

# The Encourager

*Christmas Edition*

## *Events and Happenings...*



### *Ornaments on the Tree, November 30*



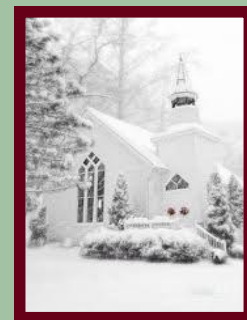
Hanging of Christmas ornaments and Prayer service will be incorporated into our morning and evening worship services Sunday, Nov. 30th. Families are encouraged to be present during this very special time.

### *Children's Program December 7th & 14th*

*Details page 2*

### *Christmas Sunday, December 21*

Sunday, December 21 at 10am and 6:30pm. Music and message will share the warmth of the Christmas season in a special and memorable way. The day promises to be a special one as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.



### *An Unforgettable Christmas Eve Event*



Did you know that one of the first worship services ever held by the founders of Ogilville Christian Church was a Christmas Eve service? One hundred and twenty seven years later, we continue this important church tradition as we host our Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m. on December 24th. It's an event that harkens back to an even older celebration, over 2000 years ago, when a group of shepherds were treated to an impromptu concert under the stars performed by the choir of heaven celebrating the birth of Jesus. Two millennia later we still gather on Christmas Eve to celebrate the arrival of our Savior in song, meditation, special music and a candle lighting event. Please join us for this moving Christmas event.

### *A Call to Finish Well December 28<sup>th</sup>*

The last worship service of this history making year at OCC calls all of us to finish well! We will celebrate some of the many wonderful moments of the past year and we will also remember how God sustained us through some of the more difficult moments. The service also challenges us not to carry burdens and troubles into the New Year, but to lay them down once and for all as we close out 2014 with an intentional time of unburdening. This service incorporates an inspiring message with a unique closing activity that takes the entire congregation to the foot of the cross.



## FRIEND & NEIGHBOR DAY “HUGE SUCCESS”

MARTIN WRIGHT



was an incredible success with over

Wow! God really blessed our efforts and our Friend and Neighbor Day

400 folks attending the morning service easily setting the single service record. The day also represented the largest non-Easter attendance in OCC history and the fifth largest multiple service attendance with 443 being present for the day. Of course those num-

bers represent real people who were present to be challenged and inspired by our ministry and we are pleased to report that many of our guests have returned in the weeks since to continue worshipping with us.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

BETSY HUNDLEY

### KIDZ ZONE PROGRAM



We're dishing up an unforgettable Christmas for you this year with our elementary children's musical, The Night

Shift Before Christmas, on Sunday, December 7th at 10:00am and 6:30pm.

Owner Mo has announced that the overnight business is just too slow, even with the recent census crowds, to justify staying open all night anymore. But head waitress Flo has a heart for those night-shift shepherds, the local innkeeper and the other regulars who frequent the eatery in

the wee hours for their signature falafels and MLTs (mutton, lettuce and tomato sandwich).

Mo's complaint that "nothing ever happens at night in this sleepy little town" goes down the drain with the dirty dishwasher when a brilliant light splits the darkness over the fields outside of town, and surprised shepherds burst through the doors with a stunning tale of angels and an amazing birth announcement. Soon, the late-night crowd is bristling with excitement to join the shepherds to see and worship the long-awaited Savior, born during the night shift — right there in Bethlehem!

We hope you'll attend and invite family and friends as well for this very special holiday event.

### WEE WORSHIP & HIS KIDS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



A long time ago, on one very special night, Baby Jesus was born to be our Savior. We get to celebrate that special night again and again, year after year! Journey back to that very first Christmas night and celebrate the Savior's birth. Share the joy of this special night with our Wee Worship and His Kids children as they present "A Night Like No Other" on Sunday, December 14th at 10:00 am.

### OCC COOKBOOKS

Christmas is a great time to gift someone on your Christmas list with an OCC "A Heritage Collection" cookbook. Books are only \$15.00. So many wonderfully tasty recipes were contributed that are sure to be welcomed in anyone's kitchen. There are plenty of books available at the Life Center or in the office.

### OCC LIBRARY BEGINNINGS

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.

### SENIOR OUTING

Attention seniors! If you love Christmas decorations, music, and of course love to eat out, the Kopper Kettle restaurant is the perfect opportunity! Reservations for 12

people have been made on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm. For December, the Kopper Kettle is beautifully decorated for Christmas throughout the building. (Marijane and I went last year. The food is superb and the décor was outstanding.) We will leave the church at 10:30am and carpool or caravan to the restaurant. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Life Center until December 13<sup>th</sup>. Come join us!! Contact Norm Love for questions at 812-552-1807.

## “THE DIVINE NEXT” ...

VIRGIL CLOTFELTER

Six months of OCC ministry are now under our belts. My, how time flies when you're having fun! Dorri and I want to repeat and emphasize how thankful and appreciative we both are of the way you have welcomed, accepted, and allowed us to join you in the marvelous work God is doing here at Ogilville Christian Church. My favorite thing to say about this opportunity is that OCC has been a “God-send.” And, com-

ing out of the Thanksgiving season, thanks seems to be a proper thing to share with you. Thank you, one and all.

We can never rest on our laurels. There's much more to be done. There's an enemy to counter. There are lost ones to bring to the fold. There are wanderers who need to return. There are young believers who need to grow and

mature in the Lord. And, there is a community and world that needs our caring touch. As 2015 emerges and we move into “the divine next,” let us move forward with zeal and passion, keeping in mind Paul's words in Galatians 5:6b, **“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself in love.”** This is what will help us fulfill our calling and **“MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”** In Christ, *Virgil*

## NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MEG MULLINS

Greetings, I hope all of you enjoyed your time counting your blessings from God. As we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I ask that you prayerfully consider how you can use your gifts and talents to serve in the nursery at OCC. I am seeking volunteers (Certified and

Helpers) for the 2015 New Year. You have an opportunity to glorify God by loving, caring, playing, singing, and reading to the children during morning service. Another way you can serve in the nursery is by sanitizing the toys and play areas to ensure the health of our children. I may also

need additional assistance in January/February as I will be giving birth to our baby girl around January 20<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to know more details or have other ideas how you can serve, please contact me (812) 216-7655 and [mmullins@familyservicebc.org](mailto:mmullins@familyservicebc.org). There is a sign-up sheet at the Life Center.

*“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10*

## WHAT'S UP WITH JESUS JAM

MARK & SHERRY YEATON

November was great, with our Multi Youth event (with well more than 100 in attendance), an in depth study of the book of Esther and our Teen Worship on Friends/Family Day.

Here are the events planned for December...

- ◆ December 4th — Cheer Fund packing
- ◆ December 7th — Bake Sale- Jesus Jam will sponsor another

bake sale in the café after church. There will be many goodies to choose from. Donation style sale, see you there!

- ◆ December 11th—Caroling to shut-ins
- ◆ December 18th—Christmas Party

### Clothing Drive

Please help our area homeless! The number of homeless people continues to grow in our area. In Decem-

ber, Jesus Jam will sponsor a food drive (and new and gently used blankets and socks) to help this group of people. Please donate ready to eat items, such as cans w/ pull top lids (tuna, beanie weenies, pasta...), nuts, dried fruit, \$5 gift cards to McDonalds, personal hygiene items and baby wipes. A box or area will be designed in the foyer.

**An exciting and meaningful December is on the way!!**

## PRE SCHOOL NEWS

FROM MISS SHERRY

We are having such fun!! We had a wonderful November with our Grandparent's Night and Thanksgiving Dinners. In December we are working hard on our academics and learning all about the true meaning of Christmas. This is a busy month for us, parties, program and field trips.

So much to see and do, but we are staying focused and completing this semester with a strong finish!!

Also, OCC Pre School will be hosting a Book Fair on Monday, Dec. 1st and Tuesday, December 2nd in the café from 9am to noon.

The company is *Bare Feet* books. Books are always great Christmas gifts!! This a fundraiser for our Pre School. If you have little ones in you life, please stop by and shop our Book Fair.

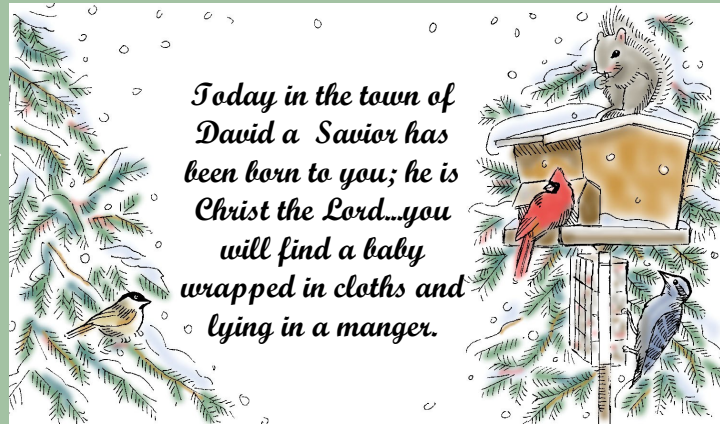
Have a Merry Christmas!!



# Ogilville Christian Church

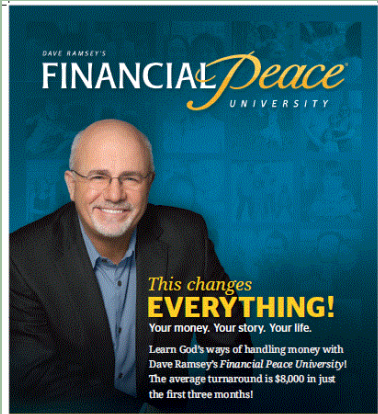
... making a difference today

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



*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord...you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.*

Martin Wright, Minister	812-374-7528
Virgil Clotfelter Asst.Intm.Min.	812-376-3766
Don Bradley, Elder	812-445-3611
John Hundley, Elder	812-552-5067
Lucky Jenkins, Elder	812-374-2832
Norman Love, Elder	812-552-1807
Martin Peterson, Elder	812-371-7679



Ogilville Christian Church  
 Feb. 8 - Apr. 12  
 Sundays 6pm  
 No class Easter Sunday  
 Scholarships Available  
 Contact Kelly Strahl  
 812-277-6482

If you would like to receive a copy of the Encourager either by mail or email please contact Mona Peterson @ 812-342-2962 or [monapeterson@earthlink.net](mailto:monapeterson@earthlink.net). You may also contact the OCC office.



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES\*

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Brenda Fleetwood            | 15 Jerry & Brenda Bruner*    |
| 2 Wayne & Char Roller*        | 15 Daniel & Charlene Folz*   |
| Joe Acton                     | 16 Paula Fetter              |
| Mark Shireman                 | 17 Cheryl Moody              |
| 3 Avery Schwein               | 17 Jr & Cathy Clubb*         |
| 4 Curtis Emily                | 19 Alice Ostrander           |
| 5 Charity Hall                | 20 Derek & Robin Ramp*       |
| 6 Annie Day                   | 20 Marilyn Mullins           |
| 7 Emily May                   | 21 Kathy Moffett             |
| Fred Wilson                   | 23 Christian Wichman         |
| Dewayne & Christina Holwager* | 24 Roy & Janie Faulkner*     |
| 8 Christina McCord            | 25 Patrick & Grace Peterson* |
| 9 Andrea Huston               | Itzel Thomas                 |
| 10 Scout Fisher               | 29 Wesley Hatchett           |
| 10 Jerry Reeves               | 29 Jason Perry               |
| 10 Shianna Hurt               | Georgie Bruner               |
| 11 Samantha Sparks            | 30 Marcus Murray             |
| 11 Mark & Gayla Shireman      | 31 David & Sandy Johnson*    |
| 12 Kelly Strahl               | Dennis & Rhonda Schwein*     |
| 13 Norshel Gilley             | Callan Jones                 |
| Lee Ostrander                 |                              |

## DECEMBER EVENTS

- 30 Hanging Tree Ornaments
- 4 & 6 Kidz Zone Dress Rehearsals
- 7 Donut Sunday, Children's Christmas Program 10am/6:30pm  
Jesus Jam Bake Sale 11:30am
- 9 Area Men's Fellowship Meal 7pm @ OCC
- 13 Baby Shower Meg Mullins 11am—1pm OCC Café
- 14 Wee Worship/His Kidz Christmas Program 10am
- 18 Kopper Kettle outing (see article pg. 2)
- 20 Men's Fellowship Breakfast @ OCC 7-8:30am
- 24 Christmas Eve Service 7pm
- 24—26 Office Closed
  - 31 & 1 Office Closed

Birthday corrections/additions should be directed to the OCC office.  
 Encourager: Edited by Kathleen Schwein; Article design, Layout & Publishing by Mona Peterson