



Odessa Community of Christ

The Newsleaf

December 2011



I have my Christmas list all made out. Several varieties of Craftsman tools, socks (always need new socks), a movie, a colorful tie (like me some ties), maybe a book, anything electronic, some Topsy's cinnamon popcorn (yum) and ... that'll do.

Christmas lists are a wish list or a want list. None of the items on my list are a need. Or maybe I should be listing all the things I am thankful for. I am blessed with a large loving family. Both my children are safe, despite the deer to car ratio. I have a wife to face the challenges of life with. I have the unquestioning testimony of the grace of God. I have friends that are family. I have health and the strength to help others. Truly, I have been given many things. Memories, relationships, shelter, laughter and peace. I have been given the gift of sacrifice by my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I wish for you the joy I have found in the fellowship of the Master. Open your eyes to discover once again the beautiful story of the birth of Jesus. My wish is for you to comprehend the swelling of the love of God that is in my chest and to know with assurance of His mercy. My prayer is for you to find a new joy in the season of Christmas. We celebrate together our God with us, Immanuel.

Bruce Watson, Pastor

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 18th
11:00 AM

"A Child Is Born!"

Come share in the Spirit of Christmas with
Children! Angles! Shepherds!
Wisemen!
Caroling!

to the congregation by Troy and Misty Thieman! Check out Misty's blog at: encouragesweetness.blogspot.com and our congregational website for more information.

Lets count down the 25 days to Christmas by performing at least one Random Act of Kindness each day.

Our next Family Night
is Wednesday, December 28th.
Troy & Misty Thieman/Mike & Sharon Slater



DECEMBER 2, 3, AND 4 — HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are available from the Kansas City Symphony, 816-471-0400 or www.kcsymphony.org. Performances are at 8pm on Friday and Saturday and 2pm on Sunday.

GIVING AT CHRISTMAS

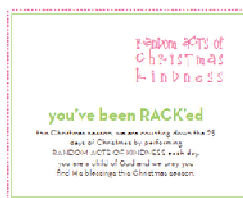
During 11 o'clock Worship Service we as a congregation have opportunity for sharing with others! Containers for your offering during this year's Christmas Season are:

- "Little Brown Basket" for Christmas Families
- "Suitcase Offering" continues to be for Outreach International donations
- "Believe" Jar is for our New Church

RACK

(RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS)

Family Night in November was the kick-off for Racks presented



ROCK'N ROAD SHOW

Sunday, Dec. 4th
At Sedalia Church
4-6 pm

For Middle School and High School Youth - Bring your friends!

J.O.Y. BREAKFAST CLUB

(JUST OLDER YOUTH)

~The over 50 Group!~

Saturday, Dec. 10th
8:30 a.m.

@ Hot Pot's Restaurant

Della Lamb needs your help . . .

A large group from our congregation met to help with the needs of others as they helped fill bags in preparation



for distributing to families in the Kansas City area this past month. They will return Saturday, Dec. 10th to Della Lamb to distribute to families.

Anyone wishing to participate or for more information contact Jenny Kramer.

SMOOTH OPERATION

Thanks to everyone who donated bottles of lotion in any form. Misty was able to take 475 bottles to Della Lamb in November



Shelly Coffey is pictured here making a trip to the store!

JOIN IN THE ADVENT WORSHIP AND WEBCAST DECEMBER 11TH

Come worship at the Temple in Independence, Missouri, or participate through the live webcast at www.CofChrist.org at 7:00 p.m. central time. The First Presidency will share in scripture readings and the Spire Symphonic Chorus and the Emporia State University Faculty Brass and Percussion Ensemble, with conductor Ben Spalding, will be featured.

The Service of Lessons and Carols is a traditional format for Christmas worship that goes back as far as 1880 to the Cathedral of Truro in Cornwall and tells the story of our salvation in Christ. The lessons include nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels. Readings will be interspersed with carols by the congregation and anthems by the choir.

PEACEMAKERS CLUB

Wednesday



December 14th ???
6 - 7 pm

Vic & Vanessa Dutel

JUNIOR CHURCH

1st—6th graders

December 18th 3rd Sunday
11:00 AM

The following Sunday we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Are you looking forward to getting lots of gifts or having a birthday party with our Lord & King and sharing with others?

Merry Christmas! Pete & Cheryl O'Keefe

PRIESTHOOD MEETING

Sunday, Dec 18th
6 pm at the church

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE MEETING

On Sunday evening November 20th the Building Committee shared updates on the progress of our new church plans. No voting took place at this meeting, just information and ideas presented.

There was a general consensus among the group gathered, of their continued desire to definitely build with expectations and an understanding of the real NEED we have to build a new facility. Steps have been taken to make our constantly growing congregation comfortable as the Nursery and Congregational Overflow have been moved to a larger rooms in the Education Wing with installation of close circuit TV for worship participation.

Monies continue to be a constant drive to accomplish our ultimate goal! We ask for prayer in our contemplations as we work through those barriers that would slow our progress to bring about the much needed facility and the work to be done here in the Odessa.

THE HYMNAL TEAM AND VOLUNTEERS WILL OFFER JOYFUL NOISE WORKSHOPS

over the next two years in preparation for the next hymnal's release in 2013. Musicians, song leaders, instrumentalists, and worship leaders will explore the diverse musical styles, languages, guitar chords, and arrangements in the hymnal. Familiarize yourself with the theological content, scriptural references, musical styles, worship-planning skills, topical indexes, and more. Simultaneous sessions will be offered, tailored to the skill sets of attendees. Come to one workshop or many to prepare for

the new book.

The first workshop will be February 11-12, 2012, at the Temple in Independence, Missouri. Other Joyful Noise Workshops are being scheduled across North America. Get more details and watch for announcements of dates and locations at www.CofChrist.org/hymnal/workshops.asp. For more information, contact Pam Robison at ext. 2324.

YOUNG ADULT—

What a busy group as our Young Adults keep busy schedules with college studies, finals, work, young families, and new beginnings! Anyone saying “engagements” ___ that too! Our young adults continue to venture into new areas as they develop and grow, challenging heart, mind and strength and for them we ask your continued prayers. Its an exciting time for them but know they need our prayerful support and reminder we are here for them also. They can be encouraged by your cookies too I hear!!

Good to have such a great group!!

OUTSTANDING MINISTRY GIVEN BY YOUNG ADULTS

as they presented the Worship Service this past month. The testimonies shared and the ministry of music all brought a special spirit of commitment and uplift to a waiting congregation!



Misty Thieman shares her thoughts and testimony during this special service. Young adults, thanks much for your special ministry in sharing your gifts and talents!

AGAPE FAMILY REVEALED___

It has been a year of thinking about the special little things we can do to share with another family in our congregation, our Agape Family. So many things have been shared and learned about our secret family as we have thought about and prayed about our friends. Thanks for offering this opportunity for us to know and grow together.

GOING TO JAMAICA!!

We are very excited to learn of some of our young adults given the opportunity this next summer to share in ministry and fellowship around the world. Those from our congregation are Gage Kramer, Elizabeth Watson, Misty Thieman and Shelly Coffey. Congratulations!

ADULT ACTIVITY

The adult “tweeners” group had a great time at our recipe swap in November. Thanks to all who came and brought great treats to share. With the month of December being so busy for everyone we will not be having an activity this month, however, stay tuned for more information about our upcoming January activity! Remember, these activities are for ALL adults that are at least 18 years old and have graduated from high school and nobody is too old to attend!

EVENING CHATS AN INDOOR CAMPFIRE IN NOVEMBER___

Evening Chats in November was an uplifting indoor campfire led by Bruce Watson, in prayer, song and praise! Mid-week services give us that added strength and support to families’ busy work week! Join us the 2nd Wednesday in December for these refreshing special worship opportunities.

December Birthdays



- 01- Jenny Anthony
- 06- Gary Ramsey
- 08- Donn Quick
- 09- Shelly Frank
- 09- Amber Hallier
- 13- John Mead
- 15- Pam Hart
- 15- Shane Solst
- 16- Madyson Stief
- 19- Ashton Bruck
- 24- Joshua Sowerwine
- 25- Whitney Slater
- 26- Clara Frank
- 27- Charles Baldwin
- 30- Henry Lee Grubb
- 30- George Williams



WE EXTEND OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

to the Michael Corn Family at the loss of their son, Emjay, this past month. Please keep this young family in your prayers.

PRAYERS___Illness, surgery and stress continue to be a challenge in the homes of many___ we ask for your awareness to those needs in prayer and support as the holidays draw near.

QUIET MINISTRIES ARE BEING GIVEN BY MANY!

Our young men help with needed home repairs recently. Others helping with families moving On and on it goes that “quiet ministry”. THANKS!!





Community of Christ



515 S First
Odessa, MO 64076

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:15 AM Breakfast

9:45 AM SSchool

10:45 AM Worship

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

6-7:00 PM Peacemakers—2nd Wed

7:00 pm Chats -2nd Wednesday

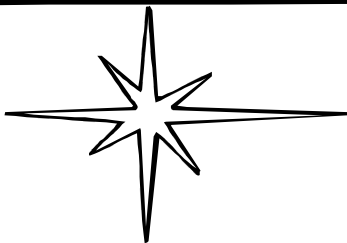
Family Night last Wednesday

Pastor: Bruce Watson 816-520-7493

Mission Statement—“We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote Communities of Joy, hope, love and peace.”

Church Website:

www.odessacofchrist.org



ONE-DAY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

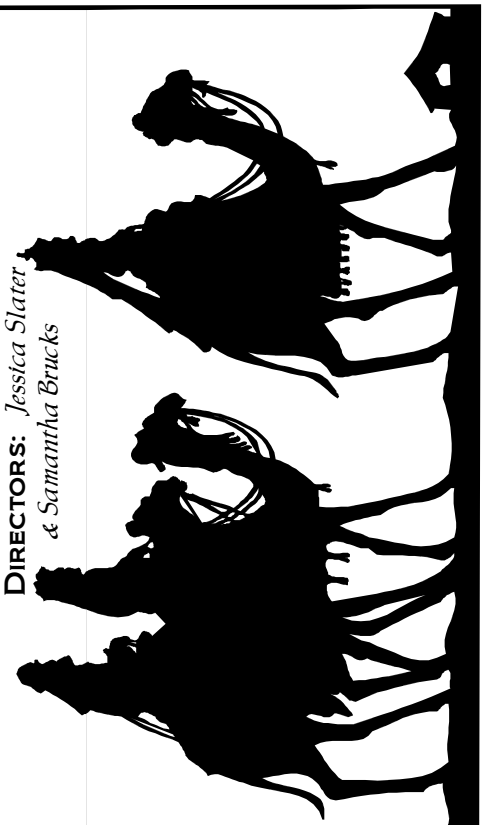
Pre-K thru 6th grades

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH
8 AM—12 PM

“Believe!”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
INVITE
YOUR FRIENDS!

*DIRECTORS: Jessica Slater
& Samantha Brucks*



December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8:45 am Pr Ser	5	6	7 7 pm Prayer Service	8	9	10 8:30 am JOY Brkfst
11 12 noon Potluck Dinner	12	13	14 6-7 Peacemakers 7 pm Chats	15	16	17 One-Day Bible School 8 am—12 pm
18 11AM Christmas Program 6 pm Priesthood Mtg	19	20	21 7 pm Prayer Service	22	23	24
25 <i>Merry Christmas</i> NO Sunday School today	26	27	28 7 pm Family Nite	29	30	31



January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Happy New Year</i> 8:45 am Prayer Ser	2	3	4 7 pm Prayer Service	5	6	7
8 12 noon Potluck	9	10	11 6-7 pm Peacemakers 7 pm Fireside Chats	12	13	14
15 11 am Jr Church	16	17	18 7 pm Prayer Service	19	20	21 8:30 am JOY Breakfast
22	23	24	25 7 pm Family Night	26	27	28
29	30	31				