

## Ed's Bacon Bits

I want to begin with a personal invitation to our "Movie Night" on Saturday night, Nov. 22, at 7 p.m. We'll be showing the movie "Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" in the church sanctuary.

"Expelled" came to theaters just months ago and is currently the #1 documentary of 2008. The movie is about the suppression of scientific debate in our country about Intelligent Design and Darwinism in our public school classrooms. The following is from the movie's website, [www.expelledthemovie.com](http://www.expelledthemovie.com). "The truth is that a *staggering* amount of new scientific evidence has emerged since Darwin's 150-year-old theory of life's origins. Darwin had no concept of DNA, microbiology, The Big Bang, Einstein's Theory of Relativity or of the human genome. The theory of intelligent design is simply an effort to empirically detect whether the product

'apparent design' in nature acknowledged by virtually all biologists is genuine design (the product of an intelligent cause) or is simply the product of an undirected process such as natural selection acting on random variations. America is the first Democracy that was *founded* on the distinctive worldview that 'a Creator' conferred 'inalienable rights' on human beings, rather than the State, or another institution, such as 'Big Science.' So how was it *decided* that the teaching of such a *profoundly different* worldview should become the *official position* of the United States of America's public institutions?"

I hope you'll put this "Movie Night" on your calendar. There is no charge. We'll have refreshments, and I encourage you to invite any 'unchurched' friends who you think might be interested in coming.

I want to take a moment to thank Bev Hunt for her many years of service as our church secretary. It goes without saying that she regularly went above and beyond what was asked of her. She always approached her work as a ministry rather than a 'job,' and it showed in the quality of her work and the sacrifices she regularly made. I'm thankful that Bev will continue to serve in other roles here at OCC. On behalf of the entire congregation – Thank You, Bev!

We've just begun a short sermon series that I've entitled, "What I Really Need."

Our upcoming sermons...  
Nov. 2 – Relationships that Replenish  
Nov. 9 – The Power to Change  
Nov. 16 – A Sense of Personal Worth  
Hope to see you Sunday!

*Ed*

## Kari's Comments

On Nov. 7 and 8, 20 students and four adults will be attending the Illinois Christian Teen Convention (ICTC) in Springfield, IL. The theme for this year's conference is "Clean."

"This world tells us that 'clean' is a virtue, something to aspire towards. If you're not clean, you're dirty, you're worthless, you're nobody. ICTC 2008 is all about challenging these traditional notions of Clean. This world says you need to be Clean for cleanliness' sake...we'll show you how to be Clean for the sake of Christ."

Please pray for us as we travel and also that our hearts and minds may be open and receptive as we learn what it means to truly be 'clean.'

On Oct. 19, 15 students and five adults spent the afternoon at the "Great Pumpkin Patch," before heading to Beth Puricelli's parents' home for a wonderful evening of a cook-out and a bonfire. It was a great evening. A special thank you to Ann

Sanner for hosting us; we really appreciate it!

The 5th quarter event after the home football games has ended for the 2008 season. Typically we served around 30 students. It was a great opportunity for fellowship as we enjoyed a bonfire, eating and playing many games. Thank you to all the adults who sacrificed your time to help with this ministry.

Last spring, the High School Sunday school class participated in a study of the Nooma® film series.

"These DVD are short films appropriate for personal and small group settings, congregational meetings, and much more. Like parables, they use the experiences of our lives to teach about the fullness of life through Jesus, tackling issues like forgiveness, discipleship, and unconditional love." The Nooma® films are great for any age, teenager through adult. Currently, there are 22

of the Nooma® films. We have purchased 10 of them thus far. Please look for them in the library in the near future. I strongly encourage you to view them. Each one of them is only about 10 minutes long, but it is Bible-based teaching which tackles every day life issues.

Before we begin November, I want to take a moment to thank you, the Oakland Christian Church family, for the gift card I received for Pastor Appreciation Month. Thank you for your kind words of encouragement. It is truly a blessing to be serving here in Oakland with you.

As we prepare to enter the holiday season, may we take time to reflect on all the reasons we have to be thankful. God is so good.

May you continue to be blessed as you serve Him.

In Christ,  
*Kari*