

## MOPS mothers embrace 'A Beautiful Mess' theme

Written by Darci Tomky

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As Mothers of Preschoolers get into the swing of another year, local MOPS leaders got refreshed, re-energized and rejuvenated about the ministry at the international organization's annual conference, MOMcon, in Kansas City, Kan., Oct. 17-19.



**Local MOPS leaders Karman Keith and Laura Beth Schroetlin attend the national conference in Kansas City, Kan.**

Holyoke leaders Karman Keith, Laura Beth Schroetlin and Beth Penfold joined over 3,000 other women for the "Amazing Happens Here" conference, which celebrated MOPS' 40th year. Featured speakers, worship, workshops, a marketplace and Mom's Night Out entertainment kept all the women plenty busy.

It's a chance to connect with other leaders and give each other encouragement, said Keith. "No

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matter what size your group, we’re all struggling with the same things,” she said.

Holyoke’s small MOPS group is in its fourth year, with around 7-9 moms attending each session.

Keith said women who are expecting a child or who have children up to first grade are invited to attend meetings every second and fourth Mondays from 9:15-11:15 at First Baptist Church in Holyoke. Daycare is provided at no charge, and moms can attend two meetings before deciding to join.

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Holyoke Enterprise November 7, 2013