

Open Arms News

February 2017



Upon This Rock: The Rock of Forgiveness

(From: Family Matters: A Christ-Centered Resource for Families and Teachers.)

Because our school year theme is ROCK I wanted to share the article below!

It is often the hardest—and second hardest—thing to do: saying you are sorry, and telling someone else that they are forgiven when they say they're sorry. It is natural for us to want others to apologize when they have offended us. Sometimes we even demand an apology! Or at least, highly expect it. We will often tell others of our apology expectations, hoping they will share this message with the one who wronged us so he or she will request our forgiveness. Sounds crazy, but we do this! When we feel that someone owes us a personal apology, we can often feel that we then have the upper hand in the relationship. This is not always a good thing, and it can lead to other inappropriate behaviors.

When and if an offending individual does come forward to confess their wrong and ask for our forgiveness, we are often surprised. Why? Well, perhaps we weren't expecting it, since people don't always make forgiveness their first move. Often, our first move is to excuse ourselves or blame someone else. We get pretty good at the blame game and at redirecting our wrongdoing somewhere else.

As the people of God, one would think that forgiveness shouldn't be so hard, especially knowing that we have been forgiven of our sins through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ on the cross, which was secured by His victorious resurrection from the dead! One would think that it would be easy to come forward, admit our wrongdoing, receive words of assurance that we have been forgiven, and then move forward in harmony as brothers and sisters in Christ.

As simple as it sounds, we don't always do this. Why? Is it pride? Is it because it is uncomfortable? Is it because it is too much work? Perhaps any of these, and other reasons as well.

As parents, we have the opportunity to teach our children about the power of forgiveness in the context of a loving home. Children can learn about the power of confession firsthand, and the equally powerful practice of absolution as well. Forgiveness can be encouraged when dealing with offenses between children. It can be modeled by one parent to another. It can be practiced by an adult to a child. The practice of genuine forgiveness in a family setting can be a most powerful teaching tool!

Christ teaches us the power of forgiveness every day, as we draw near to Him, confess our sins and shortcomings, and know full well that His blood on the cross has cleansed us from all unrighteousness. We can put this into practice with those closest to us to our homes and families.

Blessings on a JOY-Filled Month!

Wendy Pritchard, Director



CAUTION!

Please keep your cars locked at drop off and pick up. The Glenview Lantern reported more vehicle break ins at local child care centers.

This has NOT happened here again and we want it to stay that way. PLEASE LOCK YOUR CAR and/or moms please take your purse with you when you exit your car.

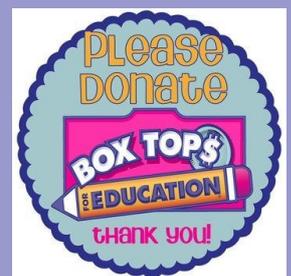


Birthdays:

Elliott, Lauren, Lucas

May God Bless you with many more birthdays!

Box Tops for Education: Do you know we collect Box Tops for Education at Open Arms? Do you know they are worth 10 cents per box top? **Please start clipping and saving.** Our most recent check was for approximately \$150.00. The collection box is on the sign in table. Thank you!

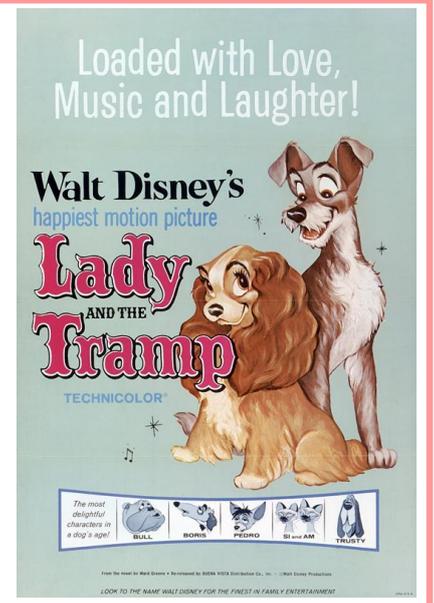


2016 Child Care Tax Statements are in process. If you would like a PDF tax statement simply email me and I will take care of that for you.

Movie Night Friday, February 17th at 7 PM

Lady and the Tramp

We'll celebrate Valentine's Day a few days late with this classic Disney movie. The movie will begin at 7 PM. We invite you to bring your blankets, pillows and/or chairs to get comfortable in the gym. Snacks and drinks are allowed!



February Moms Group
Thursday, February 9th
Crafts at Open Arms
7:30 PM



We will be making Valentine's for our senior church members along with cutting box tops for education.

Registration: Information about registering for Summer 2017 and School Year 2017-2018 has been sent out! Registration will open to the public on March 1st.

Remember all children from the 2s program through kindergarten need to re-register. We need to know who is planning to be here and how many slots we will have open. Thanks much!

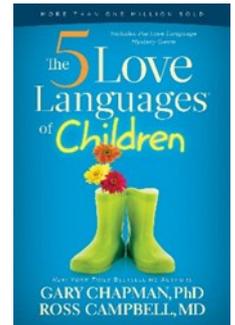
5 Love Languages

Wed., Feb. 8 at 6:30 PM

Each of us "hears" love in different ways and often we aren't speaking the same language, even with our children. This workshop will look at the 5 ways people communicate love and help you determine which language or languages are spoken in your home.

Rachel Woody, a mom of two, says this about the book: *Love languages has helped me understand why my child reacts under different circumstances. I was able to determine her primary love language and how to tailor our relationship and interactions. I saw immediate changes in her behavior with the small tweaks to my communication and time with her!*

I was also able to better understand my own language as well as my spouse.



Childcare will be available. Please RSVP by Sunday, Feb. 5 so we can make arrangements.

Open Arms is starting the process of accreditation, with the goal of becoming accredited by the end of 2017. We would appreciate prayers as go through this process.

National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA) encourages and recognizes Lutheran schools that provide quality Christian education and engage in continuous improvement.

It is completely voluntary and is available for every school operated by a single congregation, by an association of congregations, or by a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod or the Lutheran Church—Canada.

Benefits of Accreditation

- Publicly acknowledges the quality of the school through an objective outside agency
- Employs the expertise of an objective site visit team
- Validates the mission of the school
- Measures a school with a set of objective national standards
- Examines the spiritual component of the school
- Identifies and celebrates the strengths of the school
- Pinpoints weaknesses for correction
- Provides a solid foundation for faculty professional development
- Provides accountability for the school, constituents, congregation, and school community
- Provides the "blueprint" for school improvement for the next five years
- Involves the support and involvement of a broad constituency
- Provides the opportunity for public acknowledgement and celebration



The **WEATHER** is starting to change and here are some reminders:



1. Please have **EXTRA clothing** in your child's cubby that is suitable for the current weather. Children should have underwear/diapers, socks, bottoms, top and at this time of year a sweatshirt.
2. When bringing in hats, mittens, boots and snow pants please remember to label everything.
3. **WEATHER CLOSINGS:** We make EVERY effort to remain OPEN however during bad weather we may find it necessary to close for the safety of our staff and all of you. If we do choose to close for the day we will make the decision as early as possible. I will post the closing on our Facebook page, send an email and you may also find out the information by going to emergencyclosings.com.

(A general rule of thumb: if Glenview District 34 is closed we may also close.)

Sick Policy: **Sick children should remain home.** Please do not bring your child to school if he/she is showing signs or symptoms of illness. If we notice any symptoms of illness while your child is in our care, we will call you to arrange to have them picked up. If we send your child home due to illness, he/she must remain out of the center for **at least 24 hours**. This means the child may not return to the center the day after being sent home. **The signs and symptoms of illness are as follows:**

*Temperature of or over 101 degrees Fahrenheit (EVEN if you think it is from teething or shots); Pus or mucus in the eyes, redness, itching, pink eye; Continuous mucus from the nose; Lethargy; Diarrhea; Vomiting; Skin rash of unknown origin; Head lice; Other flu like symptoms

*Your cooperation is vitally important to help keep other children and our staff healthy. Please notify us at 1-847-724-6092 if your child will miss school due to illness.

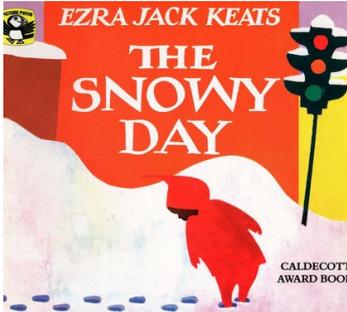
- ♦ If you are called to pick up your child, please do so within an hour's time frame.
- ♦ **Please DO NOT medicate your child and send them to school. Medications wear off and only mask the symptoms. Let's work together to keep our children, staff and all of you healthy this season.**

Open Arms has a PARENTS FACEBOOK Page! If you would like to be included please send Wendy a friend request and she will be happy to add you to the page. The OA Parents Page is a closed group.



January Book Recommendations

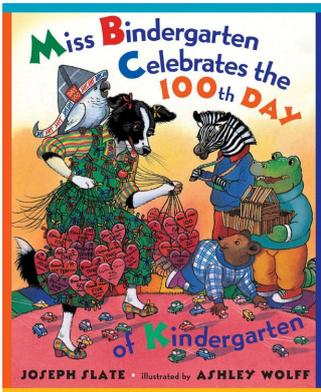
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats. Viking | 40 pages | ISBN: 978-0670654000 | 1962 | Ages: 2-5



No book has captured the magic and sense of possibility of the first snowfall better than *The Snowy Day*. Universal in its appeal, the story has become a favorite of millions, as it reveals a child's wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever.

The adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

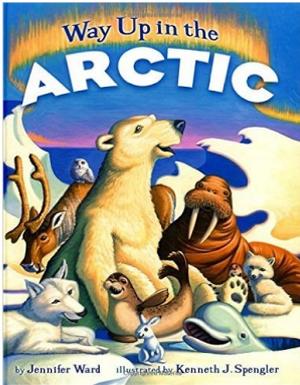
Miss Bindergarten Celebrates the 100th Day of Kindergarten by Joseph Slate. Puffin | 40 pages



| ISBN: 978-0142500057 | 2002 | Ages 3-5

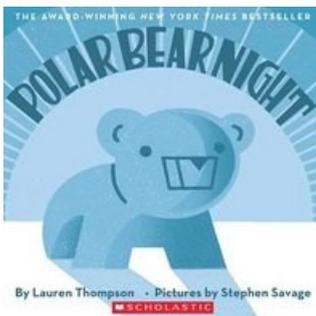
In this exuberant follow-up to *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten*, the border-collie teacher kicks off a celebration of the 100th day of class by asking her students to bring in "100 of some wonderful, one-hundred-full thing!" The results, reported in alphabetical order of the student's name and species, brim with the humor of children giving their ingenuity full rein. Once again, Wolff's sturdy, genially observed illustrations prove a perfect match for Slate's rhyming text, and together they build momentum to the big event, a party that's certain to inspire similar festivities in kindergartens everywhere.

Way Up in the Arctic by Jennifer Ward. Cooper Square Publishing | 32 pages | ISBN: 978-0873589284 | 2007 | Ages 2-6



Jennifer Ward and Kenneth Spengler have teamed up to create another wonderful, joyful, counting romp. This time they prance and dance readers through the Arctic and introduce kids to the fascinating animal mamas and babies that call the Arctic home. Set to the beloved tune of *Over in the Meadow*, read again and again this book will have kids singing along from one to ten with polar bears, beluga whales, Arctic foxes and more!

Polar Bear Night by Lauren Thompson. Scholastic Press | 36 pages | ISBN: 978-0-54-548558-6 | 2004 | Ages 1-3



If you are getting tired of reading *Good Night Moon*, you might want to try this book as a soothing bed time read. A young polar bear cub leaves his mother and their warm den to explore the moonlit night. She sees a walrus asleep; seals like floating statues are asleep in the water; and whales that are sleeping but still swimming. As the cub travels she finally sees a glorious sight—a star shower. The linocuts are set on papers that reflect the cold of this northern region—blues, grays, tans, and dark greens but they have a wonderful texture. The mulberry bleached rice paper makes many of the scenes look like snowflakes are falling. It is a quiet, simple, gentle story, perfectly suited for snuggling up with your own little one just before a nap or settling down for the night.

Immanuel/Open Arms Staff

Mr. David Barber-Pastor

Mrs. Wendy Pritchard—Director

Mrs. Ann Barber-Director of Family Life Ministry

Mrs. Beth Neal-Administrative Assistant

Ms. Kathy Gerken-Accountant

Ms. Natalie —Baby Rose Buds; Ms. Rana, Ms. Rana B., Ms. Krystal,
Ms. Kendra

Ms. Brianna—Baby Begonias; Ms. Debbie, Ms. Kendra, Ms. Klara,
Ms. Nada, Ms. Kelsey, Ms. Julie

Ms. Carol—Toddler Tulips; Ms. Jo, Ms. Jessi, Ms. Victoria, Ms.
Carol N, Ms. Evi and Ms. Carmelita

Ms. Jessy —Tiger Lily 2s; Ms. Jouana, Ms. Missy, Ms. Tamara

Mrs. Peterson-Daisy 3s; Ms. Sarah, Ms. Bry, Ms. Yara, Ms. Han-
nah

Ms. Gerken—Sunflower 4s; Ms. Aleia, Ms. Tina and Ms. Lara

Mrs. Driscoll—Wildflower Kindergarten; Ms. Sandy, Ms. Diane

Mr. Pepe—Spanish Teacher Mr. Marty-Handyman

Mrs. Morgan-Art Teacher



CHRISTIAN • CHILD • DEVELOPMENT • CENTER

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Immanuel Lutheran Church

847-724-1034

www.immanuelglenview.org

Pastor David Barber

All are Welcome to Worship!

✠Sundays 10:00 am

✠Sunday School 8:45 am

✠Sunday Adult Bible Study 8:45 am

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dads group basketball

5 Love Languages: February 8th

Mom's Group: February 9th, 7:30pm

Movie Night: Friday, February 17th, 7pm. Lady and the Tramp will be on the big screen.

