

# The Cardinal Chronicle



November 6, 2024



## Upcoming Events

Nov. 6 - Lutheran Pioneers meeting at Zion, Peshtigo - 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Nov. 6 & 7 - Parent Teacher Consultations

Nov. 8 - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Inservice

Nov. 11 - Picture Retake Day

Nov. 12 - PTO meeting - 6:00 pm at school

## Hot Lunch

There is no hot lunch this week as we do not have school on Friday, November 8.

## Mission Offering

### Progress:

Last week's chapel offering for God's Kingdom was \$62.35 bringing our total to \$504.50 for the semester.

## Parent Teacher Consultations

Parent Teacher Consultations are taking place this week starting today, Wednesday and tomorrow, Thursday, November 6th and 7th beginning at 3:00 pm. If you have not yet done so, please go to the Sign up Genius on our school website to choose a time to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher(s), preferably for Thursday. Report cards were sent home with your child(ren) on Monday and/or Tuesday. **There will be no school this Friday, November 8th for Teachers' Inservice.**

### PTO Meeting

Our next PTO meeting will be this coming **Tuesday, November 12th at 6:00 pm** at the school. We'll be discussing our upcoming fundraisers and future events. All St. John school parents are invited and encouraged to attend.

### Parent Conversations

Last month, we met three moms who shared their experiences with parenting failures and how they handled them. In this month's *Parent Conversations* from our WELS publication **Forward in Christ** we will meet three dads who share their perspective on "dad fails". It is entitled *Parenting Failures-and how to recover: Dad edition*.

### Picture Retake Day

Lifetouch Photography will be at our school on **Monday, November 11th** for a **Picture Retake Day** for those who missed Picture Day on August 1st, or if you would like to have a retake of your child's picture . You can order online by going to [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) and enter the Picture Day ID: EVTZJK8PZ. If you would rather have a form to fill out, please contact Mrs. Sargent in the school office for that form. Also, if a parent would like to have their child's picture **retaken**, please inform Mrs. Sargent this week, so she can schedule you in on that morning.

### Recording Song for Church

Next week **Friday, November 15th**, we will be recording the children in grades K - 8 singing the song *We Will Glorify* to be shown in church on Sunday, November 17th. **We ask that all the children in K - 8 please wear this year's teal colored school themed T-shirts that day for the recording.**

### Remind Sign Up

Our school uses the website/app *Remind* for mass communication with our families, most importantly for letting everyone know about school cancellations and delays. If you are not signed up yet to receive messages from *Remind* please do so soon. Text @43c6a3 to the number 81010 to sign up. The winter weather will eventually be here.

# Parent conversations: Parenting failures—and how to recover: Dad edition

[forwardinchrist.net/dad-fails](http://forwardinchrist.net/dad-fails)

October 31, 2024



In the October issue, we heard from three moms who shared some of their “mom fails” and how they handled them. (Visit [forwardinchrist.net/mom-fails](http://forwardinchrist.net/mom-fails) to catch up on those.) This month, three dads share their experiences with the ups and downs of parenthood. May all these real-life parenting stories remind us that there are no perfect parents—but thankfully we have a perfect Savior.

*Nicole Balza*

## PARENTING FAILURES—AND HOW TO RECOVER: DAD EDITION

Every night when my children were young, we would pray together before they went to sleep. Among other things, we prayed:

Now I lay me down to sleep,  
I pray the Lord my soul to keep.  
If I should die before I wake,  
I pray the Lord my soul to take. Amen.

One night when my daughter was five, she started crying after that prayer.

“Isabel, what’s wrong?” I asked.

“Daddy, I don’t want to die,” she sobbed.

I was caught off guard. I wanted to talk about how great heaven was, but, for some reason, the first words to come out of my mouth were, “Oh, Isabel, we’re all going to die.”

Before I could continue, the floodgates were opened. “I don’t want you to die!” she wailed as she threw her arms around me.

My heart broke. I tried to fix it. I talked about Jesus and the heaven we would enjoy together, but it was too late. She couldn’t hear me. Fear and anxiety had taken hold. To this day, my 20-year-old daughter still struggles to sleep at night. Anxiety is still a daily burden she bears.

I know that our conversation 15 years ago was not the only contributing factor to her insomnia or anxiety, but it certainly didn’t help. Ever since that night, I have prayed that God give me wisdom when talking to my kids. He often does. Sometimes, however, the words still don’t come out right.

**God promises to work all things—including our mistakes as parents—for our children’s good (Romans 8:28).**

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My comfort is knowing that God’s power is best demonstrated in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9). Though painful, my daughter’s struggles are part of his plan of love for her good. God promises to work all things—including our mistakes as parents—for our children’s good (Romans 8:28).

I know that God loves my daughter more than I do. When I fail to be the dad I should be, he forgives me because of Jesus. I trust he will continue to help my daughter to grow and mature through (and sometimes despite) me.

That is my hope and confidence as a father, even when the words don’t come out right.

*Andrew Schroer*

I once tried to impress my boys with a flip on the trampoline. I did a face-plant instead.

“That was an epic fail!” my boys laughed.

*Really? Epic? I thought. Poems will be written? Songs will be sung telling the tale of Dad’s epic fail?*

I asked my boys what they thought my real “dad fails” were. Without hesitation, they responded:

- I don't listen well.
- I slip into “lecture mode.”
- I lose my cool.
- I think I know it all and want to make sure they know I do.

Ouch. Humbling.

But worse than those fails are the times I've failed God. I promise I'll do better. I promise I'll be more patient with my boys. I promise I'll be less selfish. But before long, I fail God again.

**I know I'm not a perfect dad. I'm far from it. But I also know that I'm forgiven for my failures—by God and my boys.**

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We've all failed God. And they're epic fails. Literally. In the Bible, poems have been written and songs have been sung telling the tale of our most epic fail. And this is no face-plant on a trampoline. This epic fail has eternal consequences. We all deserve to spend an eternity in hell apart from God.

So how do we recover from our epic fails? Confess. I apologized to my boys: “I'm sorry that I'm not a very good dad at times.”

And my boys tell me more often than I'd like to admit and maybe less often than I need to hear: “I forgive you, Dad. And so does Jesus.”

My boys become my confessors. Along with my associate at church and my wife, they often assure me that I am forgiven. And I am grateful for it. I need to hear often “I forgive you. So does Jesus.”

I know I'm not a perfect dad. I'm far from it. But I also know that I'm forgiven for my failures—by God and my boys.

Parents, we will fail, but Christ has redeemed us and promises to work through our failures. God's love for you will never fail: “Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet [God's] unflinching love for you will not be shaken” (Isaiah 54:10).

That's God's unflinching love for you. And it is epic! In the Bible, poems have been written and songs sung telling the tale of our Savior's epic, unflinching love for us!

*Rob Guenther*

Our newborn woke us up in the middle of the night. I wanted to give Mommy a few more precious moments of sleep, so it was Super Dad to the rescue.

I raced into the bedroom and cradled the child in my arms with plans to soothe him to sleep. However, as I walked through the doorway in the darkness, I accidentally bonked his head on the frame of the door.

Epic shrieks filled the halls of the Schultz home, waking Mommy up. Our son had a huge abrasion on his head. To make matters worse, we went to visit family friends the next day and introduced our firstborn to many with a huge mountain of a bruise on his head. Talk about a *Wizard of Oz* moment: “Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain or the huge lump on my child’s head.” #dadfail

Another time Mom was at a meeting 40 minutes away. We now had three children and had gone from man-to-man to zone coverage of the kids. While I was bathing the newborn after a colossal diaper overload, the five-year-old ran into a corner of a wall, cutting open his head and spewing blood everywhere. At the same time, the four-year-old was on the potty asking for assistance. Talk about the perfect storm. #dadfail

We can read all the books on how to parent, but they will never make us the perfect parents. Only Jesus and his blood cover a multitude of sins, including the times we fail as parents. Jesus alone makes us perfect.

**I say that it is okay for my children to see my faults—even for me to admit them, not hide them.**

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An old deodorant commercial said, “Never let them see you sweat.” I disagree. I say that it is okay for my children to see my faults—even for me to admit them, not hide them. While it is easy to become self-reflective as the bumps and storms of life happen, my prayer is to model for my children that these are the vital times to focus on our heavenly Father. By grace, he alone carries us and forgives us every time we fail. Of all the lessons I could teach my children, God’s love and forgiveness are and should always be at the top of the list, because with him we never fail!

*Clark Schultz*

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