

Open Worship Church of Hope



“ALL Are Welcome Who Come Into This Church Of Worship”

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings in the Wonderful Name of Jesus,

Scripture tells us in 2nd Thessalonians, to ‘be NOT weary in well doing’. I am so excited to see what God has done for us in such a short time. Not only has He blessed us with a new place to worship; but attendance has doubled since Easter and new visitors still continue to come. I

encourage each and every one to keep on working for His Kingdom for ‘we shall REAP if we faint not’. I truly believe that He isn't finished blessing us yet. He is just making sure we will be obedient and faithful with what He has entrusted unto us.

We will be opening the church doors and receiving our first of many Members at Open Worship Church of Hope on June 13th. We have written the Vision and made it plain and He is blessing

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Newsletter May

Number 1



2010

us. I would like to Say Thank-you all for your obedience in the “*GIVE YOUR BEST*” period of fund-raising.

We serve an Awesome God, I encourage you to ask yourself over the next few weeks. ‘*God, has done so much for me what can I do for HIM?*’ and find a way to get involved in the church. Get involved so that you can make this house of His be known to everyone that seeks Him and are not sure how to find Him. Let them know that ‘THEY ARE WELCOME HERE’.

I leave you with this thought, God has called us ‘out of darkness into HIS marvelous light’, He said, ‘Draw close to me and I will draw close to you’. I don’t know about you but I want to get as close to Him as I can. How close can YOU get to GOD?

Pastor Rob

NEW ITEM: ‘CALENDAR OF EVENTS’

Our regular newsletter will begin including a listing of upcoming events. Please feel free to submit upcoming events to Larry Joyce or Olemuel Ashford by the 15th of the month so that we can include them in the upcoming edition. The calendar will help us all to be able to incorporate church events into our personal schedules in advance. Also, you can recognize that special anniversary, your birthday, or submit a community event (we are here to touch the community).

FACEBOOK

Open Worship Church of Hope is growing our presence on Facebook. We encourage everyone to visit the page, share thoughts about services, post prayer requests, or general feedback on the church.

If you are not a fan yet, please become one. It is a great way to share your spiritual journey with your church family, while at the same time broadcasting to your friends what our church is about.

You can share photos of our outings, stay up to date on the latest news and much more. We invite you to join our growing family of fans.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

SPEAKING GIFTS

Wisdom

Knowledge

Prophecy

Faith

Tongues

Interpreting Tongues

Apostle

Teacher

Encouragement

Leadership

Evangelist

Pastor-Teacher

Sermon

It Is Finished !!!

Now it’s up to you to accept.

4/4/2010 Easter Sunday
John 19:1-42; Mark
15:37-39; Luke 24:5-6

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

SERVING GIFTS

Faith

Healing

Miracles

Service

Discerning Spirits

Administration

Giving

Helps

Mercy

OWCH New Member's classes were recently held. The classes were presented to those who desired to join the church so that they would have an opportunity to hear directly from church leadership on various topics and also be able to ask questions and have an open dialogue about the church.

The first class, held April 19th, was taught by Pastor Rob. He covered: 'What We Believe', qualifications to become a member, church covenant, church structure, and responsibilities of church members.

The second class, held April 26th, was taught by Adam and Olemuel. They covered the church By-Laws, additional membership requirements, more information on our church structure, and some church financial information.

Potential members that completed both courses were expected to prayerfully reflect on the teachings between the courses and June 6th. If they believe that it is in God's will for them to become a part of this church and they have discussed this with Pastor Rob, then they will be officially accepted during the June 13th service.

If you missed one, or both, classes and still would like to become a member during the June 13th service please contact Pastor Rob, Adam or Olemuel.

CHURCH RAISING

Well, the move is complete. The church moved from our prior location in the Illinois Building downtown Bloomington into a new location on West College Avenue; behind Carl's Ice Cream (Suite A-2). During the process many people contributed to sprucing up the new place and preparing it for the inaugural service on Easter Sunday. For that the Pastor says 'many thanks for all of your hard work'. A few pictures taken during the process that he'd like to share with everyone are on the church Facebook. If you haven't stopped by to see the final product, please do; we'd love to fellowship with you.

Sermon

Serving A God That Can Be
Touched

We Must Labor Before We

Rest

4/11/2010

Hebrews 4:1-16

Church Attendance	Date	Attendees
	Apr 4, 2010	20
	Apr 11, 2010	18
	Apr 18, 2010	11
	Apr 25, 2010	18

CHANGING FACES

Many new faces walk into our church each Sunday. We are blessed to be able to touch the lives of these people. Many of our visitors have come to us via some manner of online connection. Be it Facebook, Craig's List ad, our website, or other community GLBT connections. With the many changes going on at the church we are strongly taking a look at changing our branding to make sure that we make appropriate use of our online connectivity. Stay tuned over the next period as we update our Facebook and Website. We will warn you, we may have to ask that you "Become a Fan" of our Facebook page again; and we apologize for this in advance. Our purpose is to merely provide the best for you, my, and our church.

CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

The church has adopted an official Vision Statement. A vision statement is supposed to be a brief summary of what the church's goals are centered around. OWCH's vision statement is "To give hope to the hopeless, to be a friend to the friendless, to be Christ-like in word and deed, and to be a family to all."

The church leadership feels that this statement reflects everything that we have done thus far and where we intend to go. It also echoes that we intend to be a family to all. The church is for the people, to serve the people and a place where people commune together like a family. Do you agree with the vision statement? Give us your feedback.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Christians have their share of troubles, disappointments, and sorrows. But all the time, in the midst of these, they have a secret peace of which the world knows nothing.

Author Unknown

Rejoice in knowing that you belong to God and that He is conforming you to the image of His Son. See every event of this day as part of that process. Yield to the Spirit's prompting, and take heart that God will accomplish His will.

Sermon

Love One Another

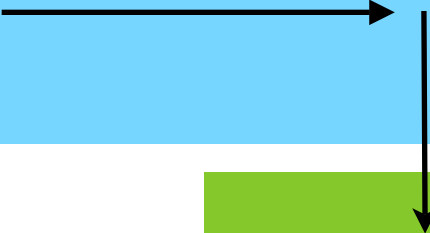
Your blessings count on it.

4/18/2010

John 15:7-16

Volunteer Your Talents

With our church being new, there are many opportunities for you to get involved. Whatever your talent we can find a place for you to help out. The church is about communing together to help us grow in Christ. As we join together to work toward our common mission we become a stronger family and church. So, please consider volunteering to assist the church. Some ideas for thought are



SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES / NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS

The OWCOH newsletter is a work in progress. If you have any suggestions concerning the layout, the color scheme, flow, etc. I most welcome them. I have considered several designs and color schemes and incorporated current suggestions which included keeping articles to one page and not flowing to the following page and rather than a Sermon Summary Section - to incorporate pastor sermon passages or sermon titles along with corresponding scripture reading into the high-light boxes.

If you have any suggestions or an article you would like to submit please feel free to write and email me, the pastor, or one of the board members and the material will be reviewed and considered for publication in the newsletter.

At present, I suspect the newsletter will be published monthly, however as mentioned this is a work in progress and publication will be based on submission of content.

Larry Joyce
riverwayne@hotmail.com

Olemuel Ashford
olemuel3@comcast.net

- ❖ Greeters and Ushers
- ❖ Are you musically inclined? We need lead singers and musicians.
- ❖ Event coordinator(s)
- ❖ Outreach and Charity work
- ❖ Administrative coordinator

Please see Pastor Stamper for if you'd like to help out. No amount of assistance is too small.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14	15 Nicor Day See Note
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 J.F.K. Birthday
30	31 Memorial Day					

Date	Upcoming Events
Jun 6, 2010	Suggested end date to discuss membership with Pastor
Jun 13, 2010	New Members Receiving and Reception (contact Amy); Quarterly Financial statement delivered to Members (in lieu of meeting).
Jul 11, 2010	Church Event Outing; contact Pastor
Aug 1, 2010	Church Board Meeting
Aug 15, 2010	Church Event Outing; contact Jai
Sep 12, 2010	Church Event Outing (Coordinator TBD); Quarterly Members meeting
Nov 7, 2010	Church Board Meeting
Feb 6, 2011	Church Board Meeting

Note:

For those able to participate in the Nicor Community Clean Up the time is from 7 till 12 noon. You will meet in Miller Park at 7 am and there you will be assigned a project. Juice, coffee, and T-shirts will be provided.

Are you hungry, persecuted,
distressed, overwhelmed?
*Remember, God is good all
the time!*

4/25/2010
Romans 8:28-39

imagine

Addressee Name

OPEN WORSHIP CHURCH OF HOPE
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ALL ARE WELCOME