

Community Church of Oak Orchard
Millsboro, Delaware 19966

August 2024
Volume 2—Issue 8

The COMMUNITY MESSENGER

A Message from Pastor Allen

Strike While the Iron Is Hot

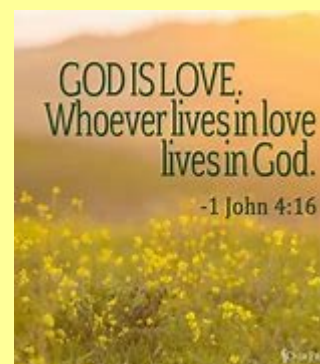
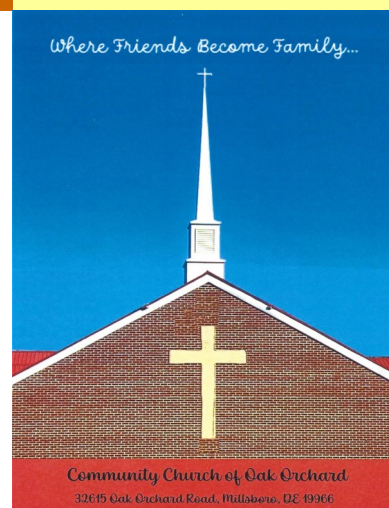
Ever wonder where that old saying comes from? The idiom “strike while the iron is hot” may be traced back at least to the 1500s and is a reference to the art of blacksmithing. When a blacksmith works iron, he heats it in order to make it malleable and then places it on an anvil and hammers it into shape.

Here at C.C.O.O., it means it is time for us to make our annual push to spread the Gospel here and abroad.

1. On Heritage Sunday we honor the memory of those who have had a profound effect on our personal spiritual development by donating Bibles in their honor through the ministry of the Gideons.
2. The 1st week of August we will have VBS each evening Monday - Friday. Hopefully many children will join us for the evening to sing songs, play games and learn about the love of God. This year's theme is "The Armor of God".
3. On September 7th, we will host our annual Community Day pig roast and celebration. It's a "Ya'll come" event where we invite the folks in our community to our version of a block party. There will be pulled pork sandwiches, French fries, music, a yard sale, an antique car show, games for the kids and our famous Deep-fried Oreos! Everything is free for the day!

No doubt you know that these events are costly in time and resources. If you have ever helped with VBS you are aware of the sacrifices. We believe the time and effort is more than worthwhile as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission to go into all the world with the Gospel. Whether a Bible placed by a Gideons volunteer halfway around the world, a young person who comes to Christ in Bible School or a neighbor who is won through a free day of fun, some food and a friendly smile our calling is to make disciples.

I hope you can participate in some or all of these events. We need all the help we can get and many hands to make the work light. It is the most satisfying work you will ever do. It will put a smile on your face, the face of a child or neighbor but best of all, it will put a smile on the face of our loving God. This community and our world needs to know about Jesus. The time is now for us to strike while the iron is hot!



"So we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them."

- 1 John 4:16 NIV

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Faith, Food, Fellowship



FELLOWSHIP
LUNCHEON
JULY 7th



ODYSSEA: A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Ordinary Time

By Art Schmidt

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. (Psalm 46: 1-3 NIV)

In her book, *Praying the Hours*, Suzanne Guthrie¹ reminds us: “Worship takes place in the midst of the mundane tasks, in the little dreams of human relationship that play out in a family.”

All too often on our journey of faith, we look for those big splash events to indicate to us the “presence of God” in our daily life. We want the assurance that God is really *with us*. But we overlook the fact that God works even in the small moments of our life, and it takes a spiritual discipline to be aware of God’s presence. We call that discipline “being still and knowing God is present.” In Psalm 46, we find a good biblical precedent for this. God calls us to experience life to the fullest, even in the small moments, and know that the God of creation is the God revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In the year of the church, we are in the liturgical season called “Ordinary Time”—after Pentecost ends and before Advent begins—derived from the word *ordinal*.² It’s a time in our life of hope and anticipation and offers us the opportunity to experience God in the ordinary times. The well-known phrase “stop and smell the roses” comes to mind and reminds us to take time to look into a rose and see the beauty—touch it, smell it, and see that in the ordinary bloom of a thorny bush lies the grace of God. Let’s look into the face of one another and see God’s grace in the lines and expressions of joy, knowing that God is present within each and every one of us.

God gives us extraordinary events, we just need to stop and take time to see and experience them. God also lives in the ordinary times of life—even in the lazy days of summer—and it is in our experiences that those times become extraordinary and should be celebrated. Be still, God is everywhere and in everyone!

“All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.” — **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

¹ **Rev. Suzanne Guthrie** is an Episcopal priest at Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Kingston, NY. She is a noted author and spiritual guide who offers us a contemporary way to practice the ancient tradition of allowing time throughout the day by marking the hours with prayer and thanksgiving. By praying the hours, all activities of our day become part of the sanctification of time and place.

² **ordinal (adj)** c. 1400, Latin; regular, ordinary, well-regulated, proper.

BE STILL ✠

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”
Psalm 46:10 NIV





MAD HATTER BINGO JULY 9



THE OCEAN

BY JAMIE VICKERS

The Sounds of the Oceans are like friends to me,
they make life easier and help me see.
That Life can be Peaceful and yet full of strife,
the waves can be soft or Cut like a knife.

You need friends to help you swim,
to struggle alone or rely on them.
Family also can help you move through the sea,
and you can't help but be.

Grateful to all who love you for you,
they are always there to see you through.

God rules the ocean and all the sounds,
so in Him we must be found.
Trusting in Him to carry us through,
the waves of the ocean and all that is blue.

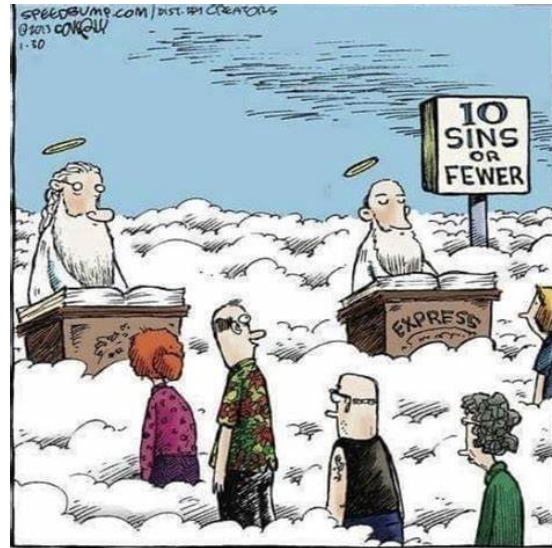
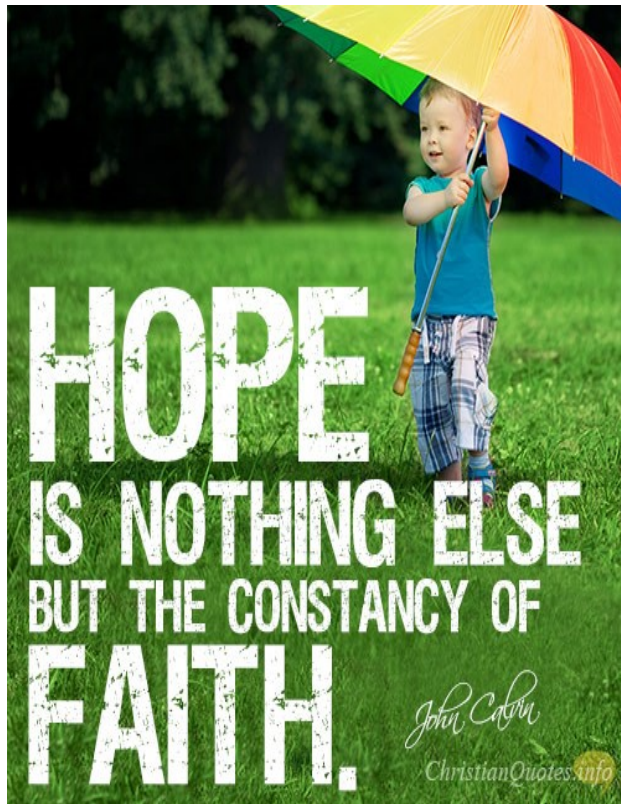
I think we can all do better
toward one another. We focus
so much on differences in this
country. — red state, blue state,
conservative, liberal — but I
think we should celebrate how
much we share. Maybe that could
move us toward community again,
rather than silos. The world my
grandad introduced me to — a
world of service, a world of
kindness — that still holds value.

—Kelsey Grammer



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Natalie Harvey
- 8 Cecilia Hunter Mood
- 15 Pastor Ed Vidzicki
- 15 Jenn Quigley
- 21 Brent Parsons
- 21 Elaine Del Collo
- 25 Jerry Hart
- 27 Gabriel Burbank



Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.
Acts 17:11

Most of our character is established early in life. Adversity can help build it. Coaches can help mold it. But in our adult years, the only thing I've seen that can radically change a person's basic character is a relationship with Jesus Christ.

—Tom Landry

Thomas Wade Landry (September 11, 1924 – February 12, 2000) was an American professional football coach, player, and World War II veteran. Regarded as one of the greatest head coaches of all time

CONTAGIOUS FAITH

This month's Contagious Faith spotlight is on Rick Degrassi!

Rick's journey of faith is a beautiful story of the human race. I pray that I can give its just recognition.

As a child, Rick was brought up in the Catholic faith. Mostly influenced by his mother whom he loved dearly. As a faithful son he continued to take his mother to the Catholic Church up the road.

There came a time when questions were stirring in his heart about the Catholic Church and about his faith journey. Something was missing! He also felt that the evil one was waiting to pounce on him. To that end he began to seek God! God provided opportunities for Rick to experience God's love through the love and testimony of other people. We call that CONTAGIOUS FAITH!

It all began with a man called Reverend Al. Rev Al is his neighbor. They would talk and Rev Al began to share the gospel with Rick. Rick began to feel the tugging of the Holy Spirit moving inside of him. Rev Al encouraged Rick to seek a bible believing church that lives out their faith. Enter C.C.O.O. So, Rick began worshipping here two Resurrection Sundays ago. Rev Al continued to meet with Rick and one day Rick asked Jesus into his heart underneath Rev Al's maple tree! At that moment, there was celebration in heaven for Rick Degrassi! That moment happens in heaven every time someone accepts Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

In the days to follow he sat under the teachings of Pastor Allen and the Contagious Faith classes. Rick was growing in his faith with humility. It was evident to many of us in and outside the church! So much so, that the city of Rehoboth presented Rick with a Gold coin in honor of his service to the community. The icing on the cake was an interview on Coastal News where he gave credit to our Lord! Why? Because Rick is a disciple of Jesus Christ and he is a child of the ONE TRUE KING!

Finally, Rick would like you to know that considering our responsibility to have a biblical world view, he has chosen to read through the bible from the front cover to the back cover! Amen Rick! In closing Rick also wants to thank you for being so lovingly welcomed into the church family!

To that Rick, we say you are our brother in Christ! You most certainly are family, and we love you! ♥



Every day of our lives, we need to be *intentional* and *prepared* for the opportunity to share about the love of Jesus. With practice and time it will become second nature to be able to do this. You will grow in *intimacy with Jesus* and with those around us!

In Christ, Ed Vidzicki



*I don't care if you call me a Redneck or call me a Hillbilly...just call me for supper.
Finding humor in the most common of things is the ability reserved for a
bunch of us dingalings! Ya gotta be silly like a hillbilly!*

Rob Norbeck



Linda Miller



**BEST
COSTUME
WINNERS!**

Country Sunday backdrop artwork by Linda Miller



HILLBILLY 10 COMMANDMENTS

1. AIN'T BUT ONE GOD.
2. HONOR YER MA AND PA.
3. NO TELLIN' TALES OR GOSSIPIN'.
4. GIT YER HIDE TO SUNDAY MEETIN'.
5. AIN'T NOTHIN' COME BEFORE THE LORD.
6. NO FOOLIN' WITH ANOTHER FELLER'S GAL.
7. NO KILLIN', 'CEPT FOR CRITTERS.
8. QUIT YER FOUL MOUTHIN'.
9. NO SWIPIN' YER KIN FOLKS STUFF.
10. DON'T BE HANKERIN' FER IT NEITHER.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024

Monday Aug. 5th - Friday Aug. 9th

6-8:30 pm

and Sunday Aug. 11th 10:30am-Noon

THE ARMOR OF GOD



Questions?

Reach us at

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Text: 844-369-2943

web: oakorchardchurch.com

Email: Kayla@oakorchardchurch.com

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OAK ORCHARD

32615 OAK ORCHARD RD. MILLSBORO, DE



AS YOU GROW

As you grow,
May our Heavenly Father
Guide you through,
Pouring down His blessings
Over you.

As you grow,
May you experience love
Never-ending,
And know that your life
On Him is depending.

As you grow,
May each breath
That you take
Be filled with the wonder
That only God can make.

As you grow,
Always be thankful for
Blessings unfolding,
Give Him your best
For your life He is still molding.



IN YOUR PRESENCE

I watch In Your presence
That's where I am strong
In Your presence
O Lord my God
In Your presence
That's where I belong
Seeking Your face
Touching Your grace
In the cleft of the Rock
In Your presence O God

I want to go
Where the rivers
Cannot overflow me
Where my feet are
On the rock
I want to hide
Where the blazing
Fire cannot burn me
In Your presence O God

I want to hide
Where the flood of
Evil cannot reach me
Where I'm covered by the blood
I want to be where
The schemes of darkness
Cannot touch me
In Your presence O God

You are my firm foundation
I trust in You all day long
I am Your child
And Your servant
And You are my
Strength and my song
You're my song

Seeking Your face
Touching Your grace
In the cleft of the Rock
In Your presence O God
In Your presence

Song: "In Your Presence" Writer: Paul Wilbur

Where Friends
Become Family!



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ONLINE DONATIONS

Use the portal on
our website:
oakorchardchurch.com

Scroll down to the
bottom and click on
the "GIVE" button.

Thank you
for supporting our
mission and for your
faithfulness in giving!

Scan the QR Code below
to visit our website.



UPCOMING EVENTS

8/3 *Memorial Service for
Gloria Altemose*
11am, lunch to follow. Family
providing fried chicken. Please
contact Marge Hurt if you'd like
to bring a side dish. 75-100
attendees are expected.

8/4 *Fellowship Luncheon*
Following the 11am Service

8/4 *James Bible Study Class 6*
9:30am with Pastor Ed

8/5-9 *VBS* 6pm

8/11 *VBS Closing* 11am service

8/14 *Board Meeting* 3pm

8/18 *James Bible Study Class 7*
9:30am with Pastor Ed

8/18 *Communion*

8/19 *Dinner & Discussion*
Topic: "Now We Live" 6-8pm

8/20 *Summer Series*
Health talk w/Kristin H. 6:30pm

8/23 *Meals 4 Missions* 4-7pm
Chx & Dumpling, Dine In (all
you can eat) or Carryout \$14

8/25 *James Bible Study Class 8*
9:30am with Pastor Ed

8/27 *Summer Series*
Praise & Worship Night 6:30pm
followed by Ice Cream Social.



Come to VBS!

CHURCH BOARD of ELDERS

Pastor Allen Miller
Chair: Ted Brown
V/Chair: Steve Miller
Assoc. Pastor: Ed Vidzicki
Dave Hammer
Kurt Hepler
Mike Koly



SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 or 11:00 AM
in person or online.

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Prayer 6:00 PM

Watch our services on:
Facebook—
[@oakorchardchurch](https://www.facebook.com/oakorchardchurch)

YouTube—
[@CCOakOrchard/streams](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOakOrchardStreams)

BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays 6:30 PM
Zoom Bible Study

Wednesdays 9:30-11 AM
AGAPE Bible Study

ACTIVITIES

Tuesdays @ 10:00 AM
T.O.P.S. Meeting
(Take off Pounds Sensibly)

Wednesdays 8 PM C.D.A.

Fellowship Luncheon
1st Sunday of the Month
at 12 Noon