

The Light it Up Basketball Tournament celebrates its fifth year in 2026

BY WYATT SPARKMAN

The Light it Up Basketball Tournament celebrated its fifth year on Aug. 8 at South Oldham High School. The event continued its growth as it has in past years with over 30 teams and over 100 people participating this year.

Each year, the event has speakers to share the hope of Jesus Christ. Steve Wigginton, with FCA of Greater Louisville, and Andrew Hammond, of Sports Reach, spoke at the tournament on why it's so important to let our lives make a difference and share the light that is in Christ Jesus.

South Oldham boys basketball head coach Steve Simpson also helps organize the event, along with Julie Fuson. The tournament is to

help honor a promise made by Jeff Fuson, the founder and pastor of Phos Community Church and husband of Julie, in March of 2020 to bring the community together through Christ and basketball during COVID-19 with a 3v3 basketball tournament.

Jeff passed away in August of 2020 before he could carry out his promise. In 2022, Julie carried out his promise with the first Light it Up Basketball Tournament. The event has grown each year, seeing people come out who live as far as Williamsburg, KY. The tournament allows fifth graders to adults to participate in the tournament.

Next year's event will be held on Aug. 7, 2027 with a possibility that there could be another international opportunity in Poland.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

Julie Fuson speaks at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

Steve Wigginton, with FCA of Greater Louisville, talks about Jesus at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

South Oldham boys basketball head coach Steve Simpson helps organize the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

Kaleb Fuson (leftt) with his friends at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

Steve Wigginton with players at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

The Kool-Aid Jammers particapte at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.



Photo provided by Julie Fuson

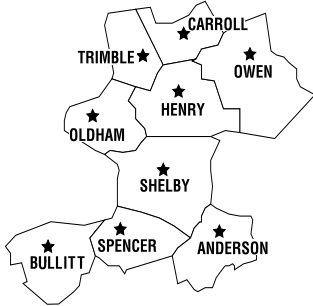
A player lays the ball up at the fifth annual Light It Up Basketball Tournament.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Ballardsville Rural Fire Protection District will conduct a public hearing on September 24, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Ballardsville Firehouse, Station 1, Ballardsville, KY for the purpose of setting a tax rate for the Oldham County 2026 tax year.

1. The tax rate for the 2025 tax year was 0.10 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation for property with the revenue being produced by that tax rate of \$898,203.00
2. The proposed tax rate for the 2026 tax year is 0.10 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation property with revenue expected to be generated of \$920,953.00.
3. The compensating rate is 0.098 cents per \$100.00 of assessed valuation and revenue expected to be produced by that rate is \$902,534.00.
4. Revenue expected from new property is \$8,807.00.
5. Revenue expected from personal property is \$2,820.00.

Revenue in excess from the revenue produced during the previous tax year will be used for the maintenance and operation costs of the department as set forth in KRS 75.040(2)(a)-(i) in order that the Ballardsville Rural Fire Protection District may continue to maintain its current level of service.

This tax rate is levied pursuant to KRS 75.040 applicable to fire protection districts. This notice is provided only as information to the citizens of the Ballardsville Rural Fire Protection District pursuant to KRS 132.023 but said statute is not believed to be applicable for setting tax rates for fire protection districts.

BALLARDSVILLE RURAL FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT