

# **Monthly Connection**

6335 South Holly Street Centennial, Colorado 80121 303-779-1332 <u>www.oflc.net</u> March 2018

## Love Your Neighbor: Taking the Great Commandment Seriously

Jesus once condensed all of the commandments down to just two. He said we are to love God with everything we have and to love our neighbors as ourselves. But here is a question for all of us to consider: What would happen if we did what Jesus said to do? What if we loved our actual neighbors as ourselves? What if we intentionally reached out to those God has placed all around us? In his book "The Art of Neighboring," Dave Runyon argues that if we say, "Everyone is my neighbor," it can become an excuse for avoiding the implications of following the Commandment. The term "neighbors" can become defined in very broad terms. They are the people in other parts of town, the people who are helped by the charities that receive our donations, the people whom the government helps with our taxes. The problem is, however, when we aim for everything, we hit nothing. If we insist we are neighbors with everybody, we end up being neighbors with nobody.

Take just a moment and imagine what it would be like if people in neighborhoods became more intentional about knowing one another. What would that be like? Now consider what happens when we don't get to know those who live next door. Odds are good that we will experience some of the following:

- Isolation: We will live Ionelier lives. It is far too easy to leave our houses every morning with our head down. We grind it out at work, come back home, and hurry inside. We never get to know the people around us, and they never get to know us.
- Fear: We will be wary of our neighbors, and they will be wary of us. Whatever is unknown is scary. So when we don't know our neighbors and they don't know us, it's easy to imagine the worst.
- Misunderstanding: When we don't know our neighbors, it's easy to get the wrong idea about one another. Consider the neighbor whose grass is not mowed and house is in disrepair. It would be easy for resentment to grow in such a situation. But what if in getting to know your neighbor you discovered that it is a single lady living in the home who has been caring for her very ill mother? Would knowing that make a difference?

Our theme for 2018 is "Love Your Neighbor." Along with special service and mission opportunities, principal goal is to have at least one hundred Our Father members commit to serve as intentional missionaries to their neighborhoods. Please save the date for a special "Family on Mission" training workshop May 4-5



Make no mistake, being a good neighbor is not always easy. And yet, whenever we center our lives around the Great Commandment and take very literally the idea of loving our neighbors, we become more of who we are supposed to be. As a result, our communities become more and more the places that God intended them to be. As G.K. Chesterton once said, "We choose our friends; we choose our enemies; but God chooses our next-door neighbor."

## Student Ministries

## Adult Education

## New Director of Student Life Ministry

Three people who are being considered for the full time Director of Student Life position will be visiting us in March. On each of the dates below, students and mentors will have an opportunity to meet one of the candidates. Please plan to attend.

- · Wednesday, March 7, 6:00-7:30 pm
- Sunday, March 11, 9:00-10:30 am We'll have some (free!) food and fellowship starting at 9:00 am in the High School Youth room.
- · Wednesday March 14, 6:00-7:30 pm

## Easter Breakfast Fundraiser! Volunteer Now!

Each year, middle and high school students are given the opportunity to earn funds toward a mission trip or support student ministries by volunteering at the Easter Breakfast. Volunteers are needed Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1 for set-up, cleaning and serving. PARENTS, we need your help with this event too. Please sign up via our Easter Breakfast Sign Up Genius. The link is on the student ministries mission page at <a href="https://www.oflc.net">www.oflc.net</a>.

#### Serve Our City Mission Trip Deadline

There is nothing like spending a week away with your Christian brothers and sisters in service to others. God has called us to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. That includes our own backyard at Crossroads of the Rockies here in Denver, June 13-16.

Includes all 8th-12th graders Registration & Deposit due March 9, 2018 Register today at www.oflc.net

#### Middle School on Mission

Students currently in 6th and 7th grade can join us for this introduction to OFLC missions. We will grow UP in our relationship with Jesus, IN our relationships together and OUT as we serve in Jesus' name. We'll use Our Father as home base as we sleep and eat here, then head out to serve during the days June 14 - 16. Registration & Deposit due April 15, 2018 Register today at <a href="https://www.oflc.net">www.oflc.net</a>

## Sunday Classes 9:30 - 10:30 am

- Share the Good News: Led by Micah Steiner in the Fellowship Hall.
- One Thousand Gifts: Led by Michele Schulteis in the Community Room.
- The Life and Times of Esther: Led by Curt Becker in the Chapel.
- What does it mean to be a Lutheran Christian?: Led by Pastor Scott Abel in Room 300.

## Children's Education

## Sprouts

Join this expanded version of our children's ministry during the tenfortyfive worship service while the sermon is being preached. For 3-year-olds through third grade.

## **Children's Sunday Morning Ministry**

Classes are listed in the southeast stairwell or go to the welcome center for a map.

Midweek Bible Studies

## Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

We began studying 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus. All women are invited to join. We meet in Room 300 at 9:30 am, Tuesdays. Questions? Contact Michele Schulteis, mschulteis@verizon.net.

## Young Adult Fellowship & Bible Study Group

Join us at Top Golf, Saturday, March 10, 12:00-2:00 pm for an afternoon of golf, food and fellowship. No experience necessary. RSVP to Kelly Albers at 407-683-0829. We are also in the midst of a study series called "Authentic: Developing the Disciplines of a Sincere Faith." Join us for study on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 7:30-9:00 pm. Location varies; contact Matthew Siegle at 303-945-9843 or matthew.siegle@outlook.com for information.

## Men's Ministry

## Men's Ministry Happy Hour

We meet every 3rd Thursday at the Half Penny Brewery (King Soopers Shopping Center just south-west of Arapahoe and Holly) from 5:00-6:00 pm. No agenda, just fellowship. Next gathering is Thursday, March 15. Contact Micah for details at <a href="mailto:msteiner@oflc.net">msteiner@oflc.net</a>.

## Vacation Bible School



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School, June 18-22. Registration will open April 2.

## Music News

## Guest Music Group

Join us Sunday, March 25, at 8:00 am for the Sunday of the Passion with special guests, the Wind Ensemble of Mayer Lutheran High School, Mayer, MN, under the direction of Mr. James Dulas. They will present music throughout the service including "Be Thou My Vision", "They Led My Lord Away" and "Voluntary on 'Old Hundredth'".

We are in need of host families to host students Saturday night, March 24 – please check the Yellow Sheets or sign-up at the Reception Desk.

## Fellowship

#### Elderberries

Have a little free time Wednesday, March 21, 1:00 pm? Join us for a get together in the Community Room. We'll have snacks and conversation. Some will play bridge and others will play board games. No experience necessary, just drop in!

## Book Club

The Book Club meets Monday, March 19, 7:00 pm in the Library. We are discussing "The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend" by Katarina Bivald. Any and all readers are invited to join our group!

## OFI C Information

## Tech Knowledge?

OFLC is looking for a volunteer with tech support experience with desktop computers, Microsoft Server 2008 and local area network support for Our Father. If interested contact David McGuigan at 303-794-3805 (home), or 303-523-5187 (cell).

## Do You Know First Aid or CPR?

If someone fainted during church, would you able to help with CPR? Operate an AED device? Administer basic first aid? Our Father Lutheran's Risk Management subcommittee, the Medical Team, is headed by Dr. Luke Evans and Marne Chambless. One of the goals is to equip ushers with training for CPR, AED and first aid. They would also like to identify medically trained parishioners in each of these services should the need arise. If you would like to be included in this list, please contact Luke Evans at luke.evans.co@gmail.com.



## Painting for Family Homestead

Our Father helps Family Homestead with light cleaning and painting at an apartment for a homeless family. Our next painting event is Saturday, April 7 from 8:00 am to noon. OFLC does this two times per year. This will help

a family get off the streets or out of the shelter. Please consider helping with this event as a way to serve our community! Sign up at the Reception Desk.

## OFLC Blood Drive

Bonfils thanks all the blood donors from Sunday, February 11. They were able to collect 16 units and two double red cell units. Our next blood drive will be Sunday, May 13.

## Special Ministries

#### **MOPS**

The MOPS gatherings are held the first and third Friday of every month from 9:15 – 11:30 am in the Community Room. Childcare is provided with its own curriculum. Contact Denae Stevens at <a href="mailto:oflcmops@gmail.com">oflcmops@gmail.com</a> for more information. "Free Indeed" is our theme this year.



## Happy Spring!

Spring has sprung! The children will learn all about St.

Patrick and leprechauns. We will have some leprechauns sneak through the classrooms, do a bit of mischief, and leave a trail of shiny shamrocks. Green is our favorite color this month.

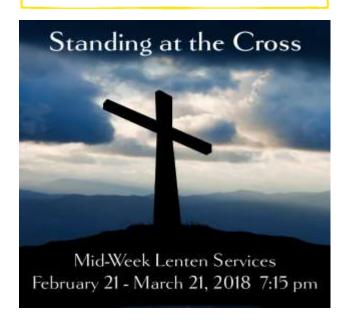
We will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday with lots of his stories, dressing wacky that day, and having pizza parties in the classrooms!

We always enjoy going up stairs to the sanctuary for Chapel Time and meeting the church staff! We have so much fun learning about Jesus and singing our songs. A huge thank you to the church staff for their creativity and time they spend with us!

## Kids Are So Cute Corner

An older child noticed a little girl was upset. He went and wrapped his arms around her and said, "Don't be sad. Your teacher will be back soon. I will take you to my teacher for a hug!"

Alison Ceika, Director



## Community News



#### F.A.C.E.S.

Join us March 12 at 6:00 pm for fun and games! F.A.C.E.S. (Faith, Activities, Conversations, Experiences,

Service) is a ministry for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and caregivers. For more information contact Becky Gambardella at becky@markgam.com.

## Lutheran Family Services

Join us for the LFS 70th Anniversary Benefit Gala at the Cable Center, April 21! We are delighted to announce we

will be presenting a video immersion event, allowing guests to embark on a journey that leads them through the lives of LFS clients. The Gala will feature a night of dinner, entertainment, an auction, and fellowship, along with celebrating 70



years of serving individuals and families in need in our community. Please register at <a href="www.LFSRM.org/events">www.LFSRM.org/events</a>.

## Women's Ministry

## Women's Banquet

Thank you to all who attended the Women's Banquet February 9. It was a wonderful evening for the women to relax, meet new friends and reconnect with others. Krista Kafer, member of OFLC provided a timely and inspiring message. The men who served were charming as always and MOPS raised almost \$1,300 in their annual FUNdraiser.

#### Women's Retreat

Sign up for the annual Women's Retreat held Friday, May 11 at 6:00 pm to Saturday, May 12 at 4:00 pm. Sarah Salzberg will share inspiring stories of women from the Bible; some considered "Bad girls" and how they were redeemed by God to become Bold for Him.

We are collecting items for Shiloh House and their Beyond the Walls program that helps youth, some in "bad" situations to learn how to overcome and be bold in their own lives. The sign-up sheet and more information is available at the Reception Desk. If you have any questions or would like to apply for a scholarship contact Joey Schilling at <a href="mailto:jschilling@oflc.net">jschilling@oflc.net</a>.

## Year End Financials

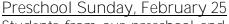
## 2017 Year End Financial Highlights

Operating year ending December 31, 2017 has officially closed. General offerings were \$20,475 or 1.0% higher than budgeted. This increase is attributed to membership and worship attendance growth, coupled through exceptional generosity of our members and guests.

Our Program and Designated Gifts income was lower than budgeted, primarily due to no India mission trip from Student Ministries and conversely lower expense affecting the Other Ministries category. Personnel, property and administration costs were below budget due to staffing transitions resulting from retirements and timing of refilling these vacancies, lower mortgage costs from loan re-amortization and overall general decreased operating costs. The excess income above expenses is being directed toward our contingency fund and building/property fund, \$50,713 and \$37,018 respectively in anticipation of future projects.

	Actual	Budget	
General Offerings	\$ 1,521,775	\$ 1,501,300	
Program Income & Designated Gifts	633,949	663,870	
Total Income	2,155,724	2,165,170	
Personnel	876,809	892,590	
Property & Administration	429,356	476,510	
Education/Preschool	412,023	413,750	
Outreach	224,376	228,450	
Other Ministries	125,429	153,870	
Total Expenditures	2,067,993	2,165,170	
Excess Income	\$ 87,731	\$ -	

Any questions or comments can be directed to Doug Ullmann, Director of Administration and Finance, <u>dullmann@oflc.net</u>. A more detailed financial report is available upon request.



Students from our preschool and their families gathered together with us in worship. We had a packed house and our parking lot and local side streets were stuffed with cars. Over one hundred toddlers sang "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know" at the top of their little lungs. Just an average "Preschool Sunday" at the tenfortyfive worship service; now in it's second year.

The preschool staff were given a special prayer and received a standing ovation from the congregation. The students sang two songs and then went downstairs for a special Sprouts lesson. After church, all the families had a cookie reception in the Fellowship Hall and the kids were presented with an Easter Story Cube. The preschool families experienced the fellowship of Our Father and the Gospel of grace.

The OFLC Preschool is a great blessing to many families and a place for us to share extraordinary life in Christ with our community. We are thankful to the teachers, leaders and other helpers for sharing God's love with so many.

Sun, Mar 4	8:00A Holy Communion 9:30A SS/Adult Ed 10:45A tenfortyfive	Sun, Mar 11	8:00A Service of the Word 9:30A SS/Adult Ed 10:45A tenfortyfive Worship	2	The Tra
Mon, Mar 5	9:30A Preschool 1:00P DAR 2:00P Loud for Life 6:30P Huddle 7:00P AA/Comp. Eaters	Mon, Mar 12	9:30A Preschool 1:00P Bookworms 6:00P FACES 6:30P Huddle 7:00P Cherry Park HOA 7:00P AA/Comp. Eaters	37	
Tues, Mar 6	9:30A Preschool 9:30A Women's Bible Study 10:00A Huddle 7:00P Alanon 8:00A JobSeekers	Tues, Mar 13	9:30A Preschool 9:30A Women's Bible Study 10:00A Huddle 6:30P Heritage Village HOA 7:00P Alanon		
Wed, Mar 7	9:30A Preschool 10:30A Ministry Team 6:30P Huddle 6:30P Classes/Conf/CHAOS 7:15P Lenten Worship Service 8:15P tenfortyfive Rehearsal	Wed, Mar 14	8:00A JobSeekers 9:30A Preschool 10:30A Ministry Team 6:30P Huddle 6:30P Classes/Conf/CHAOS 7:15P Lenten Worship Service		
Thur, Mar 8	9:30A Preschool 5:30P Reasonable Faith 6:00P Jubilate Ringers 7:30P Adult Choir	Thur, Mar 15	8:15P tenfortyfive Rehearsal  9:30A Preschool 6:00P Jubilate Ringers 7:30P Adult Choir		
Fri, Mar 9	9:15A MOPS 9:30A Compulsive Eaters 10:00A Knitters	Fri, Mar 16	9:15A MOPS 9:30A Preschool 9:30A Compulsive Eaters	7	
Sat, Mar 10	7:00A Men's Bible Study 8:30A Bible Study 12:00P AA 5:00P Service of the Word	Sat, Mar 17	10:00A Knitters 7:00A Men's Bible Study 8:30A Bible Study 12:00P AA 5:00P Holy Communion	44	
Sun, Mar 18	8:00A Holy Communion 9:30A SS/Adult Ed 10:45A tenfortyfive 12:00P Peer Ministry Training	Sun, Mar 25	8:00A Service of the Word 9:30A SS/Adult Ed 10:45A tenfortyfive Worship	Sun, Apr 1	8:00A Easter Service 9:30A Easter Service 11:00A Easter Service
Mon, Mar 19	9:30A Preschool 2:00P Loud for Life 6:30P Huddle 7:00P Bookclub 7:00P AA/Comp. Eaters	Mon, Mar 26	2:00P Loud for Life 6:30P Huddle 7:00P AA/Comp. Eaters	Mon, Apr 2	9:30A Preschool 1:00P DAR 2:00P Loud for Life 6:30P Huddle
Tues, Mar 20	9:30A Preschool 9:30A Women's Bible Study 10:00A Huddle 5:30P Need Based Care 6:00P Celebration Ringers 7:00P Alanon	Tues, Mar 27	9:30A Women's Bible Study 10:00A Huddle 7:00P Alanon	Tues, Apr 3	7:00P AA/Comp. Eaters  9:30A Preschool  9:30A Women's Bible Study  10:00A Huddle  7:00P Alanon
Wed, Mar 21	8:00A JobSeekers 9:30A Preschool 10:30AMinistry Team 1:00P Elderberries 6:30P Huddle 6:30P Women's Retreat 6:30P Classes/Conf/CHAOS	Wed, Mar 28	8:00A JobSeekers 10:30AMinistry Team 6:30P Huddle 7:30P tenfortyfive Rehearsal	Wed, Apr 4	8:00A JobSeekers 9:30A Preschool 10:30A Ministry Team 6:30P Huddle 6:30P Classes/Conf/CHAOS 7:30P tenfortyfive Rehearsal
Thur,	7:15P Lenten Service 8:15P tenfortyfive Rehearsal 9:30A Preschool 6:00P Jubilate Ringers	Thur, Mar 29	6:00P Jubilate Ringers 7:15P Maundy Thursday Service 8:30P Adult Choir	Thur, Apr 5	9:30A Preschool 6:00P Jubilate Ringers 7:30P Adult Choir
Mar 22 Fri, Mar 23	7:30P Adult Choir  9:15A MOPS 9:30A Preschool 9:30A Compulsive Eaters	Fri, Mar 30	9:30A Compulsive Eaters 10:00AKnitters 12:15P Good Friday Service 7:15P Good Friday Service	Fri, Apr 6	9:15A MOPS 9:30A Compulsive Eaters 10:00A Knitters
Sat, Mar 24	7:00A Men's Bible Study 8:30A Bible Study 12:00P AA 5:00P Service of the Word	Sat, Mar 31	7:00A Men's Bible Study 8:30A Bible Study 12:00P Easter Breakfast Setup 12:00P AA 5:00P Holy Saturday	Sat, Apr 7	7:00A Men's Bible Study 8:30A Bible Study 12:00P AA 5:00P Service of the Word

Attendance								
Worship Services			Sunday	Sunday School				
2/3 2/4	5:00P 8:00A 10:45A	96 255 261	Adults Children Children	9:30A 11:00A	146 67 25			
2/10 2/11	5:00P 8:00A 10:45A	39 230 223	Adults Children Children	9:30A 11:00A	129 64 32			
2/17 2/18	5:00P 8:00A 10:45A	68 258 251	Adults Children Children	9:30A 11:00A	134 68 29			
2/24 2/25	5:00P 8:30A 10:45A	105 344 587	Adults Children Children	9:30A 11:00A	128 64 37			

## Flowers given in February by:

- Linda Ward in memory of loved ones (2/11)
- Albertsen family in celebration of Sandra Everett



## Members In Our Prayers

Recovering: Eric Bame, Tom Wise, Dick Stotler, Lester Smith, Pam Wylie, Jim Reuter, Michelle Vogts, Patty Weissenfels, Jan Burmeister, Jackie Klein, Sherrill White, Anita Krumenacker, Joanne Wille

Those Mourning: The Barringer family at the death of Christy's mother, Elisa Benson, The Logan family at the death of Karl Logan, Jane Fields at the death of her sister, Kathy

Rejoice with: The Peregoy family in the affirmation of their son, Jude's, baptism

If you are in need of care and prayers, please contact the church office at 303-779-1332.

## Remember Our Homebound

Eileen Spencer Dorothy Schmid Jim Fitzjarrell

Junerose Kayser Mary Wing Elisa Benson

Anita Krumenacker Laura Fougner Atlanta Dye



# Spring Forward!

Sunday, March 11



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

#### Birthdays

Afman, Emma Afman, Zoe Anderson, Loren Backstrom, Bruce Becker, Elle Bergstrom, Terry Boker, Diana Braun, David Braun, Sophie Chandrasekar, Samuel Devaraj Combellick, Vernie Cordova, Brent Crome, Alan Crome, Lauren Dailey, Natalie Dara, Indu David, Jen Davis, Melissa Dickman, Jen Duncan, Karla Durr, Cindy Evans, Luke Fanos, Hannah Farrar, Brian Fields, Tom Fiser, Chris

Fougner, Laura

Franklin, Anne Galuzzi, Matt Gentes, Anthony Getty, Matt Geurts, Phoebe Griffin, Mike Groninger, Carol Grunt, Jaime Hacker, Tom Hakeem, Caroline Hardeman, Duke Hart, Allison Hart, Charles Hartwig, Timothy Healy, Brian Heintz, Corey Herman, Nicholas Herren, Robert Hewell, David Hinchey, Alexis Hoehne, Bekah Hoehne, Ellie Hoehne, Katie Hoffarth, Becky Holscher, Paul Hon, Rick Hooker, Kenley Johannes, Amelia Kinney, Chris Kjellsen, Cathy

Knoll, Cookie Kochenberger, Dave Kochenberger, Nina Koeltzow, Clara Kopp, Peter Kramer, Lee Krause, James Krause, Zach Lester, Nathan Lien, Odin Locke, Darren Locke, Janey Lofblad, Alan Lofblad, Julianna Loomis, Elise Lujan, Lauren Lyman, Justin Mahn, Wyatt McClintock, Erin Meske, Lucia Miller, Michele Mosher, Courtney Nelson, Blake Ness, Daniel Nielsen, Mark Noon, Lauren Olsen, Linda Olson, Emma Olson, Robert

Orcutt, Jamie

Ortmeier, Jed Orton, Teryn Palmquist, Annika Parker, Kira Preyer, Amy Recob, Debbie Roe, Pauliina Rohrig, Charlotte Romcevich, Vance Schlagel, Eli Schmidt, Kurt Schroder, Paul Schwartz, Cael Schwartz, Joshua Sheridan, Atlanta Shorey, August Shorey, Raleigh Siegle, Leigh Ann Simenson, Brad Steiner, Micah Stone, Eric Strom, Ellen Stuebe, Eric Tuominen, Sandy Turner, Kristen Vinz, Jon Walker, Alix Walker, Bodie Wallace, Emily Werner, Ryan

Wetzstein, Sandy White, Jolene Wille, Joanne Wing, Sandra Zettel, Esta Anniversaries

Nathan & Sara Gabor Ralph & Kath Giesler David & Rebecca Hewell Paul & Jean King Al & Terri Link Mark & Kari Mandell Bryan & Lisa Peterson Bill & Cheri Phelps Perry & Tammi Schellpfeffer Will & Linda Schippers Orville & Ardis Smith Derek & Christene Woodward

John & Ann Wyatt





## **Easter Breakfast**

Come help support OFLC Student Ministries and enjoy a delicious buffet breakfast of: egg strata (gluten free), ham, pancakes, fruit, pastries, bagels, coffee and juice! Free-will donation (suggested amount \$7/person or \$25/family). Proceeds benefit the youth in helping to cover summer mission trip costs. We thank you for your support!

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: OUR FATHER LUTHERAN CHURCH 6335 S. Holly St., Centennial, CO 80121

Our Father Lutheran Church

Church Office: 303-779-1332 Fax: 303-779-1668 Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Web Page: https://www.oflc.net

Email: info@oflc.net

Rev. Scott F. Abel, Lead Pastor, ext. 215

Rev. Nathan F. Peregoy, Executive Pastor, ext. 218 Rev. Dr. Werner K. Boos, Pastoral Counselor,

303-741-5588, ext. 112

Prayer Chain: prayerchainoflc@gmail.com

Our Father Children's Learning Center

Alison Cejka, Director, 303-779-4910

Worship

Saturday Service: 5:00 pm Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:45 am Education Hour & Sunday School: 9:30 am

Our Father Lutheran Church

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