



THE ENCOURAGER

The Story Opens

by Martin Wright

This past weekend OCC embarked on an incredible journey through the Bible and the initial response has been amazing! The building was buzzing with excitement after the service as folks picked up their Bible reading guides and devotional study tools. It was thrilling to hear the enthusiasm of a young married couple that couldn't wait to begin their journey through God's story together. It was awesome to hear one of our teens share how this study was just what they needed right now. Our launch weekend witnessed many committing themselves to reading through God's word, being faithful in church attendance, and, most importantly, making decisions for Christ.

Less than twenty four hours after the launch, one of our pre-school moms shared, "I just have to tell you this campaign we are starting is already working. Our four year old son came home from church yesterday and said, 'Mom, do I have a Bible, because I need to be reading my Bible.'" She went on to describe how her husband sat down and began reading the Bible to her son that very

night! God be praised.

During this powerful campaign we will approach the Bible in a chronological fashion, placing Bible events in their historical order as we attempt to see how God is writing His story across history. Each week we will look at a number of passages of scripture. A reading list which includes all of the passages of scripture we will be engaging during each week of the campaign is available at the OCC Life Center and in the church office. These guides make it easy for folks to follow along in their favorite translation of the Bible. For convenience and ease of access, we are also making available copies of the devotional tool entitled "The Story." In *The Story*, the Bible reading for each week has been reprinted directly from the NIV Bible into a devotional tool formatted so that readers complete one chapter of *The Story* for each week of the campaign. Each chapter also includes brief commentary by author Max Lucado to move us from one historical event to the next in an

informed way. (The suggested donation for a copy of *The Story* is \$8.50, however, if this cost is prohibitive, OCC is happy to provide you with this resource at no cost.) Whether you read the texts from your own Bible or if you read those same Bible passages reprinted in *The Story*, the important thing is that you are reading God's story and coming to understand the big picture of how it all fits together. In fact, we hope folks will come to discover their own place in God's story.

A Bible teaching series and group study over the material we are reading is open to anyone willing and wishing to learn more about God's amazing story. A study group will meet in the sanctuary from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. each Sunday of the campaign for a Bible lesson and discussion. Each weekend's sermon will also be drawn from the passages you have read and copies of each week's message and sermon notes are available.



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The Story Joins Women's Bible Study

Along with the entire church, OCC's Tuesday morning ladies' Bible study will be gathering to study *The Story* and invite you to join in. As of now, the group is completing a previous study which will end on October 8th. They will then turn their full attention to *The Story*, jumping in on Week 3 right alongside our Sunday schedule. In addition to the weekly readings, the group will be utilizing *The Story: Personal Journal & Discussion Guide*.

The Story: Personal Journal & Discussion Guide is designed to accompany *The Story, NIV: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and His People*. The questions are intended to enhance personal devotions by guiding each participant to more fully understand the text and by encouraging individuals to find ways to apply what they've learned to everyday life. Personal questions help put each participant in the place of the people they're reading about and help

small group members get to know each other. Hearing others' stories enriches everyone and makes more evident the hand of God at work today.

If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Mona Peterson at 342-2962. *The Story* is recommended for ease of reading but not required. Copies of *The Story: Personal Journal & Discussion Guide* will be printed for each participant.

Sunday School Teaching Opportunities

Young children model their behaviors after adults who are special and significant to them. We are seeking someone with the desire to be that model and help the children at OCC know Jesus as a loving, caring person who they will want to be like. Our 2-3 year old class is looking to recruit a new certified Sunday

School teacher in the near future. We desire for our teachers to instruct from the overflow of their heart and not from pressure to serve so please, be in prayer as to whether you are being lead into ministry with our children.

There are also three openings avail-

able as a teacher's helper. These positions may be filled by anyone with the desire to lend a helping hand with our children. For any inquiries regarding the existing positions, please contact Lucky Jenkins at 342-4271.

Vintage Christmas

Vintage Christmas is centered around the special Christmas memories women have come to love and adore, and exploring the very center of all our Christmas traditions—the birth of Jesus. Women will enjoy getting to know one another as they share their own Christmas traditions and memories. They'll also be challenged to keep Christ at the center



together to celebrate the reason for the season—Jesus!

Sign up will be available from Oc-

tober 20 to November 17. Two evenings, Dec. 6 & 13 are available. Maximum of 20 participants per evening. Contacts for this event are Becki Meek and Kathleen Schwein.

Women's Ministry Event

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Twenty OCC members have committed to the six week GODFIT Training Series that kicks-off on 10/6! The purpose of GODFIT is for each participant to focus on developing their relationship with Christ through Spiritual Wellness, Physical Wellness, and Healthy Choices. Each participant is focused on



becoming "Fit for Christ, Fit for Life." If you know someone who is participating, reach out to them and show your support! If you have any questions about how you can get involved, contact John Hayden 317-374-9369.



Mission Minded

24/7 prayer for Team

Always Keep on Praying...

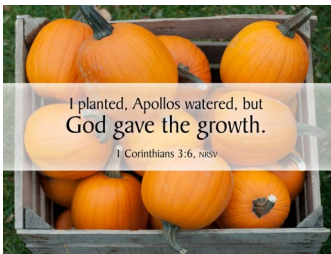
And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.
Eph. 6:18

OCC's Mission Team trip to the Apache reservation is fast approaching. The team would like to be covered in 24/7 prayer. A prayer schedule is available in the foyer for sign up times. Please commit to praying for us at a specific time each day from October 12-19. We need your prayers and support.

Light Up the Night

Trunk or Treat sponsored by Jesus Jam

On October 31st, our students will be coordinating a night of fun, food and festivities for our younger children. We are hosting our very first OCC Trunk or Treat, with the theme being **Light Up**



The Night. We want our corner to shine with the love and hope of Je-

sus Christ. We will have MANY cars surrounding our parking lots with trunks that are decorated (Noah's Ark, Flintstones, Flower Power, etc..) and each trunk will be filled with Fall treats for the children.

Each trunk will have a poster with scripture about being light or **The**

Light. We will also have hotdogs and drinks. Please plan to participate by being a trunk host, provide treats or food OR by bringing your sweet kiddos and your neighborhood kids to a fun Fall evening. The event times are 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. If you have questions, please call Sherry Yeaton @ 812-764-2967



Wild Horse Ministries

Wild Horse Ministries puts on an exciting show where they break a local horse to ride, using biblical principals. It is a free show and kid friendly. Paul Daily is part of this ministry. He relates horse training with God based on trust, faith, obe-



dience and love. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets & sunglasses to the 4-H Fairgrounds on October 5th at 4 pm. Food & drinks will be available for purchase. For more information, go online to www.wildhorseministries.com.



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812-342-6907



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



We Exist to

- ...celebrate God's Presence through Worship. (Jn 4:23-24)
- ...communicate God's Word through Evangelism. (Rom 10:13)
- ...demonstrate God's Love through Ministry. (Jn 13:35)
- ...educate God's People through Discipleship. (Eph 4:11-13)
- ...unite God's People through Fellowship. (1 Jn 1:3)



FALL Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Faye Nay | 14 Lisa Pardue |
| Kevin & Pam Day* | 15 Robin Dorsett |
| 3 David Johnson | Dennis & Shanyn Murphy* |
| 4 Larry Grimes | 16 Tucker Poindexter |
| 5 Jim Campbell | 17 Reese Pruitt |
| Claudine Bowers | Jill Horne |
| 6 Megan Mullins | 18 Jim Phegley |
| Martin Peterson | Drew Robison |
| BJ & Kathleen Schwein* | 20 Denise Robison |
| 7 Pam Day | Shelby Miller |
| 8 Kaitlyn Mitchell | Andy & Kera Helwig* |
| Bryan & Paula Brown* | Don & Kathy Bradley* |
| 9 Linda Murphy | 21 Irene Eastham |
| 10 Michelle Hatchett | 22 Melody Wilson |
| Fred & Melody Wilson* | 24 Dean & Linda Murphy |
| 12 Madison Moore | 25 Susan Hundley |
| Emma Long | 26 Chad & Lisa Stadler* |
| Ben & Benita Wagner* | 28 Michael & Jill Horne* |
| Steve & Scarlett Pruitt* | Hayden Meek |
| 13 Nathan Sparks | 29 Fred & Margaret King* |
| Don Bradley | 30 Nadine Campbell |
| Lee Ostrander | 31 Kathy Bradley |



EVENTS

- Sunday night service every Sunday evening 6:30 –7:30 pm
- 6th Donut Sunday—9:30-9:50 am
- Oct. 12-19 Mission Trip
- 19th Men's Fellowship Breakfast
- 26th Hilltop Handcrafted Bazar
- 31st Trunk or Treat "Light Up the Night"