

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

August 2008

*The Children and Family Ministry Update, is a quarterly newsletter that contains important information regarding Children and Family Ministries, upcoming events, featured resources and Covenant news.*

## Coming up:

### Formation Forum

Formation 2009 Discipleship Event runs concurrently with Midwinter, February 2-6 at the Hyatt O'Hare in Rosemont, IL. Formation Forum is open to any Midwinter participant and is designed for those ministering to and interested in disciple forming ministry with adults, children, youth, and families.

### Also at Midwinter

Linda Cannell, new dean of North Park Seminary and co-author of the book "Children Matter" will be leading a workshop at this year's Midwinter.

For more information on Children and Family Ministry, contact the Department of Christian Formation at 773-583-0220 or email us at [christian.formation@covchurch.org](mailto:christian.formation@covchurch.org)

## New Resources Available

### Launching a Commitment to GROW

One of the best ways to bring awareness and value to discipleship is to launch a commitment to GROW discipleship ministry in the context of a regular worship service.



The "Launching a Commitment to GROW Discipleship Ministry" brochure can help your church create a meaningful service that will help persons of all ages rethink and renew their commitment to Christ, using tools such as the GROW Commitment Cards. More information is at [covchurch.org/resource](http://covchurch.org/resource).



### Children's Service Project: Colombia

Each year, Covenant World Relief partners with Covenant World Mission and the Department of Christian Formation in promoting an annual Children's Service Project. This project typically runs from December through May.

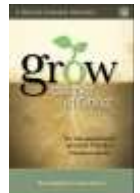


This year, we will be partnering with the Covenant Church of Colombia to raise money to help displaced children in Colombia. Information will be coming in September.

### Grow Deeper in Christ

A growth resource for teachers and leaders, this small group guide will facilitate the shared experience of formative spiritual practices, also known as spiritual disciplines, such as praying Scripture and reviewing your day.

This eight-session guide was created to appeal to different learning styles and utilizes Bible study, discussion, shared experiences, personal reflection, and practice, to allow participants to incorporate the spiritual disciplines into their journey towards growth in Christ.



Available from the Covenant Bookstore, [www.covenantbookstore.com](http://www.covenantbookstore.com)

## Do You Have News?

Children's ministry is a vital part of the ministry that takes place within the church. We desire for children to have a personal relationship with God and we desire that the larger church body would know the fantastic work that is being done in children's ministry throughout the Covenant.

With that in mind, we

encourage you to submit stories of your ministry with children. What an encouragement it was for children and adults alike to hear the story of Nehemiah Olson and the other children at Elim Covenant Church who raised \$1,800 to benefit the ragpicker children in India through the Children's Service Project.

We know that amazing things are going on in each of your churches and we

invite you to submit them to Newswire so the rest of the Covenant can be encouraged by them as well.

To submit a story, send the basic information to [newsdesk@covchurch.org](mailto:newsdesk@covchurch.org). Include the name, email address, and phone number of a contact person who can provide additional information, if available. Photographs are also welcome.

