



# THE ENCOURAGER

## 2014 In Review: Another Amazing Record Breaking Year!

Martin Wright

2014 was an interesting year at Ogilville Christian church. A year filled with both challenges and opportunities. The year began with a closing due to snow and snow kept us apart on several other occasions during the winter—an unusual circumstance as OCC rarely closes for inclement weather.

Despite the snow days and a sluggish start in terms of attendance, OCC enjoyed an amazing Easter celebration with over 460 people present—it was the only service of the first five months that rose above the 300 in attendance mark.

In May, a flood once again kept us apart, but the flood also marked a turning of the tide at Ogilville as everything began to takeoff in amazing ways. On June 1, we announced the arrival of then interim minister Virgil Clotfelter and our attendance and participation level really began picking up steam..

Our Family Day in late July was an enormous success as was our Preschool Celebration Day in August. Yet amidst all the joy, we also grieved the passing of our dear friend and partner in ministry, Bernie Shaw.

By September, OCC was caught up in an amazing time of revival, one which continues even unto the time of this writing. Our Make A Difference campaign was extremely powerful and popular and our first of its kind Friend and Neighbor Day brought over 400 folks to a single service! A feat which amazingly would be repeated just a few weeks later during our children's Christmas musical.

Thanks in no small part to a strong finish, OCC set a new all time attendance record in 2014, averaging 297 people in our weekend services.



### New Preaching Series

## The Un-Opened Gift

Martin Wright

God has equipped each one of us with unique gifts talents and abilities. Unfortunately, many of us have failed to unpack these gifts and to put

them to use in the body of Christ. This new three week series begins the first Sunday of 2015 and it provides a practical mechanism for discover-

ing, developing and delivering our gifts talents and abilities so that we might utilize them to serve the Lord.



# Faith for the Future

Virgil Clotfelter

WOW!! 2015 is upon us. Despite all the changes and uncertainties it will bring our way there is one constant—God! I can't imagine facing the future without the sure and steady assurance that our God never changes and His truth is absolute and forever. The knowledge of His faithfulness helps me anticipate the good to come. That is His promise!

What I pray and work for, is a better understanding of the definition of "good". It is often the

case that my ideas and God's ideas are not the same. Check out Isaiah 55:8-9 to see how far more excellent are His thoughts. Since He is sovereign and perfect, I need to better learn to trust what He allows in my life and the intentions He has for all that comes. To be honest, I find this hard, as I'm rather sure that you do too. Help us, Lord!

That is where faith and trust in His character, His promises, and His Word are so vital and necessary for us to have the proper outlook

on things. He is omniscient—that is all knowing and He sees the entire BIG picture. His design for my life (and yours friends!) is the best we can hope for and receive. Join me in entering this new year with a faith that really believes these things are true about our God and His divine plan and wonderful love for us. Look out 2015! Here we are with an abiding trust in our awesome God.



## Ministry Luncheon

A special Ministry Leaders' luncheon will be held Sunday, January 4th immediately following the morning message in the fellowship hall. Hosted by the OCC Elders, this luncheon will provide an opportunity for the 2015 Ministry Budget Requests to be reviewed. This meeting also provides an opportunity for all of our ministry leaders to share their visions, hopes and dreams with one another. Contact 342-6907 for ?'s

## Librarian Needed

We have the beginnings of a library! Now, in order to get it ready for operation, we need your help. Tasks to complete the library include: labeling books, shelving them in order and establishing the operating hours. This is a great job for someone who loves books and working with people. A sign-up sheet is available in the Life Center or you may contact the Loves at 812-552-1807.

## Do you miss your dish?

Dishes are still waiting for pick-up from the last funeral dinner at OCC. Presently they are located in the coat closet off the main hall. Please check to see if you have forgotten your dish. Any unclaimed dishes will be removed by January 18th.



## Christmas Memories



# OCC Property Sold

OCC received a donation of property which was auctioned and sold on December 19th via on-line only auction through Mensendick's Auction Services. The property is located at 41 Reo Street in Columbus, Indiana 47201. Property sale closed on Monday, December 29th. Gross sale was \$26,100.00, expenses were \$2,144.40 and net to the church 'building fund' is \$23,955.60

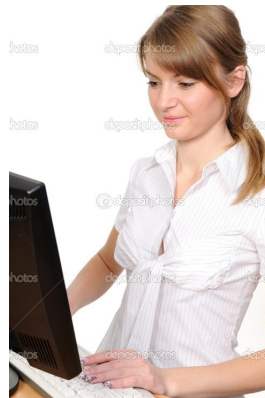


## Electronic Giving: Fast, Easy, & Secure

Support the work of our church through Electronic Giving. Have your weekly or monthly contribution debited from your checking or savings account and transferred directly into the church account safely and electronically—you'll never have to remember your check-book again!

Get started today! Visit our church website

[www.occtoday.org](http://www.occtoday.org)



## Yearly Offering Envelopes

Yearly tithe envelopes are now available for pick-up at the Life Center. If you currently don't have envelopes and would like them, please contact the office @ 342-6907.



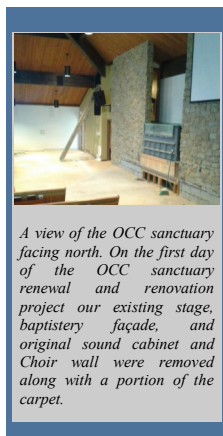
# Sanctuary Renovation

“See, I am doing a new thing! *Even* now it springs up...” Isaiah 43:19

Our church is growing. That is pretty exciting in and of itself given that “between the years 2010 and 2012, more than half of all churches in America did not add one new member.” In fact, religious statistician Thom Ranier suggests more than 8,000 American churches had to close their doors in 2014. But in Ogilville, Indiana a church is growing—our church is growing!

With nearly 300 people worshipping here each weekend, and more than 400 worshipping with us on special occasions, we have to find some creative ways to maximize our building space. We also need to address the issues relating to 35 years worth of wear and tear on our existing sanctuary carpet and pews. And then there is the stage that

is too small to accommodate all of our children when we present a program. And....well, I could go on, but you get the idea—the time to remodel our sanctuary is upon us.



A view of the OCC sanctuary facing north. On the first day of the OCC sanctuary renewal and renovation project our existing stage, baptistery façade, and original sound cabinet and Choir wall were removed along with a portion of the carpet.

After years of planning and preparation, the OCC Sanctuary renewal and renovation began on Monday,

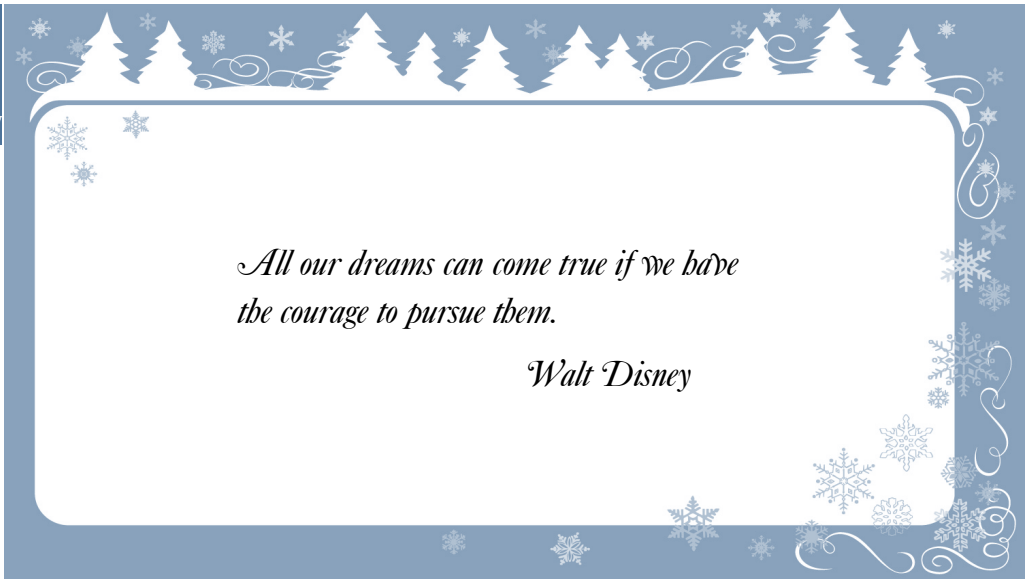
December 29th at 7:00 a.m. Our remodeled sanctuary will feature a new and expanded stage, a raised multimedia center, a center aisle, new seating, new carpet, and fresh paint. Of course, between now and the comple-

tion of the project, OCC members should expect some minor inconveniences as we worship in an active construction zone, but we anticipate these challenges will be short lived and it is our hope to have the project completed in just a few weeks.

I hope you will join me in joyful and supportive anticipation of these necessary changes and improvements to our building. God is doing such wonderful things at OCC and it is our prayerful intent to stretch and grow to the fullest extent God would have us do. We sense God is doing something new and amazing in and through our congregation and in a way this remodel reflects that.

7891 W. 450 S., Columbus, In 47201  
812-342-6907  
Email: [occsecretary@comcast.net](mailto:occsecretary@comcast.net)  
**Website & Electronic Giving:**  
[www.occtoday.org](http://www.occtoday.org)

Martin Wright, Minister 812-374-7528  
Martin Peterson, Elder 812-371-7679  
John Hundley, Elder 812-552-5067  
Lucky Jenkins, Elder 812-374-2832  
Norman Love, Elder 812-552-1807  
Don Bradley, Elder 812-445-3611



# January Events



## anniversaries & birthdays

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Alan Murphy<br>Madelynn Emily<br>Zech & Julie Riggs*       | 14 Ruby Hale<br>Angela Lee<br>Barbara Burkman<br>Logan Smith<br>Don Williams |
| 4 Sandy Johnson  | 15 Jonathan Foust  |
| 5 Linda Emily  | 18 Brian Wichman   |
| 6 Mona Peterson<br>Chuck Fleetwood                           | 22 Thom Barnett  |
| 7 George Meek  | 27 Lexi Stadler<br>David & Julie Petro*                                      |
| 8 Abigail Folz<br>Brad Ostrander                             | 28 Greg & Betsy Hundley*   |
| 9 Becki Meek   | 30 Sharon Kropack<br>Jaleb Buck<br>Abbigale Humbel                           |
| 10 Hayden Johns<br>Brooke Mouser                             | 31 Sylvina Hornback  |
| 11 Kyla Jones<br>Ashlyn Perry<br>Liza Newman<br>Sydney Lewis |  |

## what's on the calendar?

- ◆ 1.4 Donut Sunday 9:30-9:50am  
Budget Luncheon 11:45am
- ◆ 1.17 Men's Fellowship Bkfst 7am
- ◆ 1.25 Hilltop Polar Plunge & work day
- ◆ Tuesdays: A.M. Women's Bible Study  
9-11:00a.m OCC café

