Consecration Sunday, November 10, 2019

We hope you are feeling excited about Consecration Sunday and that you are planning to be with us for worship and our celebration lunch. The Consecration Luncheon will take place in the OPCC Fellowship Hall immediately following 10:30am worship. In the truest sense of our theme, Holy Potluck, you are invited to bring whatever you can or desire to share in our meal of celebration.

An invitation is being extended to us – the opportunity to invest in how God is using our community of faith and its ministry to transform us and the community around us. We are being invited to share the gifts we have been given – both the concrete gifts we can hold with our hands, and the intangibles gifts we have been discerning in worship, so that we might see true change in our community.

There will be a designated time in our worship this Sunday to bring our estimate of giving cards forward to be blessed, and to have our intentions of sharing be blessed. As always, these cards represent our best intentions based on what we know at the present time. They can, at any time, be adjusted should your circumstances change. These last few weeks have been enriching and our worship together has been inspiring. May we respond to all that we have been given, so that as with the early church as told to us in the Book of Acts, “there was not a needy person among them”. See you Sunday!
Our Advent Journey

We again are approaching a new year in the church calendar. A beginning that is an ending, and an ending that is a beginning that we call Advent. We are waiting for the Christ child to arrive, for Christ to come into the world in a new way. We are waiting, but what cannot wait?

This year we will explore the things that cannot wait, in which we are called to engage, one on each Sunday of Advent: God’s Promised Day, Repentance, Delight, and Courage Cannot Wait. Won’t you join us for 10:30 a.m. worship services in Advent, beginning on December 1? It will not be the same without you!

Advent Journey Study

So often, right after Thanksgiving, we want to jump right into Christmas, just showing up to Bethlehem ready to celebrate! But, we too often forget about Advent! This Advent we invite you to WAIT, while joining us for our Advent study. We will offer TWO opportunities for you to enhance your Advent experience – Laura will facilitate an Advent study on “What Can’t Wait While We Do Wait?” Mondays at 12noon, and Wednesday evenings. Together we will meditate on scripture, learn more, and discuss how this waiting prepares us for the birth of Christ into our lives. Join us on Mondays December 2, 9, 16, & 23 –OR– Wednesdays December 4, 11, & 18 as we together await the coming of Christ.

From Worship and Arts —
mark your calendar for these upcoming events!

Our Advent Journey

Because Advent starts on the Sunday immediately following Thanksgiving this year, we will hold our traditional Hanging Of The Greens on Saturday, November 30th, at 2:00 PM. Please join us to prepare our building for Advent. We will decorate at 2:00 followed by a short blessing of the space and a light meal.

Nativities and Arts display

We once again will be hosting Rev. Margi Colerick’s beautiful nativity collection in our Fellowship Hall. This year we are also inviting local artists to display their work, and we will hold a pet adoption event sponsored by Melissa’s Menagerie.

The display will be open Friday, December 13th, 1-7 PM, Saturday, December 14th, 9 AM- 5 PM, and Sunday, December 15th, before church, and from noon to 4 PM. Invite your friends and families to come to this wonderful event! We will be recruiting volunteers before and after this event for set up and tear down - let any W&A member know that you can help!

Order Your Poinsettias

Remember a loved one or honor a special friend at Christmas by purchasing a live poinsettia to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. Cost is $12.00.

Your name(s) ________________________________________________________________

I/we would like to purchase _____ poinsettias, in memory of: ____________________

I/we would like to purchase _____ poinsettias, in honor of: ____________________

Please make checks payable to OPCC and return with this form to Michelle Reiter in the church office, or put in the offering plate on Sunday morning.
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 to Action 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 in Kansas.
  - Monday, November 18, 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, November 26, 6:00–7:30pm
    All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
    4501 Walnut St, KCMO 64111

- **Faith & Democracy Prayer Breakfast** – come join us for our first ever KS MORE2 Prayer Breakfast to celebrate the ways we engage our faith with democracy, and learn more about the initiatives of MORE2. All are welcome - just talk to Rev. laura for a (free) reservation!
  - Thursday, November 21, 7:00–9:30am
    St. Paul School of Theology
    13720 Roe Avenue
    Leawood, KS 66224

On November 17 and 24, Disciples churches across the US and Canada will collect the Thanksgiving Offering. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps to support the work of our institutions of higher learning in many ways: financially supporting Disciples related schools, providing undergraduate scholarships and support for spiritual life offices, and providing scholarships and support for those pursuing theological education. Your gifts make a world of difference as Disciples continue our legacy of supporting education and our institutions of higher learning.

**It’s Turkey Time!**

We would like to provide a turkey for every household that visits our November 16 Food Pantry, which means we need about 70 small turkeys.

Our community partner, Price Chopper on 75th Street, has given us a rock-bottom price, and because of our limited freezer space, has agreed to hold the turkeys that we purchase from them in their freezer until the day of our pantry, November 16.

If you would like to share our goal of providing turkeys, please donate $10 per turkey. Mark your check for OPCC Food Pantry and give it to the church office (or donate online).

Thank you for your support and helping this to be a thank-filled season for our pantry guests.
Middler’s Sunday Morning Christian Education 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 Feasting on the Word curriculum. 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.
Questions? Contact Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179 or wpmoore63@gmail.com.

Christian Caregivers Support Group
The Christian Caregiver Support Ministry is a safe place to receive helpful guidance and accept your calling to be a caregiver. We invite you to join us on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 1:00 – 2:30 pm in the Fireside Room as we seek to support one another in our sometimes challenging and difficult tasks.
For more information, contact Peggy Moore at wpmoore63@gmail.com or 913-592-0179.

Grief and Loss Support Group
Loss is a fact of being alive in our world and no one is immune from the experience, so it’s normal for people to need some extra support after experiencing a major loss. There are many losses besides the obvious ones such as death or divorce. Major changes in our lives such as moving, family conflict, job loss, loss of health, injury, financial loss, or separation from loved ones are all times when change can require in our lives a need to find a “new normal.” It is at this time where we can use some extra support and community to move through these losses while maintaining as balanced a life as possible. The experts tell us healthy grief is not a passive experience. The loss is what happens to us – grief is the normal, appropriate response to loss. There is much more for you to do in response to any loss than just wait and suffer. Meeting with others who have experienced loss in a safe and compassionate setting helps us to move toward a more healthy response to loss.
Join us as on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 1:00 – 2:30 pm in the Fireside Room.
Questions? Call Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179.

Care and Share*
The Care and Share Support Group will go to lunch at Spin Pizza, 8224 Mission Road (Corinth Square), Prairie Village, KS, on Wednesday, November 13. Meet at the church at 11:00 am to carpool, or meet at the restaurant at 11:30. RSVP to Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179 or wpmoore63@gmail.com or by November 10.
*The Care and Share Support Group is a grief support fellowship and is open to all persons.

Solo Sidekicks Singles
Friday, November 15 at 5 PM meet at Pegah’s on Johnson Drive
We will meet in the back room of the restaurant
If you plan on going, please sign up at the front counter at church, or contact Jean Sink, 913-541-8837 or jsink7234@yahoo.com

Girlfriends Unlimited
Please note - Girlfriends will not meet on Nov. 27.
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 Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Fireside Room.
Questions? Contact Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179 or wpmoore63@gmail.com.

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 “Nine Essential Things I’ve Learned About Life” by Harold Kushner.
All men are invited to join us.
Contacts: Wayne Moore, 913-592-0179 or Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

CWF (Christian Women’s Fellowship)
CWF will take a break from meeting over the winter and resume meeting on the 2nd Mondays of each month, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room, on March 9, 2020. All women are welcome!
**Empty Nesters**
Join the Empty Nesters on Saturday, November 9, for fellowship and food! We will enjoy soups, salads, and desserts and play the card game, Hearts.

Where: OPCC Fireside Room (Room 45)
When: 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. on November 9
What to bring: Soup or Salad
RSVP to the Nickums, jnickum@gmail.com or 913-648-7635 Hope to see you there!

And mark your calendars now — Empty Nesters will go to dinner at Webster House, 1644 Wyandotte St, KCMO, at 5:00 pm on Saturday, December 14. Meet at OPCC at 4:00 if you want to carpool.

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**Thank You OPCC Volunteers**
Historically our OPCC Board has invited all OPCC volunteers to join together for a yearly volunteer reception. Our OPCC Board is so thankful for all who work so tirelessly to support the community of Overland Park Christian Church, and want to show our thanks! The Board has postponed this reception this year until after the first of the year, though we do not postpone our thanks! We are overflowing with gratitude for all that you do to keep our community moving and we look forward to sharing that thanks after the new year!

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**Jr. Youth & Youth Groups**

**Junior Youth Group** meets twice a month on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 6-7pm, in the basement youth room and is open to all children in 4th-6th grades.

**Youth Group** meets twice a month on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7-8:30pm, in the youth room and is for all kids in 7th-12th grades.

Both JYG and YG focus on making the teachings of Jesus relevant to our lives in an age-appropriate way. Questions are encouraged as we attempt to find answers together. We also have tons of fun!

For the last several years, at one of their Youth Group meetings each month, the Youth put together 50 sack lunches for Crosslines Food Kitchen’s lunch program. When asked what they liked about making the lunches, they replied that they like working together, spending time with each other, and knowing that they are helping someone else out. Sounds like our young people really get what this ‘being a Christian’ thing is all about!!

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**Hat & Mitten Tree**
The Hat and Mitten Tree, sponsored by CWF, will be up soon for you to fill with new hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for children, teenagers, and adults.

Your donations will be given to guests at our OPCC Food Pantry this winter – thank you!

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**The Music Department Needs YOU!**
Can you read music and shake your arm? Then the Reverberations Bell Choir might be the group for you. If you have any music reading ability, we would love to add you to our crew. Experience ringing bells is NOT necessary. We play once a month in worship and rehearse every Wednesday at 6:00 – 6:45 pm in the bell room.

Do you love to sing? We would welcome you with open arms to the Chancel Choir. Now is the perfect time as we are preparing music for the holidays. Nervous about making a long-term commitment? Come check us out and commit to singing only one or two Sundays until you are ready! We rehearse on Wednesdays 7:15 pm - 8:30 pm in the choir room.

Need childcare to join? Talk to us about what you need and we can make it happen!

Not looking for a group but would like to share your musical talents?
We are always looking for instrumentalists and solo singers.

If any of these options sound like the supportive, inclusive atmosphere you are looking for and something you might like to try, see Mary Beth Boucher after worship, via email (marybethboucher2@gmail.com), or by cell phone (913.488.7796).
Prayer List
Prayers of Concern
♥ Lisa Townsend Adair (Wilma Townsend’s daughter)
♥ Marian Bilyea & Rick Everist
♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell’s friend)
♥ Harper Claar (Roger & Vicki Claar’s granddaughter)
♥ Barb Collins
♥ Phyllis Cooke
♥ Lorraine Hartnett
♥ Carol Huffman (Peggy Fach’s sister-in-law)
♥ Kathryn Hume (Tracie Glasscock’s sister)
♥ Carole Ingram
♥ Melody Jerden (Judy Snyder’s sister)
♥ Earl Sheldon
♥ Nadine Sheldon
♥ Billie Warden
♥ Harlan Wendell

Continued Prayers
♥ Mary Aelmore
♥ Nita Anderson
♥ Margo Brown
♥ Frances Bruning
♥ Bob Carter (mentor of Larry Swanson, Sharon McBride’s son)
♥ Nancy Coffman
♥ Mark Conner (Lorraine Hartnett’s grandson)
♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert’s son)
♥ Jan Eilert
♥ Christopher Elliott
♥ June Faltermier (Nancy Coffman’s sister)
♥ Pat Frisbie (Maurica Campbell’s friend)
♥ Pat Gray
♥ Alex Horton
♥ Bill Horton
♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
♥ Rowena Hutchinson
♥ Mary Johnson
♥ Barbara Killion
♥ Ina Fern McBride
♥ Shirley McGee
♥ Florene & Tony Miele
♥ Max Norton (Marge White’s son-in-law)
♥ Ann Sandler
♥ Lloyd Snell
♥ Sandy Teeple
♥ Gordon & Iline Toms
♥ Wilma Townsend
♥ Doris Watts
♥ Marge White
♥ Wanda Whitney
♥ Evan Yoder (Cassy and Bob Evans’ grandson)
♥ Joe & Jean Zacher

Condolences
♥ to the family of Grace Crispin on her death on October 26.

Military Prayer List
♥ Jamie Crowe (Bo & Chris Crowe’s son), US Marines
♥ Dustin Doree (Betty Craney’s grandson), US Army Ranger trainer
♥ Cameron McDonough (Cathy Wilson’s son), US Navy, stationed on the USS Gonzalez DDG 66
♥ MAJ Amber R. Phipps (daughter of Dale & Nancy), US Army stationed on the Special Forces Compound - Camp Brown in Kandahar, Afghanistan
♥ SSG Edward Pinkelman, Jr. (Ed & Kathy Pinkelman’s son), US Army, stationed at Camp Buehring in Kuwait

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

Thank You
To My OPCC Family:
Thank you so much for the cards, cake, reception, and gift card in honor of Ministry Appreciation Sunday. Your words of encouragement and affirmations were so kind, and so appreciated. I am honored to share in ministry with everyone here at OPCC, and it is a true gift to call myself your pastor.

~ Laura

Winter Weather & Closings
As winter weather approaches, we want to remind you of how to find out if OPCC will be open! Generally, during the week, the OPCC office will follow the direction of Shawnee Mission School District. If SMSD is closed for the day, so too will OPCC close. We will also make sure to post closing specifications to all four local news channels, our website, Facebook page, and Instagram account. 

Snow removal is contracted out to a company that shovels and clears the parking lot and sidewalks for us, but only if the snowfall is above 3/8 of an inch. Please use your own judgment in choosing to attend worship or other OPCC activities when winter weather arrives. We certainly do not want you to put yourself in danger, and know that you know your own abilities and limitations best.
Do you buy anything from Amazon.com?
Next time and every time you do, order from Smile.Amazon.com!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com AND donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. (Choose Overland Park Christian Church the first time you log in and it will be saved as your charitable organization of choice.)

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Please support OPCC by doing your online shopping at www.Smile.Amazon.com

Scrip Program at OPCC

We all know gift cards make the perfect birthday or Christmas gift for many folks. If you give gift cards, buy them through OPCC’s scrip program!

You pay the face value of the card, and a percentage of it is given back to us by the retailer, so you will be giving a gift to OPCC, too.

To order Scrip (gift) cards, fill out a form and place it along with your check made out to OPCC in an envelope (provided on the front entry counter) and turn in to the receptionist desk or offering plate. You may also order at www.shopwithscrip.com Click on “Register” at the top of the page, then on “Join a Scrip Program”. OPCC’s registration number is ABF325891724L.

For both options, if your order is placed by Monday morning, it will be available by the following Sunday.

Contact Michelle Reiter at michelle@opccdoc.org or x223 with any questions regarding our Scrip program.

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913-677-4646
info@opccdoc.org
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Your 2019-2020 OPCC Board of Directors
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Terri Bookless........................Secretary
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The OPCC Scene is generally published the first Thursday of each month except July.
Copy deadline for next issue is December 3 for December 5 mailing.
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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