

The Cardinal Chronicle

April 9, 2025



Upcoming Events

- Apr. 7 - 11 - Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week
- Apr. 11 - Family Entertainment Night - St. Thomas Aquinas gym - Peshtigo - doors open at 5:00 pm
- Apr. 13 - 4K-8 Sing in Church with Sunday School children for Palm Sunday
- Apr. 16 - Vision Screening permission forms due
- Apr. 17 - School Choice application deadline
- Apr. 18 - NO SCHOOL - Good Friday
- Apr. 21 - NO SCHOOL -Easter Monday
- Apr. 23 - Lions' Club Vision Screening

Hot Lunch

Hot lunch this week will be pizza cups provided by the McClain family in honor of Nora's birthday.

Mission Offering

Progress:

Last week's chapel offering collected for God's Kingdom was \$58.50 bringing our total to \$651.26.

Family Entertainment Night

Please join us **this Friday, April 11** for our Family Entertainment Night, which will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Academy gym, 141 S Wood Ave, Peshtigo, WI 54157. The doors will open at 5:00 pm to give everyone a chance to look at the bucket drawing items and get your tickets in before the performances begin. The preschool will start the entertainment at 6:00 pm. We ask that parents **please have your children to St. Thomas no later than 5:45 pm**. Invite your family and friends to join us for a wonderful evening of fun, food and fellowship. See you Friday!!!

Basket Donations

Thank you so much to those who have already brought in baskets for our Family Entertainment Night! If you are planning on bringing in a basket, please bring it to school by **tomorrow, April 10**, because we will be bringing the baskets over to St. Thomas tomorrow. Alternatively, you can bring your basket to St. Thomas after practice. We are so blessed by your generosity!



Singing in Church this Sunday

This Sunday, April 13, is our Palm Sunday service at 10:00 am. The children in Grades 4K - 8 will be singing with the Sunday School children. We ask that the children please **meet** in the church basement **by 9:45 am** and wear church appropriate clothing. The children will walk into church with palm branches and sing the first hymn. After the children finish singing, they will go and sit with their parents in church.

Family Entertainment Night-Sign Up Genius

We are still looking for your help with providing a few light refreshments and especially with clean-up afterwards for our Family Entertainment night. Please go to the Sign Up Genius tab on the school website for this. Thank you to all of you who make this evening such a success!

Parent Conversations

Being a parent is a huge responsibility. And often, when looking back, we may struggle with our shortcomings and inadequacies. This month's segment in *Parent Conversations* gives some valuable insight on what to do when we feel inadequate as a parent. Please take a moment to read this encouraging article.

Vision Screening

Just a reminder that the permission forms for the Peshtigo Lions Club vision screening are due by next **Wednesday, April 16**. The screening will take place on **Wednesday, April 23**, at 9:00 am.

Holy Week Services

With Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, we mark the beginning of Holy Week. St. John's Lutheran Church will be holding the following church services. All are welcome to attend as we remember our Lord's suffering, death and resurrection.



Maundy Thursday - 6:30 pm

Good Friday - 1:00 pm

Easter Sunday - 10:00 am

School Choice Open Enrollment - Deadline Approaching

Open enrollment for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program **ends next Thursday, April 17**. Please don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity. Contact Hannah Langebartels, our School Choice Administrator, at choiceadmin@stjohnpeshtigo.org or phone (414) 758-8607. **Just a reminder that those families who are in Choice this year, must still reapply each year.**

Hot Lunch Date Available

Due to the change in the date for our annual Track Day to **May 16** we now have **May 9 open for Hot Lunch**. If anyone is interested in helping us out for that last time, we would be very grateful. Just go to the Sign Up Genius on our school website.

Schoolwide Text Alerts- School Messenger

Just a reminder that if you have not yet done so, please make sure to sign up for our new school-wide notification service, School Messenger. This is replacing the Remind app, which is now no longer an option for our school. A letter was sent home last week to help you sign up. If you need help or more information, please contact Mr. Aguilar. This is **very important**, because we will use this to notify you about school **emergencies** or **closings**.

Parent conversations: When you feel inadequate as a parent, remember . . .

forwardinchrist.net/feel-inadequate-as-parent

Cindi Holman

March 29, 2025



I know I'm not a perfect parent. God's Word, my conscience, my children, and society remind me of that regularly. It's easy to focus on that and lose sight of the other truths that God's Word reveals or the moments when I do get it right. That's why I think it's important to be reminded continually of some basic Christian parenting truths. When you feel inadequate as a parent, remember . . .

Nicole Balza

WHEN YOU FEEL INADEQUATE AS A PARENT, REMEMBER . . .

It's the end of the day. The kids are settled into bed for the night. You have a few minutes to relax and reflect on the day. A lot of great things happened today, but as you reflect, that voice creeps in reminding you of the not-so-pleasant moments. Your patience may have worn a bit thin trying to get them to school or activities on time. You overheard your child speaking harshly to a sibling, using words you've used in the past. That voice loves to tell you that all of these moments had something to do with you and your parenting. That feeling of inadequacy can be defeating and discouraging. "If only I . . ."

Parenting is full of joys and precious moments. It's also an overwhelming responsibility. It's not surprising to feel ill-equipped. Countless books have been written, and maybe you've read some of them. They may have good suggestions and ideas. But at the end of the day, it's on you. It's easy to look at those moments of struggle and be critical of yourself. *If only I . . .*, you may think.

This is a great time to turn to the Word. **Be reminded that being a parent is a God-given role.** God didn't give children only to perfect parents. Those parents don't exist. God so often uses us as flawed individuals to carry out his work. Parenting is just that—his work. We aren't perfect, but we have a perfect Savior who dearly loves us and our children.

For our impatience, harsh words, and lack of understanding for our children, we go first to Jesus for his forgiveness. As forgiven children of God, we can go to our children and admit when we're wrong and ask them for forgiveness. What a gift and model for them. We also embrace our role of setting boundaries, nurturing and directing our children on their path to growing up guided by the Word.

God also blessed us with friends and family. Reach out to that trusted individual who can listen and encourage you in your God-given role. Together you can build each other up.

"Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him" (Psalm 127:3). What a gift God has given us in our children! With this gift comes his promise to be with us, encourage us, guide us, and bless the children he has given us.

"If only . . ." No need. We have God the Father with us.

Cindi Holman

Who better to write about parental inadequacy than Jim Aderman? I have a half-century's experience as an inadequate parent and grandparent.

I know I am inadequate because I don't measure up to the parenting articles I read.

When my kids were growing up, they frequently pointed out how I could improve as a parent. Of course, God's Word points out my fatherly failures. And my conscience taunts, "See, you are a failure."

Wait. That's not the place to start this article. Let me begin again.

Who better to write an article about being an inadequate parent than the more-than-adequate "Papa" Aderman?

What? Jim Aderman is an adequate parent? Yes. Grace allows me to claim for my parenting what Paul claimed for his apostleship: "Such confidence we have through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God" (2 Corinthians 3:4,5).

There's no doubt I fail as a parent. I am like Paul who regularly failed as a child of God (Romans 7:19). But the foundational truth for every believer is that, in Jesus, we are nonetheless competent. Here's why: "Our competence comes from God."

When I evaluate my parenting, I first remind myself of the high position Jesus has won for me. I am a victorious child of God who is seated with him in the heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6). I am a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). I am a temple where the Holy Spirit lives (1 Corinthians 6:19). Good Friday's "It is finished" (John 19:30) proves it.

But don't miss this: Grace-granted competency does not allow me to excuse my parenting ineptness. It does not allow me to justify continuing to fail. My high position empowers me to own my failures, confess them, celebrate my forgiveness for them, and energetically press forward toward living as the competent, adequate parent that grace declares I am.

In Jesus, you are also a competent, adequate parent. Stand strong in that truth.

James Aderman

The elaborate castle cake was completed in the wee hours of the morning. Excited to present the cake to her young son, the exhausted mother fell asleep with dreams of frosted turrets and knights on guard. Imagine her dismay the next day when the birthday boy innocently asked, "Where's the dungeon?"

Whether it's the trip home from the hospital with your tiny newborn strapped tightly into her car seat ("Do we even know what we're doing?"); dealing with unexpected medical, behavioral, or academic challenges; or losing your cool when the milk spills once too often, parenting definitely has times when even the most experienced can feel inadequate. And just when you think you've figured out one stage, your child moves into another or his sibling has completely different needs. Not to mention, when you take a break and check social media, you notice other families with better Christmas traditions, better summer vacations, and better kids than you! What is a parent to do?

First, take comfort in your identity as a redeemed child of God. "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have summoned you by name; you are mine" (Isaiah 43:1). We are imperfect, inadequate, and sinful, and we live in an imperfect world. But because Jesus was completely perfect and sinless for us and because the Holy Spirit has brought us to faith in

this Savior, every discipline mistake, every impatient moment, every incorrect decision, every misplaced priority is forgiven. And as you read the Bible, note that its pages are full of fallen sinners loved and forgiven by our heavenly Father!

In a Christian family, our inadequacies are covered by the perfect love of Jesus.

Second, ask God to keep you and your God-given family close to him through regular worship, Bible study, devotions, prayer, and the use of his precious sacraments.

These spiritual gifts will strengthen and uphold you in the long days and nights of parenting.

Lean on the blessings of the supports God places around you—your spouse, extended family, friends, pastors, teachers, and babysitters. A talk with fellow parents will reveal that the tooth fairy forgot to come to their child's pillow too and they are going through some of the same joys and concerns that you face. Don't be afraid to seek professional help if the feelings of inadequacy are overwhelming.

Finally, keep a mental or a real list of parenting positives. Thank God for the amazing road trips; the new puppy; the walks to the library; bedtime stories; brownie baking; snow day sledding; summer beach days; the fabulous grad party; and the backyard wedding. Most important, thank God for the times you brought your child to Jesus' feet through Baptism, regular worship, confirmation, and Christian education.

Yes, there will still be times when you make dinner for four people and five are home or your job gets in the way of family time or you make outright parenting mistakes, but sometimes you can make a dungeon cake for your son's 28th birthday and all is well. In a Christian family, our inadequacies are covered by the perfect love of Jesus. That is enough!

Ann Ponath

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