

Happy Mother's Day!

Another weekend has come and gone – and quickly too, it was a busy one! And this post title is already outdated because I've been so busy I haven't had a chance to write until 2 days after Mother's Day!

Friday night saw me doing some volunteer work for a local theater board. It wasn't really work; basically it consisted of me making sure the audition process for our summer show (Joseph – my favorite!) was flowing smoothly. It was fun, though I'd be lying if I didn't express my concerns about my hubby giving his audition his best shot. More about THAT later, based upon whether he makes the show or not...

Saturday was my daughter's 5th birthday party. As usual, none of the 18 kids from her class called to RSVP, but I was tired of worrying about it – been there, done that, ever since our oldest started inviting friends to *her* birthday parties. I don't know why parents can't figure out how to RSVP. The day before the party, when we hadn't heard from anyone, I did make sure we called one friend of the birthday girl's who always attends her classmates' birthday parties, and luckily she showed up. We allowed our older daughter to invite one of her friends, just so we could be sure we'd have at least some kids joining the lame birthday party crowd of Mom, Dad, Grandma, and Uncle Bud. Thank goodness we did that, otherwise my daughter would have had NONE of her own friends show up at her own birthday party! Luckily, she was fixated on the slumber party that would take place at Grandma's hotel later that night, so she didn't really seem to mind the one-kid turnout. Of course, the one kid that could come was a very high-maintenance kid, and she also had an accident minutes after arriving at our house. AND, in order for her to be able to come at all, she had to be dropped off at noon – 3 hours before the party was to start! But like I said, it was all worth it for our daughter to be able to have a friend at her

party.

Saturday night my mom was very generous with her offer to take *all 4 kids* in her hotel room! Hubby and I ran like the wind, seizing an opportunity to go to a drive-in movie theater kidless, even though neither of the movies sounded very intriguing. But we had never been to a drive-in together, and we found a place 45 minutes away. It was so cool; it was out in the country; basically a farm that people converted into a drive-in. A very far cry from the crowded drive-in I used to visit as a teenager in a suburb called West Chicago – not a very good area now, and even back then, there was always a squad car patrolling inside. Not the case here – we were in the middle of the country, and this place even had a little snack truck and games you could rent for free while waiting for the movie to start (cornhole – a regional favorite and some mini-golf holes). The movies – Wolverine and 12 Rounds – were not very thrilling, and the peaceful night air and late hour did us in and we both fell asleep. Well, it had been huge day and they can't even start the first movie until almost 9:30 when it gets dark enough, so no wonder. And, Jill the GPS routed us into some construction on the way back so it took us an hour to get home at 1:30 in the morning! Construction in the pitch black middle of nowhere late at night when you're SO tired can be very disorienting! We didn't have any kids all night thanks to my mom, but we had to get up early the next morning to get breakfast before church so by Sunday night, we were dragging! I should have really taken a nap, but I was having such a great Mother's Day...

We went out to breakfast Sunday morning, and then my mom and uncle stayed to check out our church. It was a lot of fun for the kids to show them around, and I loved Sunday's message about motherhood. It was punctuated by a few wonderful videos, and the pastor took a break from our 'Fearless' series to focus on mothers and our special day – I really enjoyed it. Especially the surprise Willie Nelson song they played at

the beginning of service! The pastor made sure to mention how difficult Mother's Day must be for those who have lost children or for those who can't have children, and I couldn't help but wonder about the people whose mothers have passed on – must be an extremely difficult day for them too. I have a few friends in that position; including one who lost her mother not more than a few months ago. So as much as I was enjoying my Mother's Day, my thoughts and prayers were also with those who didn't find the day a cause for celebration. Here's hoping you had a great Mother's Day in 2009 with many more to come!