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Faith Story Spotlight August 2017

At Milestones Ministry we believe that "Home is Church too!"



Glossary of Milestones Ministry Resources

The resources at Milestones Ministry continue to grow.

Here is a brief description of each:

Taking Faith Home:

This is an annual resource that provides a different bulletin insert each week during the church year. This enables individuals and families to bring the Christian faith into the home and daily life by experiencing the Word of God through the Four Key Faith Practices that are also used in Milestones Ministry modules and Moments. Using Taking Faith Home with Milestones will help strengthen a congregation's lifelong faith formation ministry. Click here.

Meet Deacon Beth Anderson Synod Ministry Coordinator Western North Dakota Synod of the ELCA



http://wndsynod.org/martin-family-table/

Milestones Ministry Resource Used:

Taking Faith Home Cards

Providing resources for homes at a family retreat included a deck of Taking Faith Home Cards:

Deacon Beth Anderson contacted Milestones Ministry early in the year when Taking Faith Home Cards, Year Cycle A, were published for the first time. Her thought was to provide a deck of cards for each family attending a family series of workshops called *Martin and the Family Table* that were hosted by the Western North Dakota Synod in February and March of 2017.

Taking Faith Home Cards:

The Taking Faith Home Cards are designed to allow individuals and families to nurture their faith at any time and place! Each card contains a variety of faith-building activities, allowing one to pick and choose what is most beneficial in your current setting. Click here for more info.

Milestone Modules: Each module includes a Four Key Faith Practices outline for three different settings: Cross+Generational, Home, and a Follow-Up. Also included are tips for leaders, an appendix with additional suggestions, and a Worship Blessing, and an appendix that includes ideas for outreach.

- Child and Youth: There are 18 that can be purchased individually or together in a manual. Click here to see the titles.
- Adult: There are 12 that can be purchased individually or together in a manual. Click here to see the titles.

Milestone Moments for the Home: There are 16 at this time and we add new ones regularly. These guides are a two-page design that can be used in a small group setting or the home. Click here to see the titles.

Gifting Stones: If you choose to use a stone as a visual reminder of the Milestone, a stone for gifting has been designed by our potter and artist, Dawn Deines-Christensen for each Milestone module. Other gifting suggestions are also given in each module appendix. Click here for more information about the Gifting Stones.

During an initial follow up call, Beth was asked how the cards are being used. She responded that this event was one to encourage faith talk and practice to happen in homes. The expectation is the cards be used to encourage caring conversations, scripture reading, prayer, and blessing to establish faith practice at home. She explained that there will be a follow up survey to determine how the various resources provided are being used. We look forward to hearing more about this wonderful initiative launched by the synod.

Beth is familiar with many different resources for the home. She serves on the staff of the Western North Dakota Synod and her areas of responsibility include: communications, call process, candidacy, faith formation, and LYO (Lutheran Youth Organization).

When asked how she would compare the Taking Faith Home Cards to other resources she has used, Beth told Milestones Ministry that she really likes the way the cards are designed based on the Four Key Faith Practices because they provide a simple and easy outline that includes caring conversations, scripture, prayer, blessing, and a service question.

To quote Beth, "It is worship on a card."



Thank you to Deacon Beth Anderson for her feedback.

Sharing our stories about encouraging faith formation to happen in our homes is important as research has shown time and time again the vital role of the home in growing faith lives.

Western North Dakota Synod's website can be found at: http://wndsynod.org/

"Grow the church by growing people in faith."

Visit our website: <u>www.milestonesministry.org</u> and like us on <u>Facebook</u> page and join us for conversations on our <u>Facebook group page</u>.

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The Milestones Ministry Mission is to provide congregations and households with resources and coaching services to nurture the Christian faith and reach out to others with the love of God in Christ.

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