

HELLO PARENTS

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we want you to know that we are thankful for you! In spite of the busyness of life and all the distractions that demand your time, you make Ridgewood Student Ministries a priority in your teen's life. Thanks Mom and Dad — keep it up!

LATEST SERIES: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

On the eve of His betrayal and arrest, Jesus said this to His disciples: "A new command I give you: Love one another, as I have loved you, so you must love one another." Jesus did something the world had never seen before— He created a group identified by one thing: love.



And ever since, followers of Christ have been recognized by their love for others. In this particular passage, the "one another" that Christ was referring to is the church. The great apostle Paul confirms this in his letter to the church in Galatia when he wrote this; "Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone— especially to those in the family of faith."

The Domino Effect: As we receive the love of Christ and grow in our faith, that love overflows to the body of Christ. We develop a burden to love and care for the needs of our brothers and sisters. Then, much the same way that dominos tip into each other and create momentum, we cultivate a passion to go out and love the lost.

During this series, we heard from four very different people from very different walks of life and the one thing that they all have in common is that they were transformed by the reckless love of God. This transformative love began to spill out onto the believers that were in their circle, and then out onto the world around them.

The goal of this series was to plant a seed in the hearts of our students that God will cause to grow. If you love and develop a burden for your brothers and sisters in Christ (those sitting right next to you in student ministries), that burden will grow for a lost world that is in desperate need of Christ. We are all excited to watch that seed grow!

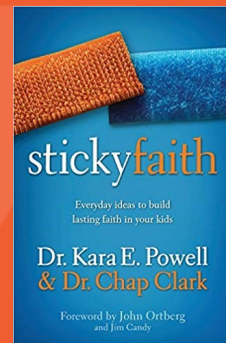
UPCOMING EVENT: CHRISTMAS PARTIES

The RSM Christmas parties are coming up and they promise to be a lot of fun. There will be an Ugly Sweater Contest, Wheel O' Doom Eggnog edition, White Elephant gift exchange (with a student ministries twist), great food, and blacklight 9-square are a few of the things that we have planned to make this night an awesome experience. Students are encouraged to invite friends to this fun event. MSM is celebrating Dec. 18 and HSM on Dec. 22.

PARENT RESOURCE: *STICKY FAITH—EVERYDAY IDEAS FOR BUILDING LASTING FAITH IN YOUR KIDS*

Nearly every Christian parent desires to find a viable resource for developing within their kids a deep, dynamic faith that "sticks" long term. *Sticky Faith* delivers. Fuller Youth Institute Executive Director Dr. Kara E. Powell and youth expert Chap Clark, empower parents with positive and practical ideas to nurture within their kids a living, loving faith that lasts a lifetime.

Research shows that almost half of graduating high school seniors are simply not engaging in their faith. Jesus is a side note in their overly busy lives. This easy-to-read guide presents both a compelling rationale and a powerful strategy to show parents how to actively encourage their children's spiritual growth so that it will stick to them into adulthood and empower them to develop a living, lasting faith. Written by authors known for the integrity of their research and the intensity of their passion for young people, *Sticky Faith* is geared to spark a movement that empowers adults to develop robust and long-term faith in kids of all ages.



LEADER SPOTLIGHT: CASSIE & KYLE BUNKELMAN

Cassie has attended Ridgewood for 15 years and Kyle has attended for 2 years. These newlyweds just got married in June, and some of their hobbies include camping (including winter camping— yikes!), hiking, fishing, kayaking, and shooting. They are excited to pour God's love into the lives of students in the same way people have poured into their lives. "Middle school was a highlight of our adolescence, and we are excited to be volunteering with the MSM." They can't wait for the energy and adventure that awaits! Cassie & Kyle are already a blessing to Ridgewood Student Ministries and we look forward to how God is going to reach our student through them!



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