

# FIND YOUR FIRE



**LIVE EXPECTANTLY:** *This is the bold reminder to think about what could go right.*

We will renew our minds and choose to trust that God is good. Hope will be on the tip of our tongues.

Passion will flow from our hearts and we will pray big prayers. It takes tending to keep the fire alive, so we will fan our flame by choosing to do more things that make us forget to check our phones. We will choose to play with our kids instead of crossing one more thing off our to-do list. We will be women whose passion and patience inspire the people we love most.

**SURRENDER DARINGLY:** *This is the bold reminder to let things go.*

Fire is a tool of transformation, and often the most life-improving thing we can do is surrender.

Surrender is often misunderstood as an act of weakness, when in truth it is an act of courage. What would it feel like to let yourself off the hook from living like it is all up to you? Let go of unhelpful expectations and the need to control the people and situations in your life. When we surrender, we become in tune with the swift but gentle timing of God. This year, we will take a daring step into the fire of transformation, so we can emerge truer and braver than we ever imagined we could be. We will be women who trust that God is fighting for us, so we need only to be still.

**BREATHE FREELY:** *This is the bold reminder to let yourself be loved.*

Even though we aren't enough in our own mind, we are enough in the mind of God. There is nothing that you can do, or have done, to ruin or fracture God's love for you. There is no amount of striving or performing that will earn you more. Breathe freely and joyfully and be refreshed. We will be women and moms who stand out because we live loved.

**Never let the fire go out ...  
When you hope, be joyful.  
When you suffer, be patient.  
When you pray, be faithful.  
Share with God's people  
who are in need.**

**Welcome others into your homes.**

Romans 12:11-13 (NIRV 1998)



## St. John the Baptist M.O.P.S.

We are a Mom's Ministry for all moms regardless if you are pregnant for the first time or a grandma, you are welcome!

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday  
Sept 2018 - May 2019  
9:30-11:30am**

Youth Ministry Room  
St. John the Baptist  
0S233 Church Street  
Winfield IL 60190

**Free Childcare  
Registration Required**

### 2018-2019 Schedule

Sept 7 & 21  
Oct 5 & 19  
Nov 2 & 16  
Dec 7  
Jan 4 & 18  
Feb 1 & 15  
March 1 & 15  
April 5 & 19  
May 3 & 17

# *What is MOPS?*

**MOPS** stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, and by preschoolers we mean kiddos from birth through kindergarten. **MOMSNext** is 1<sup>st</sup> grade on to adulthood. We know it's a little confusing so let's just stick with "**MOPS**."

MOPS is a grassroots movement that believes moms are world influencers. We also believe that incubating hearts and giving "just-because-hugs" can change the course of history. That's why we connect moms all over the world to a community of women, in their own neighborhoods, who meet together to laugh, cry and embrace the journey of motherhood. A MOPS group is an open, accepting place for all mothers to experience authentic community, personal growth, practical help, and spiritual hope.

## **Annual Fees with MOPS:**

MOPS Membership \$31.95

MOPS Mentor Membership \$33.95

## **St. Johns MOPS fee:**

Suggested donation of \$5.00 per meeting to help with Speakers, Crafts & Childcare

# *What to Expect*

### **BREAKFAST**

We can't meet without food and coffee!

### **CURRICULUM**

Each meeting will have a topic to discuss through a live speaker or video provided by MOPS International.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Local mommy friends to talk to, laugh with, share advice with, and relate to. You are not alone!

### **CRAFTS**

Fun, easy, artsy crafts and activities even for the least crafty of us!

### **CHILDCARE PROVIDED**

During meetings your little ones will be cared for by amazing MOPPET workers in the MOPS nursery, so you can relax and have a whole conversation while your coffee is still hot!

**\*\*YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO KEEP  
LITTLE ONES WITH YOU AT THE  
MEETINGS\*\***

# *Our Theme*

*Never let the fire go out ... When you hope, be joyful. When you suffer, be patient. When you pray, be faithful. Share with God's people who are in need. Welcome others into your homes. – Romans 12:11-13 (NIRV)*

Fire is a tool utilized only by human beings. Since the beginning of time, humans have congregated around its warmth for light, protection and company. Every other creature on the planet fears fire, but we've been given the unique ability to harness it, to use its power to improve our lives. Not only that, but poets and artists have used fire to describe the God-given spark that wakes us up in the morning and fuels our purpose and passion. Whatever the context, fire is not to be ignored.

Sisters, this is a year we will tend the fire in our hearts.

We will stop inhaling the fumes of our mistakes that tell us we are not enough, not a good enough mom, not pretty enough, not brave enough, not smart enough, not wealthy enough. Instead, we will choose to tend our God-given fire. We will love our children with an all-consuming love and use our words to warm the world. We will hold the torch up high and shed light on what matters most.

When our homes feel cold, we'll light a fire. When a friend has lost her spark, we'll fan her flame.

When the world seems dark, we will be an ember of hope.