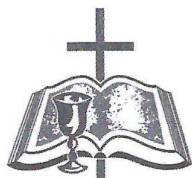


OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

Serving Christ, Serving Our Community
JULY 2023

**There will be NO
Board of Elders
meeting in July.**



***The Board of
Elders would like to
thank all of the
volunteers that
worked so hard to
make the
Fundraiser a HUGE
success!***

**PRELIMINARY
FATHER'S DAY
FUNDRAISER
NUMBERS:**

BBQ Pates	\$ 12,080
Silent Auction	\$ 3,523
Gift Card Raffle	\$ 2,120
Gun Raffle	\$ 1,040
Extras	\$ 506

**TOTAL INCOME
BEFORE EXPENSES:**

\$ 19,269

Wow....what a great Sunday we had at Ocker! Last Sunday we held our annual Father's Day Meal and Fundraiser. As all of you know, it was the result of a lot of planning and work by so many wonderful people here at church. Thank you all for working on behalf of Ocker and our community.

I know you are going to think this is odd, but as the meal and auction were in full swing last Sunday.... I thought about Nehemiah.

Now, before you roll your eyes and stop reading.. I know it is odd to think about Nehemiah.... But here is why...

In the Old Testament, hundreds of years before Christ, Nehemiah was a Jew whose family was taken out of Jerusalem and settled down away from Israel after the Babylonian invasion.

Somehow -He was a cupbearer for the king.... a very powerful position. Nehemiah knew that another Jew, Zerubbabel had led of group of people back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple that was destroyed. Nehemiah heard reports from Zerubbabel that the walls of the city here in shambles.

Unlike today, ancient cities needed walls to function and do commerce. Without walls, they would cease to exist as a city and a people.

Nehemiah felt called by the Lord to go back to Jerusalem and help the people build their wall so the city could survive, and the people could worship in the temple. He asked the King for a leave of absence and the King allowed him to go.

When he arrived in Jerusalem, he gathered the people and shared his vision from God. Normally a city wall would take decades to complete, but the people of Jerusalem completed the wall in fifty-two days. Jerusalem survived because Nehemiah had a vision, shared his vision and worked to complete the vision.

The wall went up in short order thanks to Nehemiah....and because the vision was ordained by God....and owned by the people.


I think the spiritual walls of our church are pretty strong...really strong. I do.

And as I stood back and surveyed the crowd at the Hall last Sunday...I couldn't help but see all of our Ocker people working....and they looked to me like a lot of holy Nehemiah's working together to build a wall and save their city.

And I just wanted to thank all of you for your vision and your love for God...thank you for embodying the Nehemiah spirit. I can't wait to see what God will do with us next!

Brad

BACK-TO-SCHOOL
POOL
PARTY
 Wednesday, July 26
 5:30-7:30
 3900 N Fannin Ave.
 Cameron, TX 76520



VBS 2023
 Mon. July 31-
 Wed. Aug. 2
 6:00-8:00pm
 Program will be held during
 worship on Sunday, August 6
 (no lunch meal).



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Listen for more information during announcements about the
 Back to School Pool Party.

REMINDER: First Sunday of the New SS Year will take place ON AUGUST 6TH. CEC will provide the food. Starts at 8:30 am. See you there!

First Sunday Schedule:

July – Children/Youth SS Teachers

October – Young Adult Class

August – CEC – Back to School

November – Books of the Bible Class

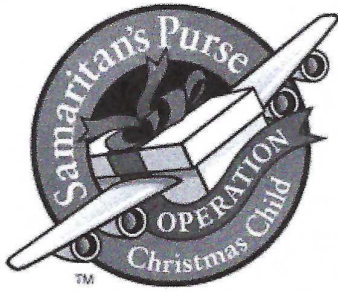
September – Rose Ann’s Adult Class

December – Children/Youth SS Teachers

The “Young Married/Young Parent” class needs a teacher for the next SS Year. Brad currently facilitates but will be teaching a confirmation class. Please prayerfully consider leading this great class. See Tracie for more information.

****Bad Girls of the Bible Wednesday Night Bible Study****

Bible Study is paused for the summer. Please join us again Sept 6 @ 6:30 pm to learn about some “Really Bad Girls” of the Bible and what they can teach us about our lives today.



Operation Christmas Child

Summer Drive!

Operation Christmas Child is collecting **SCHOOL SUPPLIES Through All Of Summer!** The supplies we place into a box is used to enhance the education of each child. For **June, July and August we will be collecting school supplies** such as pencils, erasers, crayons, color pencils, scissors, rulers, glue sticks, spiral notebooks, and more! Please no liquid-based items. We are also collecting small pencil boxes/bags and tote bags for the children to carry their supplies to school. We hope to supply each child with the most school items possible to help them continue their education.

Please read below for additional OCC Updates:

- **Summer Craft Retreat is July 21-22.** This is our big fundraiser for the year. Profits go towards the shipping cost of the boxes. **We need lots of help.** We need help with setup and the preparation/serving of each meal. We are especially asking for help with Friday and Saturday night's meals and Saturday clean up/ breakdown of the retreat. If you are not available to help in person, we are also needing dessert donations. Please contact Tracie Malovets or Erin Brinkley in person or through email to sign up.

tmalovet@rogersisd.org ; erinbrinkley95@gmail.com

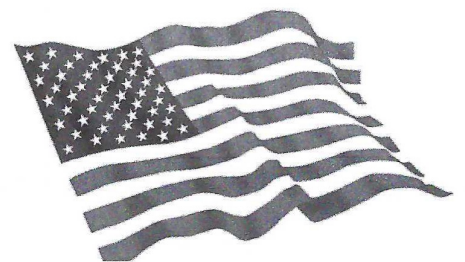
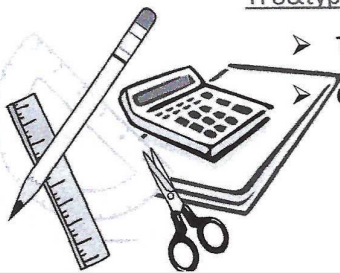
- Can't make it to the store but still want to donate items? Wondering what items are still needed for this year? Want to buy in bulk? We have you cover. **OCC has an Amazon Wishlist!**

The list has been updated for the year. Check it out at

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KDHI8VR0461l/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_4?encoding=U

[TF8&type=giftlist](#) Access this link through:

- The online newsletter located on the church website
- Church Facebook page



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ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

PASTOR:
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Phone:
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Email:
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E-mail:
jp.chervenka@gmail.com

Youth Director:
Jennifer Chervenka
Phone: 254.913.1244
Email:
jenn.chervenka@gmail.com

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E-mail:
tmalovets@gmail.com

Church Secretary:
Stacie Sebek
Phone:
254.718.5608
Email: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org
Twitter: @ockerchurch
&
Facebook!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 – Trevor Glaser
Troy Glaser
- 6 – Ryan Zdroik
- 7 – Sharon Marek
- 8 – David Williamson
- 11 – Pavel Kozak
- 12 – Abbeye Zavodny
Ella Washam
- 13 – Mary Jesek
- 14 – Dalton Krcha
Jackson Erskine
- 15 – Carson Erskine
- 18 – John Krcha
- 21 – Maycee Phillips
Amy Cummings
- 22 – Raegan Doscocil
- 23 – Randy Hoelscher
Karen Bethke
Lawrence Psencik
- 28 – Phyllis Ruffino
Stacie Sebek
Tracie Malovets

July Anniversaries

- 11 – Dillon & Jordan Barbisch
- 13 – Jerry & Gabbey Dillard
- 15 – Gene & Carmen Sosa
- 19 – Mickey & Karen Tomlin
- 22 – Darrell & Shannon Glaser
- 26 – Pavel & Stania Kozak
- 27 – John & Brittini Krcha

Christian Sisters News

The Christian Sisters met at the church on Saturday, June 17 to prepare coleslaw for the Father's Day fundraiser. We were assisted by several nonmembers and would like to thank each and every one of you for your help and support. Our booth at the fundraiser attracted attention and we sold several Rada cutlery items and Danny Duzit scouring pads.

We WILL NOT meet in July. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 15 at 11:30 am. Please come and join us for lunch and our meeting.

Baby Blanket Buddies

The Baby Blanket Buddies will meet again at 10 am on July 1 and August 5. Our goal is to collect handmade baby blankets for Hope Pregnancy Center. They can be knit, crocheted, or quilted. The knotted fleece blankets are welcome too! These blankets can be worked on at our gathering weekends as well as at home. I'm hoping to collect and deliver our first set of blankets the beginning of September.

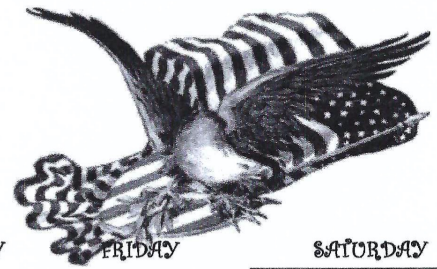
If you don't know how to knit or crochet, come and join us and we will be glad to teach you. A special invitation to our youth: COME AND LEARN A NEW SKILL THAT WILL KEEP YOU BUSY FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

Other ways you can support this ministry:
Your prayers – for the mothers and their babies, for the staff at Hope Pregnancy Center, for others to come and make blankets.

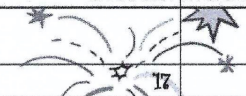

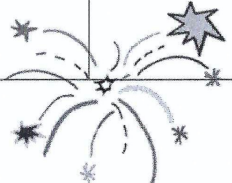
Make your blankets at home then deliver to Maggie prior to Sept. 1. The first round of blankets will be delivered the first week of September.

If you have questions, please call Maggie at (512)632-0642

JULY 2023



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

							1 <i>Baby Blanket Buddies</i> 10 am
2 First Sunday Fellowship 8:30 am Worship 10:15 am John Hus Sunday Holy Communion	3	4	5	6 Senior Adult Fellowship 9 am – 1 pm	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
ENCOUNTER CAMP							
Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:15 am							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
ALPHA CAMP				Senior Adult Fellowship 9 am – 1 pm	QUARTERLY CRAFT RETREAT		
Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:15 am					UNITY CONVENTION		
23	24	25	26 <i>Back to School Pool Party</i> 5:30 – 7:30 pm	27	28	29	
Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:15 am							
30	31	August 1	August 2				
Sunday School 9 am Worship 10:15 am	VACATION		BIBLE	SCHOOL			