

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY – MAY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FROM SHANNON PRETO, YED

Hello Powerful People,

Happy May Day! I hope you and your immediate, extended, and chosen families are doing well and feeling in your Power. Today is the day!

Additionally, we hope that you take time today to talk about Power of the Person, which is a collective of systems and 'processes', to make change. If you already talk often about that kind of Power, I encourage you to talk about the Power of Collective Peoples; you can choose specific 'peoples' to learn about, e.g., the intertribal relations of the First Peoples in North America. If you already do that, I encourage you to talk about the Spirituality behind or underneath collective Power. You can choose to revisit this **BLOG** that shared the spiritual leaders the YFM kiddos learned back in January. If you already do that, also... WOW!... I encourage you and your families to spread Joy throughout all your systems, e.g., internal & external & interpersonal & reflecting joy back to Nature/Divine.

May's Theme and 'Plans'

In May, we'll be studying the Power of Power. Taking inspiration from Linda Martella-Whitsett's book Divine Audacity, we'll be looking at Concentration, Self-Mastery, and Authority.

- 1) Ideas floating in my lesson planning cortex include studying the masterful artwork of Japanese women clay artists; *(I saw the exhibit last year at the Ackland and picked up a book. The amount of time these artists put into their work is a prime example of their Power.)*
- 2) I am going to ask the children to design the ritual, or lesson, in a way that can uplift their spirituality.
- 3) I'll also be addressing how to speak truth to power, which will hopefully reinforce the children's Authority when coupled with wisdom and compassion.
- 4) Last, we'll encourage the children to combine 3 Powers together so that they can set goals for the summer. Can they concentrate their knowledge and Powers to mold their summer experiences?

These are all lofty ideas, and I know that the children will receive them with grace and curiosity.

Planning Ahead/Dates:

May 3rd - Begin talking about Power/ collective Power, begin making Mother's Day's flowers

May 10th - Mother's Day - hand out flowers, talk about the Power of Mastery or at least mastering. Because I believe that all those who mother are trying to Master and Self-Master in ways that raise up their children.

May 17th - Continues lessons on Power & an after service Put Put outing in Carrboro - Join us (see P.S. for description)

May 24th - Power in Authority with compassion and wisdom

May 31st - The Power of You

RSVP please with who's coming and how many

=> **May 17th** - Beer Study in Carrboro is hosting a Put Put event ([Two Hills Drive](#)) from 12p-10 pm. There will be food and drinks for children and the proceeds will benefit the Orange County Rape Crisis Center. They are asking for folks to buy tickets, and I'll ask them this weekend as their website isn't showing the price.

=> **May 31st & June 14th** for the All Ages Choir rehearsals. We'll gather at 9:45 am. Coffee and snacks provided. These Sundays are ALSO a great time for the children to continue to work on the Site Specific sculpture , which we will reveal on June 28th

=> **A June or early July date:** I am going to set up a date for the YFM students to volunteer at Table Inc in Carrboro. This next week, the YFM program is donating \$60 to Table Inc and \$60 to Porch from the money we raised with our Pancake fundraiser. It is the Power of our dollars and the Power of giving at work.

Thanks for reading and you've...



Blessings,
Shannon