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Home Run Movie Showing at LWWC

OCTOBER 21ST 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

Home Run Movie Showing at LWWC

*Written by
Beth Farrah, SMT Writer*

Bloomfield, Missouri - A brand new movie called Home Run will be showing at Living Water Worship Center in Bloomfield during their weekly Celebrate Recovery meeting. This new movie played in selected theaters back in April and the church recently received consent to show it to the public.

The movie is about a professional baseball player that struggles with alcohol abuse and has had multiple offenses related to his alcoholism. The athlete is then forced to go to rehab back in his old town in Oklahoma, where he tries to deal with his ghostly past and the people he left behind. As part of his punishment, he begins going to Celebrate Recovery and begins building up relationships with people he thought he had completely destroyed and he begins to see multiple, positive changes throughout all aspects of his life.

It is a great up lifting movie that everyone is encouraged to see. Home Run stars Scott Elrod, Dorion Brown, and Charles Henry Wyson. The film has received excellent reviews and the church is excited to be showing it to the community.

The movie is perfect for the Celebrate Recovery scene because it deals with a guy who seems to be on top of the world but also has secret downfalls, setbacks, and bad habits. It is a perfect testimony for the effect that the program has on people and the people in their lives. It just goes to show that it is never too late to turn your life around.

Celebrate Recovery deals with addiction to alcohol and family issues (like the movie) and more! This program helps people deal with their hurts, habits, and hangups, just like the baseball player, Cory, has in Home Run. The church recently celebrated their one year anniversary for the program in early October and they will be restarting the Celebrate Recovery lessons from the beginning after the movie showing and are welcoming any and all new comers who think they may be interested in joining the program.

Snacks and drinks will be provided throughout the film. It is estimated to be around two hours long and will start at 6:30pm on Wednesday, October 23rd. Living Water Worship Center is located at 18094 State Highway 25 in Bloomfield. People and kids of all ages are encouraged to come watch, so make sure to spread the word and we'll see you there!

LAST UPDATED ON OCTOBER 21ST 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

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Upcoming Operation Christmas Child Packing Parties

OCTOBER 14TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

Upcoming Operation Christmas Child Packing Parties

Written by

Beth Farrah, SMT Writer

Bloomfield, Missouri - Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is an organization that sends shoeboxes full of small gifts to second and third world countries around the globe. Although this organization stretches across all of America, Stoddard County has been a major participant throughout the last few years. Many churches, small organizations, and school clubs have taken part in packing shoe boxes.

Operation Christmas Child works through Samaritan's Purse, a foundation that is dedicated to international relief. OCC is more than just a box full of small toys that are bought at the Dollar Store. For most kids that receive boxes, it will be their only Christmas present. OCC is also dedicated to showing children their world in a difference perspective: Jesus' perspective. Each box will contain a small Bible or short books about Bible stories that are written in the child's native language so that they will receive the light and love of Jesus.

Many churches throughout Bloomfield and Dexter will soon be holding 'Packing Parties', which is when the members of the church pull together and fill boxes with small items that may be necessities for the child or they will fill the box with smaller toys such as stuffed animals or crayons and coloring books. Many of the shoeboxes are filled with personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, wash cloths, bars of soap, shoes, shirts, socks, and other useful things that the child would need for their day to day life. Other gifts such as small toys, books, crayons, pencils, notebooks, and other things are also welcomed so that the child will have some form of entertainment.

OCC began in 1993 and they are thrilled to be celebrating their twentieth year this year! Last year, they had the joy of sending out their 100-millionth shoebox. This year will also be filled with great excitement because each year the boxes that are sent overseas are increased dramatically, so this time of year is always exciting for everyone involved in the program. Over one million children have received shoe boxes within the past nineteen years, so it is exciting to keep that trend going during the Christmas season.

Living Water Worship Center in Bloomfield and St. Joe General Baptist Church in Idalia has participated in this event for many years. Both of these churches, including many other churches in the Bloomfield and Dexter area will be collecting items for their OCC boxes. Packing Parties will be held in early to mid-November, so be sure to pick up supplies and pack a box!

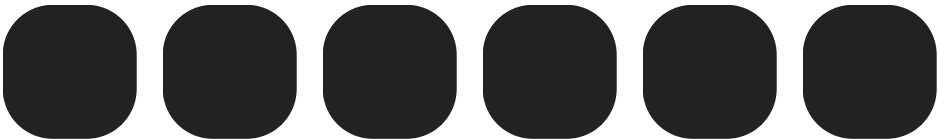
The Light House Church in Dexter has the honor of being a drop-off site, where people in the surrounding area will drop their packed boxes there so they can be distributed to a bigger packing plant in Atlanta or New York City so that they can be shipped to other places in the world. This will be the Light House’s fifth year of participating in OCC and they have sent hundreds of boxes during that time. You can pack your own personal box and drop it off at the Light House. For more information on how to pack a box or what to include, visit samaritanspurse.org.

It costs \$7 to send each shoebox so many donations and hard work is required to send a large amount but any participator will agree that it is worth it. People in this area have really stepped up and reached out and the number of boxes sent each year has increased tremendously. Stoddard County is filled with people that have great compassion for charities and the astounding results of Operation Christmas Child has really proved that.

LAST UPDATED ON OCTOBER 14TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

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St. Joe Unchained & Unashamed Youth Revival

OCTOBER 12TH 2013 BY STAFF WRITER


*Article Submitted by an
Avid SMT Reader*

Idalia, Missouri - The youth leadership of St. Joe General Baptist Church in Idalia would like to extend an open invitation to area young people and youth groups to attend a special program of Unchained & Unashamed. The event will take place on October 25th and 26th at the St. Joe Fellowship Hall beginning each night at 7:00 PM.

An extraordinary event, Unchained and Unashamed will feature Brandon Petty as the event speaker. Brandon is the pastor of the Generation Church just north of Nashville in Portland, Tennessee. His unique life experiences will allow youth to discover their own hope for the future through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Brandon's message will inspire young people to dream big and discover their own purpose in life.

"God put us here for more than just "existing" or "getting by", Brandon shares on his website.

My Love In Red will be the featured group for the youth revival. The live band music of this group will electrify the night and bring both fun and worship to the activities.

 My Love In Red travels throughout the Midwest playing at youth events and revivals. Their group is defined as providing the ultimate of worship through their music genre.

Additional information about My Love In Red can be found on the Facebook page located at <https://www.facebook.com/myloveinred>.

There will also be door prizes throughout the night for the youth and a large crowd is expected for the event.

Organizers of the event expect that Brandon's message will have a great impact on our area youth and invite other church youth groups to get involved with the activities throughout the weekend. Interested groups are encouraged to contact Loyd Rice at lrice@bsnsports.com.

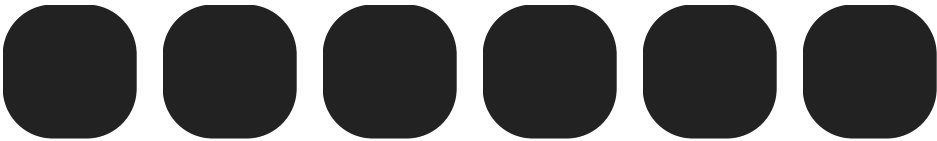
Additional information about the event can be found on the St. Joe General Baptist website at www.st-joechurch.org or on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stjoechurch>.

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Celebrate Recovery Celebrates One Year

OCTOBER 10TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

[Celebrate Recovery Celebrates One Year](#)

Written by

Bloomfield, Missouri – Celebrate Recovery at Living Water Worship Center (LWWC) in Bloomfield just celebrated their first year anniversary! Although it doesn't seem like such a long time ago that the church began working hard to make this new program come back to life here in Stoddard County, the members and leaders have already finished the first year within the program and are restarting the material being taught within the next few weeks. The upcoming year will be full of new lessons, testimonies, and people, so be sure not to miss out!

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-based program that helps you get over your “hurts, hang-ups, and habits”. Although it is similar to a twelve-step-program, the founder of Celebrate Recovery believed that Alcoholics Anonymous was missing something: Jesus Christ. With services and minds centered on the Bible, Celebrate Recovery has a success rate of nearly 85%.

Living Water Worship Center plans to reach out and touch many lives in the local area and they have already handed out nearly 1000 Celebrate Recovery Bibles since they started last October. The leader of this program is Bryan Gentry, a former member of Celebrate Recovery, believes that the program will continue to grow and thrive in our area so that many lives will be touched and changed forever.

“My wife, Tish, and I are Ministry Leaders for Celebrate Recovery at Living Water Worship Center. CR is a Christ centered recovery program that helps people deal with and recover from all kinds of issues that make our lives become unmanageable,” Gentry explains. “Married for 28 years, Tish and I have always felt God's call on our lives to serve together in ministry. We had no idea that I would end up struggling with alcoholism that took our family to a very low place. Knowing God was the answer. He helped me make the decision to turn around. Celebrate Recovery and His Amazing Grace has kept me sober for three and a half years. God has given Tish and I the burden for others to find sobriety and healing for the entire family. With Celebrate Recovery, God will bring victory and healing for life's hurts, hang-ups and habits, including life controlling addictions.”

Living Water Worship Center reaches out helping hands to those lost or in need. With God's grace and much needed support, many lives will be altered. Even those without “hurts, habits, or hang-ups” are welcomed and are offered a chance to have a closer walk with God. Adults, teens, and children are all welcomed to Wednesday night service because there are programs for each and every one of them.

Services on Wednesday nights beginning at 6:00pm have been going on for the past year, but don't fret! Beginners 101 Class will be held for the newcomers to explain how Celebrate Recovery works and what it's all about. The lessons will restart soon, which means that newcomers can just jump on in and not feel behind.

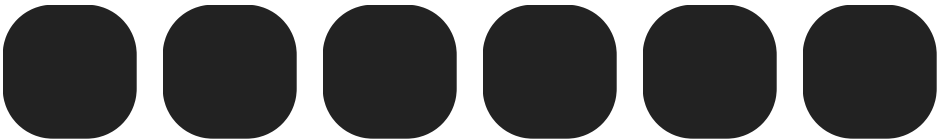
After a large group meeting held in the sanctuary, where Praise and Worship, Chip Time, and a testimony take place, members are welcome to branch off into different small groups. Small group meetings are broken down into chemical dependency and life struggles, each lead by a different staff member of the church. There are six different small groups: two for men, two for women, one for teens (youth group), and one for the younger children (The Celebration Station).

The church recently got the opportunity to host a movie night for a brand new movie called Homerun. The movie is about a baseball player who has many struggles within his life, including dependency on alcohol. Members and non-members of the church are encouraged to come to the movie premiere which will be shown at 6:00pm on Wednesday, October 23nd.

LAST UPDATED ON OCTOBER 10TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

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5th Annual Claus for a Cause T-Shirts Available Now

SEPTEMBER 29TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

5th Annual Claus for a Cause T-Shirts Available Now

*Written by
Dee Loflin SMT Manager/Writer*

Bloomfield, Missouri – Christmas is just around the corner and the 5th Annual Claus for a Cause will be held on Sunday, November 24th. Come and support the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and 18 ForeLife.

"The inspired vision of Julie Dodd in 2008, the event has continued to grow each year. Julie and photography friend, Amy Ellinghouse, learned of the idea at a seminar that encouraged attendees to use their talents to bring good things to others. With a passion and love for photography, the idea was created and the rest is a wonderful history of contributions to others."

You may purchase a high quality picture package with Santa, enjoy some great games, crafts and enjoy the live Christmas music. T-shirts for the event are on sale now. To order these awesome t-shirts and support two wonderful organizations go to their Facebook page by clicking "**Claus for A Cause!**"

Make sure you return the form to Julie Dodd or Marrianne Bruce by October 18th. You may also order and pay online at www.clausforacause.blogspot.com.

Mail orders to Marrianne Bruce at 100 S. Mulberry, Dexter, MO 63841. If you purchase your shirt from school, it will be sent home with your child. All other orders may be picked up on the day of the event. Make checks payable to Julie Dodd Photography.

Over the past few years, they have raised more than \$8,000 for charity.

The event is schedule from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Trinity United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 24th in Bloomfield, Missouri.

LAST UPDATED ON SEPTEMBER 29TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

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