

# The Newsleaf

Odessa Community of Christ

March 2009

## PHASE I OF OUR NEW CHURCH



### APPROVED

"Yea! Yea!" emails and "count me in" is all we heard as our excited congregation met Sunday morning February 22nd to discuss and approve recommendations presented by the Building Committee. Worship, scripture, video and details as to future plans were presented to a full house!

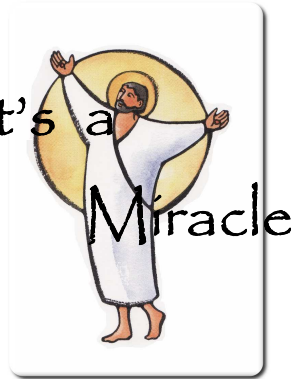
We are moving forward in planning and developing an affordable Phase I plan. It was voted on and approved for the Building Committee to move forward as recommended.

- Proceed with Phase I of the building as presented.
- Authorization to contract an architect pending World Church approval.

Building Committee will come back to congregation with results of their in-depth research and development of Phase I plans for further consideration. It was noted the benefit of the timeliness of the committee.

## JUNIOR CHURCH IS FOR "KIDS"!

Grades 1-6  
on March 15th  
At 11 a.m.



### Family Lent Activities 2009!

*'Sacrificing' as a family and bringing to Easter the joy that we find through that sacrifice.*

Lent Activity for your family this Easter 2009! Congregational families have been given special packets with activities for 40 days of Lent that will bring new life into the homes of its members.

If you and your family would like to join us, copies are available at church or online at [www.odessacofchrist.org](http://www.odessacofchrist.org) under "Latest News".  
*Sharon & Pauline*

## MEN'S GROUP MEETING

*"What It Means to Have a Men's Group"*

Sunday, March 8  
5:00 p.m. @ the church  
**A CHILI DINNER & MEETING**

A huge "thank you" to the congregation for their support of the Valentine's Dinner. We had 91 there to enjoy the meal and special spirit of



love shared by all. Plans are already being made for next year.

*John Billings, Leader*

## SQUARE DANCING

with a green twist

**March 3rd**

and

**March 17th**

7-8:30



Contact David or Shannon Honeycutt for further information.

## J.O.Y. CLUB

50+ Breakfast Club

This month is

Saturday, March  
21st  
8:30 a.m. @  
Morgan's



## BREAKFAST SERVERS

March 1	Communion
March 8	Hatteys
March 15	Pam C/Vanessa Dutel
March 22	Jenny K/Pat Mead
March 29	Hatteys

*Friends* When I was young I had two of the best friends in the world. We were three good church boys with a sense of adventure and a triple-threat of ornery. Looking back ... yes, I love those guys like brothers. Sleep-overs, hayrides, hide-and-go-seek in the church after dark (I know) and swimming down at the creek. After church on Sundays Tom, Brad and I would often gather at one of our houses, change out of our "church clothes" and then head to the out of doors. The times we had exploring the vast forest (a few acres) and miles (who knows) of creek beds have filled my mind with joys and smiles. We had no real worries or cares. We talked, but I don't remember the talk being over any one topic or of any genuine importance. But, those conversations and times are



a solid corner stone of my life. Our time was spent doing such important things like: finding just the right walking stick, or skipping flat stones across the water, looking for crawdads or just wading through the water. We loved being outside and being a part of it with each other.

One day in our adventures, as we waded up to our knees in the water looking for the biggest crawdad, one of us, probably me, slipped and fell in. Well, that's all a group of boys needs for an excuse to go swimming. You see, there would be no bath before we had to go to the evening service, only a change of clothes. The swimming hole for you city folks is simply an area of the creek, usually at a bend, that is just deep enough to jump off the bank and make a big splash. Swimming is not required for a swimming hole in rural Missouri. We raced to the edge of the swimming hole. Almost to take the leap and ... Brad yells out, "Hold it. I think I see a Water Moccasin." Now you might think this would put a damper on the day, but a poisonous snake, now that's an adventure! We gathered our weapons. Spears, guns and bombs. Sticks, rocks and hedge apples. Like going into battle we formed a front with our army. Launch! The fury of three 8 year olds was unleashed. Then after the barrage ...

silence. "Did we get it?" We approach carefully. Stepping into the water, eyes dancing, weapon of choice in hand, brother at my side, inching our way closer looking for the target. Deeper into the water ... "You go first. No, no, YOU go first." Closer, closer. From somewhere under the brush along the bank ... the snake slithers through the water right at us. RUN! We didn't stop until we were back at the house, laughing and prodding at each other the whole way.

I learned so much from my youth and those times (I mean more than how to run down a gravel rode bare-footed). Brotherly love, challenges, goals, preparation, God and nature, teamwork, peace, friendship, listening, fear and facing fears, laughter and smiles. Thank you God for life and the lessons found in it. Thank you God for friends. Thank you God For Brad and Tom. Yeah, I sure do love those guys.

*Bruce Watson. Pastor*

## WOMEN SPRING FLING!

Spring schedules are really challenging us therefore we encourage ladies to "hang-on" and let's attend Saturday, March 14 class with Tony & Charmine Chavala-Smith.

Be making plans for Women's Retreat April 4th at Lake Doniphan.

Our Annual Slumber Party Will be Friday, April 17th at the home of Pauline Watson.

Get ready ladies for another fun filled night being planned as we gals get together for fellowship, games and goodies!



## GAGE AND HIS PARENTS FOR HIRE

to help raise money for Malawi IYF. Would greatly appreciate your hiring them for any odd jobs you might have to help Gage with expenses for the trip.

## "CHINA MCMEX" DINNER

February fundraiser of soup and salad raised an estimated \$370, with monies still coming in. With several of our families visiting out that day we still were pleased with funds received. Always a good day of visiting, food and fellowship! Thanks!

Our next dinner is Sunday, April 26th

## SPECIAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES 7 PM

March 4th	Prayer Service
March 11th	Special Worship
March 18th	Prayer Service
March 25th	Family Night

*"Something to Invite Your Friends To!"*



Outstanding attendance this past month as Jason Watson sang along with his friend Karen King, Lee's Summit, in an awesome worship!

Karen's husband Nic King is the coach at the Middle School.



Little Bella un-expectantly took charge of mom's microphone and tenderly sang her very favorite "Holy, Holy, Holy", melting the hearts of all those in attendance. *A big thanks to Jason's group for sharing in this month's special worship!*

*Awesome!*

*Come and Worship!*

## 2009 FAMILY CAMP

June 26-30 at Lake Doniphan  
Central MO Mission Center  
Guest Ministers  
President Steve Veazey and his  
wife, Cathi Cackler-Veazey

### Herald House Reminder . .

You can always shop Herald House  
online at [www.HeraldHouse.org](http://www.HeraldHouse.org).

### CHECK THESE OUT . . .

- **A Witnessing Community** - Missionary ministry promotes the emergence of a Christ-centered and person-oriented congregation. The emphasis throughout this guide is on the creation of inviting and caring congregational ministries. 9780830911042 \$5.00
- **Vibrant Witness: Who, Me?** - Discover ways to develop, recognize, and share your witness through personal testimony and purposeful friendship. The format is an easy-to-follow workbook with scripture study, role-play opportunities, student worksheets, a journal component, and more. 9780830911295 \$9.95 (includes DVD)
- **Vulnerable to Grace** - Danny immerses us in Section 163 through poems, prose, probing questions, and worship elements about this newest revelation. What does this counsel mean to us individually, as a congregation, as priesthood, and as a faith movement. Explore these questions and more in this powerful book. 9780830914166 \$12.95
- There are e-subscriptions available online you can sign up for:  
\_\_\_Community of Christ News  
\_\_\_10-Minute News Report  
\_\_\_Doctrine & Covenants 163 Commentary  
\_\_\_Weekly Devotions from Daily Bread

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Held Wednesday, February 25th at the church\_\_\_Sunny and Mindy Day led us in a meaningful service as each were given opportunity to help make and contribute to the Worship as sug-



gested in our Family Lent Activity. The service included, prayer, scripture and song, commitment and sharing in communion together. Taking seriously their desires for preparation and change and drawing close to their Heavenly Father.

*Beginnings of "family renewal".*

### *You Took My Parking Space at Church*

One day, a man went to visit a church, He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, "I always park there! You took my place!"

The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's where I always sit! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still He said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars

became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, "I took your place."  
*Shared by Pat Mead*

### OBLATION AID TO AUSTRALIA

Oblation aid of AU\$10,000 was sent early this month to help people in Australia affected by recent bush fires and floods. Fires have burned for more than a week in southern Victoria, killing at least 181 people and destroying more than 1,800 homes. In North Queensland, flooding has overwhelmed communities and thousands of homes have been affected.

Thank you for sharing this news, offering prayers, and giving generously.

### *March Birthdays!*

- 04- Michael Spencer
- 04- Jacquelyn Watson
- 09- John Corn
- 10- Sam Quick
- 11- Lynn Oakes
- 17- Brandin Hallier
- 17- Casey Kuenzli
- 18- Chaz Quick
- 19- David Honeycutt
- 25- John Grubb
- 25- Tyler Meierarend
- 26- Stephanie Meierarend
- 27- George Grubb
- 28- Keith Fletcher
- 28- Mary Meierarend
- 29- Reagan Fiene
- 29- Greg Watson
- 30- Levi Corn
- 30- Pat Mead
- 31- Merle Culbertson
- 31- Seri Mills



Please turn in Newsleaf info by **20th** of the month to Pauline Watson:  
[dpwatson@embarqmail.com](mailto:dpwatson@embarqmail.com) or  
Phone 816-633-3250



# Community of Christ



515 S First  
Odessa, MO 64076

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday:

- 9:15 AM Breakfast Gathering
- 9:45 AM Sunday School Classes
- 10:45 AM Worship Service
- 2:00 PM Young Adult Meeting
- 5:30 PM Youth Meeting
- 7:00 PM Choir Practice

### 1st Sunday of the Month:

- 8:45 AM Family Prayer Service
- 9:30 AM Preparation
- 9:45 AM Sunday School Classes

### Wednesday:

- 7:00 PM Prayer Service
- Family Night last Wednesday

Pastor: Bruce Watson 816-565-2153

**Mission Statement** "We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote Communities of Joy, hope, love and peace."

Church Website:  
[www.odessacofchrist.org](http://www.odessacofchrist.org)

*An Irish Blessing*  
 May the road rise to meet you,  
 May the wind be always at your back,  
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
 May the rains fall soft upon your fields,  
 And, until we meet again,  
 May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.



## Y.O.U.

(Youth Onward & Upward)

It is so hard to believe February is already over!!! Y.O.U. went bowling in Higginsville this month - had a group of 14. It was so neat to spend time together and seeing the kids cheering each other on!

On the 22nd we met and did the Dave Ramsey "Materialism Maze". Those who attended were given the opportunity to visit ten different worship centers where they were able to reflect and journal on the scriptures and their personal anti-materialism goals. What an awesome experience.

During the month of March we will be meeting on the 8th, 15th and 29th.

- We will meet March 8th at 2:00 at the church.
- On March 15th we will meet at the church at 1:15, and we will

travel to Higginsville to attend Gage Kramer's matinee play performance.

- March 29th will be the kick-off of our IYF Pilgrimage study. All youth are invited, but we strongly encourage all youth who plan on attending IYF this summer to attend. The time will be announced as that date draws closer.

## SUMMER 2009 YOUTH CAMPS

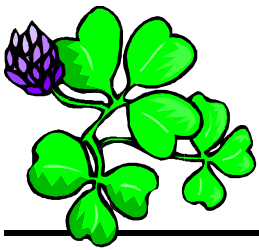
- May 29-May 31 **Children's Camp**  
@ Farwesta Grades K-1-2
- June 13-17 **Junior Camp**  
@ Farwesta Grades 3-4-5
- June 26-30 **Family Camp**  
@ Camp Doniphan
- June 30-July 5 **Sr Hi Camp**  
@ Farwesta Grades 9-10-11-12
- July 5-10 **Jr Hi Camp**  
@ Farwesta Grades 6-7-8
- July 21-24 **IYF 2009—Indep**  
Grades 9-10-11-12
- July 25-Aug 11 **Spectacular**  
@ Graceland Grades 10-11-12  
**Grade Completed**

If you have an idea for a fundraiser for youth camps, please let Jenny Kramer know. We plan on doing some carwashes, but all ideas are welcomed. Camps will be a little more expensive this year, and we want to help as many youth attend camps as possible!!! IYF happens only every four years - so we STRONGLY ENCOURAGE those who are eligible (9-12 grades) to attend. Also this is an international SPEC year - which will make it only that much more awesome!!! We would love to have 100% participation of those who are eligible (10-12 grades) to attend. Anita tells me she also has plans underway for fun and exciting junior high and senior high camps. We have so many wonderful opportunities this summer, I hope that all youth and their families will make camping a priority this summer. What better way to keep our youth grounded?



What better way to keep our youth grounded?

Jeff & Jenny Kramer



# March 2009

Odessa Community of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 7-8:30 pm Square Dance	4 7pm Prayer Ser	5 Brownies 5:30-7pm	6	7
8 Potluck Dinner @ noon 2pm Y.O.U. 5 pm Men's Grp Chili Dinner Mtg	9	10 Troop 1546	11 7pm Worship	12	13	14 Class w/Tony & Charmine Chavala-Smith
15 11 am Jr Church Y.O.U. to Gage's Matinee Play meet @ 1:15pm	16	17 St Patrick's Day 7-8:30 pm Square Dance	18 7pm Prayer Ser	19 Brownies 5:30-7pm	20	21 8:30 am J.O.Y.
22	23	24 Troop 1546	25 7pm Prayer Ser	26	27	28
29 Y.O.U. I.Y.F. Kickoff time TBA	30	31				

Odessa Spring Break 19th—22nd

Signal Communities Event\_\_Ozark Camp Grd