

**Holiday Edition**

**Welcome to Mops!!!**

1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
 September–May  
 9:30-11:30  
 West Mesa Christian  
 Church  
 8821 Golf Course Rd.  
 NW Albuquerque, NM.  
 87114



**Steering Team**

- Coordinator**– Deanne Milligan
- Fundraising**–Francine Sedillo & Laura Berndt
- Bible Study** –Julie Orfield
- Publicity** -Lindsay Burger
- Hospitality**–Kathryn Wohlfeil
- Finance**– Marie Ihlefeld
- Table Mommas**– Lindsay Burger, Julie Orfield & Cindy Reinhard
- Creative Activities**– Jenn O’Daniels
- Moppets**–Sasha Andrews & Miranda Moore

**Meet Jenn O’ Daniels**

**Husband:** Brian

**Children:** Jayden-8, Madison-4

**Favorite Thing About MOPS** ~ Just being able to relax, hang out and learn with other believing Moms that are just like me.

**Why did you Choose to be on Steering** ~ I love to help. Mops steering has become such a big part of my life and it has introduced me to some fabulous women and great friends. I chose to be creative activity leader because if you know me you know I am crazy about my arts and crafts and creating things!

**Favorite thing to do in Albuquerque** ~ Eat green chile, I always said that I

was made to live here in Albuquerque because of its food! I could put green chiles on just about anything. My favorite Albuquerque restaurant is El Pinto its so good! I also love going to the local wineries here in New Mexico its so much fun and they all make great red wines.

**My day with no Kids would look like...**

Relaxing with a good book with a glass of red wine, preferably a Malbec

**Favorite Verse** ~ There are so many quotes and words of encouragement that I go by but one that I use n a daily basis with my kids by the great Dr. Seuss...Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.

**Say Goodbye to Jenn O’Daniels**

As you may or may not know by now, Jenn, our creativity leader is moving to Oklahoma. This will be her last meeting with us here. We will greatly miss her bubbly personality and all the wonderful and simple crafts she provides for our group! Please keep Jenn and her family in your prayers as they take on this move!

With that being said, there is now a great opportunity for you to join our steering team! Do you have a creative mind and hungry heart to help other moms in need? This is the place for you! Please talk to anyone on steering or Deanne for more information about this position or other positions on steering. We would love to have you.

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**“People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel” - Maya Angelou**

### **‘Twas the Morning of MOPS**

‘Twas the morning of MOPS, when all through the house  
A busy MOPS mom scurried around like a mouse;  
The shoes were put onto her children with care,  
Only to be pulled off and thrown everywhere;  
The children were finally nestled into their carseats;  
With diaper bags and lunches and yummy brunch treats  
And mamma in her yoga pants and “Fierce Flourishing” shirt  
Just buckled in to head to the church  
On the drive there, there arose such a clatter,  
But mom knew that’s normal, nothing was the matter.  
Into the parking lot she pulled in a flash,  
Tore open the van door and threw up the hatch.  
When what to her wondering eyes did appear,  
But a mentor mom, saying “I’ll take that, dear.”  
With a smile and a hug so lively and quick,  
This mom felt her heart lift—what was their trick?  
More rapid than eagles the other MOPS moms came,  
And the mentor moms hugged them and called them by name:  
“Hi, Amy! Hi, Ashley! There’s Rachel and Kate!  
Keep coming in friends, it’s ok if you’re late!  
Let’s grab our food - don’t hang by the wall!  
Sit here and relax! If the nursery needs you, they’ll call!”  
As someone who has gone down the path that we try,  
Mentor moms know when to listen, laugh, cry.  
We value their input, their strength, and their prayers,  
And know we’re better moms because they are there.  
And after MOPS we sigh, as we drive down the road—  
“I’m so thankful for these women who lighten our load!”

## **Christmas Party!!**

Who: Amazing Moms

When: Tuesday December, 15th.  
9:30-11:30

Where: West Mesa Christian  
Church Mops Meeting

Why: Because we are awesome  
moms who deserve to celebrate  
the Gift of Jesus too

What to Bring:

~ Each mom is expected to  
bring a dish to share with the  
group. (signup to come)



~We will also be doing a  
“white elephant” gift ex-  
change. This gift must be  
something brought from your  
house and wrapped. DO NOT  
GO PURCHASE a gift. We are  
not putting a price point on  
this but Please bring some-  
thing in that you would like  
to receive yourself! Come  
ready to have fun and cele-  
brate!

## Recipe By Sasha Alex Andrews

### Heavenly Stuffed Chicken Breasts

- ◆ Take as many chicken breasts as you have adults and slice them 2/3 of the way through from the side
- ◆ Take provolone cheese and place a half slice inside along with lightly sautéed mushrooms (done in butter or olive oil, garlic, and salt)
- ◆ Cook at 350 for 15 minutes
- ◆ Place a tomato slice on top and cover with a full slice of provolone cheese.
- ◆ Top with a mixture of basil flakes and olive oil and garlic powder (like a pesto)
- ◆ Cook at 350 for another 10-15 minutes depending on thickness of breasts
- ◆ Cut and devour!



## Holiday Traditions!!

Making and decorating sugar cookies~Lindsay

Advent Calendar that's actually a jar of fun things to do as a family until Christmas Day. Includes simple things like "read a Christmas Book by the light of the Christmas tree" and "decorate cookies together". The boys' favorite is "Pile in the car with cups of hot chocolate and candy canes to go see Christmas lights" ~ Kathryn

Advent calendar or family cookie making, driving to see lights is a big hit and we all love it. Blasting Christmas carols together as we decorate the tree. Baking a birthday cake for Jesus along with cookies for Santa ~ Sasha

Driving around looking at decorated houses~ Miranda

Advent Devotions. Growing up, my family would light another candle on the advent log (a log with 25 candles on it) and sing Christmas hymns and read an advent devotion every night. I want to continue that tradition. ~ Julie

## Challenge Corner By Cindy Reinhard

I have found that life, marriage, family, life, can be very challenging and overwhelming at times and in this I was being very inconsistent in my quiet times with the Lord. So a few months ago, I challenged myself to have a quiet time everyday, no matter what! This was a little bumpy at first and I found that mornings just did not work. So, I switched to night time, just before I go to bed. I know this is an odd time, but it worked! I have stuck to it nearly everyday since (I missed a couple days when we went to visit family out of town). Sometimes this means staying up a little later, and nearly falling asleep in my Bible a few times, but it has been so worth it! God uses this time to really encourage me, He lents me vent, shows me what I need to work on, and recently I'm learning to just be and let God love me. A side effect of this was my husband wanted in on this challenge thing and has challenged himself to pray with me everyday before he goes to work. Mind you, he leaves for work between 5:30 and 6 am so I am usually still in bed! But he has stuck with it and I've learned to really appreciate this time with him praying, talking, and encouraging each other. It's only a few minutes, but it makes such a huge difference for us. What about you? What can you challenge yourself with this month? As a couple, or as a family? Try it, you might find you like what happens! :)

# Upcoming Events

Please join us on Facebook at Cross of Hope Mops for more information and upcoming playdates and events!!!

## DECEMBER 2015

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat

|    |   |  |   |  |    |    |
|----|---|--|---|--|----|----|
|    |   | 1<br>Mops Meeting<br>9:30-11:30<br>WMCC  | 2   | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6  | 7   | 8<br>Bible Study<br>9:30-11:30           | 9<br>Playdate<br>Pinon Coffee at 10:15<br>Balloon Museum<br>Storytime at 11 | 10   | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14<br>Mariachi Christmas at Popejoy Hall at 10:15       | 15<br>Mops Meeting<br>9:30-11:30<br>WMCC | 16  | 17   | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21<br>Playdate<br>Bowling at Tenspins & More<br>12:00pm | 22<br>Bible Study<br>9:30-11:30          | 23  | 24   | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28  | 29<br><b>NO MEETINGS</b>                 | 30  | 31<br>Noon Years Eve Celebration at Explora 10:00 am |    |    |