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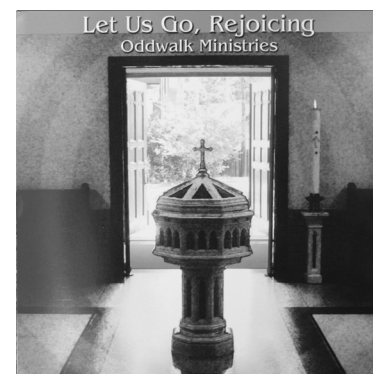
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Oddwalk Ministries Releases CD



Shannon Cerneka (left) and Orin Johnson entertain the youth and adults Sept. 23-24 at World Youth Day at the shrine.



(Above) "Let Us Go, Rejoicing," Oddwalk Ministries' newest full-length CD, features a picture of the inside of St. Luke's, Belleville, facing the baptismal font with the front doors opened wide.

Story and photo by SUSAN KNAPP
Messenger staff

"Community, participation, mission." This is the message Oddwalk Ministries brings to each event they perform or emcee, and is reinforced by the songs and talks on their newest full-length CD, "Let Us Go, Rejoicing."

As it says on their website at www.oddwalkministries.com, "Oddwalk Ministries exists to help young and old alike embrace life as eucharistic people through fun, upbeat, and interactive music and witnessing."

The two men that call themselves Oddwalk Ministries consist of Orin Johnson, Director of Music and Liturgy at the Shrine of Our Lady of Snows, Belleville, and Shannon Cerneka, a native of the Belleville diocese who is currently employed as the Director of Youth Ministry at St. Peter Catholic Church in Jefferson City, Missouri.

When Oddwalk was created in the spring of 2004, Cerneka and Johnson came up with their name by reflecting on the biblical story of the walk to Emmaus.

It was such a strange journey in Luke 24:13-35, when Cleopas and his companion walked alongside

Jesus, discussing Scripture, and were not aware of it until they arrived at their destination.

"Being Christian, the things God asks you to do can be a bit bizarre," said Cerneka, "Don't question what God wants you to do — just do it."

Referring to what message they hope to impart to the youth and adults they minister to, they return to their motto, "Community, participation, mission."

When asked who inspires them in their roles as evangelists and ministers, Cerneka replied, "Anyone who makes a fool out of themselves for Christ. Anyone who is genuine in their ministry."

"We want (our audience) to feel changed — whether at Eucharist or from our music," Johnson stated, "We want them to be transformed; to have a willingness to enter into the church's mission and help build the church."

They try to depict this in the cover artwork of their

newest CD, "Let Us Go, Rejoicing," with a picture of the interior of St. Luke's, Belleville, facing outwards.

They chose St. Luke's church specifically because it was Cerneka's home parish growing up in Belleville, but also because they wanted the view outside the church doors to be "of the world" and to have a baptismal font included in the picture.

"We enter the church through baptism, and leave at our funerals after a holy water blessing reminding us of our baptism," said Johnson, "It

is our entrance into the church's mission, and gives us the right, no — the duty — to participate in it."

About the view of the doors wide open from the inside of the church, Cerneka said, "(We are) encouraging people to be

Christian outside of the church. (Church) is not just about you and God — you are part of a community."

Featured as keynotes at last year's 2006 Diocesan Youth Conference in Collinsville, Ill., Oddwalk Ministries recorded the first five tracks of this CD live during their performance there, with an enthusiastic audience of 600 youth and adults from Southern Illinois.

"Let Us Go, Rejoicing" also includes five songs for liturgical use and personal reflection, and five more live tracks from their experience ministering at the 2006 Jefferson City Diocesan Youth Rally.

There is a CD-release concert for this album, included as a part of an ongoing program called "Jubilee Cafe," scheduled for Saturday, October 21st, at 7 p.m. at St. Luke Parish Hall, Belleville. There is no charge for admittance.

When asked what goals they might have in the future, after this CD, Cerneka stated, "To continue to be something that is pleasing to God."

For more information, please visit their website at www.oddwalkministries.com.

We want them to be transformed ... to enter into the church's mission and help build the church."

— Orin Johnson
Oddwalk Ministries

26th Annual DUCK BOOYA and CHICKEN DINNER

Saturday, October 7th

Serving 4-7:00 p.m. - Carryouts Available

Games/Concessions/Raffles

Cash Bingo — 7:30 p.m.

St. Ann's Parish, Raddle

Father Leo Hayes, Pastor

Mass at 2:30 p.m.

(On Route 3, 17 miles South of Chester)

St. Joseph

Fall Carnival & Raffle

Sunday, October 8th

11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church Grounds
901 N. Alton, Lebanon, IL

Games • Basket Raffles • Quilt Raffle • Food
Chili, Chili Dogs, Cakes & Pies!



Try Your Luck At Winning!

Basket Raffle Tickets: 25 cents
Basket Items: Holiday Items, Kids Stuff and More
More than 100 Baskets Ruffled Last Year!
Winners of the Raffle Announced at 2:30 p.m.

Bring this ad for a free ticket!

Join us for a day of family fun?

Annual Fall Festival and Craft Show

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault

Sunday, October 15th

Turkey & Dressing Dinner

ALL YOU CAN EAT! 11 A.M.-4 P.M.
Adults: \$7; Children: \$3; Under 6 FREE

+ Lunch Stand, Beer, Soda,

+ Pumpkin Painting,

+ Turkey & Cake Wheel,

+ Basket Stand,

+ Dice Games, Pull Tabs,

+ Kids Games,

+ Attendance Prizes,

+ Quilt Raffle

From Waterloo - 3 miles South on Rt. 3 to Kaskaskia Rd, Renault 11 miles.

From Red Bud - 3 miles North on Rt. 3 to Ames Rd., 5 miles to V V Road, turn right at the "T" to Renault.

St. Liborius Parish Annual

WURSTMARKT & Shooting Match

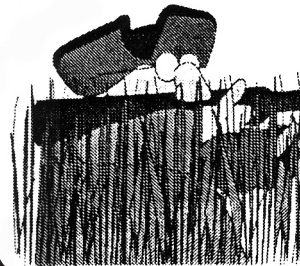
Sunday, October 15, 2006

all-you-can-eat 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Quilt Raffle ♦ Country Store

Still Shot & Trap Shoot for Meat

1-5 p.m.



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