



ENCOURAGER

Volume 6, issue 5

Church Staff:

Danny Courson
Pastor

Patrick McDonald
Interim Music Director

Lynn Wood
Pianist

Dolores Catchings
Organist

Harold Catchings
Drummer

Anneliese Varnado
Secretary

Services:

Sunday:

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Worship Service 11:00 AM

Ministry Groups 5:00 PM

- Children
- Men's
- Prayer Meeting
- Women's
- Youth

Worship Service 6:00 PM

Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Wednesday:

Supper 5:00 PM

Prayer Meeting 6:00 PM

From Your Pastor

As we enter a new year, many people are making resolution. A resolution is simply a statement of purpose or desired outcome, such as "I resolve to lose weight." However a resolution, without an accompanying plan is really just a dream. We need to determine what our goal or purpose is and then determine the steps we must take to make it happen.

As we enter this New Year I want Odena to focus on four key purposes and definitions.

1. **Prayer** – Interaction with God to join in His kingdom purposes.
2. **Worship** – Interaction with God & others to align with His kingdom purposes.
3. **Fellowship** – Interaction with Christians to equip for His kingdom purposes.
4. **Missions** – Interaction with the world to complete His kingdom purposes.

I believe if we, as a congregation, will focus on these four purposes we will experience an increase in unity, spiritual growth, and numerical growth. I have shared with the deacons and with those in the December business meeting a ministry plan for 2012 based on these four purposes. I will be sharing more details with you throughout the year as we work in each of these key areas of ministry.

In January I will be preaching a series of messages in the Sunday morning services called **Five Questions from God**. In the Bible we find a number of questions from God. These questions help us to take an honest look at our lives and encourage us to move from where we are to where God wants us to be.

On Sunday evenings I will be preaching through the **Old Testament**. This will be a survey of the Old Testament to show the major themes of each book. But it's not just a history lesson. We will see how the Old Testament applies to our lives. We will start, of course, in the beginning with Genesis and proceed through book by book through Malachi. Make a commitment to be here each Sunday evening as we see the story of God's love unfold.

On Wednesday evenings we will continue to have our Fellowship Supper, followed by Prayer Meeting. The devotions in prayer meeting each week will be based on **Current Events and a Biblical Response**. I enjoy doing these devotions which show how the Bible is still relevant. So many people fail to see that God's word is just as applicable to life today as it has always been.

Let's all step up to a higher level of commitment to God in 2012. Make a plan for how you will study God's Word and pray daily. Make a plan for how you will be involved in fellowship and worship with your church family. Make a plan for how you will personally be involved in missions. As the saying goes, "Failure to plan is planning to fail." Make a personal ministry plan and then work with all your heart to fulfill that plan.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV) ²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, ²⁴ since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Bro. Danny

2012 Budget Vote

The results of the vote on the Proposed 2012 Budget was:

91 Yes, 5 No, for a 95% approval.

Thank you to the members of the Budget Committee for their time and effort put forth to encourage good stewardship of the resources God has placed in our care.

Children's Church



With the start of the New Year we will be using Lifeway's Worship KidStyle. Our boys and girls, ages 4 through 2nd grade will still attend the first half of the worship service. Then they will be dismissed to attend a special service designed just for them. Worship KidStyle has a message, music, craft, and other fun activities to get them involved, and help them understand God's Word. If you would be willing to volunteer to help with Children's Church, please sign up on the list posted on the Children's Ministry Board or call Rhonda Courson at (256) 245-7499.

January Nursery Schedule

Sundays:

1st- Nursery: Lori Smith, Sonia Thibodeaux, Anna Tyler;
Toddler: Kellie & Roxanne Harris

8th- Nursery: Ray & Janice Knight, Angie Lawrence;
Toddler: Anneliese & Savannah Varnado;
PM: Hannah Catchings & Katey Thomas

15th- Nursery: Jeanene, Randi & Katie Gill;
Toddler: Kristi Hamlet & Seth Harris;
PM: Brandon & Holly Harris

22nd- Nursery: Candy, Madi & Lora Roberson;
Toddler: Amanda Atchley & Chelsey Woods;
PM: Myra Hathcock & Sue Maxwell

29th- Nursery: Madi Catchings, Andrew & Rebecca Huff;
Toddler: Nicole Peoples & Lexie Lawrence;
PM: Gay Guy & Kristen Elliff

Wednesdays:

4th- (N)Traci Roberson & Cathy Shurum;
11th- (N)Gay Guy & Trish Wesson;
18th- (N)Cathy Shurum & Anneliese Varnado;
25th- (N)Rhonda Courson & Cathy Shurum.

Please arrive 15 minutes before service starts. If you have a schedule conflict, please trade with another person on the nursery schedule. If you cannot find someone to cover your shift, please contact one of our new nursery coordinators:

Nursery Coordinators:
Angie Lawrence - Cell: 256-267-4449
Janice Knight - Cell: 256-626-0732.

*There will be a brief meeting for all members currently working, or anyone interested in working, in the nursery on Sunday, January 8, 2012. It will be held in the sanctuary immediately after the morning worship service. Please make every effort to attend.

There will be an another meeting held on January 15th for those who did not attend the meeting on the 8th. It will also be held in the sanctuary after the morning worship service. If you cannot attend either meeting, please contact Angie Lawrence or Janice Knight.





January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						31
1 New Year's Breakfast in CLC-8:30 am No PM service	2	3	4 Deacon's Meeting-7pm No Wed Night Supper	5	6	7
8 Meeting for Nursery Volunteers at 12pm.	9	10	11 Business Meeting-6pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Wednesday Night Supper Menu for January			
<u>4th</u>	<u>11th</u>	<u>18th</u>	<u>25th</u>
No Wednesday Night Supper!	Lasagna Salad Garlic Bread & Dessert	Taco Salad Chips Dessert	Soup & Salad Breadsticks Dessert

Remember this stuff too . . .

- **Church Wide New Year's Breakfast** - Sun, Jan 1st at 8:30am in the CLC.
- **Literature Orders Due** - Sun, Jan 1st.
- **No Evening Worship Service** - Sun, Jan 1, 2012.
- **No Wednesday Night Supper** - Wed, Jan 4th.
- **Deacons meeting** - Wed, Jan 4th at 7pm.
- **Nursery Workers Meeting** - Sun, Jan 8th following the morning worship service.
- **Business meeting** - Wed, Jan 11th at 6pm.
- **Newsletter deadline** - Sun, Jan 22nd.



Church Wide New Year's Breakfast



Sun, Jan 1st at 8:30 am in the CLC.

Begin your new year by joining us for a time of breakfast and fellowship followed by Sunday school and morning worship in the sanctuary.

Ministry of Hope

Confidential, Christian counseling is provided free of charge by Darlene Touart. To schedule an appointment, call Darlene at 256-872-6140.

Birthdays:

Jan 1—Judy Gill; Louise Hatchett
Jan 2—Curtis Coleman; Dot Thornton
Jan 5—Zack Elliff
Jan 6—Katie Gill; Loria Smith
Jan 7—Liam Hilliard
Jan 8—Jeffery Ross
Jan 9—James Coleman
Jan 11—Regina Clifton; Lexie Lawrence
Jan 13—Ronald Wadsworth
Jan 14—Lula Mae Coleman
Jan 15—Marie Payne; Bella Thomas
Jan 16—Luke Grice
Jan 17—Ottis Jennings
Jan 19—Troy Jennings
Jan 20—Angel Griffitt; Huston Varner
Jan 21—Keith Collum; Brynn Ezekiel
Jan 22—Sylvia Keeton
Jan 23—Judy Haynes
Jan 24—Milli Adair; Taylor Hollingsworth
Jan 25—Morgan Haney
Jan 26—Desiree Skinner; Trish Wesson
Jan 27—Chelsey Woods
Jan 28—Barbara Ballard; Mark Fulbright
Jan 30—Buddy Morris; Bobby Peoples
Jan 31—Brittany Barnes



Anniversaries:

Jan 1—Joe & Kitt Butts
Jan 3—Clinton & Judy Haynes
Jan 11—Jimmy & Syble Johnson
Jan 16—Greg & Gay Guy
Jan 18—Jim & Tracy Haney
Jan 22—Bill & Mary Kathryn Luker



If you did not see your birth date or anniversary listed, or it is incorrect, please call the church office to update your records 256-249-3850; or email the secretary at office@odenabaptist.org.

Attention Sunday School Teachers:

Literature order forms are in your Sunday School attendance binders. Please complete the order forms by Sunday, Jan 1, 2012 and leave them in your binders. They will be collected and orders placed on Tuesday, January 3rd. If you wish to change your literature, please contact the church secretary before the due date. If forms are not completed, the same type and quantities as last quarter will be ordered.

Thank you.



ODENA BAPTIST CHURCH

115 Odena Rd North
Sylacauga, AL 35150

Prsrt Std

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