

Summer 2025

# Leap of Faith Learning

*Believing in Every Child's Potential*

## Words Matter!

A Message from the  
Executive Director

### In The Beginning...

Everything exists because of the Word. We exist because of the Word. **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** John 1:1 Since we chose darkness over God, He sent us His Son who is the Word made flesh (John 1:14) to provide forgiveness and guide us back to Him. He knows how easily we are attracted to our own selfish pleasures, so He gave us His Word to serve as **a lamp to (our) feet, a light to (our) path** (Psalm 119:105) to lead us into a deep, intimate relationship with Him. The Bible is comprised of 66 books and contains 783,187 to 807,361 words depending on the translation. I think it's an understatement to say...**Words Matter!**

### Power to Transform Hearts

Cults use various techniques including redefining common words, creating specialized jargon, and promoting thought-stopping phrases to manipulate language and change the definitions of words. The power of words to transform hearts and minds and lead people into darkness is so clearly evident by the constant redefinition of words by people who follow a post-modern, cultural Marxist or LGBTQIA+ ideology, to name just a few. We now live in a world where words like truth, love, human, freedom, justice, marriage, sex, gender and faith have been redefined to the point they are no longer tethered to reality. What's worse is all our institutions including government, schools, media and even churches, have been captured by these ideologies and are teaching our children these false definitions.

### What is Truth

In the 1980's, psychologists and celebrities redefined **truth**. We were being encouraged to find our "own truth" or our "own voice." The problem with that is if we all have our own truth then there is no longer a common connection to each other or more importantly, God. We shouldn't be teaching our children to find their own voices but rather to seek out God's. Without biblical truth, our children are left with no compass to guide their lives and the very fabric of society crumbles.

### God's Masterpieces

What it means to be **human** was utterly destroyed by followers of people like Charles Darwin and Margaret Sanger. Darwin convinced some people that because genetics can "evolve" short-beaked finches to finches with longer beaks, then a cat can "evolve" into a dog or an ape into a human. Today, there is zero evidence of one kind of creature changing into a totally different kind, yet it is still taught in schools. This belief means humans have no greater value than bacteria. Margaret Sanger took the definition of humans, who are image-bearers of the Creator, to a new low by convincing women that an unborn child was just a blob of tissue. Do we want our children to believe they are cosmic accidents with no value or God's masterpiece?

### Sex & Reality

In our post-modern world or what some people call our post-truth world, we have completely divorced words from science and reality. Sexual predators have totally

redefined **sex** and **gender** and start grooming our children in preschool. Sigmund Freud convinced the world that human behavior is a result of repressed sexual desire. We shouldn't be surprised when our little girl announces to us, she's now a transgender boy. While there is no such thing as a transgender human, we need to love and guide these individuals to Jesus. God's Word is crystal clear: **He created them male and female, and blessed them.** Genesis 5:2 It's not surprising our children are facing an unprecedented mental health crisis.

### Equipping our Children with Hope

This all may sound hopeless, but God instructs us to **train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.** Proverbs 22:6 The first step to instilling a biblical worldview in our children is to teach them the true meaning of essential words early and often. The Bible contains the only vocabulary list our children need to thrive. The most important filter our children can have in any decision-making process is the Word of God. If you don't already, consider attending a Bible-believing church or one of LOFL's Bible studies and take your family from just surviving to thriving. When we make God's Word the center of our homes and point our children to Jesus, the forces of the world won't stand a chance because words matter...**God's Word Matters!**

*Ron*



## What's New

WOWZA! We have been having so much fun and have been so busy this summer at Leap of Faith Learning. Come and see what's new!



about topics on The Elusive Secret, Fight like a Man, To Cheer & to Cherish, God in the Bedroom and All In. This learning opportunity was so highly requested that there will be another session starting next month!

### Teen/Tween Bible Study

This summer we started a new Teen/Tween Bible Study Group. Our kids have been meeting weekly and using The Gospel Project to learn about God's plan for our redemption through Christ throughout Scripture and human history. The group started in Genesis with God creating the world and most recently learned about the Tower of Babel.

### Vertical Marriage

What a great first session of Vertical Marriage. Five couples participated under the guidance of Ron and Eileen and Pat and Laura. Couples learned



### Mom's Walk by Faith Group

Our moms continued to meet monthly to support and encourage each other through a devotional. Eileen and Ginny organized some fun activities this summer including a pool party and a painting class at JMR Studio. These women are not just great moms but are showing their talents as aspiring artists. You go girls!



### Fallacy Detective

Have you ever wanted to be a detective? Well, this summer a group of students have been learning how to be a fallacy detective. What is that you ask? Great question! The program, The Fallacy Detective, teaches logical thinking fallacies to help young people learn how to think for themselves in a world where they will daily encounter many different forces trying to tell them what to think. They have some very lively discussions and students are beginning to recognize where they have encountered faulty thinking in their day-to-day lives.



### Art Club

Students met monthly to create Bible-verse themed art. In June, our Verde Valley skyline inspired torn-paper collage landscapes.

Our beautiful Arizona mountains remind us of Psalm 121:1-2: "I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth."

In July we took the stars and colors from the American flag and created stenciled art. Psalm 147:4-5 reminds us of God's power and wisdom: "He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name. Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite."



## Work Study

Doesn't our place look great! That's all thanks to our Work Study students who have been working through the summer to keep LOFL looking amazing. We have had 4-5 students working hard on our campus each week, learning essential job readiness skills, interacting with peers and adults and preparing for life! Thanks to the fantastic staff and volunteers who have been helping out. Everyone is doing such a terrific job!

## Dad's Breakfast

Dads have such a critical leadership role in the family. It can be a very lonely business. Ron and a few other dads are organizing a monthly dad's breakfast where the men can come together alongside each other to encourage one another. It is the first and most important step. **"Iron sharpens Iron, so one man sharpens**

**another."** Proverbs 27:17. If you're interested, please watch your emails or reach out to Ron directly.



## Game Day

Everyone was invited this summer to come as a family and join us in our Game Day. Families came together to giggle, have fun and meet new people while they played games together at the Learning Center. The group has enjoyed board games, cooperative games, physical challenges, and outside time! What a hoot!

## Acts 2 Fellowship

At the end of July, LOFL was blessed to host yet another phenomenal Acts 2 Fellowship dinner for the record books! Praise the Lord! There was so much fun, love, and excitement in the air. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful music performed by Andrea, Teresa and Kaelynn. Journey Church's Pastor

Jamin Metcalf delivered a message that everyone could relate to.



## Graduation

Congrats to all our 2025 high school graduates. One particular graduate's mom, Jeni, said this about her son Mikey: "He did it!!! So proud of him! Michael worked hard to get to this very moment, often fighting relentless battles to ensure he got the education he deserved. It's by the grace of God, hard work, and people like Leap of Faith Learning that got him here!" Way to go Mikey! We are all so very proud of you.

## Fall Planning

Planning for the fall semester is underway. It's looking like a busy and fun start to a new school year!



## Garden Club with Plant Sale

Do you know how to make plants grow? Our Garden Club participants sure do. This superb group is made up of staff, students, family members and volunteers who have planted and maintained a tomato, pepper, and herb garden!

Each week the students tend the garden and make a different take-home project. They have made a variety of things from potted plants to encouragement rocks to beaded wind chimes. The group is also working together to prepare items for a fundraiser in August where they will be selling plants and baked goods. Keep an eye out for more information and plan on coming and supporting and leaving with great items!

# Thank You to All Who Minister to Our Families

## Hero Donors:

- William & Joanne Blatt
- Scott & Marilyn Bradley
- Ray & Terri Finch
- Brian & Kristy Herman Precision Structural Concrete
- Richard Orr
- Rock & Jetta Meyer
- Oxendale Auto Group
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## Champion Donors:

- Scott & Terri Bernardi
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- Christ's Church of Flagstaff
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- "Faith the size of a mustard seed" Mathew 17:20 (anonymous)
- Brad & Tawnia Funk
- Burt & Joyce Gerlach

- Paul George & Marilyn Bjork
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- Kenneth & Christine Herman
- Paul & Debbie Holdren
- Hoppy & Judy Hopkins
- Rich & Sandy Johnson
- Jodie Johnson (In Loving Memory)
- "But blessed are your eyes, because they see..." Matthew 13:16 (anonymous)
- Joni and Friends
- Pat & Laura Ladeau
- John & Paula Mahon
- Cindy Maldonado (In Memory Of)
- The Maldonado Family
- Les Marquis (In Loving Memory)
- Don & Penny Mathieu
- Steve & Shirley Millar
- Miller Valley Baptist Church

- "More of Him, Less of me" John 3:30 (anonymous)
- Charles Myers
- Nikita (In Memory Of)
- Doug & Lori Orr
- Matthew Oxendale
- Pam Oxendale (In Loving Memory)
- Joy Elizabeth Prats (In Memory Of)
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- Jim & Lori Talley
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- Erin Vachon-Vierra
- Ron & Eileen Vachon-Vierra
- Venture 1:9
- Arlene Vierra (In Memory Of)
- Gil & Ruth Vierra
- Ken Vierra & Nikita

- The Joseph Voorheis Family
- Wayside Bible Chapel
- The Willoughby Family
- Marcella Yates (In Honor Of)

## Friend/Supporter Donors:

- Anna Arneson
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- Philip Rawlins (In Memory Of)

- Danita Rios
- Rise Learning Academy (Verde Valley Learning Academy)
- Harry Rogers
- Mary Rogers (In Memory Of)
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- Brian & Sarah Vierra
- Margaret Voorheis
- Paul & Mariko Wallace
- Janice & Rod Wills
- Bill & Debbie Winterburn
- David & Cindy Witt
- The Yarger Family
- Maria Yavicoli

## Join the summer campaign...

to **transform the life of a child with special needs** and their entire family. Every month we receive new applications from families in need of services and support to unlock their child's God-given potential. Please prayerfully consider becoming part of the LOFL family.



We view Leap of Faith Learning as merely a platform by which our wonderful supporters come along side and serve these families and their children who are truly God's workmanship. With our youngest child being 4 years old, we know we may be serving some families for nearly 20 years until the student reaches the age of 22. While every dollar helps us assure our parents they are not alone, we are recognizing our regular, ongoing,

Champion & Hero-level donors through the Wall of Hope. We want to put your name on our Wall of Hope to recognize this ongoing support our children need. Monthly donors giving \$40 or more for individuals or \$100 or more for organizations and Hero/Champion level onetime donors will have their names (or the names of loved ones) permanently inscribed on our Wall of Hope.

## Would you consider giving the gift of hope?

**Any size donation gets us one step closer to helping another child unlock their God-given potential.**

If you'd like to support families who have children with special needs, please prayerfully consider a monthly recurring gift or send a one-time donation by check to:

## Leap of Faith Learning

P.O. Box 3898

Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Donate online using the QR code or by going to:

**[www.leapoffaithlearning.org](http://www.leapoffaithlearning.org)**

**Leap of Faith Learning**  
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