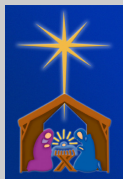


## EAST FREO BAPTIST CHRISTMAS SERVICES



### Christmas Eve

24th December  
6-7pm

Carols, Nativity Play, Great  
for kids

### Christmas Day

25th December  
9am

A short and simple  
Christmas service



## OFFICIAL OPENING

31st January  
10am

Be a part of the exciting  
opening of Stepping  
Stones



## ORIENTATION DAY

28th January

You will be notified  
what time your class  
needs to arrive



Specific Class

Information and  
Term 1 invoices will  
be sent out soon



The answers to many  
questions about Stepping Stones  
can be found at  
[www.steppingstonescdc.com.au](http://www.steppingstonescdc.com.au)

For all others, email  
[steppingstones.cdc@gmail.com](mailto:steppingstones.cdc@gmail.com)  
or call Nikki on 9319 8034

# Stepping Stones

Child Development Centre



Stepping forward with families

NEWSLETTER # 3

DECEMBER, 2009

## Making Christmas Great

Standing behind a mum in a check out queue at Kmart a couple of years ago as she went through all her credit cards trying to find one with money left on it to pay for more Christmas presents, I thought surely this is not what Christmas is about.

Here are some ways to make Christmas more meaningful and

more fun without costing more.

- Use an advent calendar to help build the excitement of Christmas
- Attend a Christmas service or Christmas carols event together
- Read the Christmas story together or act out the nativity story on Christmas morning with your family
- Encourage your children to make or buy presents for everyone so they get used to giving rather than just receiving
- Sponsor a child together with your family rather than buying presents
- Buy a goat or fishing supplies for someone who really needs it, from The World's Most Useful Gift Catalogue ([www.usefulgifts.org](http://www.usefulgifts.org))
- Make a new Christmas decoration for the tree each year. This will make good story telling memories for following years.



**Building Progress:** It looks fantastic. Only the finishing touches are required indoors and outdoors. We are a couple of weeks away from completion.

We wish you and your family a fun filled, exciting, blessed, safe and memorable Christmas.

## Speaking your Child's Love Language

People working with couples and families have discovered that people communicate and receive love in different ways. They have likened this to Languages.

They have summarized them into Five general areas.

1. Words of Affirmation- "the tongue has power of life and death"
2. Focused attention- eye contact is the key.
3. Acts of service- the child who just loves to "help"
4. Gift giving- the child who picks a flower or wraps a rock and presents it to you lovingly.

5. Physical touch- not just hugs & kisses but strokes on faces, shoulders, play wrestling.

Everyone needs all of these but one is usually the *primary* love language. All the languages speak of love but the primary one SHOUTS. This will be the most powerful way of communicating love.

Children under 5 have not fully developed which language will be their primary one so parents need to speak *all* of them. Majoring or speaking only one love language eg gift giving is not an answer to bombing out in the other four!

Children and parents who speak different love languages can love each other greatly but 'miss' each other in communicating it. Loving someone and them *feeling* loved are not the same thing. We need to observe our children and work on speaking their language so they are emotionally topped up to reach their potential.

Excellent books to help are "Love Languages for Children" by Gary Chapman and "How to Really love your Child" by Ross Campbell.

Leonie Scott  
Love Languages Facilitator  
(Leonie presented at the Parent Information Sessions)

Stepping forward with families