



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ



Training Lutherans to Witness Christ

Jesus made us His witnesses through Baptism. OAFC works to train baptized Christians in ways to live out that calling through Songs, Bible Studies, Puppet Shows, Dramas, Personal Witnessing, and a Neighborhood Survey.

Church Packet

Revised January 2015

Everything you need to plan and promote an OAFC Outreach Weekend at your church.

Songs

Bible
Studies

Puppets

Dramas

Personal
Witness

Survey

An LCMS Recognized Service Organization

WWW.OAFC.ORG

Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ

An LCMS Recognized Service Organization



Pastor and members of the congregation,

Thank you for considering hosting an Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ weekend at your church. Your congregation would be asked to provide a place for about 15-20 youth and adults to meet, train and sing from 7 pm on Friday evening through about 1:30 pm on Sunday. We suggest ending with a church pot luck meal following Divine Services on Sunday. On Sat and Sun we would be in and out of these premises from around 8:00 am to about 9:00 pm. (see sample schedule in documents attached) Members of your congregation who volunteer as hosts our ambassadors would pick them up on Fri and Sat evening at around 9:00 each evening and deliver them back to the church by 8:00 am after providing a breakfast for them on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Your hosts would house as many they can comfortably (normally 2 to 3 of the same sex). We ensure that newer ambassadors are housed with more experienced ambassadors. Members/groups of your congregation would need to provide for their noon and evening meals on Saturday.

In return we would provide fellowship, witness training through Singing, Drama, Puppets, Bible Study, Personal Witness and a door to door Canvass of an area of your community that you choose. In this Canvass we gather basic church information and our youth and adults share the gospel of Jesus Christ's suffering, death and resurrection to forgive the sins of all people. We see who does not have Bibles thus providing a way for your congregation to further witness to this home as you bring them a Bible. We deliver any church brochure that you may have plus our tract of how they can be absolutely sure of Heaven when they die because of what Jesus has done for them. We would participate in your Sunday school and Divine Services as you would allow. The included Worship Planning guide will assist in this decision. We would do a nursing home visit and sing, do a puppet or drama presentation and share the good news of Jesus with all who will listen at the facility of your choosing. We bring LCMS youth from around the area to facilitate this mission.

By hosting us, you are providing us with a place to train others while we hone our witnessing skills. O AFC is a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS. We have no home congregation or gathering place. Our local group gatherings at congregations like yours are our organization.

It is impossible to share with you the benefits and spiritual growth these weekends provide to each youth and adult in this short letter. Suffice to say our seminaries, colleges and vocations are full of our Ambassadors living out their faith in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. They are active in their local congregations and closing the back door on Missouri Synod youth losses. O AFC does not attach itself to your congregation, but uses the youth of many congregations like yours to build the group and begin spreading the gospel our communities are so badly needing to hear even in our own backyards.

Many times O AFC has been referred to as the "best kept secret in Missouri Synod". Our youth eagerly look forward to scheduled weekends. They leave physically drained and spiritually filled! We do ask that O AFC be allowed to give a short report on what O AFC is and to solicit both prayer and financial support for our ministry. We would also report of the results of the door to door canvass. We ask that a door offering following each worship service be taken. Since there are a large number of Thrivent members involved in the weekend by both youth, adults and congregation members, and many volunteer hours are spent in the canvass and spiritual growth of the group over the weekend, congregations often strive to match the door offering with Thrivent assistance.

For more information please contact me at: _____

For more information on O AFC please email: oafcbusinessoffice@consolidated.net. Our business office in Nokomis, IL would be happy to answer any concerns or questions.

Serving God through O AFC

Guidelines for Arranging an O AFC Weekend

The Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ is strictly a faith and prayer ministry. Thank God for you and the love you share with us by way of providing logistics and a free-will offering. Your love is our source of support.

Check As You Complete

- () 1. A room for up to 50 people; with a circle of chairs, and tables available.
- () 2. Host families found and recorded on the "O AFC Sign-up Sheet", and this sheet is ready to present to the Ambassador Director when he arrives.
- () 3. Host Family Guidelines given to each host.
- () 4. Saturday noon meal served by the church - 12:00 noon / 12:30 p.m.
- () 5. Saturday evening meal served by the church - 5:00 p.m. / 5:30 p.m.
- () 6. Sunday noon meal at church - suggest congregational shared meal or pitch-in.
- () 7. Entire congregation invited for Friday evening activities.
- () 8. All youth (8th & above), youth leaders, adults involved in evangelism, and any other interested persons invited for the entire weekend.
- () 9. Canvass-area survey maps ready. Each area marked on a separate map. Number of survey areas, that is maps, needed = one-half the number of persons expected to attend the weekend. Each area should include about 50 homes.
- () 10. Pencils, stapler, and church stamp on hand at the beginning of the Weekend.
- () 11. Approximately 20 pieces of church stationary and envelopes.
- () 12. Devotional program arranged at a nursing home - 6:30 pm Saturday evening. It will include singing, puppets, and personal sharing. (After the program, the Ambassadors enjoy visiting bed-ridden residents room-to-room.)
- () 13. Discuss with the O AFC lead director transportation needs for Saturday AM & PM surveying and for the nursing home visit. Adult Drivers have been enlisted to meet these needs.
- () 14. Plans made, as host pastor desires, to involve Ambassadors in Sunday services and/or Sunday School opening & classes. (Ambassadors available to sing, do drama, puppets, personal witnesses, demonstrate witnessing methods, or briefly describe O AFC. For Sunday School - children's songs, puppets, or leading Bible study. Pastors, see form 310.)
- () 15. Representative of the congregation selected to receive the weekend survey results and prospect information. We would like to present these during the worship service(s).
- () 16. Free will offering or other gift to defray expenses and extend the proclamation of the Gospel through O AFC.
- () 17 Congregational tracts that you might wish left at the door of the homes that we will visit on our canvass.

Promoting Attendance in the HOST Church of an O AFC Outreach Weekend

O AFC Weekends are open to High-School age and mature Jr. High age youth, and adults. Encourage attendance from each group, especially from the High School age youth.

It's likely that there is an active and experienced core group of Ambassadors in your area, with a local leader and trained youth. This leader usually makes contact with his core group to invite them, and makes a general invitation to the youth groups of the area. **You will want to make a special effort to encourage people of all ages from your congregation to attend the Friday night activities, and if you can help include nearby congregations, please do!** We've included some promotional materials you may want to us.

- A Pre-Weekend Bulletin Insert – designed to be used several weeks beforehand.
- Copies of the Promoting a Weekend Poster
- Bulletin/Newsletter Announcement (*samples on this page*)
- Verbal Announcement (*sample on this page*)

2 Sample Bulletin/Newsletter Announcements:

1. Do the people around our church know Jesus as their Savior? We have a special chance to tell them of the Savior with the help of the Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ (O AFC). These LCMS youth are trained in evangelism and canvass nearly once a month. On the weekend of *{date}* we will get to experience their sharing Jesus in Songs, Bible Studies, Dramas, Puppets Plays, Personal Witness training, and, in the highlight of their activities, a canvass of our community on Saturday. Everyone is invited to the opening sharing time on Friday evening beginning at 7:00pm. For the Saturday activities, all of your youth are encouraged to attend, as well as any adults with an interest in evangelism.

2. We will host an Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ (O AFC) Outreach Weekend here on *{date}*. Weekend activities include: Bible Studies, Christ-centered Songs, ministry through Puppets and Dramas, Personal Witness training, and a Canvass of our community. Everyone is

invited to the opening sharing time on Friday evening beginning at 7pm. For the Saturday activities, all of our youth are encouraged to attend and any adults with an interest in evangelism. Plan to come and bring a friend to this truly uplifting event.

Sample Verbal Announcement:

Mark your calendars for the weekend of _____. We are pleased to host the Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ (O AFC) on this weekend for a time of growing in faith and witnessing Christ. Trained Ambassadors will lead the activities which include Bible Studies, Songs, ministry through Drama and Puppets, Personal Witness training, and a canvass of our community with a religious survey.

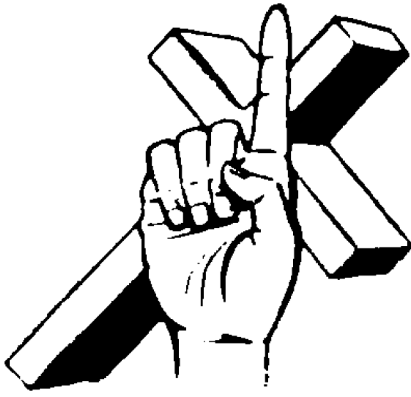
Everyone is invited to the opening sharing time on Friday evening beginning at 7pm. For the Saturday activities, all of our youth are encouraged to attend, as well as any adults with an interest in evangelism.

Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ is an important and unique ministry, helping LCMS youth and adults learn to speak the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Again, you are all invited to join in the activities, beginning Friday night on _____.

Note: *In your written and verbal announcements, you may also wish to add information about the following:*

Host Families signing up to house O AFCers
Sample: If you would serve as a host family (provide a place to sleep and breakfast) for one or more of the Ambassadors, please note so on the Host Sign-Up Sheet.

- Sunday Meal Plans
Sample: Sunday at noon we'll have a share meal for the Ongoing Ambassadors and all members of the congregation. Bring your favorite dish.



O AFC

Host Sign-up Sheet

Thank God for your gift of sharing your home. Your love is our source of support! Host Families Provide:

1. Overnight Housing with Breakfast the next morning.
2. Transportation to/from their home & church or Make Arrangements for this through others.
3. General Oversight, reporting any concerns or problems to the O AFC Director.

| Name & Address | Phone | Desired # of Girls | Desired # of Boys | Ambassadors Assigned by O AFC Director |
|----------------|-------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | |
| 10 | | | | |
| 11 | | | | |
| 12 | | | | |

Use of this sheet: Please post this sheet at the rear of your church 1 or 2 Sundays and announce that those who wish to be hosts should sign it. Then present it to the O AFC Director when he arrives and he will assign the Ambassadors with the host families.

Guidelines for the OAFc Host Families

Thank You, on behalf of the OAFc ministry, for what you have already done and will be doing to make this outreach weekend a success. We regard the Ambassador's stay in your host home as a vital part of our ministry. The Ambassadors have the opportunity to experience how you and your Christ centered family live out your relationships with our Lord Jesus. As host parents, we ask you assist in the following ways:

1. **It is expected that all youth attending the weekend event participate in the entire weekend. We ask that you as host parents take your guests directly home and not allow them to leave your home for any reason. Our desire is that they visit with you, their host family.**
2. **Arrange to transport the OAFc members assigned to you (the driver should be over 21).** We encourage the arranging of car pools where possible.

Friday evening - pick up at 9:45 p.m.

Saturday morning - bring to church by 8:00 a.m.

Saturday evening - pick up at 9:30 p.m.

Sunday - bring to church 20 minutes prior to service.

3. Provide breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings.
4. **The youth are to go to bed when you do or no later than 11:59 PM. You have the authority to discipline. This includes encouraging them to study their witnessing methods, sending them to bed so they get a good night's sleep, discouraging loud talking, texting, using cell phones, etc. Please report any needs or behavioral difficulties by contacting the lead director.**

OAFc Weekends seek to be Christ-centered in everything that is done. May the Lord bless all who serve that Christ is honored and glorified.

NOTE: Host families are a vital part of the OAFc ministry. The Ambassadors are instructed to treat you and your home with respect. We are glad to receive many positive comments and to witness lasting friendships being formed. We hope that the Ambassadors assigned to your home will be good witnesses in their words, actions and thoughtfulness. We really appreciate the gift of your hospitality. You are most welcome to encourage them in their conduct.

Guidelines for the OAFc Host Families

Thank You, on behalf of the OAFc ministry, for what you have already done and will be doing to make this outreach weekend a success. We regard the Ambassador's stay in your host home as a vital part of our ministry. The Ambassadors have the opportunity to experience how you and your Christ centered family live out your relationships with our Lord Jesus. As host parents, we ask you assist in the following ways:

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Friday-Sunday Weekend Schedule

90/90 Survey Schedule ending at 8:40pm



Friday

- 7:00pm Registration
- 7:00 Group Singing of Gospel Songs interspersed with:
- Getting Acquainted and Introduction of the O AFC Ministry
 - Witnessing Methods, Drama, and Puppet presentations shared
 - Personal Witnesses
- 8:10 Small Group Bible Studies
- 8:30 Large Group Sharing
- Recap of Bible Studies – Singing and Prayer
 - Instructions for Host Homes and Saturday Activities
- 8:40 Hosts arrive, Ambassadors assigned for housing
GUIDELINES FOR THE HOST FAMILIES given to each host
- 8:45 Hosts depart with Ambassadors

Saturday

- 8:30am Confirm attendance, Singing, Prayer
- 8:45 Christian Baptism Bible Study for newcomers
Alternate study for Ambassadors who have been through the Baptism study
- 9:45 Preparation for Witness Survey and travel to survey areas
- 10:10 Load vehicles to go to survey areas
- 10:15-11:45 Witness Survey of the Community
- 12:00pm Lunch served by the church (Thank You Song)
- 12:45 Sharing of morning calls
- 1:00 Witness Training, review of Witnessing Methods, replenish Survey supplies
- 1:10 Load vehicles to go to survey areas
- 1:15-2:45 Witness Survey of the Community*
- 2:45 Tabulation of reports and writing letters to Prospects
- 3:00 Sharing of afternoon calls
- 3:30 Preparation for nursing home visit/puppets practice
- 3:50 Leave for Nursing facility
- 4:00 Nursing home visit (Drama/Puppets, Singing, Personal Witness)
- 4:45 Review logistics for Sunday School/Bible Class
- 5:00 Dinner served by church (Thank You Song)
- 5:45 Prayer Partners, Personal Witness Training/Sharing
- 6:15 Drama/Puppets
- 7:45 Evaluation and guidelines for newcomers – sharing time for others
- 8:10 Review logistics for church service
- 8:40 Adult Hosts pick up Ambassadors

Sunday

- 8:30am Worship Service preparation
- 10:15 Sunday School and Bible Class
- 12:00 A shared meal by the congregation with the Ambassadors (Thank You Song)
- 12:30 Sing-A-Long and fellowship with the congregation
- 1:00 Rite of departure and Leave for home.

Form 120



Alternative Weekend Option

Saturday-Sunday Weekend Schedule



Saturday

- 8:30am Confirm attendance, Singing, Prayer
- 8:45 Christian Baptism Bible Study for newcomers
Alternate study for Ambassadors who have been through the Baptism study
- 9:45 Preparation for Witness Survey and travel to survey areas
- 10:10 Load vehicles to go to survey areas
- 10:15-11:45 Witness Survey of the Community
- 12:00pm Lunch served by the church (Thank You Song)
- 12:45 Sharing of morning calls
- 1:00 Witness Training, review of Witnessing Methods, replenish Survey supplies
- 1:10 Load vehicles to go to survey areas
- 1:15-2:45 Witness Survey of the Community*
- 2:45 Tabulation of reports and writing letters to Prospects
- 3:00 Sharing of afternoon calls
- 3:30 Preparation for nursing home visit/puppets practice
- 3:50 Leave for Nursing facility
- 4:00 Nursing home visit (Drama/Puppets, Singing, Personal Witness)
- 4:45 Review logistics for Sunday School/Bible Class
- 5:00 Dinner served by church (Thank You Song)
- 5:45 Prayer Partners, Personal Witness Training/Sharing
- 6:15 Drama/Puppets
- 7:45 Evaluation and guidelines for newcomers – sharing time for others
- 8:10 Review logistics for church service
- 8:40 Adult Hosts pick up Ambassadors

Sunday

- 8:30am Worship Service preparation
- 10:15 Sunday School and Bible Class
- 12:00 A shared meal by the congregation with the Ambassadors (Thank You Song)
- 12:30 Sing-A-Long and fellowship with the congregation
- 1:00 Rite of departure and Leave for home.

Form 120



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ



Bring the entire family and spend a fun evening with the Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ youth from 7-8:40pm at our church on Friday _____.

The group will lead us in an informal time together as we join in singing Witnessing songs and seeing how they share Jesus Christ with others through our Witnessing Methods.

Youth and adults interested in evangelism are encouraged to join in on the Saturday activities beginning at 8:30am.

Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ is a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod training Youth to tell others about the Good News of Jesus Christ.

www.OAFC.org



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ



Bible Studies, Puppets, Dramas, Personal Witnessing, Singing, Neighborhood Survey

Share the GOSPEL With OAFC

Outreach weekends go Friday nights, all day Saturdays, and through church on Sundays. Through these weekends youth grow in their faith, in witnessing skills, and in helping others do the same. Ambassadors learn to support their local churches, while the church supports OAFC missionaries.

YOUTH and ADULTS, come join in the learning, sharing, and excitement of being part of this outreach experience.

WEEKEND DATE: _____



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ



Singing

Bible

Study

Personal

Witness

Puppets

Dramas

Witness

Survey

The Mission of OAFCC is to...

- Witness** of Christ to All
- Invite** All into the Church
- Train** All to Witness

The Outcome of OAFCC is...

The Church's youth are strengthened in the Faith and find a voice to share that Good News of Jesus with their world.



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ



The 3-Fold purpose of OAFCC is that we:

- 1. Witness to all about Jesus our Savior**
- 2. Invite the unchurched to the congregation we serve and other youth to join us**
- 3. Train youth and adults to confidently share their faith**

Thank you for hosting a team of Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ. We hope that our time together was a blessing for you as we joined you in carrying this eternal life message to your community.

You have encouraged us by:

- ✦ Praying for God's blessing on our outreach and our ministry
- ✦ Providing us with housing, meals, and transportation
- ✦ Joining us in reaching out to your community and to the lost
- ✦ Allowing us to participate in your Sunday school and worship service
- ✦ Supporting OAFCC with your prayers and financial gifts

This weekend Ambassadors from ___ different churches witnessed about Jesus' love and forgiveness through a witness survey of the community where we spoke to people at ___ homes.

We left Gospel and church literature at another ___ homes where no one was home. During our survey we ask, "Where do you believe you will go when you die?" Most people answered "heaven". Then we ask, "Why do you believe you will go to heaven?"

___ people were sure of going to heaven through what Jesus did for them; ___ said they thought they would go because of their own good works; ___ said they did not know how to get to heaven; and ___ persons did not answer that question or take our survey.

We shared with all who would listen that Jesus gave His life to pay for all their sins that they might be certain of having eternal life with Christ. We spoke to some individuals who are inactive in church or have no church home with whom we also had the opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. From this survey we can report ___ such visits. We also discovered ___ person(s) who is (are) interested in learning more about Jesus Christ their Savior and this church. We ask that you welcome these souls into your midst and pray for them.

O AFC Weekend Worship Participation

Many congregations encourage Ambassador youth to participate in their worship. The four guidelines on the bottom of this page show 4 possible ways the Ongoing Ambassadors may be involved in your church's worship services. The presentation and time allotted are up to the pastor and congregation. These four samples are given simply to show what could be done. Please share your desires with the O AFC director prior to the O AFC weekend. We encourage that congregations at least allow Ambassadors to share the results of the weekend and request congregational prayer and financial support during the worship service.

We also offer Pre-Weekend Bulletin Inserts with information about the O AFC ministry as well as weekend Bulletin Inserts to note the impact of the weekend. The director will email these to you beforehand or bring them with the team when he comes, and if permissible, distribute them along with your worship bulletin.

May this information be helpful in aiding our serving together in Word and Work in Christ's name.

| 45 Minute Matins Participation – Lead Service | 55 Min. Divine Service Participation – Lead Service |
|--|---|
| <p><i>Optional Opening Hymn</i> Invocation – Spoken by the Pastor Venite Song – "Come Let us Go Up to the Mountain" Psalm Song – "You Called Me By Name" OT Reading <i>Optional Puppet Show</i> Epistle <i>Optional Gradual Song – "Sing Hallelujah to the Lord"</i> Gospel Reading Sermon Creed – Spoken or Sung, "Lord of Hope, of Life, of Love" Canticle – "For God So Loved," "Who hath believed..." Offering O AFC Presentation – What is O AFC, Results, Support, Personal Witness Prayers of the Church Lord's Prayer – Spoken or Sung Benediction – Spoken or Sung, "Barocha" Recessional Hymn</p> | <p><i>Optional Opening/Processional Hymn</i> Invocation, Confession & Absolution – Spoken by Pastor Introit/Psalm Hymn – "You Called Me By Name" Hymn of Praise – "This is the Feast," "We Will Glorify" Salutation and Collect OT Reading <i>Optional Puppet Show</i> Epistle Reading Alleluia and Verse – "Alle, Alle," "Sing Hallelujah" Holy Gospel Hymn of the Day – Led by O AFC Sermon Creed – Spoken or Sung, "Lord of Hope, of Life, of Love" Offering & O AFC Presentation – What is O AFC, Results, Support, Personal Witness Prayers of the Church (If no Communion, Conclude with Lord's Prayer, Benediction, and Recessional Hymn) Preface – Spoken by Pastor Sanctus – "Here at the Altar" Words of Institution – Spoken by Pastor Lord's Prayer – Spoken or Sung Agnus Dei/Pre-Communion Hymn – "Lamb of God" Distribution and Communion Hymns – "Communion Gift," "Broken and Poured Out" Post-Communion Hymn – "There is a Redeemer" Post-Communion Collect – Spoken by Pastor Benediction – Spoken or Sung, "Barocha" Recessional Hymn</p> |
| 20 Minute Participation - Presentation | 5 Minute Minimum - Presentation |
| <p>O AFC Song – <i>Usually preservice or Offering</i> Introduce O AFC Ministry Personal Witness Survey Results Presented Sharing the Weekend Impact on First-Timers Invitation for Prayer and Financial Support Puppet Skit – Often between OT and Epistle O AFC Song – <i>to close presentation</i></p> | <p>Introduce O AFC Ministry Sharing Good News Witnessing Method Survey Results Presente Invitation to Prayer and Financial Support</p> |



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ

O AFC's mission is to grow faith within LCMS youth by sharing the Faith with the unchurched.



Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ is hosting outreach and training weekends in your area.



Register to attend these FREE and fun outreach weekends at least 2 weeks before the event.

Contact:

Scan for more information about O AFC weekends and events.



To register or for more info.