



## Frequently Asked Questions About MOPS

### What IS MOPS?

MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, but is actually a program designed to meet the needs of mothers of children from birth through kindergarten. We are a charter member of MOPS International whose mission is to encourage, equip, and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother, and leader in the name of Jesus Christ. Our organization is a non-denominational group that includes mothers from various communities and churches in the Brookings area.

### When does MOPS meet?

During the school year, we meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays, September through May at the Bethel Baptist Events Center located at 714 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. from 8:45-11:00. **New for 2012-2013: MOMS and POPS night out and book club!** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, we meet in the Bethel gym for kids' playtime. **New this year: Fall Party on Halloween and Zumba at Open Gym!!!!**

### What about Childcare?

This is called MOPPETS, and our local program is blessed with a group of volunteer childcare workers who will lovingly care for your children while you have a break and learn and connect with other moms. Children are separated into classrooms, based on their ages as of September 1, where they will play, have Bible stories, snacks and fun. **New this year: Bible curriculum for 3 year olds in addition to 4/5 year olds!** We do ask each mom to volunteer one meeting time in a MOPPETS room during the year. **We are currently looking for more volunteers to help with our childcare program. Please help us recruit anyone you know who may be interested! Great for college students, retired moms, and lonely grandmas!**

### What if I don't know anyone at MOPS?

As a leadership team, our number one goal is to help each and every mom feel welcome and connected at MOPS. Moms are assigned to tables for the year with a Discussion Group Leader who will do her best to make you feel welcome and answer your questions. These tables also plan separate outings and play dates outside of MOPS so you will have additional opportunities to connect with other moms.

### What do you do at MOPS?

We encourage you to drop off your children at 8:45 with our meetings starting at 9:00. We always start with an amazing feast of food provided by the MOPS moms, followed by general announcements. Next, we have our "mentor moment" which is words of wisdom and encouragement provided to us by moms that have older children. That is followed by a speaker or DVD that addresses various needs of our moms and group discussion around your table. We also do crafts and service projects throughout the year. Our meetings promptly end at 11:00. (Some moms leave early for preschool pick-ups of their children which is fine!)

### Is there a fee for MOPS?

Our cost per hour to you is \$1.59!!!! (And this is just attending our monthly meetings without extra events or open gym!) We do collect a fee as required for MOPS International and a local fee payable as \$50 in the fall or \$30 per semester. **However, scholarships are available, so don't let cost be an issue! (Just let our membership person know...)** With your MOPS International fee, you receive a weekly inspirational mom e-mail, reusable shopping bag, and MOMsense magazine. Local fees provide snacks, fun crafts for you and your kids, supplies, and other operating costs. New members may attend one meeting for free before paying.

### What are MOPS meetings about?

Our Steering team has put together a fun, educational, and thought-provoking year for you. Here are just some of the topics that will be covered in 2012-2013: Finding, keeping, and enjoying friendships, creating purpose in your family, budgeting, adoption, strengthening marriage, discipline techniques for your family, and growing closer to God. **New this year: a featured craft with "how to" instructions at each meeting!!!**

For more information, call or email Jodi Ysbrand (692-1270, [jodiy@swiftel.net](mailto:jodiy@swiftel.net)), check out "Brookings Area MOPS" on Facebook, or see [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).