying the artwork as much more will follow. As we get closer to the holidays we will be doing many more crafts.

**Special Welcome to Madison, Bear and Johanna who are new to the Butterfly Classroom!**

Snacktime & lunchtime are going very well. The children even put their sippy cups in the basket when they are done with them at snack time. What great helpers they are.

Parents, you are doing a great job packing your little ones lunches. We really appreciate your effort.

Your little ones are having so much fun with us at MDO; we hope you're enjoying your free time as well.

Thank you for being prompt at 1:00 for pick up.

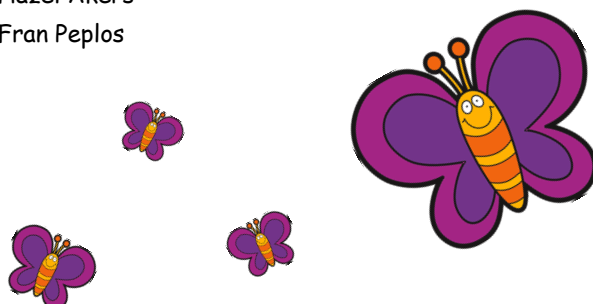
Please remember that if you have a prayer request we will be happy to pray for you and your family.

If you ever have any questions or concerns you can contact Teacher Hazel at [momakers00@comcast.net](mailto:momakers00@comcast.net)

Butterfly teachers,

Hazel Akers

Fran Peplos





# Happenings This Month

## Announcing MDO's Fall Outreach 2011...

We are excited to welcome Gigi's Playhouse to the Rockford area! Gigi's Playhouse—Rockford LLC is a Down syndrome awareness and educational center that provides resources, specialized tutoring and support to individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the community. All of their programs are free to families, are therapeutic in nature and range in age from pre-natal diagnosis thru adulthood. Check your child's backpack for more information and a shopping list!



### November at Mom's Day Out



**November 7th**— Special visitor Steve Cooper will be visiting the Chimps, Fish, Lions, Giraffes, and Mice classes.



**November 18th**— Children in the Chimps, Fish, Lions, Giraffes and Mice classes will get to visit with Moses and learn all about his relationship with and Love for God.



**November 21st**— The Lions, Giraffes & Mice classes become Indians and Pilgrims for a day and dine together for lunch and a special Thanksgiving Feast.



**November 18th & 21st**—TUMBILI! If your child is in the Hippo, Chimps, Fish, Lions, Giraffes or Mice class, they will be going to the playground these days. Don't forget their socks!

## TEACHERS UNABLE TO ANSWER CALLS DURING THE MDO DAY

The church office does not open until 9:00 a.m. If you need to call before that time, please call (815) 877-7040 and enter extension 272. This will bring you to Patti's voice mail to leave a message. After 9:00 a.m., you can call the church office (815) 877-7046 and either ask for Patti at ext. 272 or (if immediate assistance is needed) ask the receptionist to page Patti. If you should need to get information to your child's teacher any time during the MDO day, contact Patti and she can relay the message to the teacher. Teachers are unable to leave the classroom to take phone calls. We hope this answers any questions.

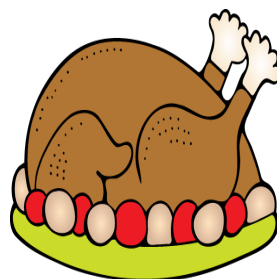
### THE PLAYGROUND IS DONE!

Unfortunately the weather is not the best for playing on an outdoor playground. But... we are still incredibly blessed to have this completed. This playground is the perfect size for our MDO children. We look forward to using it as soon as the nice weather returns. Many thanks to all of our MDO parents who donated to this project as well as to First Free Church and Kids Around the World for installing it—boy were they fast! If you are still interested in donating to the playground, please see Patti.



## MDO FIRE DRILL A SUCCESS!

This past month, MDO had our first fire drill. The fire alarm went off, and all of us (as well as all the First Free Church staff) followed our fire safety procedures and marched outside. It is amazing how few tears there were—most of which occurred when the children had to go back to their classrooms! Many rooms used this opportunity to talk about fire safety. MDO has been blessed with never having to have an actual fire alarm, but it is reassuring to know that we are well prepared in case this situation should occur.



**No Mom's Day Out  
Friday, November 11th  
AND  
Friday, November 25th**

**facebook** join our group +

Mom's Day Out has a Facebook page. "Friend" us to get the latest information about your child's classroom!



# First Evangelical Free Church

Rockford, Illinois

Bringing people into a life-changing and growing relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

Love God

Love One Another

Love the World

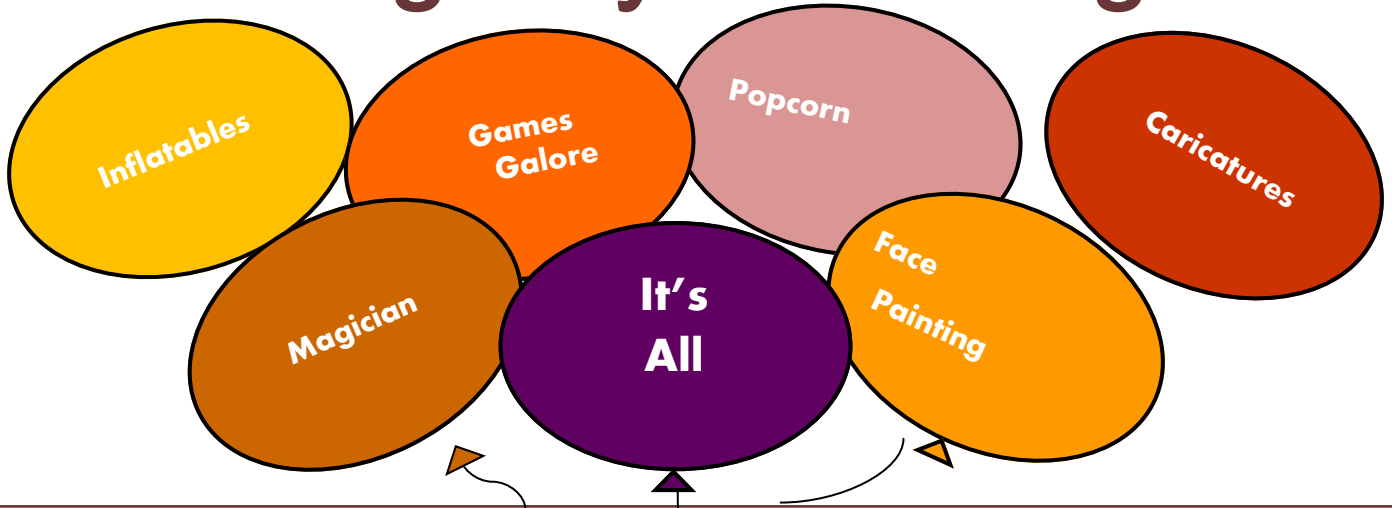
Love

# Family Fun Fair

**November 10th ~ 6:00-8:30**

It's a Thursday, but there's no school on Friday!

## Featuring Wayne the Magician



### Upcoming Events at First Free for the Holidays:

#### November 23:

First Free Church's Thanksgiving service at 7 p.m. An evening of praise and thanksgiving to God. Music and scripture to encourage.

#### Friday & Saturday, December 2 & 3:

*Candle in the Window* A Holiday drama and dessert for all ages. Contact Church for Times and ticket availability.

#### Sunday, December 18, 6:00 p.m.:

Ernie Haase & Signature Sound Christmas Concert at 6pm. Invite some friends and join us for this special Christmas Concert! Contact church to purchase tickets.

MOPS is a Christ-centered, caring ministry seeking to meet the unique needs of mothers with infant through kindergarten-aged children. MOPS is not a Bible study; rather, it involves instruction relating to womanhood, marriage, child-rearing specifically focused on preschoolers, and family relationships. All of these topics are based on biblical principles. We will be meeting from 8:45-11:15 a.m. here at First Free Church. Our November meeting days are:

Tuesday, Nov. 8th and

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd

*Better Moms Make A Better World*

**MOPS**  
Mothers of Preschoolers



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The mission of First Evangelical Free Church is to bring people into a life-changing and growing relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.