

The OPCC Scene



OVERLAND PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

7600 West 75th Street

Overland Park, KS 66204 • 913.677.4646

www.opccdoc.org • @opccdoc (Twitter) • www.facebook.com/opccdoc

SUNDAY SERVICES

Coffee and Fellowship in the Fireside Room — 8:45 a.m.

Communion and Meditation in the Prayer Chapel — 9:00 a.m.

Christian Education Classes — 9:00 a.m.

Worship in the Sanctuary — 10:30 a.m.

Nursery care available between 8:45 a.m. and noon

Following the Way: Lent 2018

In his book *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for Voice of Vocation*, Parker J. Palmer shares his experience of searching for a new direction, a new way. In his search, he visits Pendle Hill, “a community rooted in prayer, study, and a vision of human possibility,” where he is guided to simply “Have Faith...and way will open.” After much discernment, waiting, and frustration that way had not yet opened for him, a woman named Ruth opened his eyes to the possibility that perhaps “way” would not open clearly in front of him, but that “a lot of way has closed behind me, and that’s had the same guiding effect.”

As followers of Christ, each of us is following way; the earliest Christians were referred to as “followers of the way,” and the prophet Isaiah spoke of what it would take to prepare the way for the arrival of God’s anointed one. During Advent we focus on preparing a way for the Lord’s anointed in a way that no one knew what to expect. During Lent we focus on preparing a way for God to move in and through our lives through Jesus of Nazareth, as we all travel toward Jerusalem, together. A focus on the way of Jesus as laid out in John’s Gospel helps us to follow in his footsteps and see both his choices and priorities; reminders from Isaiah help us to see that the Way of Christ is rooted in justice.

We are in this journey together, yet the experience of following way can be very different for each person. Join us at OPCC this Lent as we use passages from the Gospel of John and the book of Isaiah to follow the way: the way to the Lord, the way of Jesus, the way to the cross, the way to new life. There are many opportunities for you to join along the way – we hope you will find at least one that helps accompany you on this journey...

Ash Wednesday On The Go

This year, Rev. Laura will take ashes “on the go” with her out into the surrounding community on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. When you find her, you will be greeted with a blessing of ashes to share and a printed prayer to take with you. Find her, join her for a bit, share these locations – they will be on our OPCCDOC Facebook page – share with your friends and co-workers. You can always enjoy both these “Ashes On the Go,” as well as our traditional Ash Wednesday service later in the evening in our sanctuary. No matter how you receive your ashes, or begin your Lenten journey, know that you are welcome during this meaningful time of year! Check out where you can find Rev. Laura!

- 8:30am – 10:30am: Homer’s Coffee House, 7126 West 80th Street, OPKS 66204
- 11:00am – 1:00pm: IKEA Restaurant & Bistro, 6000 Ikea Way, Merriam, KS 66202
- 1:30pm – 3:00pm: Johnson County Library, Central, 9875 West 87th Street, OPKS 66212
- 3:30pm – 5:30pm: Brew Lab (Happy Hour!), 7925 Marty Street, OPKS 66204
- 6:30pm – 7:30pm: Traditional Worship Service at OPCC Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday Worship

Join us as we begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship. On Wednesday, February 14th, at 6:30 pm, we will offer a traditional Ash Wednesday worship service in the sanctuary. Join us for scripture, prayer, song, communion, and the imposition of ashes as we worship together as a community. This worship opportunity is FAMILY FRIENDLY, including an opportunity for children and youth to learn more about Ash Wednesday, as well as presentations by our Chalice Chancel Choir and our Reverberations Bell Choir. Regardless of where you begin your Lenten season, we hope you will join us for this meaningful time of year.

Lenten Worship

To bring our theme together, and to give it life each week, the focus of Sunday 10:30am worship each Sunday, and of a few extra worship services through Lent, will be on “the way” of Jesus as he makes his way to the cross in the Gospel of John. As we learn more about what it meant for Jesus to follow the way, so too will we explore ways that we are called to shared ministry *on the way*. Won’t you join us?

- Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday: John 10:1-18
- Sunday, February 18: John 11:1-44
- Sunday, February 25, Week of Compassion: John 13:1-17
- Sunday, March 4: John 18:15-27
- Sunday, March 11: John 18:28-38
- Sunday, March 18: John 17:1-26
- Sunday, March 25, Palm Sunday: John 18:1-14
- Thursday, March 29, Maundy Thursday: John 19:23-30
- Sunday, April 1, Easter: John 20:1-18

Lenten Small Group Study: Two Options!

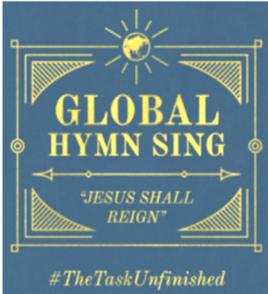
Our small group study this year will take a closer look at the “I AM” sayings of Jesus in the Gospel of John by following The God We Can Know by Rob Fuquay. This video & book based study will be offered twice a week to accommodate different schedules. The material presented at each gathering will be the same, but of course the make-up of our attendees can always make for unique and interesting conversation each gathering. We have ordered 15 copies of the book, and those can be purchased from the church for \$8 each, or you can find the book at most major retailers, including those who have electronic books.

Please join us on Mondays from 12pm – 1pm in the Fireside Room, or on Wednesdays from 6pm – 7pm, also in the Fireside Room. Both gatherings will begin the week of February 19 and meet *through* Holy Week. ALL ARE WELCOME! Whether you’ve come to OPCC 2 or 222 times, all are welcome at any of our gatherings!

- Mondays, Feb. 19–Mar. 26, noon–1pm OR Wednesdays, Feb. 21–Mar. 28, 6pm–7pm

Prayer During Lent

OPCC has provided a Lenten daily devotional, “Fellowship of Prayer: Following the Way,” for all those interested as a way to pray together throughout this season of Lent. Use the devotional as a way to pray with your family, or on your own, as we *follow the way* together toward Easter morning. This year the devotional has been written by Bethany Fellows, pastors from around the country, and edited by Bethany Fellow alumni and advisors, including Rev. Laura Ann Phillips! The devotional booklets are available on the front entry way counter. Whether as a family or on your own, we invite everyone to read the devotion each day, and pray the prayer that day, so that we might *follow the way*, together.



Global Hymn Sing on February 25!

Our Chalice Chancel Choir will lead the congregation in singing a special arrangement of the favorite hymn "Jesus Shall Reign Where're The Sun" by contemporary Christian

hymn writers Keith and Kristyn Getty. We will join with thousands of congregations across the globe from many nations and languages to lift our voices together and sing this setting of Psalm 66, proclaiming in faith that one day:

"Jesus shall reign where're the sun,
Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more."

Be sure to join us, either in person or by our Facebook feed, for this special occasion on Sunday, February 25!

Week of Compassion

Whether we are talking about a hurricane from many years ago, or the 2017 hurricane season, when Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria caused damage all across the world, we know many have begun the process of re-building. We also know that many have received help, yet still need even more support. Furthermore, we know that Week of Compassion support becomes more than a house, more than homes—they become places of refuge in the storms.

Your gifts to Week of Compassion do more than just help build houses. They help families create homes, strengthen their communities, and have peace of mind. Your gifts do **More Than We Can Imagine!** We will celebrate the ways that our gifts do **More Than We Can Imagine!** When we receive our special offering on February 25 during worship. Please watch your mailbox for an additional letter to share more about this special ministry.

Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine. ~Ephesians 3:20



www.weekofcompassion.org



As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts at Overland Park Christian Church, we are a partner organization with Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2). However, we are more than just a pastor-led partner, and invite you to join in our efforts. Please join in one of the following events to find out how you can be involved:

- MORE² Public Meeting: There's No Place Like Home
 - Thursday, February 8th, 7:00 – 8:30pm
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
4501 Walnut, KCMO 64111
- Kansas Issues Night – this is where we decide the work that is important to us, where we discuss how we can work toward racial and economic equity, specifically in Kansas.
 - Monday, February 19th, 6:30 – 8:00pm
Grandview Park Presbyterian Church
1613 Wilson Blvd, KCKS 66102

Dialogue Institute Dinner

Please save the date for the Annual Dialogue and Friendship Dinner hosted by the Dialogue Institute of the Southwest – Kansas City. We have partnered with the Dialogue Institute on many occasions in the past, and this is a great way to celebrate our shared ministries together! The dinner will take place on April 10 at 6:00pm in the UMKC Student Union. Watch your March newsletter for more information!

Once We Were Refugees 1,000 Footsteps Tell the Story

The Penn Valley Metro Community College is telling the stories of refugees' journeys through art and conversation with many different opportunities to participate. The exhibition reflects the journey story of refugees, focusing on those who now call the greater Kansas City metro area home.

Dr. Sofia Khan, Executive Director of KC for Refugees that OPCC has supported for the last year+, will be speaking on 2/26/18. Additional dates with different speakers include 2/12, 2/15, 2/19, 2/21, 2/22, 2/26, and 3/7.

All presentations will take place at Carter Art Center Gallery at Metro Community College Penn Valley, 3201 SW Trafficway, KCMO.

For more details go to MCCCKC.edu/pvart

Solo Sidekicks

will go out to eat at
Cozy's Café, 6740 West 75th
on Friday, February 16, 5:00 p.m.

If you intend to go, please sign up on the
sheet on the entryway counter at church.

Care and Share

The Care and Share Support Group will meet for
a planning session on Wednesday, March 21,
at 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Bring a sack
lunch and ideas! Questions, see Peggy Moore.

Christian Caregivers Support Group

If you have the responsibility of caring for
another person, or if you are the primary person
of caring for yourself, you are welcome to join
our Christian Caregivers Support Group.

The OPCC Christian Caregivers meet each
Monday 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.
Join us for support and encouragement and words
of wisdom from our caregiving community.

For more information, contact Peggy Moore
at wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-856-3833.

Girlfriends Unlimited

Our Girlfriends Bible study group will join
the evening Lenten study on Wednesdays,
February 21– March 28, from 6:00 -7:00p.m.
in the Fireside Room.

We will resume our regular 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday meetings studying the book
“50 Women Every Christian Should Know” on
April 4. All women are invited to join us in the
Fireside Room for Bible study, fellowship, and fun.

Questions? Call Peggy Moore, 913-856-3833.

Christian Women's Fellowship

Our next meeting will be **Monday, February 12,**
at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.
All women are welcome!

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group meets on the first
Saturday of each month from 9–11 am in the
Fireside Room for coffee, study, and fellowship.
Our new study book is “Breathing Under Water.”

All men are invited to join us.

Contacts: Wayne Moore, 913-856-3833
or Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

Empty Nesters

Emerson Hartzler has reserved the media room
at Lakeview's Southridge complex on Friday,
March 16th, at 7:00pm to view the DVD recording
of C.S. Lewis' “The Most Reluctant Convert”
starring Max McLean. This is a story of C.S.
Lewis' conversion from atheism to Christianity.

(Max McLean is performing the “The Most
Reluctant Convert” at the Kauffman Center
on February 2 & 3. The DVD recording
that we will watch was recorded from an
earlier stage production this year.)

Please let Peggy Moore know if you will be
attending. If you would like to bring a snack to
share or a drink, let her know that too.
wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-856-3833.

Adult Christian Education



Class Schedule
Sundays 9:00-10:15 a.m.

*“We teach everyone we can that we know about Him, so that, if
possible, we may bring all to their full maturity in Jesus Christ.”*
— Colossians 1:28

Middler's Sunday Morning Class Northwest Section of Fellowship Hall

OPCC offers a Bible study class for adults on
Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. in
the Northwest Section of Fellowship Hall.

This class follows the Living Word Series and
studies from the scriptures that we have in
worship. Come and join us in this discussion to
pursue God, build community, and embrace
compassion as we study from scripture to discern
God's provision for us. All are welcome.

If you have any questions, contact Peggy
Moore at 913-856-3833 or at church.

Meditation and Communion Prayer Chapel

All are welcome to join us each Sunday at
9:00 a.m. in the Prayer Chapel for an
intimate gathering of meditation and worship
through community, scripture, music, prayer,
conversation with one another, communion,
and more prayer! We trust that God has good
things in store for us as a church as we do all
in our power to invite others into a life-
changing relationship with Jesus Christ!

Leader, Rev. Laura

Family Ministry



President's Day Weekend, February 18-19
Drop off Sunday at 9:30pm
Pick up Monday between 7 & 7:30am
4th graders through High School
\$25 per person
@ Emerald City Gymnastics
9063 Bond, Overland Park
RSVP to Lisa Setty by February 12

JP Youth Group

Junior Youth Group (4th—6th graders) has begun a study on the book of John. We are exploring the unique qualities of John and what makes it different than the synoptic gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This is definitely deep stuff for 9 - 12 year olds, but they enjoy the challenge.

Youth Group

Our OPCC Youth have been helping with the IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) setup the past few sessions. They move furniture, blow up air beds, make the beds, and any other task they are asked to complete. They are then rewarded with lunch and some extra time to hang out together on these days.

On Wednesday evenings, the Youth are also learning about the fourth gospel, John.

We watched the old Abbott and Costello skit, Who's On First, and compared it to the beginning of John and its complex wording. The next few weeks should prove to be interesting!



Ever wonder what makes our Children Worship & Wonder unique? Our room and storytelling technique are based on a Montessori model of education. Each week, our children are led through a story and then into a time of 'wondering' about the story. We wonder how the people felt, wonder what the people might have been like, and wonder what it might have been like to be a part of the story. Our kids experience the stories of the Bible by processing the story together.



Any child, youth, or adult who is interested in baptism this Easter season is encouraged to contact Pastor Lisa who will help guide you in your preparation for this special sacrament.



to benefit the Youth Mission Trip

Saturday, April 21

As you prepare to do some spring cleaning in the months ahead, save your unwanted "treasures" for our annual rummage sale scheduled for April 21st. We cannot accept any donations until the week of the sale, but ask you to store them at your home. Proceeds from this sale will benefit the youth summer mission trip St. Louis. If you have any questions about items we are able to accept, please call Lisa Setty at ext. 228 or by email at lisa@opccdoc.org.

Costa Rica Mission Trip



Have you ever been interested in an international mission trip?

We are looking for team members, ages 16+, for a trip to visit our sister church, Iglesia Discipulos de Cristo in San Jose, Costa Rica. While we keep in contact with Costa Rican friends on social media, it is not the same as being present with one another. Mission Trip dates are not set yet, we are looking at the week after Christmas 2018 as a possibility. Contact Pastor Lisa with any questions or interest.

If you have questions or would like more information about our Children's, Youth, or Family Ministries, please contact Lisa Setty, Children & Youth Pastor, at lisa@opccdoc.org or x228

What to Expect When Your Pastor is Expecting

Well, dear friends and family, we have almost made it to the end, and sometime in the next 30-40 days Baby SweetP will arrive! Can you believe it?

I first want to make sure to thank you, on behalf John and myself, for your continued love and support throughout this pregnancy. Your generosity and love absolutely overflowed at the baby shower on February 3, and we are so grateful! It means more to us than you will ever know.

Now for the nitty gritty: Back at the very beginning, when we first announced that we were expecting, I promised that I, the Board, and the staff were working on plans to make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible for the church when the time comes for the baby to make his/her arrival. In the past, OPCC has managed through unexpected times of leave, *and* through those that were planned, and we have done both well. Knowing we have plenty of notice for this one, I have the greatest confidence that the church will continue on, without issue, especially with some guidance of a plan. *Here is that plan:*

Announcement:

At the appropriate time, John or I will call Roy Nickum, the OPCC Board Chair, to notify him of SweetP's arrival. At that time, Roy will update the congregation and make the necessary contacts to transition the congregational leadership to "maternity leave mode" which will last six full-time weeks. Because it is a short amount of time, and because we have opportunity to work together in this instance, we WILL NOT have one particular person to do "all the work," in my absence. Instead, we will all work together, in a variety of ways, to keep our church community moving forward.

Worship Leadership:

A variety of pastors have been arranged to serve as pulpit supply for the duration of my maternity leave. Some include names you know, some are new: Sara Patty, Lisa Setty, Margi Colerick, Bob Colerick, Peggy Moore, and Meredith Holladay. Though Lisa is scheduled to preach a few times while I am gone, we are not placing all of the heavy lifting on her. Lisa has a role and responsibility to our youth and our children, and we want to make sure she is given the space and time to perform those important ministries. Though we are thankful for the times we have depended on her in crisis, this is not a crisis! We have scheduled a variety of individuals to lead worship through the time I will be gone, and we are thankful they, including Lisa, have all agreed to do so!

Each Sunday the guest preacher will be accompanied by an "elder in charge." We already have two elders who serve at the table, and some weeks these may overlap. However, we will have one elder designated to serve as "ambassador" to our guest preachers should they need it. This ambassador will help unlock and lock the church, and generally guide the flow of the Sunday morning to which they are assigned. These names, and this schedule, will be publicized in the March newsletter, along with each particular Sunday on which they will serve.

Pastoral Care:

For everyday pastoral care (prayer requests, updates, phone trees, etc.), please continue to call the church office. Our receptionist, Eileen, will be able to pass on these messages as she has in the past. The Congregational Care Team, elders, and deacons will continue their amazing ministry of connecting with the long term pastoral care needs of our faith community.

For immediate, acute, or emergency pastoral care needs (hospital, emergency room, time of death care, etc), Lisa Setty will serve as our coordinator. Again, this does not mean that Lisa will be in charge of every single emergency call over these six weeks; instead she will coordinate with our capable teams of volunteers in the Congregational Care team, elders, and deacons, as they are all trained to care for others in a variety of situations with the love, peace, and mercy of God.

Leasing and Building Issues:

We trust in the great work that Lee Sprinkle continues to do to get our West Wing ready for the full Monarch Montessori School classrooms come this June. However, we also know that many things can and may come up as we move through this process. Lee will continue this important work and will be joined by Roy Nickum during these six weeks of my maternity leave. If any questions or concerns arise regarding the lease or building, please initially direct it to Roy. Roy will coordinate with Lee, yet we also want to "share the burden," as it were, knowing the "right-sizing" efforts are large and broad.

If you have any questions about any of this, please do not hesitate to give me a call or text (913-800-8566), or shoot an email my way (laura@opccdoc.org) – all of course before SweetP arrives. ☺

Thanks again for everything, we are thrilled to share this joy along with you!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Laura

Stewardship Green Moment

by Jody Cash

Green Moment for February — Difficult to recycle household articles:

1. Dental hygiene products are hard to recycle. The toothpaste tubes were made with metal years ago, and now they are made of plastic. Toothbrushes are made of plastic. Over 50 million pounds of plastic toothbrushes end up in landfills in the US every year. There is no market for toothpaste tubes, toothbrushes, or floss in recycling.
2. CD's and DVD's are made from polycarbonate and aluminum and have no way to recycle them.
3. Bubble wrap and jiffy bags are hard to recycle. The US does recycle bubble wrap – google where to find a place that recycles bubble wrap. Do not pop the bubble wrap though, as that limits its ability to be recycled.
4. Silica gel packets are usually thrown away. They can be used to keep moisture away from electronic equipment and perishable foods.
5. Razor blades are often thrown away. There is no way to recycle these.
6. Kitty litter is usually not recycled because the feces must be removed from it to recycle it. So even though it is biodegradable, it is not compostable unless the feces has been removed to prevent disease. Be sure to buy kitty litter that is biodegradable.
7. Citrus fruit netting is very environmentally unfriendly. The netting is not biodegradable, and it can harm birds, fish, and other animals.
8. Broken plates usually end up in landfills. If you have usable crockery, donate it to charity shops. Broken dishes are not recyclable.
9. Cling film (like Saran Wrap) is virtually impossible to recycle. It can usually only be used once and then it must be thrown away. Cling film usually contains PVC which makes it potentially hazardous to recycle it.
10. Pill packets are medicinal packaging made from plastic and aluminum blisters. These are not able to be recycled. Many manufacturers are moving away from plastic pill bottles (that can be recycled) and using these blister packs.

This article is intended to let you know that there are things we often use that cannot be recycled.

Do your best not to clutter landfills if an item can be recycled.

If it cannot be recycled, go ahead and throw it away.

Have a Happy and green Valentine's Day!



Family to Family Education Program

FREE to family members, partners, and friends of Individuals with:

Major Depression
Bipolar Disorder (Manic Depression)
Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder
Borderline Personality Disorder
Panic Disorder
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
Co-occurring Brain Disorders
Addictive Disorders

This is a 12-week course provided free of charge to you, paid by NAMI National, NAMI Kansas and NAMI Johnson County. The class is taught by trained NAMI members who have lived with this experience and offers education and support for families and friends of people living with mental illness.

Many describe the impact of this program as **life changing**. Join the over 150,000 individuals who have gained information, insight, understanding, and empowerment.

The Course teaches the **knowledge and skills** family members and loved ones need to cope more effectively.

Classes are on Thursdays, 6:30-9:00 p.m. beginning March 8.
Nall Avenue Church of the Nazarene, 6301 Nall Avenue, Prairie Village, KS

To Inquire or Enroll, contact Doris, 913-648-5155

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Marian Bilyea & Rick Everist
- ♥ Joyce Brooker
- ♥ Virgil & Frances Bruning
- ♥ Darla Campain (Jane Fletcher's cousin)
- ♥ Grace Crispin
- ♥ June Faltermeier (Nancy Coffman's sister)
- ♥ Jeanne Gilbert (Chuck Warner's sister)
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Marlene & Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Myra Hettic
- ♥ Bill Horton (Lee Horton's husband)
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Kathryn Hume (Tracie Glasscock's sister)
- ♥ Melody Jerden (Judy Snyder's sister)
- ♥ Dorothy Jimerson
- ♥ Barbara Killion
- ♥ Shirley McGee
- ♥ Marjory McNaghten
- ♥ Allison McVicker (Cassy & Bob Evans' daughter)
- ♥ Cole Merrill (Myron Merrill's son)
- ♥ Florene & Tony Miele
- ♥ Max Norton (Marge White's son-in-law)
- ♥ Shari Prince (Bonnie & Bob Prince's daughter)
- ♥ Nadine Sheldon
- ♥ Taylor & Gerry Spillers
- ♥ Gordon & Iline Toms
- ♥ Billie Warden
- ♥ Marge White
- ♥ Wanda Whitney
- ♥ Alan Wimpey
- ♥ Charlotte Withrow (Evelyn Eastwood's friend)
- ♥ Evan Yoder (Cassy and Bob Evans' grandson)
- ♥ Joe & Jean Zacher

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Nita Anderson
- ♥ Bruce Cochran
- ♥ Phyllis Cooke
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Corwin Elliott
- ♥ Lorraine Hartnett
- ♥ Kathryn Hays
- ♥ Rowena Hutchinson
- ♥ Carole Ingram
- ♥ Mary Johnson
- ♥ Ina Fern McBride
- ♥ Nola McKee (Sharon McBride's friend)
- ♥ Wilma Nickum
- ♥ Bonnie Prince
- ♥ Karen Rowe (Sharon McBride's friend)
- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Lloyd & Belva Snell
- ♥ Sandy Teeple

Condolences

- ♥ to the family of Dan Jenkins upon his death on January 11
- ♥ to Peter Lee and family upon the death of Peter's mother, Diana C. Lee, on January 19
- ♥ to Ann Sandler upon the death of her brother, James Russell Kirk, on February 2
- ♥ to the family of Frances Beattie on her death on February 4

Military Prayer List

- ✪ Stephan Aelmore (Mary Aelmore's grandson), US Navy, Pearl Harbor, HI
- ✪ Dustin Doree (Betty Craney's grandson), US Army
- ✪ Patrick Kauer (Terry and Meyra Redmon's grandson), US Army, deployed to Tal afar, Iraq
- ✪ Cameron McDonough (Cathy Wilson's son), US Navy, stationed on the USS Gonzalez DDG 66
- ✪ SSG Edward Pinkelman, Jr. (Ed & Kathy Pinkelman's son), US Army, stationed at Camp Buehring in Kuwait

Birthday Greetings

Gary Thomas, who ran the Together Center for many years, has a birthday coming up on February 28. If you would like to send a card his way, he is at Carondelet Manor, 621 Carondelet Drive, Kansas City, MO 64114.

Thank You

Worship and Arts would like to thank the folks of OPCC for their generosity during our recent donation drive. The donated food was given to our own food pantry. The coats, gloves, mittens, sheets, and towels were donated to Bridge of Hope Community Church in Kansas City Kansas. Bridge of Hope opens its doors for a warming shelter for the homeless during cold weather. Thanks for all!

Thank You for Shoveling

On Sunday, February 4, we were greeted with a surprise snowfall during worship! Thank you to Bob West, Richard Owens, Kira Setty, John Peter, Cameron Setty, our Boy Scout leaders, and anyone else that helped on this snowy morning. It was so helpful to have a clear sidewalk as much as possible, and to get some help to our cars from these various volunteers. Thank you to EVERYONE for being church when the unexpected happens!

Monarch Montessori School

A huge thank you to Lee Sprinkle for all the time and energy he has put into making sure our West Wing is ready to welcome our new tenants, Monarch Montessori School! After some minor and major hiccups regarding requirements for state licensing, we are on our way! We are excited to welcome one classroom of many this month, and several more classrooms come this summer. This means that we need to limit the use of the West Wing doors during the week, and also be ready for some transition time as we welcome our new "family" into this building. We are thrilled to welcome young people and young families into this space again, and give thanks for all those who have helped to make it happen!

FUNdraiser

In anticipation of Laura & John's baby's arrival, Worship & Arts is hosting a fundraiser to benefit a charity of Laura & John's choosing – The Cold Weather Shelter/ Bridge of Hope Community Church.

You are invited to vote on the gender of Baby SweetP by donating money to a "Girl" jar or a "Boy" jar. The votes for a girl will purchase new socks, and votes for a boy will purchase new underwear.

Voting will take place each Sunday morning in the narthex, before and after worship, from now until Baby SweetP makes his or her appearance.

Bridge of Hope

Bridge of Hope Community Church is located on North 11th Street in Kansas City, Kansas. They provide many services for the community in which they reside. One of those services is their Cold Weather Shelter. When the temperature reaches 20 degrees, Bridge of Hope opens their doors to the members of the homeless community. They provide their guests with a hot shower, clean clothing, a warm dinner, a place to sleep, and breakfast the following morning. Our church donated the hats, gloves, coats, towels and sheets that were collected during our Sunday of Giving to this program. Laura and John have also selected this program for their baby gender FUNdraiser.

While many items donated can be slightly used, Bridge of Hope wants to provide their guests with new socks and underwear. We will be using the money collected to purchase socks and underwear for this worthy program. The shelter is also in need of gently used sweatshirts and sweatpants. If you would like to donate sweats to this program, just drop them in the church office and mark them "Bridge of Hope".

Right Sizing Report

1. West vestibule electrical work became more involved than planned, but now with new LED lights and correctly installed electrical outlets, the vestibule looks wonderful. Only have a decorative tree of life to hang and bench to put in place and all is done.
2. Both emergency exit doors have been installed.
3. Monarch has received approval from the State Fire Marshal for occupancy in Room 32. They will have the State Health Department out for inspection on Wednesday, 2/7/2018. Hopefully, their new 3 and younger class will be starting on Monday, 2/12/2018.

Submitted by Lee Sprinkle, member of Right Sizing

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