If we look back into the book of Acts and read how the first Christians “did” church do we find any similarities to what church in America has turned into? Do you read about a strong focus on the worship music or the youth programs? Do we read anywhere about fancy buildings or the latest technical advances used to lure the lost into the sanctuary? No we sure don’t. What we do read about is a group of dedicated followers of Jesus Christ putting aside their own personal desires, putting aside their own need to be warm and well-fed. We see a picture of the early church that had it’s focus and direction on solid footing. We see dedicated individuals coming together, seeking Jesus Christ, worshipping Him daily and turning their vision and focus outward to the lost all around them. Have we really fallen that far away from those who first believed? Have we evolved so far that the early vision for reaching the lost has been replaced by seeking our own comfort and satisfaction? In the words of the Apostle Paul; “I say by no means!” God did not reject Israel and he has not rejected us! Where can we seek the lost this week brothers and sisters?

What Is A Missional Church?

The past 24 + months have been rather fluid around OCC to say the least! If we dialed the clock back three years what you would find at OCC looks much different than what you see today. It is natural for all of us to reject and even fear change. But, change is inevitable and healthy. Everything in this life has a shelf life, including what OCC is transforming into around us today. Someday, not to far from now, many of us will be looking back at “how it used to be” and worrying about where in the world we are going? Two things remains the same, Jesus Christ is on the throne and our mission to make Him known! Those two things remain our stabilizing force and our focus as elders. We have heard your concerns and we share them. It is our desire to keep you our church family as informed as possible. We will strive to be better at that! We are actively seeking a Senior Preaching Minister. We are reviewing resumes, listening to sermons, visiting churches to see men in action, and performing interviews. We are bathing all of this in prayer to ensure we select the man that God intends for OCC. We are researching options for making the offering and tithing process simpler through payroll deduc-
tion, electronic giving through tablets and smart phones. We have a few great options to choose from and will make that call soon.

We are planning and scheduling a host of community involvement events for 2017 and there are many exciting ideas flowing through. We cannot wait to share them with you.

The transition within Daycare from Ruth Crabtree to Chris Miller is progressing well. Chris has taken the reins along with Shana Clifford. Many exciting updates and improvements coming along there as well.

The building program is very close to the launching point. We are waiting on some final drawings from the architect which in turn will allow Stoll Brothers to give us a firm number. Once we have this we can assess our options for the path forward. The future is looking bright here too! We hope to have a giant reveal and kickoff gathering very soon.

It has been a challenging 24 months as the eldership has dealt with the seeking of ministry options, daycare transition, building program, budgets, salaries, worship service changes, ministry program developments, and so on. It is all part of our mission and we accept is with servants attitudes.

We want you, our church family to know that your eldership is dedicated to the stability and future of OCC as we align our sights on becoming a mission-focused and community minded church.

Much more to follow friends.

WHAT’S GOING ON?  UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH EVENTS:
Spring is here and the Odon Christian Church Youth Ministry is beginning to look at outdoor activities as the weather turns warmer. Here are a couple coming up.

**Paintball at White River Paintball in Anderson, IN on Saturday, March 18.** We will leave the church at 8:30am. Pack lunch and bring money for dinner. Cost details coming soon!

Camp Illiana Summer Camp registration forms are in. Make sure you check to pick up the correct form. One is labelled “Elementary Camps” and one is labelled “High School/Middle School Camps”. You can also [register at www.campilliana.org](http://www.campilliana.org). Camp Sunday is April 1st for registration. Our church’s goal is for 30 registered campers this summer.

For more information contact Shawn Buis at OCC (812) 636-7330 or email at shawn.buis@occonline.org

DAYCARE EVENTS:
**Sunday, April 26 - Spring Program at 10 a.m.**

**Wednesday, May 17 - Preschool Graduation. Time is TBA.**

For more information contact Chris Miller at OCC (812) 636-7330 or email at chris.miller@occonline.org

**APRIL 22nd - 23rd - Annual Son’s of Thunder Youth Turkey Hunt**
More details to follow. Sign up sheets will be available at OCC Welcome Center soon.

For more information contact Matt Lawyer or Dennis Cecil

If you have and event you want highlighted here send it to denniscecil69@gmail.com
Hello OCC Family

Well the family and I have been here a little over 2 months now and feel very blessed to be a part of your family. We hope you feel the same way. As we look into the future of our worship here at OCC I hope that you all look ahead with excitement. God has amazing things in store for us and I personally can’t wait.

As I thought of what I could put in this newsletter as the worship guy I decided that it might be fun to review a new worship cd. So that you might have a better idea of what is out there to listen to.

Enjoy - Clay

This month we are reviewing Crowder’s new Album American Prodigal (this following is excerpts from Jesusfreakhideout.com review)

Crowder's second studio album, American Prodigal, is a musical progression from “folktronica” to “swamp pop,” and it’s a straightforward examination of the problem of sin and the promise of heaven. The album wears its theme on its sleeve, following a sinner in need of rescue. In the “Intro,” he’s pleading for angel choirs to join his song of deliverance. By the “Outro,” he’s back in communion with God. In between are songs of sin and struggle and forgiveness and freedom. The thread is so consistent that some song titles wind up in other song's lyrics. Only once, really, does a song stretch beyond the fundamental issue to provide a bit of societal commentary, when “Prove It” addresses both metaphorical and literal slavery.

David Crowder’s music can be sorted into three categories. There are the worship songs, dating back to Baylor University and the reason Crowder started a band in the first place. Think “Everything Glorious,” “How He Loves” and “Come As You Are.” Then there are the foot-stompers, the self-described hoe-downs and banjo-plucking party songs that draw from Crowder’s Texas roots. These are often covers, including concert favorite “I Saw the Light,” and sometimes lean heavily toward guitar-driven rock (“Lift Your Head Weary Sinner (Chains)”). Finally, there are the quirky songs, the inventive ones that include keytar or megaphone or lyrics from the most abstract corners of Crowder’s remarkable brain. American Prodigal is an outstanding collection of songs from the first two categories, with a notable dearth of quirky loops and head-spinning lyrics. The worship songs don’t sound distinctively Crowder-esque, but they’re finely crafted and will resonate with a whole bunch of prodigals. More prolifically represented is the hoedown/rock song grouping. As “Shouting Grounds” declares, “It’s gonna get loud.”

American Prodigal tells an old, old story, and while it’s not Crowder’s most creative offering, it takes an important place in his remarkable catalog by alternately cranking up the volume and showing how good a worship song can be.