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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)

Birthdays & Anniversaries



EVENTS

- **Sunday night service every Sunday evening 6:30 –7:30**
- **4th: Donut Sunday—9:30-9:50 am**
- **4th: Hilltop Family Day**
- **9th: Men's Retreat**
- **17th: Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Chad Newman | Alex Ferguson |
| 2 Christine Jeffers | Jonah Wichman |
| Julie Weaver | 16 Carolyn Pruitt |
| Marty Wright | Pam Brown |
| 3 Koltan Brooks | 17 Ronnie & Carolyn Pruitt |
| 4 Samantha Smallwood | Cristina Holwager |
| Locke Stadler | 18 Thom & Kim Barnett |
| Eddie Purnell | 19 Debbie Roettgen |
| 7 Matt & Gwen Bond | Les & Debbie Roettgen |
| 9 Kim Olmstead | Matthew Senesac |
| Christian Taulbee | 21 Wanda Johnson |
| 10 Randy Olmstead | 22 Lukas Stadler |
| Leona Folz | Bill Johnson |
| 10 Christian Fredericksen | Jerry & Charity Hall |
| Bob & Judy Kirby | 23 Judy Duncan |
| 11 Janet & Gene Murphy | 24 Shawna Whipker |
| 12 Logan Miller | Randy & Charlotte Moss |
| Gary & Kim Hamblen | 25 Emily Foust |
| 14 Kendall Yeaton | 28 Mary Helen Peterson |
| Jerry Pardue | 29 Tim & Myra Hurt |
| Diane Bolin | 31 Mary Ellen Thomas |
| 15 Robin Ramp | Katie Bond |

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The Encourager

New Sermon Series



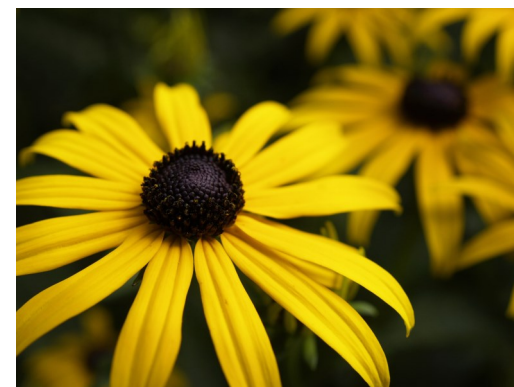
"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"
2 Corinthians 5:17(NIV)

We hope you will join us at OCC this August for four powerful messages focused on discovering how God's power can transform our lives. It's a practical and powerful series aimed at helping each of us to become the "new creation" Christ envisioned us to be.

"And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new." Rev. 21:5 (KJV)

OCC ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO BREAK RECORDS

It might surprise you to know that OCC is in the midst of its best attended year of our 125 years of existence as a church. In fact, OCC has reached record breaking attendance levels in four of the last six months (January, March, May and June). This past June was especially surprising as it included the two least attended Sundays of 2013 (June 16 and 23), yet we easily eclipsed the previous best June average of 259 (set in 2010) as OCC averaged 267 in worship in June of 2013. Over the first 6 months of 2013, OCC has an average worship attendance of 288, easily the best start for any year of our churches history.



Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| On Swords | 2 |
| Community Cookbook Awards | 2 |
| Hilltop Family Day | 2 |
| Men's Retreat | 3 |
| GodFit | 3 |
| Iron Sharpens Iron | 3 |
| Birthdays, Anniversaries and Events | 4 |

On Swords



I recently have had a reawakened desire to wield a sword. This, no doubt, strikes social terror in the hearts of my offspring, who have seen me frolic (“frolic” is perhaps overstated; “play” works better) in the Knoxville fountains in my swimsuit, accessorized by a visor, sunglasses, and a Moses stick; they know I WILL do it. Hopefully, once they know my rationale, they will cut me a little slack, but no expectations. I also realize that a sword as an accesso-

ry will render me weirder than the neighborhood cat-lady, but the neighbors can think what they want.

Here’s the thing – that sword, that physical Excalibur, represents my heart’s desire to guard and protect my children and grands. Come after any of my beautiful grands, and “prepare to die.”(–Inigo Montoya; *The Princess Bride*)

My grands have an enemy – a heartless, evil, deadly enemy – whose existence and influence I cannot abide; I hate his delight in evil and death. Only by God’s Sword (which, by removing an “S” becomes God’s Word) can this foe be vanquished, but it is I who must wield it.

by Kathy Bradley

Inigo Montoya spent his entire life devoted to the study of swordsmanship, looking toward the moment wherein he would exact revenge for his father’s death. He had no idea when, or even if, that moment would arrive, but his life’s goal was to be prepared for it. Then there’s the real-life Esther, whose prep time was extensive without her even knowing what her “such a time as this” moment would entail. That’s more my own story - a series of events, some small, some larger, some major – all in preparation for a moment yet unknown, but perhaps pivotal. The moment that reaches out and touches eternity.

Can I do any less than be prepared? Dare I?

Community Cookbook Awards

Because OCC published a cookbook with Morris Press in 2012/2013, we are eligible to enter their 2013 Community Cookbook Awards contest. Our entry will be placed by the first of September.

Morris Press Cookbooks will award first place **\$5,000**, second place **\$2,000**, and third place **\$1,000**. In addition, the top three finishers will receive national media at-

tention for their cookbooks and fundraising projects. Proceeds will go towards the Worship Team Grant.

*Breaking Bread,
Sharing a table and
Seeing God.*

Family Day at Hilltop — Hog Roast and Fish Fry



Sunday, August 4th, Hilltop Christian Camp will hold its annual Hog Roast and

Fish Fry. Meal served from 12:30 p.m. through 3:00 p.m. Menu includes corn on the cob, baked beans slaw, tomatoes and much more! Bounce house will open at 12:30, pool and rock wall at 1:00 p.m. Various other activities will be also be availa-

ble. Cost is a free-will offering. All monies, after expenses, go to the “20/20” Vision Building Fund.



Come and join the fun!!

Men’s Retreat at Hilltop Christian Camp

Hilltop will sponsor the annual Men’s Retreat Friday, August 9th. Featured speaker is Tom Elsworth, senior minister of Sherwood Oaks Christian Church of Bloomington, IN. Message for the retreat is “Preach the Word.” Retreat cost is \$15 (includes Friday’s meal) and an additional \$3 for Saturday’s breakfast. Campers are welcome to spend the night or sleep at home

and return Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for a continental breakfast. Advance meal registrations are



needed by Wednesday, August 7th. Music will be provided by the Dave Melton Family Singers of Ravenwood, MO. Check-in time is 5 p.m. Friday and supper will be served at 6 p.m. Music, a message, offering, gift drawing, campfire music and devotions are all part of this weekend event. Be sure to register and bring a friend!

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. 2Tim 4:2

Fitness Program Offered in October

GODFIT is coming to OCC in October. GODFIT is a six week training manual and devotional used for the purpose of pursuing an overall healthier lifestyle. GODFIT combines spiritual disciplines, healthy choices, and physical fitness to engage and encourage participants to actively improve their



Be STRONG and COURAGEOUS. Do not be afraid or terrified for the LORD your GOD goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. DT 31:6

relationship with God and their overall health. Lisa Stadler and founder of GODFIT, Tipton Lakes Athletic Membership Director and Fitness Coach, John Hayden, will be holding an informational meeting on Sunday, September 8th after church in the Café.

Iron Sharpens Iron — Attention all men!!

By Norm Love

Attention All Men 13 Years and Older: September 28th will be the next Iron Sharpens Iron conference. This conference will challenge you to be the father, son or grandfather that you know you can be. Eleven men from the church went last year and all eleven have said they wish

to attend again this year.

We will travel together and enjoy great fellowship. We will worship together, have lunch together at the conference and stop for supper on the way home. In addition, there will be a dozen different seminars

to choose from. Pick the ones which interest you the most.

Look for more information in upcoming bulletins, but please, mark your calendars now for this very important date.