

THE ENCOURAGER

February Calendar

- 7 Super Sunday
8am Service/Donuts
Super Sunday Evng
Srvc 6:30pm
- 13 Hot Meal Site, Open
11:00, Meal served
from 11:30-12:30
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 19 & 20 Junior Retreat
Grades 3-6 Hilltop
- 20 Men's Breakfast 7am
- 21 Ruthanna's 90th
Birthday Celebration
after 10:00am Srvc
Polar Plunge 3:30pm
@ Hilltop
- 28 Zech Ordination
6:30pm No Sun.
Evng Srvc

During the Week:

Mon. Common Grounds
Tues. AM WBS 9-11:30am
Canceled 2/2 & 2/9
Wed. Co-Adult Bible study
7pm
Wed. BLAST
Thurs. JJ



The Little Church That Can

Martin Wright

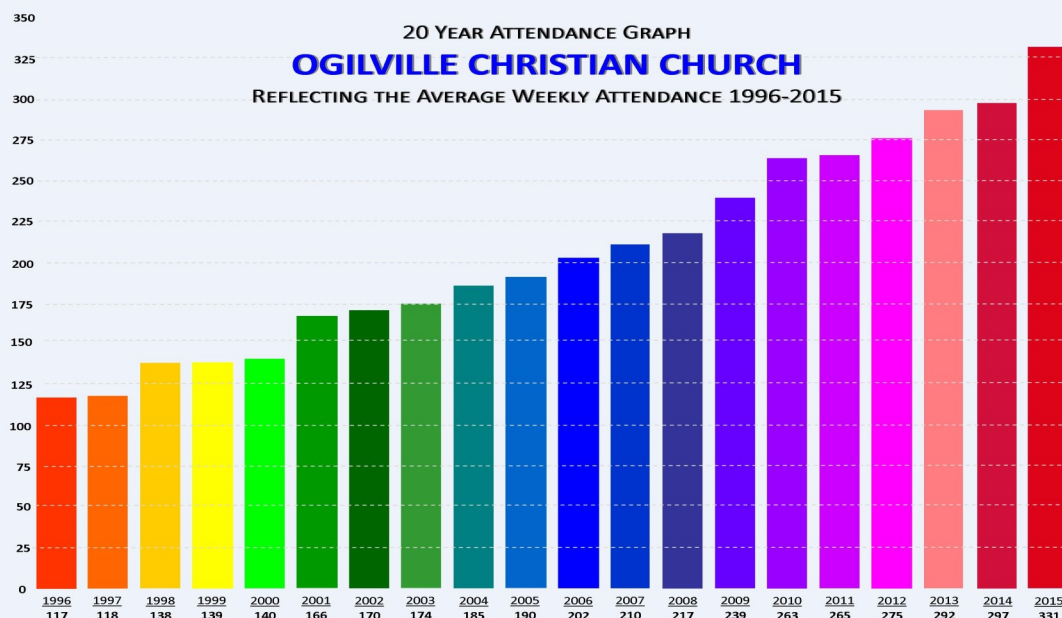
Like the little engine that thought it could do something big, our once little church has proven it can, too! For twenty straight years, Ogilville Christian Church has experienced attendance growth. Over the past two decades the congregation has nearly tripled in size, growing from a congregation of 114 weekly attendees in 1996 to a congregation of 331 weekly attendees in 2015.

It's a feat that is perhaps even more impressive when one understands that many rural churches in America have either ceased to grow or are losing members. In fact, in their book "Legacy Churches"; Dr. Stephen Gray and Dr. Franklin Dumond

claim that "roughly 80 percent of the churches in America are in a state of plateau or decline." Church research specialist and consultant Thom Ranier recently indicated that between 8,000 and 10,000 churches are closing each year. Rural churches in communities with declining populations are especially vulnerable, yet Ogilville Christian Church continues to thrive and to grow year after year!

Ogilville Christian's minister, Martin Wright, described the situation as "a God thing!" "It's one of those occasions where you see all the reasons it should be impossible for this church to do what it's doing: declining popula-

tion around the church, located in a rural community, the church is over 100 years old, the preacher isn't young, hip, or cool and our facilities are undersized. And yet, in spite of all the obstacles to growth, we grow anyway!" "It's a God thing and it is absolutely awesome to be a part of it!" The recent addition of a third worship opportunity, the hiring of an additional fulltime staff member, and ongoing outreach and discipleship strategies have only accelerated the growth. Truly, it is an amazing time for Ogilville Christian Church.



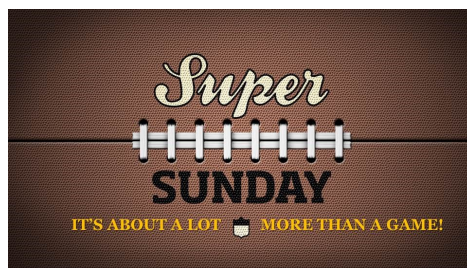
Super Sunday...More Than a Game!

Martin Wright

February 7th is going to be an awesome Sunday at OCC. We are asking our members and guests to help us sack hunger by bringing canned goods to OCC. In fact, **we are hoping to collect 1,000 cans of food** which will be distributed to local families this winter.

In addition, Super Sunday is all about great fellowship and the day is filled with multiple opportunities for getting to know one another. Our 8:00 a.m. service concludes with doughnuts in the fellowship

hall. Our 10:00 a.m. service concludes with a hot dog and chips tail gate party. Our evening service will



occur at half time of the big game, and we will watch the game together

er starting at 6:30 p.m. in the OCC café. It's a pitch in styled party, so bring along some munchies and a bottle of soda if you decide to attend.

Super Sunday also includes great preaching, or perhaps it would be better to say preaching about great things, as we culminate the preaching series "Greater Things." Whichever service you attend, we think you will find February 7 will be a super day at OCC! Don't forget your canned goods!

Looking Forward to Upcoming Sermons...



Jan 31—Feb 7
"Greater Things" is an up close look at the great commandment and the great

commission that is sure to challenge, inspire and energize your faith walk.



Feb 14—Feb 21
"The Art of Loving" God is the creator of love. Join us as we explore 8 principles

that are sure to improve your capacity to love God and to love others.



March 27th is
Easter Sunday. We want to remind you that Easter comes a little early this year.

Mark your calendars for this blessed day, it's special events and be sure to invite a friend.

Evangelism Team Review - Feet on the Street Ministries

Faye Michael

The goal of our team is outlined in Romans 10:15 and Isaiah 58:6-7. We desire to be the "beautiful feet" who bring good news, break the chains of injustice, untie the cords of the yoke, set the oppressed free and break every yoke. We want to share food with the hungry, provide the poor wanderer with shelter and hope, clothe the naked and build up and encourage others in His Spirit.

How will we accomplish these goals? Only thru the direction of Holy Spirit. He is free to move and direct us as is His will. This is not our team, this is His team. We do not take our work for the Lord lightly. We are actively involved with two of our elders for spiritual accountability and protection. We also have 7 intercessors

who are always in the loop as to what is happening with our team and what ministry God is leading us to next. Our desire is to be a connecting team for all of the other ministry teams by intertwining with some of their ministries and sharing the needs that God shows us.

We teamed up with the Feed the Hungry Team and launched our first Coats for Christ Ministry in December which resulted in the collection of 115 coats. Helping people try on coats and seeing the tears of joy in their eyes is a matchless treasure. Feeling God's presence loving on them as they tried on coats brought me to tears! What a joy it is to watch where God is and to join Him there. We are actively involved in exploring ways to embrace and welcome

our visitors through a cookie ministry and contemplating how we can recognize and get to know our visitors on a more personal note. An upcoming ministry for our team will involve a Street Ministry with our surrounding community. This Spring we will kick-off our street ministry by giving with love in the name of Jesus a flower to our neighbors around us. Why a flower? God's glory in nature reflects who He is. Why not give away His character? Spring time flowers represent a time of refreshing and new beginnings. There is much to say about giving in His name and in His love.

For more information or to get involved, feel free to contact me at michael0004@att.net.

Men's Breakfast Fellowship

Developing Better Men, Accountable Men, Better Leaders

Dave Frederickson

2016 is our 4th year and we have been greatly blessed. When Wayne and I started the Men's Breakfast in 2013, our goal was two-fold. First, we wanted to create an environment that would allow men to build closer relationships with God and closer relationships with each other. As you know, men are funny creatures; our need for relationships is usually greater than our willingness to make the efforts needed to build them. We thought food was a great mechanism to draw men together. Second, we believe that building those relationships in-turn will make us better men, more accountable men and better leaders in our homes, churches, workplaces and world. I believe with God's blessing and our work those goals are being accomplished and we are blessed to be a part of it.

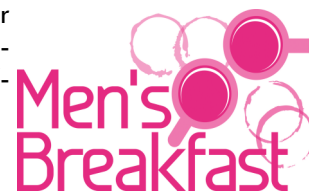
We meet on the 3rd Saturday of

every month in the OCC fellowship hall at 7am. I would like to tell you we haven't missed a month over the past 3 years, but we have had to cancel few times for schedule conflicts, holidays and weddings. We are hopeful that record will improve as we have asked some of the regular attendees to help us prepare so that one, we can get those interested involved, but also, so Wayne and I will have back-ups if we are unable to host.

Wayne and I get started around 5:30am and prepare a pretty manly menu. Typically: biscuits, made-from-scratch sausage gravy, bacon, eggs and fried potatoes. Breakfast is ready around 7am. We then have a short blessing over the meal and eat. Around 7:30am, Wayne or I share a short devotion we have prepared and how we feel it relates to our lives

and roles as men in our workplaces, churches and homes. The discussion is then opened to the entire group so they too can contribute their insights and interpretation. In closing, we share our praises and concerns with each other and close the meeting in prayer. We usually wrap up pretty close to 8, but sometimes we run to 8:30.

Men age 16 and up are welcome to attend and we vary in number from 6 to 25, but typically have an average of 15. All I can say is that men that come once often come back. Anyone with questions can contact me, Dave Frederickson @ (812-371-0956) or Wayne Roller @ (317-432-2356).



New Bible Class Lesson Series

Virgil Clotfelter

"Why Don't I Get What I Pray For?" "How Do I Know God Is Really There?"

The Bible class that meets in the OCC sanctuary has just launched a new study series on Sunday mornings. The lessons are "FAITH: Trusting and Depending On God." Here's a synopsis of the study lessons: "If you ever struggle

with uncertainties about faith, you find good company in the pages of the Bible. In these studies you'll meet people who asked questions like those above, and you'll learn from the biblical examples of faithful people. Asking hard ques-

tions is the first step in your journey to deeper trust." The class meets Sundays, from 9:10-9:45am in the OCC sanctuary. Everyone is welcome! Be sure to bring your Bible.

*The wind blows
wherever it pleases.
You hear its sound,
but you cannot tell
where it comes
from or where it is
going. So it is with
everyone born of
the Spirit."*

John 3:8

Growing in Numbers, Growing in God



OCC has seen an abundance of growth in just the first month of 2016. We want to introduce those friends and families that have given their lives to Christ and decided to make OCC their church home. On January 3rd, Isaac & Victoria Carter were baptized by their father, Brion. Nelson and Nancy Lee along with their daughter, Cynthia Southern, transferred their membership. The following Sunday, January 10th, Hayden &

Emilee Mosier were baptized by their parents, Cody & Jessica Mosier. Debbie Fleetwood was baptized along with Kenny Eisele (Kelly Strahl's father) by minister Martin Wright. Carolyn Eisele, Kenny's wife, transferred her membership and Kristina Potts rededicated her life. During service on January 17th, Cody & Jessica Mosier along with children Baylee, Layton, Hayden & Emilee made OCC their church home. That

same day, Zech Riggs baptized Shawn Fields into the family of God. This past Sunday, January 24th, Sarah Fields (Shawn's wife) made OCC her church home and her brother, Brian Barriger, was baptized into God's family. Perry Shepard, husband of Gail, made OCC his church home. Welcome new members of OCC, we are so blessed to have you here as part of the body of Christ!

Ogilville Christian Church

... making a difference today

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FEBRUARY



Birthdays

Anniversaries

Bobby & Elizabeth Lockherd	February 3
Nathan & Jeannie Long	February 8
Darrell & Mary Lucas	February 10
Willard & Peggy Smith	February 14
John & Susan Hundley	February 16
Josh & Jessie Meek	February 20
Jeff & Marcia Potts	February 21
Brian & Cathy Wichman	February 25

Jerry Hall	February 2
Faye Michael	February 2
Wendy Horne	February 3
Isaac Kerkhof	February 3
Darrell Lucas	February 4
Rick Hatchett	February 5
Lucky Jenkins	February 6
Dominic Piper	February 6
Morris Bolin	February 7
Harold Hutchinson	February 7
Bill Allen	February 9
Olivia Fuel	February 9
Cheryl Jenkins	February 9
Fred King	February 10
Clara Emmerson	February 11

Scarlett Pruitt	February 11
Myra Hurt	February 12
Julie Petro	February 13
Judy Kirby	February 13
Charlotte Moss	February 13
Grace Mullins	February 13
Jerry Bruner	February 14
Eric Carlson	February 14
Joseph Miller	February 14
Emma Ramp	February 15
Garrett Long	February 16
Susan G. Hundley	February 17
Cameron Hardwick	February 18
Sidney Wilcoxon	February 18
Mark Yeaton	February 18

Paige Morgan	February 21
Caylee Brown	February 22
Caleb Wright	February 23
Jaleigh Buck	February 24
Mia Petro	February 25
Chris Mohr	February 25
David Foust	February 26
Tony Strahl	February 26
Wilma Johnson	February 27
Kathleen Schwein	February 27
Tonya Shewmake	February 27
Issac Carlson	February 28
Kay Cobb	February 28
Kim Hamblen	February 28
Owen Johns	February 28

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