Lenten Worship

Our scripture offerings for each Sunday in Lent have offered us images and stories with themes of earthiness and grit. To bring our theme together, and to give it life each week, we have focused our Sunday 10:30am worship on that which we need to “let go,” and that which we can “cultivate” in our lives with God. As we discern the ways God is calling us into Christian life through pruning, letting go, fertilizing, planting, and cultivating, won’t you join us in seeing this new life the last two Sundays of Lent?

Sunday, April 7 — John 12:1-8 and Isaiah 43:16-21
Palm Sunday, April 14 — Luke 19:28-40

Lenten Small Group Study: Two Options!

As we Lean In, Let Go, and Cultivate, we will continue our process of grounding our identity, and starting from the beginning. What is our calling as a Christian? How is God calling us to live within the church, in relationship with one another, and in community with our neighbors? How are leaders called to guide the church in ways that God is leading?

For the remaining few weeks we will look at each of these questions and more.

Please join us on Sundays from 9am – 10am in Room 43, or on Wednesdays from 6pm – 7pm, in the Fireside Room. Both gatherings will meet through Holy Week. Whether you’ve participated with any of the previous small group study gatherings or not, you are still welcome to join us as we conclude this small group study. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sundays at 9am: April 7 and April 14
Wednesdays at 6pm: April 10 and April 17
Holy Week at OPCC

The prayers, praise, and reflections all along our Lenten practice of *Cultivating and Letting Go* will continue to grow and transform as we make our way toward Holy Week, April 14 – April 21. Take note of the continued and new opportunities we have during Holy Week. We hope you will make every effort to be a part of our family of faith during this special time in the church year.

**Sunday, April 14 @ 10:30am — Palm Sunday & Processional** (Luke 19:28-40)
We will celebrate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with celebrative shouts of Hosanna! Youth, children, and families are especially invited to join us in our Palm Sunday Processional on Sunday morning at 10:30am, leading us into Holy Week.

**Sunday, April 14 @ 9am and Wednesday, April 17 @ 6pm — Final Meetings of the Lenten Small Group Study**
We have focused on our calling as a Christian, our calling as neighbor, and our calling as a leader. There is still more to discuss when we cultivate God’s calling in our lives, and we would love to have you join us!

**Monday, April 15 – Friday, April 19 — Holy Week Prayer Stations**
Uniquely focused Prayer Stations will be set up in the Overflow Room, Sanctuary, and Courtyard, providing a time and space for you to experience God in your life. Prayer Stations offer a simple approach to prayer and spiritual reflection where you can participate at your own pace. These prayer stations are family friendly and a great way to help your entire family travel through Holy Week. Utilize as many or as few as you choose, and please plan to visit more than once.

**Thursday, April 18 — Maundy Thursday**
Though OPCC will not offer a Maundy Thursday worship service, several of our local sister congregations have invited us to attend theirs, and we have invited them to worship with us on Good Friday.
- Merriam Christian Church, 9401 Johnson Drive — 7:00pm
- Hillcrest Christian Church, 11411 Quivira Road — 7:00pm
- Countryside Christian Church, 6101 Nall Avenue — 6:30pm

**Friday, April 19 @ 7pm — Good Friday**
Join us at OPCC at 7:00pm for a special Good Friday Tenebrae Worship in the sanctuary, as we encounter Jesus and this day in a new way. The word "tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Good Friday service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus’ burial. The Good Friday Tenebrae will feature music from “Hope in the Shadows” at 7:00pm in the sanctuary (but come early to experience the prayer stations).

**Sunday, April 1 @ 10:30am — Easter Sunday—He is Risen!** (John 20:1-18)
As a continuation of our Lenten theme, *Cultivating & Letting Go, A New Creation* recognizes that Christ’s death and resurrection create a new way of knowing, seeing, loving, and living. In John’s account of the resurrection, we find Mary weeping in the garden when she comes face to face with Jesus. As soon as she recognizes him, Jesus invites her to let go: “Do not hold on to me.” The world as she knew it has passed away; she can’t turn back. Death has surely come. And yet, Jesus calls her by name, nudging her into a brand new reality. Even if she can’t yet see it, Mary is transformed. Her grief catalyzes into joyful witness.

In turn, we enter the season of Easter harvesting the fruit that comes when we cultivate & let go. Let us bear the fruit of living with the promise that death is not the final word.

Join us at 10:30am as we celebrate the resurrection of the Christ on the morning of the third day! Special music from our Chancel Choir and guest musicians will enhance our experience during Worship. Meditation & Communion WILL meet during the 9:00am hour on Easter morning, however Christian Education classes will not be held on Easter Sunday, but will resume on Sunday, April 28.
Meditation and Communion
Sundays, 9:00 a.m.
in the 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!
Margi & Bob Colerick, leaders

Worship & Arts will again be decorating the Sanctuary for Easter with flowering plants. If you would like to purchase one of these plants in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the information below and return it along with your check made out to OPCC to the church office, or contact Michelle Reiter at 913-677-4646, x223, or michelle@opccdoc.org. Cost is $15.00 per plant.
A list of all those honored will be printed in the bulletin on Easter.

Easter Offering
April 14 & 21, 2019

Your gift to the Easter Offering helps bring life, love, and learning through the general ministries of our denomination, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). There are many ministries that receive funding from this Easter Offering, and you will find out more in a letter to be received the week prior to April 14. Be on the lookout for that letter, and more information shared in worship on both April 14 and April 21.

www.Disciplesmissionfund.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:

- Kansas Issues Night – this is where we decide the work that is important to us, and where we discuss how we can work toward racial and economic equity in Kansas.
  - Monday, April 15, 6:30–8:00pm
    First Baptist Church of KCK
    500 Nebraska Ave., KCKS 66101

- MORE2 Board Meeting – the leaders of MORE2 determine the direction of the organization and implement strategic planning to see this important work to fruition. OPCC has two spots available on the MORE2 board – won’t you take part in directing this important work?
  - Tuesday, April 30, 6:00–7:30pm
    All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
    4501 Walnut St, KCMO 64111

- MORE2 Annual Banquet –
  - Thursday, June 13th in the evening.
    Other details are still TBD, but mark your calendar!
Registration is now open for Tall Oaks Camps for this summer, and the Early bird deadline has been extended to April 15. Camps are available for a wide variety of ages from Grandparents Camp and Day Camp for the younger members, to CYF camps for our high schoolers. To register, go to: www.talloaks.org/copy-of-descriptions-registration

CPR Training
sponsored by Boy Scout Troop 283

Monday, April 8
6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

This class is American Heart Association certified with CPR taught on realistic dummies and led by Amy Swanson, a nurse and professional CPR trainer. Anyone is invited to take this training program. The successful participant will receive a Heartsaver CPR AED card valid for 2 years.

Cost is $25 per person and may be paid the night of the event. Checks should be made out to Troop 283.

Please contact Eileen in the OPCC office at 913-677-4646 to register.

Sunday, May 5,
(Cinco de Mayo!)
following Worship

Join us for tacos and all the fixins’, plus some special entertainment, at our final fundraiser for our Costa Rica Mission Trip. You may buy tickets from any Costa Rica team member beginning April 14.

Adults $8 — Kids 12 & under $5

Seeking Graduates
If you have a child, grandchild, or other loved one graduating from high school, college, grad school, or other program this spring, please contact Lisa Setty at lisa@opccdoc.org or 913-677-4646, ext. 228, so that we can honor their hard work and achievement!

Save the Date

OPCC Vacation Bible School
June 16-20, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
July 20-24, 2019 — Des Moines, Iowa
Join the Excitement! — https://ga.dicples.org/
IS IN LENEXA, KANSAS THIS YEAR!

National Alliance on Mental Illness is a national organization that helps support, educate and advocate for people affected with mental illness.

As you know, I am very involved with NAMI as we go through the journey to achieve mental wellness. I will Walk on May 4, 2019, at Sar Ko Par Trails this year as well. I would appreciate any donation you could give to support this Walk. No amount is too small.

Here are two ways you can donate to my team:

Write a check to NAMI Walks and send it to:
Doris Hamilton
8348 England
Overland Park, KS 66212

OR
go to www.namiwalks.org
click on “FIND A WALK” and search by state or for “NAMIWalks Johnson County, KS,
Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park - Lenexa, KS”
click on “DONATE TO THIS EVENT” then find “Doris Hamilton” and click on “DONATE NOW”

God bless you and thank you very much for helping NAMI. ~ Doris Hamilton

Quality Plants for Sale to Benefit Cross-Lines

Wednesday, May 1, 4pm—7pm
Thursday May 2, 8am—7pm
Friday, May 3, 8am—7pm
and Saturday, May 4, 8 am—1pm
at Shawnee Presbyterian Church,
6837 Nieman Road
Shawnee, KS

If you would like to pre-order your plants, pamphlets are available at the library counter. Pre-ordering will allow you to start planning the layout and design of your yards, patios and decks. Pre-ordering also ensures that you get first choice among the various selections. Pre-orders are due by April 15.

If you order at least $300 by April 15, your plants will be delivered free of charge. Orders less than $300 will be available on Wednesday, May 1, from 4-7pm at Shawnee Presbyterian.

This annual benefit raises funds to support Cross-Lines Community Outreach. Your generous purchases enable us to provide basic needs to families, seniors, and individuals such as food, clothing, rent & utility assistance, life skills training, and hope. Thank you.

Help With Our New Directory!

Our new pictorial church directory is in its final stages! Thank you to all who helped prepare by having your photos taken in November.

If you have any snapshots of community life at OPCC that can be shared, please do so — we would love to include them in our directory! You may give snapshots of the community to Rev. Laura or email them to laura@opccdoc.org

Keep In Touch!

OPCC is switching providers that facilitates our group Phone Tree messages. This company, One Call Now, will provide the same great service, with some awesome additions!

If you would be interested in receiving occasional text messages from OPCC regarding winter weather closures or reminders of potluck dinners and the like, we kindly ask that you text the word Alert to 22300 from your desired cell phone number.

This gives One Call Now permission to send you text messages at OPCC’s direction. OPCC promises to not overuse this reminder system! To update your communication preferences please contact the OPCC office to make sure we have all the correct information for you and your family members.
CWF (Christian Women’s Fellowship)

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.
All women are welcome!

Christian Caregivers Support Group

Please Note:
Caregivers will NOT meet on Monday, April 22
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.

Christian Caregivers will be sponsoring a guest speaker on Monday, April 29, at 1pm in the Fireside Room. Troy Bandy, MHA, RN from Cherished Transitions will be offering information regarding senior living options and services. His service can help persons find the necessary and best living arrangements solutions for different levels of care. All are invited.
Questions? See or call Peggy Moore at wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-592-0179.

Solo Sidekicks Singles

Friday, April 26, at 5:00 pm
Join us at Pegah’s Restaurant on 11005 Johnson Drive, Shawnee KS (We will meet in the room in the back of the restaurant.)

If you plan to attend, please sign up at the front counter or contact Jean Sink, 913-541-8837.

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 study book is “Breathing Under Water.” All men are invited to join us.
Contacts: Wayne Moore, 913-592-0179 or Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

C. L. A. S. S.

Christian Living and Skills Series

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

Empty Nesters

Saturday, April 13
Join the Empty Nesters tour of the American Negro League Baseball Museum, 1616 East 18th Street, Kansas City, MO. Cost is $10.00. Meet at church at 10:00 a.m. to carpool, or at the museum at 11:00. Touring takes about one hour. There are no tour guides.
RSVP to Peggy Moore by April 10 at wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-592-0179.

Girlfriends Unlimited

Girlfriends will NOT meet on Wed, April 17
Women of OPCC, join us for study, fellowship, and fun! Girlfriends Unlimited is a mid-week offering for women who are looking for ways to deepen their relationship with God by practicing their faith in everyday life.
Please join us on Wednesday evenings, 7:00–8:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.
Questions? Contact Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179 or wpmoore@wildblue.net.

Middler’s Sunday Morning Class
NO Class on Easter Sunday, April 21
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 913-592-0179 or at church.
Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

♥ Nita Anderson
♥ Marian Bilyea & Rick Everist
♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell’s friend)
♥ Margo Brown
♥ Bob Carter (mentor of Larry Swanson, Sharon McBride’s son)
♥ Harper Claar (Roger & Vicki Claar’s granddaughter)
♥ Grace Crispin
♥ Christopher Elliott
♥ Sally Faune
♥ Pat Gray
♥ Carol Huffman (Peggy Fach’s sister-in-law)
♥ Kathryn Hume (Tracie Glasscock’s sister)
♥ Melody Jerden (Judy Snyder’s sister)
♥ Kathy Lewis
♥ Wilma Nickum
♥ Ada Phillips (Teresa Phillips’ mother)
♥ Teresa Phillips
♥ Ann Sandler
♥ Earl Sheldon
♥ Nadine Sheldon
♥ Billie Warden
♥ Hayes Kendall Whitney (Wanda Whitney’s great-grandson)

Continued Prayers

♥ Mary Aelmore
♥ Atlas Blase (Lindsey Elliott Blase’s son and Chuck & Mary Elliott’s grandson)
♥ Frances Bruning
♥ Maurica Campbell
♥ Nancy Coffman
♥ Mark Conner (Lorraine Hartnett’s grandson)
♥ Phyllis Cooke
♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert’s son)
♥ Corwin Elliott
♥ June Faltermeier (Nancy Coffman’s sister)
♥ Pat Frisbie (Maurica Campbell’s friend)
♥ Pat Gilling
♥ Gordon Harkness
♥ Lorraine Hartnett
♥ Bill Horton (Lee Horton’s husband)
♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
♥ Rowena Hutchinson
♥ Carole Ingram
♥ Mary Johnson
♥ Barbara Killion
♥ Betty King
♥ Jim Leonard
♥ Ina Fern McBride
♥ Shirley McGee
♥ Florene & Tony Miele
♥ Max Norton (Marge White’s son-in-law)
♥ Sharon Shankel
♥ Lloyd Snell
♥ Gerry Spillers
♥ Sandy Teeple
♥ Gordon & Iline Toms
♥ Wilma Townsend
♥ Marge White
♥ Wanda Whitney
♥ Charlotte Withrow (Evelyn Eastwood’s friend)
♥ Evan Yoder (Cassy and Bob Evans’ grandson)
♥ Joe & Jean Zacher
♥ Judy Zeman

Condolences

♥ to Gerry Spillers and family on the death of Taylor Spillers on March 9
♥ to Suzanne O’Donnell (daughter of Bill & Virginia England) on the death of her husband, Michael O’Donnell, on March 19
♥ to Betty King on the death her sister, Margaret Mae (Marge) Murphy, on March 28
♥ to Chris & Bo Crowe on the death of Chris’ brother, Stanley Jones, on March 28
♥ to Wilma Townsend on the death of her daughter, Theresa Marangelli, on March 30

Military Prayer List

♥ Jamie Crowe (Bo & Chris Crowe’s son), went into the US Marines on March 18
Recruit Crowe, Jamie L
3rd BN Kilo Co. Plt 3230
38990 Midway Ave
San Diego, CA 92140-3230

♥ Dustin Doree (Betty Craney’s grandson), US Army Ranger, 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 Buehhref in Kuwait

To add or remove persons from the prayer list, please contact Michelle Reiter at ext. 223 or michelle@opccdoc.org

Thank You

Thank you for all the cards, visits, and prayers during Taylor’s long illness. You kept us feeling connected. Special thanks to everyone who helped with his memorial service and reception.

~ Gerry Spillers and family
The OPCC Scene is generally published the first Thursday of each month except July.

Copy deadline for next issue is April 30 for May 2 mailing.

Help us reduce paper and postage costs! If you would like to be removed from this mailing list or to receive this publication by e-mail, please contact Michelle Reiter at 913-677-4646, ext. 223, or michelle@opccdoc.org