

November 2016
Newsletter



Submitted By:
Pastor Tony

OAKCREST BAPTIST CHURCH
Exalting. Equipping. Extending.

I don't think there are many people in our country today who would disagree that our political climate has eroded into the sewer. It is very difficult for me to maintain any level of respect and appreciation for the workings of our governing bodies. I see no respect on their behalf for law, honesty, or truth. Common sense has been cast aside for people to push their ideology and their political agendas. We have political actors who are morally reprehensible rather than moral statesmen. Maybe those are some of the same complaints you have had over the last few months. But, I would like to turn our thoughts from the worry over to reality. No matter who sits in the Oval Office in January, our Lord Jesus is sitting on the throne. No matter what the future holds for the church in the United States, the gates of hell will never prevail over the body of Christ. So don't let your doubts about our political system turn to despair. Instead – *“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart...”* Hebrews 12:2-3

**OUR RESPONSIBILITY NOW IS TO PRAY
AND VOTE! SO PLEASE DO SO!**



Let's take a look at attendance as a retrospect to today's church and how it's been effected by the current culture. Everything seems to be hinged around attendance and numbers these days. The more we have the “better” our ministry or church must be. Or even worse is the sense that our attendance to church fills our commitment to the church and the body of believers as a whole. Not to mention the idea that our attendance in some form or fashion fills our commitment to God. This type of thinking is destructive not only to the church but to us as well. So what happens when we have attendance as the main focal point of the church congregation's personal lives? Simple, a church that's potentially full of people that will never commit passed sitting in a pew. Their spiritual lives will be no more than “I attended church twice this month” or “I was there every Sunday.” So the idea of attendance gets over emphasized while real commitment to God and fellow believers is neglected.

So while the false idea of attendance replaces commitment, actual commitment to God and the body is overlooked and hindered. The neglect for commitment stifles spiritual growth in the one that believes just attending church is enough. When did our commitment to God and the gospel become a check the box “I was here” mentality? How has the believer's relationship with Christ been reduced to the

mere fact that attendance to church fulfills the commitment we have to God?

So how do we reconcile this problem? We get back to the bases that the idea of commitment is not simply attending church, it's the full-fledged surrender to God in every aspect of our lives. Deuteronomy 6:5 says “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your strength.” Simply put, give God everything you have every day, every hour, every minute, not just the times you attend church. Christ again shares this command in Matthew 22:37 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” Our commitment as a believer far surpasses mere attendance coupled by a shallow spiritual life that leaves us empty hearted and blind. We need to get back to the simple fact where it's understood that your attendance to church does not fulfill your commitment as a believer or secure your eternal destiny.

So I challenge that we look at our views of attendance and commitment. We should conduct a self evaluation of our current relationship with God and its foundation. This is not a criticism it's a concern for the spiritual well being of all believers young and old. God desires a sincere, deep, relationship with you. God does not want someone with a commitment of just filling a pew; He wants a commitment of an open mind and heart that is willing to give every part to Him. So it's due time that if we profess to be believers, that we be believers.





Worship and Music Ministry
Submitted By: Pastor John

November is a big month of Preparation for the Worship Department. Rehearsals are underway for the Adult Choir's Presentation of **Casting Call** a Dramatic Sketch anchored with music that reinforces that Jesus is the Reason for all the Celebration at Christmas.

We will have our **Annual Bells on the Square** this year but the date has not been set yet. Keep watching your bulletins for the date and time and join us.

- 03 Tony Inmon
- 05 Jonathan Ingram
- 07 Kathaleen Leslie
- 08 Timothy (Chase) Ingram
- 08 Jamey McClain, Jr.
- 09 John Wagner
- 09 Madison Clere
- 09 Barbara Joyner
- 09 Pamela Keels
- 11 Kendra Keen
- 14 Tanner Sims
- 16 Gabriella Ghigliotty
- 21 Nick Ghigliotty
- 21 Shawn Schmidt
- 21 Nancy Wood
- 23 Amber Blenton
- 23 Nicole Welfel
- 28 Marsha Miller

November

Happy Birthday



<h2 style="text-align: center;">November 2016</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Monthly Planner</h3>																																																																																																																							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																	
		1 11:30 AM Forever Young Fellowship 6:00 PM Property & Space Mtg.	2 6:00 PM Church Pot Luck Supper 7:00 PM Church Council	3	4	5																																																																																																																	
6 Lord's Supper Time Change (fall back)	7	8 General Election	9 Business Meeting	10	11 7:00 PM Basketball OCC Packing Party	12 OCC Packing Party																																																																																																																	
13 OCC Dedication	14 OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	15 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	16 OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	17 OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	18 OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	19 4:00 PM Puppet and Dowel Rod Practice OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21																																																																																																																	
20	21 OCC Collection Week - November 14 - 21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed 24th & 25th	25 Thanksgiving Holiday - Office Closed 24th & 25th	26																																																																																																																	
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