

Attendance Last Week: 8:30am - 116 11:00am - 173 Total - 289

During the worship services a NURSERY is available for children ages 2-3 years in Room 113 and under 2 in Room 104.

During 11:00 service: CHILDREN'S CHURCH for

4 yr olds-Kind. in Room 105 and Grades 1-3 in Room 119.

CLIPBOARDS with packets of crayons and papers are available in baskets at the doors for children to use during the services. Please return to the baskets at the end of the service.

Here's What's Happening!

SUNDAY: ✧Come together to PRAY in Room 114 during 8:30 or 11:00 service.
✧3:30-4:30pm - Ladies Chorus practice in Room 123
✧5:00pm - Lifeguard Soup Supper and NOCC Family Christmas Program at NOCC (Dinner & Show). Get your free tickets today!
✧5:00pm - Unite (College Ministry) meets at the NOCC Center
✧NO College Students' Supper—join us for the Soup Supper at NOCC beginning at 5:00pm.

THIS WEEK: MON 1:00pm - Staff meeting at the Center
7:00pm - Women's Ministry *Heart-to-Heart* meeting at NOCC
7:00pm - Elder/Deacon meeting at the Center
TUE 6:00am NO Men's Fraternity
10:30am - Men's Coffee at Augustine's Bakery, 1305 Main
WED 3:00pm - Heroes For Life (for Kind. thru 5th grades)
3:00-5:00pm - 6th Grade CIA meet in the Youth Center
5:00pm - Deadline for items to be in the bulletin and requests for announcements to be made Sunday.
5:15pm - 6-8th Grade CIA Supper in the Youth Center
6:00-7:30pm - 7-8th Grade CIA meet in the Youth Center
6:00-7:30pm - Men's Fraternity meets in Room 121
6:30-7:30pm - E2:10 High School Girls' Bible Study meets in Room 123.
7:30pm - Lifeguard (high school students) meet in the Youth Center
THU 7:30pm - Overcomers Outreach meets at the Center—A support group for people and their families that have alcohol, drug & food addictions. Childcare is not provided.

NEXT SUNDAY: ▷Come together to PRAY in Room 114 during 8:30 or 11:00 service.
▷NO Ladies Chorus practice
▷5:00pm - Unite (College Ministry) meets in the Youth Center
▷6:30pm - College Students' Supper at Ken & Rachel Edigers'.

COMING UP: DEC 15 - NO Buildings & Grounds Team meeting
DEC 21 - Parent/Child Dedication during services
10:00am "Let the Children Come" Children's Sunday School program in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited!!
5:00pm Family Caroling
DEC 22 - 7:00pm Elder meeting at the Center
DEC 24 - 8:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at NOCC
DEC 28 - 11:00am Combined Worship Service~~NO Sunday School
JAN 4 - 11:00am Combined Worship Service~~NO Sunday School

The Elder On Call for December 6-12 is Ron Gallaway. If you have a need and cannot reach the church office, please call Ron.

READING PROGRAM: The Spiritual Life Team wants to encourage everyone at NOCC to be a consistent reader of God's Word. As a growing part of this church, please read Matthew 8-14 this week and discuss with a friend. *Revelation 1:3*

Heart-to-Heart's will meet on Monday, December 8, at 7:00 pm at NOCC. You are invited to share "A Cup of Christmas Tea". Please bring two dozen cookies with recipe for a cookie swap. Childcare is provided by contacting Jes Neher. This Women's Ministry event is open to all NOCC women and their guests.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED WHERE YOU WILL SERVE AT NOCC?
Be a Sound or AV Techs and learn how to operate the sound and audiovisual equipment in the church services. Training will be provided. If you would like an opportunity to serve in this way or others, please fill out the Response Card in the Friendship Book and put in the offering plate today!!

LADIES CHORUS: If you would be interested in being involved in a Ladies Chorus or need more information, call Joni Blosser or Normadine Noone. Practice is scheduled TODAY from 3:30-4:30pm in Room 123. The Ladies Ensemble will sing for church on December 14.

FROM THE CARE COMPASSION TEAM--The person mailing cards for the month of December is Leslie Hess. If you know of someone who needs a note of encouragement, sympathy or get well, please call her.

A PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION Service is being planned for December 21. If you are interested in dedicating your child/children to the Lord, please talk with Pastor Ken about this date or another that works for you.

Dinner & Show: TODAY, 5:00pm at NOCC Sanctuary
Dinner – Raise funds for Lifeguard Mission Trip
Show – NOCC Family Christmas Program
Combining the annual Lifeguard Soup Supper and NOCC Family Christmas Program for one evening of food & entertainment!
• Tickets are available in the Gathering Space this morning.
• Please bring tickets with you this evening because they will let us know how many people are coming as well as serve as your bidder number for the silent auction.
• A freewill donation will be taken with all proceeds going for the Lifeguard Mission Trip.
• There will be a silent auction for gift baskets that will make perfect gifts for Christmas.
• Please bring your favorite Christmas snack or dessert to share.

Welcome to Melissa Curry who has accepted the position of **Office Assistant** at NOCC! Melissa and her husband, Buddy, have recently started attending North Oak with their family, Brittany age 19 and Brandon age 17. They live in the country near McCracken. She will begin working in the office on December 8.

NOCC COOKBOOKS: "Taste and See That the Lord is Good" are available for \$8.00 at the table in the Gathering Space today. Make great gifts!!

THANK YOU
NOCC Family, Thank you for the beautiful rose while I was in the hospital. Thank you Pastor John for visiting with us and praying with us. ~~Chris & Nikki Muench
Dear NOCC Family, Thank you for the lovely fall wreath, kind words and cards in memory of my mom (Ginny). A special praise for Pastor John's comforting hospital visits and participation in Mom's memorial service.
~~Sincerely, Marty Kraemer & family
NOCC, Thank you for the beautiful dried floral arrangement for my mom's funeral. Thank you for the many prayers. It is appreciated.~~Tim Schmidtberger & family

THE FINANCE TEAM is asking that anyone planning to do year-end giving to the church to please do so in the offering by December 28 or before 5:00pm on December 30 at the church office. This will insure that your gift will appear on your 2008 giving receipt from the church. Anything **received after December 31** will have to be credited to 2009.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
On December 24 at 8:00pm a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be held at NOCC. Join us for a time of celebrating the birth of Jesus, our Savior and Lord!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday, December 28: 11:00 Combined Worship Service
NO Sunday School
Sunday, January 4: 11:00 Combined Worship Service
NO Sunday School

PRAYER MINISTRY

Week of December 7-13, 2008

Email your request for the PRAYER MINISTRY INFORMATION
To nocc@northoak.net.

**ADVENT READING:
PUT NOT YOUR TRUST IN MEN**

We are not so different today from the children of Israel in Old Testament times. Our politically charged circumstances have changed dramatically; new rules and laws provoke us, mock us, and restrain us. Nothing is new under the sun as Solomon says. [Ecclesiastes 1: 9-11] We too, are a people struggling to make sense of life as worldly transition hurdles us toward eternity.

The most unbearable situations of death, loss of children, and the frustrating and seemingly hopeless situations of those we know outside ourselves are the opportunity to meet God on level ground. These are the burning bush moments in which God may be saying: "Take off your shoes you are on holy ground." [Exodus 3: 5] Fervent prayer towards our Father in heaven is needed.

And as it was with the children of Israel, so it is with us. He offers mercy if we would only look to Him as our God and King rather than relying on men of earth as our salvation; [1 Sam. 8: 5b-7; Ps.146: 4-5] We consider the strength of weapons, horses and chariots as our deliverers. [Ps. 20: 7] We trust only in medicinal potions to deliver us from our illnesses. We impale ourselves on the world's solutions for troubles instead of totally relying and trusting in the work of the Father. God has not changed. His grace and mercy is unbounded. We have only to ask for help.

The persons who look as if they are destined to a life of poor choices, inordinate sin, and in short, do not "look" as if they will ever TURN TO GOD...are we not those persons ourselves? Have we not manifested this behavior, maybe even now because we do not seek out God for our every moment?

Many of the children of Israel rejected the Messiah. Do we do any differently? Today, bow down before our Lord and lift Him up as our God and King. Confess as Daniel did your sin and the sins of your people. [Daniel 9:1-11] Call on Him and express your need of Him, His church's need of Him and the world's need of Him. Vow to look to Him ONLY for your day and He will do a new thing in your life and in those around you. [Philippians 2:10-11] God has highly exalted JESUS: *At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is LORD to the glory of God the Father.*

SERMON NOTES:

A Caroling We Will Go . . .

The Assimilation Team invites you to go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 21st at 5:00 pm. Meet at the church to divide into groups, go caroling and return to the church for hot chocolate, cookies and fellowship. Bring your family and friends and let's share the joy of the season with others in Hays! See you there!!! If you have questions call Noman and Elizabeth Williams.

We would like to keep military personnel and their families in our prayers:
Let the church office know of any NOCC family with deployed family members.

**NORTH OAK COMMUNITY CHURCH December 7, 2008
8:30am and 11:00am**

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."~~Isaiah 7:14

Welcome to North Oak! Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning. Please take a moment to sign and pass the red Friendship Folder located in each row. All guests are invited to complete the right-hand column of the form.

Prelude Cathy Clewett, Harp

"Shine, Jesus, Shine" Congregation
"What Child Is This?" (Hymn 281)

Advent Reading and Candlelighting (8:30) John & Heidi Albin
(11:00) Don & Sigrid Rynerson

"One Small Child" (Hymn 280) Congregation
"O Holy Night!" (Hymn 285)
"Come and Behold Him"

Prayer Elder: Ron Gallaway

Offertory Cathy Clewett, Harp
(11:00 service dismiss to Children's Church: 4 yr olds-Kind. in Room 105
Grades 1-3 in Room 119.)

Bible Message Pastor Ken
"God is With Us When it Hurts"
Genesis 39-40 (Pew Bible page 30)

*"Jesus Messiah" Congregation

Postlude

Worship Team: Loren Groening, Pianist;
Ken Holle, Rachel Cunningham, Eriana Holle,
Stefanie Stevens, Bryan Noone, Vocalists.

Prayer Counselors: 1st & 2nd Service – Ron & Gail Gallaway

Today's service is available on cassette or CD for \$1.00 each. Call the church office to order.
The message only can also be heard after Tuesday on the website at www.northoak.net.

**Following the 8:30 service, you are invited to get a cup of coffee or juice in the
Gathering Space and proceed to your Sunday School class.**

~~All Sunday School classes meet from 9:50-10:50am~~

Adult Education Classes	
Lost Sheep: The Peacemaking Church	Room 121
Seekers: The Peacemaking Church	Room 123
College/Berean Class: The Peacemaking Church	Room 121
Soul Care 101: The Peacemaking Church	Room 119
Count Us In (Special Needs Adults)	Room 112
Youth Education Classes	
2 & 3 year olds	Room 113
4 year olds – Kindergarten	Room 105
1st & 2nd Grades	Room 111
3rd Grade	Room 103
4th & 5th Grades	Room 116
Middle School	Room 117
High School	Room 136