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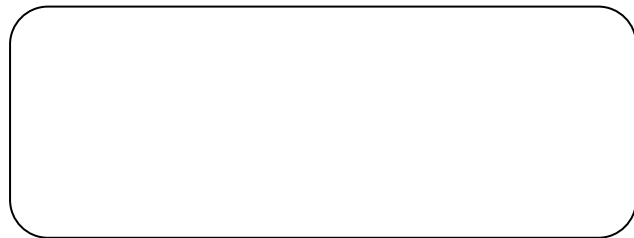
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ENCOURAGER

Encourager: Edited by Kathleen Schwein; Article Design, Layout & Publishing by Mona Peterson. All articles printed are subject to editing by newsletter staff and approval of OCC leadership.

## Presenting "A Whale of a Tale" With John Thomas and Tommy Oaks



Kick off the Christmas season with Hilltop Christian Camp's 9th Annual Fundraising Winter Banquet: An Evening Beneath the Stars, Thursday, December 6, Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8. Doors open at 5:30pm with a meal catered by Hilltop, served at 6:00 p.m. Come enjoy an evening featuring special guests John Thomas and Tommy Oaks performing "A Whale of a Tale." You will also receive a ministry update. For information/sponsorship/tickets/table/host materials call Hilltop Camp 812-988-4991, call or text Eric 812-322-2889 or Tiffany 812-821-4603. Seating is limited so you must RSVP.

### TABLE HOSTS

Fill 6 seats per table. Provide your guests with banquet information, tickets and the value of supporting the Hilltop Christian Camp Ministry.

### GUESTS

Call ahead to reserve your seats

**BUSINESS/INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS** \$60 per table, provide your guests with banquet information, tickets and the value of supporting the Hilltop Christian Camp Ministry.



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# ENCOURAGER

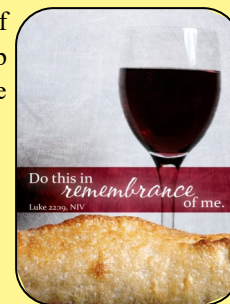
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## service from the heart

A cherished and beloved distinction at OCC is our weekly participation in the Lord's Supper. In many minds, communion is the most sacred moment of our services. This ministry is in need of one or two leaders/organizers to ensure our Lord's emblems are prepared for our Thursday evening and Sunday morning services.

It is surely a humbling honor and privilege to prepare the very emblems of the Lord's body and blood given for us all. If this opportunity to serve Jesus in this very direct way touches your heart, maybe it is for you!

This opportunity could be for both Sunday and Thursday services or could possibly be split by two leaders/organizers, one on Thursday evening and the other Sunday mornings only. Please prayerfully consider this area of service. Contact the office or one of our Leadership members if you are led to serve.



New Preaching Series Begins December 2nd

## I AM

This December, we will examine seven amazing claims Jesus made concerning who He is, what He came to do and what He offers those who follow him. It's all written in the gospel of John in seven remarkable statements: **I AM** the Bread of Life, **I AM** the Light of the World, **I AM** the door, **I AM** the good shepherd, **I AM** the resurrection and the life, **I AM** the way the truth and the life and **I AM** the true vine. Join us each of the first three weeks in December for this insightful and informative sermon series. Discover for yourself how knowing the great **I AM** can change who we are, how we live, and what our future holds.

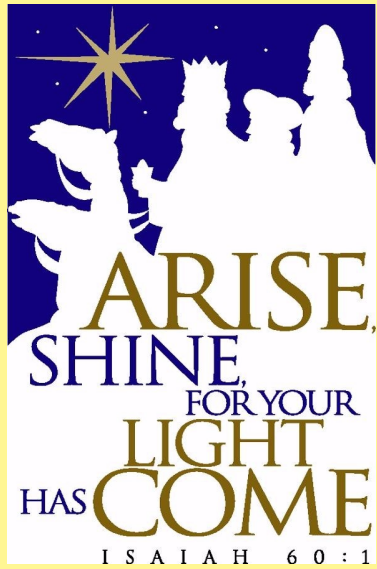
Join Us December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## Christmas Eve Service

One of the highlights of the year is our annual Christmas Eve Service. The one-hour service includes inspiring music, reflective narration and a nostalgic candle lighting ceremony. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and guests wanting to sit together are encouraged to arrive early as the main sanctuary tends to fill up completely.

## Children's Christmas Mini-Pageant

We are gearing up to embark on one of the most exciting times of the year, Christmas!! While many are running around getting those last-minute gifts and prepping for all the parties, Camp OCC Children's Ministry has been preparing for the upcoming Christmas Pageant during our Sunday morning worship services. **On December 9<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30am service only**, all children's ministry except nursery will be performing upstairs in the sanctuary, a few Christmas songs to celebrate the gift of our savior, Jesus Christ. This is will be a wonderful opportunity for you and your family to share a special event this season so mark your calendars and bring your cameras to capture this precious moment. God's blessings and have a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!



**New Members:**

*Baptized*

Branden & Kelly Stam  
 Brian & Brittney Stam  
 Brian Adams  
 Jon, Dylan, Brooklyn Lortz  
 Ryan, Kendra, Adelynn Keitel  
 Hunter Mills  
 Hannah Manbesta

*Transferred*

Ed & Sherry Fryman  
 Robert & Gretchen Hembree



It's so hard to believe that our 1st semester of school is coming to a close very soon. It has been a wonderful start to our year. The boys and girls have become great friends, grown academically and socially. They have been such a great blessing to all of us. Parents, don't forget to check your Christmas packet for all of the December activities. Merry Christmas!

*Sherry*

## Financial Peace...Changes Everything

We all need a plan for our money. *Financial Peace University* (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!

Tony and Kelly Strahl will lead this 9 week class beginning Sunday, January 6th at 10:30 a.m. in the Cafe. Cost is \$95 per

family. Sign-up through December in the Life Center. Timely registration is required as materials must be ordered. Scholarships are available upon request or you may sponsor a family by providing a scholarship. Alumni are always welcomed to repeat the class. Many of our OCC families have been blessed and greatly helped by this class. For more information on how you can be a part, contact Tony @ 812-350-7039 or Kelly @ 812-277-6482.

## Operation Christmas Child...Thanks!

I want to say THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this ministry such a huge success! A huge shout out to Zech, our church team who helped with the packing party and those who brought their own boxes. A special thanks to the boys from East's football team. When we ran out of boxes during our packing party, more boxes were purchased. The team picked them up, came back to finish packing and brought them up stairs to make the tree display for all to see. An extra special thanks to the individual who donated many totes packed full of items. We were extremely blessed by your generosity!

Our goal for this year was 200 boxes and I am happy to report that we finished with.....245 BOXES!!! It is so amazing and exciting that we are able to bless 245 kids with gifts and an opportunity to learn about Jesus!

We are already working on some great

ideas to help make this a bigger success next year. Please be on the watch for more information and potential fundraising opportunities. Also, if there are any juniors/seniors that will need service hours or want to partner to make this their senior project, we would love to talk with you.

For 2019, our goal is 250 boxes. This may sound like a challenge, but I believe, with God, all things are possible! We will start collecting again in January. I will post the whole year's collection cycle soon. When each new category comes up, I will list specific items to bring and when.

Thanks again to all for the blessings you have given to a child this Christmas. May you and your family have a very - filled one.

*Ramanda*

## Jesus Jam Christmas Party

What a fast 1st semester! Reminders: Our Jesus Jam Christmas party will be at Mark & Sherry's home on Thursday, December 20th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (5600 Deaver Rd). Please bring a \$5 exchange gift (for either gender). Can't wait to see you!

Reminder: TCTC Trip balances are due December 13th. If you have not received your balance notice, please contact Mark & Sherry. Love you all, Merry Christmas!!

## The Beach is Calling



If you have not yet made the decision to join us at SeaSide Escape, we'd love to hear from you! The retreat is scheduled for January 19th. It is a one day event with the option of spending the night in one of the condominiums on site at the Salt Creek Golf Retreat or in beautiful Nashville. We will be serving breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. Also, our location is completely handicap accessible. As always, we are pleased to offer sponsorships OR gift certificates are available for that special lady. What a great Christmas present!! Come speak to us at the registration table after service and sign up to be a part of this wonderful, relationship building experience. Our deadline for registration and fee of \$50 is December 16th. Must be at least 18 to participate.



*It's easy to register*

- ◆ Start at registration table
- ◆ Fill out registration form
- ◆ Place it with check (\$50, write retreat in reminder area) or cash in envelope provided
- ◆ Put in offering plate, give to representative or turn into the office
- ◆ Questions? Contact Mona Peterson 812-371-8051 WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



## Special Christian Education Classes Launching in 2019

2018 and the years prior have brought many new faces to OCC. Praise God for the work he is doing here in changing lives and restoring broken souls. Some of those new ones have united with the OCC family by way of baptism. Others have joined us by a transfer of membership. Yet others attend with us faithfully and haven't yet formally committed to our OCC family. We're so pleased that all are choosing OCC each week.

Beginning January 6, 2019, OCC will be offering a special Sunday Bible class at the 9:00 AM hour called, "NOW THAT

I'M A CHRISTIAN/MEMBER/PROSPECT." Virgil Clotfelter will lead this 6-week class and all those folks described above (new members, new converts, attendees, and guests) are wanted and welcomed to be a part of the weekly study and discussion. The class will gather in the OCC Café. Contents will include basics about OCC life and operation, major doctrines, and helps for growing and maturing in Christ. The class will conclude on February 10. Contact Virgil or the OCC office with questions or input.

## Senior Class Project for the Homeless

Many items have been collected for Nash Murphy's senior project to support the homeless in our community. He will be collecting hats, socks, gloves, foot and hand warmers through Sunday, December 9th. The collection box is located in the Life Center. Thank you for your generosity!



## Angel Tree...Reminder

All items for the Angel Tree are due Sunday, December 9th. Please leave tags on the items and attach the angel number to the bag. Bags may be placed behind the Angel Tree located between the restrooms across from the nursery. Call Dorri Clotfelter at 812-376-3766 if you have any questions.