

Encourager

Mandatory Mask Wearing Lifted for All Programs

Martin Wright

Dangerous Sermons

This eye opening and thought provoking preaching series highlights sermons from the New Testament which infuriated their hearers, sometimes with dangerous, even deadly consequences!

Begins June 24 & 27

Newsletter

If you would like a paper copy of the Encourager please contact the office at 812-342-6907 or Mona Peterson at 812-371-8051. Encourager Staff: Mona Peterson & Kathleen Schwein. All articles printed are subject to editing by Staff and approval of OCC Leadership.

In light of plummeting local infection rates and high immunization rates among our most at risk members, the OCC leadership team announced on Sunday, May 23 that effective Sunday, May 30, 2021, OCC will drop all mandatory mask wearing requirements for all of our programs and services. Those uncomfortable with the risk of not wearing a mask are most certainly welcome to continue wearing one in our services and we ask all of our congregants to be respectful of such decisions, understanding that many who continue to wear masks are not doing so to protect themselves alone, but also to protect at risk patients and family members they serve. We remind any attendees with compromised immune systems that we also offer the services via closed circuit television in our new overflow space, which is less crowded than the sanctuary. On line streaming of our services will also continue throughout 2021.

All Church Picnic

Martin Wright

OCC announces an all church picnic outside on the church grounds on June 13 (rain date June 27) immediately following the second service (10:30 service); drinks, hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings will be provided. A safety fence will be erected to help protect our children from Highway 58 traffic. Tables and chairs will provide seating for hundred in the North West parking area of the church. You are also welcome to bring a lawn chair or picnic blanket if you wish and don't forget your sunscreen!

This will be the first of at least three planned outdoor gatherings, with the hope and intent of one being held each month of the summer season (weather permitting). Future events will likely include a pitch-in dinner and an ice cream social!

In Honor of Lee Moore

Many of you will remember Lee Moore, former OCC member and director of a former Christian Group Home for at risk girls in the Bartholomew County area. Our new children's area was made possible in part by a generous grant from the Lee Moore Fund of the Mary Ober Foundation. In honor of Lee's memory and legacy, and in appreciation of the generosity that made the project possible, a plaque will be presented on Sunday, June 13 and placed at the entrance to our new indoor playground. We are particularly excited to have the chance to reconnect with Lee's children that day.

Special Father's Day Services, June 17 & 20

On Thursday, June 17 and Sunday, June 20, OCC will take time out to honor all fathers present in our services. This is a perfect opportunity for those who can to invite Dad to church with you. We look forward to this special day, and in keeping with our tradition of giving a small gift to all Mom's on Mother's Day, we will have a small gift for all fathers present, along with a few special gifts for a lucky father or two.



All Aboard!!

OCC's upcoming VBS

Climb Aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Each day at Rocky Railway VBS, kids track through field-tested rotations that reinforce relevant Bible Points and immerse kids in new adventures. One memorable Bible Point is reinforced throughout each station, each day — making it easy to apply long after VBS is over. Contact OCC at 812-342-6907 for information.

During the Week of **July 12—16**

Preschool Age 3-4yrs: 9:30—11:30 AM

Snacks provided

Elementary Age K—6: 5:30—8 PM

Meal provided



Camp OCC Upcoming Changes!

Zech Riggs, Director of Children's Ministry/Education Minister

Summer is upon us! County fairs will begin again, fun in the sun all around, and some new changes to Children's Ministry are coming. Due to the drastic change in volunteer numbers and with the goal of bringing back all facets of Children's Ministry, we are rearranging a few classes and age brackets to accommodate. Our current classes are defined as such:

Nursery: 0-24 months (currently closed)

Age 2s and 3s

Age 4s and 5Ks

Age 6K through 5th Grade

With this current model, our nursery has been closed since the first quarantine in March 2020. Effective July 2021, classes will be arranged as such:

Nursery: Age 0 to under 3

Age 3 to 5K

Age 6K to 5th Grade

This means that the only class affected will be the current 2s and 3s class. Two year old children will return to the nursery and three year old children will join the preschool (4s and 5s) class.

This change will allow us to serve families from birth to 5th grade and once again encompass all aspects of Children's Ministry. As with many things in the current climate of change, we will continue to adjust accordingly and when we see a need arise. Thank you for your support of Children's Ministry, encouragement to all the volunteers and staff, and willingness to adjust to minor changes to make this ministry possible.

If you would like to be a part of this amazing ministry shaping minds and introducing children to Jesus, please call or email me at 812-344-4934/zechriggs@occtoday.org.

Summer Camp at Hilltop

Virgil Clotfelter

"CROSSROADS" is the theme for summer camp weeks at Hilltop Christian Camp in 2021. It's all about those critical moments of decision and choice that fill our lives. Hilltop is definitely the place where Christ and a good time go together.

OCC has agreed to pay one half of every camper we register. To receive this financial help, call the OCC office, 812-342-6907, to get a required code as you sign up. For more information about schedules, costs, eligible age groups, and available space call the camp at 812-988-4991, or visit the camp website, hilltopchristiancamp.com



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OCC's own Ramona "Kathy" Cecil Continues Successful Literary Career as a Christian Writer and Witness

Ramona "Kathy" Cecil is a Christian, wife, mother, grandmother, poet, and award-winning author of historical romance novels for the Christian market. She and her husband of 47 years are the parents and grandparents of two daughters and three grandchildren. They make their home in Seymour, Indiana and they are increasingly active participants at OCC.

A lifelong lover of history, especially Indiana history, she sets the majority of her stories in the Hoosier state. She has been writing creatively since about the age of four when she began composing poetry. Growing up in rural southern Indiana, she found plenty of inspiration for her nature and Christian focused poetry.

Between the mid 1980s and 1990s over eighty of her Christian verses were purchased by a leading publisher of Christian gift items. Since then she has focused on writing historical romance novels and novellas for the Christian market. Her stories are set in the 1800s and early 1900s. Larkspur, her first attempt at writing a historical romance novel, was inspired by the living history museum Connor Prairie in Fishers, Indiana. That book was published in 2006 as a result of winning first place in a contest sponsored by a publishing company. Since then she's had fourteen more traditionally published novels and novellas.

Aspiring writers attending OCC will be excited to learn that we are working on a writer's workshop to be hosted at OCC this coming fall, with Kathy offering her experience and advice to the up and coming writers among us! Stay tuned to the Encourager for more details.