

The Lyons Community Church

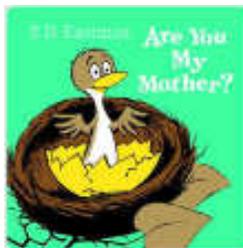
Mid-Week Message

Thursday, May , 2014

Redefining Mother's Day - Celebrating All Care-Giving

Dear brothers and sisters,

Motherhood and parenthood can be confusing - whether or not you have children! In Matthew 12:48, Jesus asks, "Who is my mother? And who are my brothers?" Later, in Matt. 23:37, he calls himself a mother hen who wants to take her chicks in the city of Jerusalem under her wing (*gender-bending?*). In 1960, children's author P.D. Eastman introduced us to a lost bird who asked everything in sight, "Are you my mother?" It remains on the Top 10 list of all-time children's favorites.



It seems there are endless questions about mothers, motherhood, parenthood and care-giving of our young people from all types of people and families. In my childhood church, we gave a carnation to every mother or woman on Mother's Day, and I always wondered how the single dads, or people without children felt. I chuckled later to learn the carnation is a funeral flower - what death were we celebrating? As a new mom, I considered the options: the death or loss of sleep, patience, my own time schedule... my list grows along with Lillian!

My devoutly church-going aunt told me once that she skips church for Mother's Day every year - without kids, what could possibly be meaningful to her? She spoke of all the brokenness around mothers (mothers who neglected, abused, or were absent, would-be mothers with unfulfilled wishes, mothers whose children had died, single parents or those whose mothers had died). Her list seemed endless, and it forever changed the way I thought about the celebration of motherhood.

I wonder if learning the history of our own US holiday might have changed things for my aunt? I was excited to learn that this didn't start off as a day of recognition or rest from an often thankless job. It wasn't about Hallmark cards, brunch, flowers or spa breaks. Mother's Day in the US began as a campaign by peace activist Ann Jarvis in 1905 as a way to unite women (and later all people) in social causes like caring for wounded Civil War veterans, reconciliation and world peace. Now **that's** a legacy I'd like to leave Lillian and all of the other children in my life and in our town!

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350 Main Street, PO Box 44
Lyons, CO 80540

To contact Pastor Emily Flemming:
Emily@LyonsCommunityChurch.org

To contact the office:
LCCOffice@LyonsCommunityChurch.org

Office Phone: 303.823.6245

Sunday, May 11

Sermon: Loving & Equipping
Young People is Everyone's Work
- Pastor Emily Flemming

Scripture: Matthew 23:37

Reader: Carol Pranschke

Greeter: Vance French

Altar Flowers: Annie Sirotniak

Refreshments: Carol Pranschke

An **All-Church Conference** is set for Thursday, May 15 at 6:30pm to discuss and vote on the upcoming church renovation. Our District Superintendent, Rev. Walter "Skip" Strickland, will officiate the meeting. All members of LCC are encouraged to attend.

Ministry Council will hold a special meeting immediately following the All-Church Conference to discuss May business, as well as the future of the LEAF ministry.

The next time you're at church, please review and update the **Church Directory** - we'd like to print new copies this summer. We'd also like to add birthdays and anniversaries so we can all celebrate special days together.

Pastor's Message (continued)

This Sunday, we'll examine the Bible's take on loving and equipping our young people for life as we redefine Mother's Day. You won't want to miss the celebration (and perhaps there will be gifts... but no carnations! And if so, not just for the women or mothers, but for all the caregivers and teachers of our young people!). Next week, we'll pick up our Easter Season sermon series with Jesus cooking breakfast at a seashore for Peter and the fishermen, and then finish off May with a long walk on the Road to Emmaus. It's going to be quite a month, and we hope to see you soon at the Little White Church on Main Street.

Easter season blessings,

Pastor Emily

p.s. **mark your calendars:** If all plans, permits, and approvals go accordingly, we will celebrate a "Building Hope and Promise Kick-off," our summer construction and renovation project for our lower-level renovations on Sunday, May 18th with a reception downstairs at 11:30am. Please invite your friends and neighbors - and bring along a hard hat to kick-off the construction work!

Prayers...

Congratulations to Victoria on receiving Leadership Recognition as a Woman who Lights the Community from the Boulder Chamber of Commerce and the Business Women's Leadership Group. She will be honored at a reception on June 5th.

Joy for the 400 people who visited 9Health Fair and volunteers, successful concerts, Kimberly for tree planting, and Regis & Emily's new home (moving in late June).

Concerns for the McDuffie family (death of brother of Geneva's sister-in-law), Bob Cole's heart attack, Gene Thomas's coma in TX, Sam's son Cherry's stroke and hospitalization, Donna West's memorial service Sunday at the McGuckin's, Jeanne, Laurel, Wanda and all those still suffering from natural disasters (flood, landslides, tornadoes, etc).

Caregiving Symposium

If you provide part-or full-time care for an older family member or friend, or if you are interested in learning more about local resources for caregiver support, you are invited to the **Caregiving Symposium**, a free event sponsored by Boulder County Area Agency on Aging, on **Thurs. May 22nd 10am-5pm** at the Plaza Convention Center, 1850 Industrial Circle in Longmont. The Symposium features a large resource fair, workshops on care-giving issues, lunch and more.

www.caregivingsymposium2014.eventbrite.com, will provide you with details and registration, or call 303-441-1685, or stop by that day. Free on-site elder care is available by (free) reservation: 303-441-1543.



Above: Lauren, Byron, Jason and Matt lead the Closing Song on April 27.

Below: Tristan's 6th birthday last week (son of Tanya & Gabriel Daty)





Above: Our tree-planting crew hard at work

Right: Pete and Mary on Sat, April 26th preparing to plant 2 trees on Main St. just outside the church (and Mary is celebrating her 70th b-day this weekend.

Below: Zeke's 72nd is today—May 8th.



Above: Placing the 3rd RV at the Conigliero residence (thanks Dan Siddall for tree-trimming!)





**CD Release
Benefit Concert
For Lyons Flood
Recovery**

**Saturday
May 10th**

7pm - 9pm

**Boulder Friends
Meetinghouse
1825 Upland Ave.**

\$10 donation (more is welcome!)

**Susan Rose
with Mark Oblinger, Ernie
Martinez, Annie Gifford**

**Special Guests: Bonnie Phipps
Blue Crab Trio: Rob & Lin Chirico,
Allen Bossart**

Refreshments During Intermission