

**WELCOME!** We're glad you're here and have decided to join us today!

If you would like more information about Living Water, please stop by the Welcome Center located in the lobby area.

TEACHER: Pastor Jason Van Wyk

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:1-12  
Luke 3:1-20, Isaiah 40:3-5

SUMMARY: How will you remember 2017? Whether it was a red-letter year that feels like it's over too soon or one that you'd happily leave behind you, we carry the effects with us as we approach the new year. In Matthew 3, we also see people bringing all sorts of baggage from the past with them as they head out to catch a glimpse of John the Baptist. His words for them point the way forward for us as well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- ⇒ How are you crossing the finish line of 2017?
- ⇒ What are you tempted to carry with you into the coming year?
- ⇒ As you start the new year, where are you being called to humility and repentance?
- ⇒ Where is God challenging you to keep going, to keep pursuing God, to carry on with what He's called you to?

LIFE APPLICATION:

- ⇒ God's faithfulness in 2017.
  - Give thanks for God's blessings in the past year.
  - Give thanks for the difficult times He's provided strength to see you through.
- ⇒ Begin this year with God.
  - Spend time this week confessing your sins and shortcomings before God. Repent (turn in a new direction) as you step into 2018.
  - Allow the Holy Spirit to help you become and remain humble in your relationships with God and other people.
  - Trust in God as your defender and redeemer whatever happens in the year to come.
  - Follow the way of the Lord rather than your own path.

NOTES:

## OUR FAMILY

PRAY: Last week Scott and Erica De Jong's daughter, Jenna, had surgery to place screws in her growth plates around her knees to stabilize them in hopes that her legs will gradually become straighter. Surgery went well and Jenna has returned home. The family asks for continued prayers for healing and that the surgery will have a positive impact on Jenna's ability to stand next to a counter, desk and do other daily tasks. (SH)

Next Sunday our congregation will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. This week as we personally consider, "Am I ready to take the Lord's Supper in faith" there are questions that are important for each of us to answer:

- ◆ Have I confessed my sin to God and do I trust Jesus as the only One who can save me from it?
- ◆ Am I eager to obey Jesus and let Him be my Lord?
- ◆ Have I sought forgiveness and reconciliation from those I have wronged?
- ◆ Have I forgiven and reconciled with those who have wronged me?

REMINDER: Prayer requests and praises can be shared by completing the Connect Card which is part of the Worship Folder each week. Complete the card, tear it off and place it in the offering baskets or in one of the black mailboxes located at the back of the Worship Center or by the Welcome Center in the lobby.

TODAY	THIS WEEK
<p><u>9:30am</u> COFFEE SHOPPE</p> <p><u>10:00am</u> WORSHIP NO LITTLE TREASURES TODAY Will resume on January 7</p> <p><u>11:00am</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• JAM (TK-5th gr) NO JAM TODAY Will resume on January 7</li><li>• WAVE (6th-8th gr) NO WAVE today Will resume on January 7</li><li>• STAY AND PRAY SW corner of Worship Center</li></ul>	<p><u>Mon, Jan 1</u> HAPPY NEW YEAR!</p> <p><u>Wed, Jan 3</u> 7:00pm— Overflow (OC) 7:00pm— Men's Group (SH) Meet at Sheldon Pizza Ranch</p>

## GET INVOLVED

**OC Campus Prayer Ministry Volunteers needed:** Do you enjoy praying for others? Maybe you like to pray behind the scenes or maybe directly with people who have different needs. If you are looking to get involved in prayer ministry at Living Water, we would love to have you put your gifts to use!

To get involved in one or several ways, complete the Connect Card that is part of this worship folder, tear it off and place it in the offering baskets or place in the black mailboxes located in the back of the Worship Center or by the Welcome Center in the lobby area. For more info, contact Kim Groeneweg at [skgroen@yahoo.com](mailto:skgroen@yahoo.com)

In addition to praying as individuals throughout the week, there are several ways to participate in our Prayer Ministry on Sunday mornings at OC Living Water:

- **Intercessory Prayers** - Sign up to be a volunteer to pray with people at the end of the service in the back of the Worship Center. You would be scheduled with one other person.
- **Prayer Walk** - Sign up to pray throughout different areas of the church prior to the Sunday morning worship service. You would be scheduled with one other person each time you are assigned.
- **Stay and Pray** - This is not a scheduled commitment, come as you are able to. About 10 minutes after the worship service, you are welcome to join a small group of people who stay and pray for various requests and praises in the SW corner of the Worship Center behind the partitions.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

CONTACT ONE OF THESE MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

**AUDIO & VISUAL TEAM:** David Smit - [media@livingwateroc.com](mailto:media@livingwateroc.com)

**COOKIE MINISTRY:** Marilyn Bolkema - [bolkemam@gmail.com](mailto:bolkemam@gmail.com)

**FACILITIES:** Mike Noteboom - [m-noteboomelectric@c-i-service.com](mailto:m-noteboomelectric@c-i-service.com)

**GRACE TEAMS:** Amy Vande Vegte - [gavv7@outlook.com](mailto:gavv7@outlook.com)

**GREETERS & COFFEE SHOPPE:** Ronda Noteboom - [rondajn@hotmail.com](mailto:rondajn@hotmail.com)

**NURSERY:** Kelly Schmidt - [kellyschmidt1@gmail.com](mailto:kellyschmidt1@gmail.com)

**PRAYER MINISTRY:** Kim Groeneweg - [skgroen@yahoo.com](mailto:skgroen@yahoo.com)