



the velveteen mother

We've probably all had the same thought when seeing the Easter Bunny at our favorite Easter event---"I wonder when they last washed that costume..." That raggedy rabbit costume also brings to mind another well-loved bunny, The Velveteen Rabbit.

Do you all remember that story? A stuffed velveteen rabbit that wants more than anything to become "real" through the love of his owner. He is overlooked in favor of the more shiny and modern toys until he is given to his owner one night in place of a lost toy, and he quickly becomes the boy's favorite toy and consequently becomes shabbier and shabbier from being well-loved, but truly happy for the first time. When separated from his owner he cries real tears and is thus given the chance to become a real rabbit because of the love they shared.

Allison Slater Tate recently wrote a blog equating the story of the The Velveteen Rabbit to the motherhood experience and titled it "The Velveteen Mother". We as mothers give so much of our mind, body, and soul to our children, and it is not always sweet-smelling baby snuggles, precious Mother's Day cards, and thank yous. So many times it is ugly, hurtful, and filled with doubt and self recrimination. This motherhood experience makes us stronger human beings, but our seams our showing in the process. Shabby, real, and changed forever. In the Velveteen Rabbit the oldest and wisest toy in the nursery, Skin Horse, explains it as so:

"It doesn't happen all at once," said the Skin Horse. " You become. It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't happen often to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or who have to be carefully kept. Generally, by the time you are REAL, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby."

Being a mother makes us real and raw and soooo much more vulnerable to life. And isn't that a wonder in itself? To be given an experience that let's us live and feel in the deepest part of our hearts the extreme highs and lows of life and to leave this world

knowing just that.

"Their love has been my fuel when sleep and energy were in very low supply, and their love has changed me." (Allison Slater Tate)

Love,
Your Calvary MOPS Leadership Team



a top five list.

1. Classic read for young and old- [The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams.](#)
2. No Mess [Easter Egg Decorating](#) for kids of all ages.
3. Soak up the sunshine at these [Longmont Parks.](#)
4. [7 Ways](#) to Help Littles Behave in Church.

5. [25 Family Vacations](#) in the MidWest.



Easter Egg Hunt!

When: Good Friday April 14th @ 10:00 a.m.

Where: LifeCare Center Longmont

For: Kids 4 years old and under

RSVP to Julie Wilson

Phone: (303) 684-5522

Email: Julielcca@gmail.com

LifeCare Center Longmont
2451 Pratt St.
Longmont, CO 80501

leadership spotlight:
zoe king

leadership role: finance



family: Carter (husband) and Rion and new baby coming this fall

favorite way to fix eggs: fried eggs over medium, with salt and pepper

last book I enjoyed: *Eat, Pray, Love*

best part of being a mom: seeing the world through your children's eyes and learning things with them.

Laughing with your kids when they do something funny and taking care of them when they need you.

There's nothing else like it!

hardest part of being a mom: having to work full-time. I miss my son like crazy every day! And when he learns something new or gets to experience something new and fun, I miss not being there with him. But on the other hand, it makes the time I get to spend with him that much more special.

best advice I ever received: taking care of your son is not split 50/50 between you and your husband right now. It took a long time for me to realize we each have our strengths, and our son doesn't need two moms.

favorite Easter tradition: dyeing Ukrainian Easter eggs (aka Pysanky) has always played a big role in our family. Dyeing a single egg can take up to 8 hours and the eggs are decorated with symbols for good health, new hope, new life, and prosperity.



rebecca quillin

leadership role: MOPPETS

family: Kris (husband), 4 sons: Samuel, Seth, Timothy, and Ethan

favorite way to fix eggs: scrambled

last book I enjoyed: *Victoria* by Daisy Goodwin

best part of being a mom: snuggles and seeing the world through their precious eyes

hardest part of being a mom: lack of sleep

best advice I ever received: we are not raising them to be good children, we are raising them to become good adults.

favorite Easter tradition: making Resurrection Bread with my boys.



Coconut Strawberry Swirl Pops

Ingredients

- 1 14 ounce can of coconut milk
- 2 cups of fresh strawberries
- a few drops of Stevia extract, or 2-3 Tbsp of honey or maple syrup

Instructions

1. Wash and hull the strawberries and puree them in a food processor or blender
2. Stir half of the strawberry puree together with the coconut milk. Sweeten to taste with Stevia, honey, or maple syrup. Fill the coconut milk into popsicle molds alternating with a little strawberry puree in between.
3. Freeze for at least 12 hours. Run molds under warm water before removing popsicles.

****Experiment with other fruits too!**

Taken from leelalicious.



Keep updated with what your children are learning about in our MOPPETS program. All curriculum information is available on the [Calvary MOPS website](#) and take a moment as well to review our [sick policy](#) during this lovely cold and flu season!



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