

# The OPCC Scene



## OVERLAND PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ) 

7600 West 75th Street

Overland Park, KS 66204 • 913.677.4646

[www.opccdoc.org](http://www.opccdoc.org) • [www.facebook.com/opccdoc](https://www.facebook.com/opccdoc) • @opccdoc (Twitter)

### 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

## Advent at OPCC

We again are in the midst of a new year in the church calendar.  
A beginning that is an ending, and an ending that is a beginning that we call Advent.

This year we Draw Near to our coming God as we make our way to Bethlehem.  
We are drawing near to the Light that God brings to us in the midst of darkness.

Won't you join us for 10:30 am worship services in Advent?  
Won't you join us for some of these wonderful opportunities listed here in the newsletter?  
Advent simply won't be the same without you!

- December 9 – Draw Near to Truth
- December 16 – Draw Near to Justice
- December 23 – Draw Near to One Another
- December 24 – Draw Near to Love

It is a *joy* to serve the OPCC congregation, and your OPCC staff *hopes* your Advent and Christmas seasons are filled with the *love* of the Prince of Peace. May the Christ child remind you and your family that God rarely shows up when we expect, in the places we expect, or in the people we expect.

Rather, we invite you to embrace the Divine mess that God seems only-too-happy to join, and rejoice in the seasons of Advent and Christmas together as a community of faith.

Giving thanks for you, we send many blessings to you, your families, and your loved ones.



# 🌿 Advent and Christmas at OPCC 🌿

## Prayer During Advent

OPCC has provided two in-depth and interactive Advent devotionals for all of us to “dig deeper” into “the reason for the season” as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming Christ.



Our **"Draw Near" individual devotional** will give you an opportunity not only to read scripture and a meditation, but also to color and journal in meditative and prayerful ways. We invite you to use this devotional as a way to pray with family, or on your own, as we navigate our way through this busy season.

OPCC has printed these devotionals ourselves, so feel free to take as many as you need, and to share with friends/others!

**"A Mason Jar Advent"** offers an advent calendar for families in the form of beautifully illustrated gift tags, each with an Advent prayer, activity, conversation starter, or social media prompt. Like mason jars themselves, this calendar is all about keeping things simple and helping preserve what's truly important. OPCC has also prepared these devotionals ourselves, so we can make more as needed to share with friends/others!



You may pick up either one of these at church, or one can be sent to you by contacting Eileen in the church office by email, [office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org), or by calling the main church phone, 913-677-4646.

## Advent Bible Study

Through our Advent Bible Study we will "draw near" to those who made the first Christmas possible.

This Advent as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of God, we will seek to understand the preparations that have been underway for hundreds of years leading up to Jesus' birth. Join us for our Advent studies on the three Wednesdays in December prior to Christmas. We will meet at both Noon and 6:00 pm to allow everyone who wants to attend to do so, regardless of schedule.

Using the book *Underdogs and Outsiders: A Bible Study on the Untold Stories of Advent*, by Tom Fuerst, Rev. Laura will facilitate a study on three characters from the genealogy of Jesus, and the ways that God worked through unlikely people to bring about Jesus' birth. Together we will meditate on scripture, learn more, and discuss how the family of Jesus is made up of "a pedigree only God could love."

Join us on Wednesdays December 12 and 19 in the Fireside Room at 12:00pm or 6:00pm for an extra time of devotion, worship, discussion, and fellowship as we await the coming of Christ!

(You do not need the book in order to participate, but are welcome to purchase it if you would like to read along.)

## Longest Night Service

For many, the Christmas season is a bittersweet time of year. Everywhere we go, the constant refrain and messages of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds some of us of what we have lost, or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the feelings of being outcast, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation, or the grief of a lost loved one — all these can make us feel very alone in the midst of celebrations. Our hope is that this Longest Night worship service will create a safe and sacred space for those who are struggling to feel the joy and light of this holiday season due to loss of any kind. It is not intended to be a service of healing, for what we lose cannot always be replaced.

Yet, we use this service to acknowledge the hole that grief leaves in one's heart, while simultaneously remembering that we worship a God who is with us, even in the darkest of times.

**This year our "Longest Night Service" will be on Friday, December 21, at 6:00pm in the Overflow Room of the Sanctuary.**

Join with us to hear scripture, offer prayers for healing and wholeness, and sing music that acknowledges God's presence is for those who mourn, those who grieve, and those who struggle. God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. ALL are welcome.

# "Nativities From Around the World"

## Fellowship Hall — December 7-9

More than 600 nativities from around the world will be on public display in OPCC's Fellowship Hall December 7-9. The nativities are the collection of OPCC member Rev. Margi Colerick, a retired pastor who has been making and collecting them for nearly 60 years. In addition to traditional manger scenes, there are music boxes, textiles, painted leaves, and ornaments that represent the nativity; there are items from Africa, India, Ireland, and South America, among many other places.

Friday, December 7 — 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, December 8 — 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 9 — 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This exhibit will be open to the public. Groups are welcome, as are strollers and wheelchairs. Admission is free, although free will donations will be accepted. Visitors are invited to bring nonperishable food items, if able, for donation to the OPCC Food Pantry through Harvesters.

For more information, go to [www.nativitiesfromaroundtheworld.com](http://www.nativitiesfromaroundtheworld.com)



*Help Needed! Worship & Arts needs help with the tear down and packing up of the Nativities on Monday, December 10, and Tuesday, December 11. Folks may come between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. either day and work as long as they want. It is not heavy work and much can be done sitting down. Thank you!*

## Christmas Eve Worship

OPCC will offer two opportunities to worship on Monday, December 24. We hope you will make one of these services a part of your family's plans on Christmas Eve.

From 4:00pm – 6:00pm the Elders will host "Come and Go Communion," where you will be welcomed to light a candle, receive communion, and take a few moments to spend in contemplation and prayer. Come and go as your schedule allows between 4:00pm and 6:00pm.

At 7:00pm we will offer a Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with scripture, hymns, and a skit from our children and youth titled "Stable Relationships" as we welcome the Christ Child with one another.



Please join us for either or both of these services to celebrate the coming of Christ.

## Church Office Holiday Closings

**Please take note — the church offices will be closed on:**



Tuesday, December 25,  
Wednesday, December 26,  
Monday, December 31,  
and Tuesday, January 1.

If you need assistance during those times, please feel free to contact any of our pastors or Congregational Care by phone or email.

## Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

### Sunday, December 9, Advent 2

9:00 AM — Christian Education Classes  
9:00 AM — Meditation and Communion  
10:30 AM — Worship  
12:00 PM — Lunch & Caroling

### Wednesday, December 12

12:00 PM — Advent Bible Study  
6:00 PM — Advent Bible Study

### Sunday, December 16, Advent 3

9:00 AM — Christian Education Classes  
9:00 AM — Meditation and Communion  
10:30 AM — Worship

### Wednesday, December 19

12:00 PM — Advent Bible Study  
6:00 PM — Advent Bible Study

### Friday, December 21

6:00 PM — Longest Night Worship

### Sunday, December 23, Advent 4

9:00 AM — Meditation and Communion  
10:30 AM — Worship

### Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 PM — Come & Go Communion  
7:00 PM — Candlelight Worship

### Sunday, December 30

9:00 AM — Meditation and Communion  
10:30 AM — Worship

## Advent Gifts

Whether its for a dearly beloved grandmother who passed away this year, a parent who has been gone for years, a neighbor who brings joy this day and more, or a friend who gives laughter and comfort – there are many reasons to purchase a “gift” from OPCC this Advent season.

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, we will display those poinsettias in the sanctuary during the worship services closest to Christmas.

Your gift will help us adorn our space, and our hearts, for the Christmas season.

Poinsettias are \$12 per plant and can be taken home (or to a friend) after Christmas Eve.

If you would like to purchase a turkey/ham in honor or in memory of a loved one, we will share that gift with our neighbors and clients who visit the OPCC Food Pantry on December 22.

Your gift will help us to provide for a family in need, sharing the love of Christ with those who need it.

Turkeys/hams are \$10 and one will be given to each family who visits our Food Pantry.

Each of the gifts given in honor/memory of loved ones will be listed in our bulletin on Christmas Eve.

### 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 Advent 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. Poinsettias may be taken home following the Christmas Eve worship service.



### It's Time to Think About Christmas Dinner!



One of the joys of serving at our Food Pantry is to watch the faces of people as they receive a turkey or ham for their family's holiday meal. If you would like to donate \$10 (of course we will take any amount!) to purchase a bird or ham, designate your gift by writing “Holiday Turkeys or Hams” in the memo of your check.

Volunteers are always needed to help run our Food Pantry that is held on one Tuesday evening and one Saturday morning each month. All skill levels, time availabilities, and physical abilities are accepted!

For more information about OPCC's Food Pantry, contact Jane Fletcher.



## Christmas Offering for Regional Ministries

Regional Church ministries may not be your first thought when you ponder Advent/Christmas giving.

After all, this is a season of miracles—not a fundraising season for an administrative ministry.

Yet, through Regional Church ministries we see miracles every day!

**The Christmas Special Day offering supports the many miracles of our Region. Your generous gifts make a difference in our shared ministries as Disciples in Greater Kansas City.**

The Christmas Special Offering will be received in our worship services on December 16 and 23. We hope you will join in making a gift towards these miracles to bless the ministries of our Region carried out through the Disciples congregations of Greater Kansas City.

## MORE<sup>2</sup>

[www.more2.org](http://www.more2.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 (MORE<sup>2</sup>). In December we will transform our monthly MORE<sup>2</sup> “Issues2Action Night” into an opportunity to bring some cheer, and some equity to our neighborhoods!

One of the highest impact and lowest cost strategies for creating change in our communities is to increase the number of conversations neighbors have with one another. Join with us on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00pm, at Grandview Park Presbyterian Church (1613 Wilson Blvd, KCK) as we canvass through some seasonal carols! Wear warm clothes, invite a friend, and share some good news about ways to bring justice and equity to our communities! No experience needed!

## BAKE SALE

The OPCC Girlfriends Group will be hosting a Bake Sale on Sunday, December 9, as a fundraiser for Ella Perry's Mission Trip to Jamaica next spring. Stop by and pick up some goodies and help support Ella!

## Family Ministry

### JR Youth Group

**Wednesday, December 5:** Regular Junior Youth Group meeting from 6:00-7:00pm with a lesson of Christmas traditions from around the world.

Wednesday, December 19: NO Junior Youth

**Thursday, December 20:** Christmas Party from 6:00-7:30pm. Pizza, snacks, and fun games! Bring a white elephant gift to exchange.

### Youth Group

**Wednesday, December 5:** Regular Youth Group meeting from 7:00-8:30 pm with a lesson of Christmas traditions from around the world.

Wednesday, December 19: NO Youth Group

**Friday, December 21/Saturday, December 22:** YOUTH LOCK-IN 6:00pm to 8:00am— Christmas Party/Painting Party!

Come dressed to paint or bring a change of clothes. Bring a pillow and blanket, a white elephant gift to exchange, and a snack to share. We will paint, eat, and play throughout the night. Perhaps we shall watch "The Grinch" and "Elf". So much exhausting fun to be had!

### 2019 CYF Midwinter Retreat "Snow-One is Perfect"

WHEN: Friday, January 4th at 7pm —  
Sunday, January 6th at 11am

WHERE: Tall Oaks Conference Center

WHO: 9th-12th Graders

COST: \$130 (\$145 after December 21, 2018).

NO ONLINE REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED  
AFTER DECEMBER 28

THEME: Snow-One is Perfect

KEYNOTER: Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Kennebrew,  
Regional Minister for New &  
Transforming Churches!!!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Please Register for Midwinter online, and then mail in your payment made out to The Greater KC Region with the participant's name and "CYF Midwinter" written in the memo line. Mail to:

Rev. Lara Blackwood Pickrel  
201 N Bridge Street  
Smithville, MO 64089



### All-Church Caroling to Shut-Ins

Everyone is invited to join  
in Christmas caroling on  
Sunday, December 9!

It isn't so much about making angelic music, but more about the smiles and warmth we will bring to those who are in some of our assisted living facilities; those who are perhaps infirm, alone, or elderly. Whoever would like to come along is invited to meet in the Fellowship Hall right after church for a light lunch of soup and sandwiches, get our singing voices ready, and join in bring some light to our home-, hospital-, and rehab-bound members.

### Happy First Day of Winter

Winter Solstice Celebration at Tall Oaks  
12778 189th Street, Linwood, KS 66052  
Friday, December 21

5-7pm — Food will be available to purchase  
in the Dining Hall (chili and cornbread)

6-7pm — Program about Solstice suitable for all  
ages in the Pavilion or LLC (weather dependent)

5-8pm — Explore the buildings and grounds,  
walk the trails, and enjoy the beauty of Tall Oaks!

RSVP 913-301-3004 or [director@talloaks.org](mailto:director@talloaks.org)

### Hat & Mitten Tree

The Hat and Mitten Tree is now up and waiting to be filled by you with new hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens for children, teenagers, and adults. Please give items in honor of Billie Warden, who made sure the tree was up and filled for many years!

Your donations will be given to guests at the Food Pantry in December and January.



## 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 913-592-0179 or at church.

### Sunday Morning Connections Group Room 43

Rev. Laura has started a new Connections group during the Christian Education hour in Room #43. We will honor a variety of topics in this discussion group, so some days it might feel like "Sunday School," while others a Bible Study, and still others breakfast and conversation. If you are looking for a group that discusses a variety of topics and how our faith, religion, and spirituality intersects with those topics, from a variety of view-points, then this is the group for you! We will use books, news clippings & stories, movies, the Bible, and your opinions to facilitate this group. Contact Laura with questions, [laura@opccdoc.org](mailto:laura@opccdoc.org) or extension 222 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!

Margi & Bob Colerick, leaders

## Welcome to the Community!

We are very happy to announce that **Leslie Twite**, (Carl Brockman's daughter) recently joined OPCC. Welcome!

### Care and Share\*

The Care and Share Support Group will be going to Rozzelle Court Restaurant at the Nelson Art Gallery on **Wednesday, December 12**, for lunch.

Meet at OPCC at 10:30 a.m. if you want to carpool. RSVP to Peggy Moore by December 9 at [wpmoore@wildblue.net](mailto:wpmoore@wildblue.net) or 913-592-0179.

### Solo Sidekicks Singles Group

**Friday, December 14, at 5:00 pm**

Meet at Cinzetti's at 91st & Metcalf

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

### Christian Caregivers Support Group

Caregiver 's Support Ministry will meet on Mondays, December 10 and 17 as usual, 1:00–2:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

We will not meet on December 24 or 31, resuming regular meetings on Monday, January 7.

For more information, contact Peggy Moore at [wpmoore@wildblue.net](mailto:wpmoore@wildblue.net) or 913-592-0179.

### Girlfriends Unlimited

We will not meet during December. Instead we invite you to attend the Advent Class session taught by Laura at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Questions? Contact Peggy Moore at 913-592-0179 or [wpmoore@wildblue.net](mailto:wpmoore@wildblue.net).

### 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, 913-592-0179 or Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378



## Scrip Program at OPCC

We all know gift cards make the perfect Christmas gift for many folks. If you will be giving 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.

There are 2 ways 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 order online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://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](mailto:michelle@opccdoc.org) or ext. 223 with any questions regarding our Scrip program.

## Outreach Update

In November, OPCC donated \$4,361.33 to local and global outreach efforts, including, Disciples Mission Fund (including Thanksgiving Offering), Interfaith Hospitality Network, Salvation Army Family Lodge, the OPCC Food Pantry, Tall Oaks, Cross-Lines Sack Lunches MORE2, and Memorials.

Way to go OPCC!  
What a wonderful way to make a difference in our world!

## Stewardship Green Moment

by Jody Cash

Tips for saving energy, time, and money:

1. To save electricity and money, do more kitchen tasks manually. Do not use electrical appliances such as a can opener, juicer, or egg beater.
2. Your refrigerator's condenser coils should be vacuumed annually. Clean condenser coils work more efficiently and run less often. Pull the refrigerator away from the wall and vacuum the coils behind it. If the coils are underneath the refrigerator, remove the grills at the bottom of the appliance and brush the coils to clean them.
3. Hair dryers use quite a bit of electricity. Whenever possible, allow your hair to dry naturally.
4. In gas ovens, stove-top burners, water heaters, etc., blue flames mean efficient burning. If flames are yellow, try increasing the air supply.
5. Save energy and water by steaming vegetables rather than boiling them. Steaming vegetables is faster than boiling and retain more vitamins and minerals than boiling them. Use only ¼ cup water for the fastest cooking time. A pressure cooker steams foods at temperatures exceeding 250 degrees Fahrenheit, thus cutting the cooking time in half.
6. By putting a lid on a pan, you trap the heat inside, reducing the amount of time it takes to bring the water to a boil to cook your food.
7. Turn off electric burners and electric ovens 5 minutes before the food is finished cooking. The electric burners and oven will stay hot for several minutes after you turn them off. By following the 5 minute 'rule,' you will save on electricity usage and save money on your electric bill.
8. Heat from stove-top burners radiates both downward and upward. The purpose of the reflector pans is to redirect the heat upward. Keep reflector pans clean and shiny. They will reflect heat better and will cook food faster which will save energy, money, and time. When reflector pans get dull, cover them with aluminum foil, shiny side up. When the foil gets stained, replace it with new foil.
9. Whenever possible, cook with a microwave oven which draws about 1/3 of the electricity. Second of all, it does not heat up your kitchen like an electric oven does and thus, saves you on air-conditioning costs. Microwave ovens are well insulated and heat up so rapidly that they can bake or broil food from a cold start. No need to preheat your oven or lengthen cooking time.

NOTE: Many thanks to Jody Cash for diligently submitting the "Stewardship Green Moment" for the last several years! If you would like to see this column continue, a new volunteer needs to take it over.

If you would like to be that volunteer, or know of someone who might, please contact Michelle Reiter at [michelle@opccdoc.org](mailto:michelle@opccdoc.org), or 913-677-4646, ext. 223.

## Property Commission

Since the October Scene, Property has been very busy and continues to monitor the care of OPCC, plus does its best to keep the budget in mind. Here are activities that have been completed:

- A. Lee used outside casual labor to have dirt wheelbarrowed from the west parking lot into the large courtyard to fill two areas, plus had front curbs painted yellow to emphasis the handicap parking areas - \$400.
- B. Freedom Electric performed the following at a total cost of \$1,250.99:
  - a. Replaced an outlet in the youth room
  - b. Installed 3 LED fixtures in the east hallway just outside of the classrooms
  - c. Installed an outlet and HDMI cable from the sound booth up into the cove area behind the sound booth on the east wall. A new 75" TV has been hung on the east wall so people on the chancel can see the same thing as what is showing on the chancel large screen.
  - d. Replaced batteries in 2 sanctuary emergency lights
  - e. Replaced a low voltage relay (located in organ pipe area) which controlled the sanctuary up lights
  - f. Freedom Electric had to rebuild one of the theatrical lights in the sanctuary and replace the light bulb at a cost of \$675
- C. Temperature Maintenance replaced a melted down transformer in the HVAC unit for the choir room. The choir room had heavy smoke and electrical fire odor until the fire department used large fans to clear the odor from the choir room. We did not have any smoke damage to the room.
- D. Temperature Maintenance replaced a blower motor starter to the air handler for the Worship & Wonder/conference room at a cost of \$333
- E. Lee replaced 36 florescent bulbs in the overflow room, plus washed the fixture covers.
- F. Winter is upon us and snow removal & salt applications have already cost a little over \$2,500.

Reminder for this Holiday season — when your group uses a room, please clean up after so room is presentable to the next group's use.

Property Commission wishes all OPCC participants and visitors a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Commission members are:

Roger Claar	Earl Sheldon
Dave Farley	Greg Wienberg
David Hobbs	Jim Withers
Mike McLain	Jan Sprinkle, Landscaping Coordinator

Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

## Congregational Care Commission

One of the strongest ministries we have going at Overland Park Christian Church is our Congregational Care ministry. We are blessed with many dedicated volunteers who make sure that any of our care and/or grief needs are addressed, reminding us that we are all a community!

Please remember that if you are going through something difficult, perhaps in the hospital, or at home and needing care, please don't hesitate to contact our Congregational Care team.

Between the Congregational Care team and our pastors, we hope you know how loved and important you are! You can contact the Congregational Care team by calling the church office (913) 677-4646, extension 224. The team will receive an email of your message and get in touch with you as soon as possible. You can also call either one of our pastors at the church phone number (913) 677-4646 — Laura is at extension 222 and Lisa is at extension 228.

Many thanks for all the ways that each of you care for one another!

## Prayer List

### Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Marian Bilyea & Rick Everist
- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Margo Brown
- ♥ Frances Bruning
- ♥ Bob Carter (mentor of Larry Swanson, Sharon McBride's son)
- ♥ Harper Claar (Roger & Vicki Claar's granddaughter)
- ♥ Mark Conner (Lorraine Hartnett's grandson)
- ♥ Grace Crispin
- ♥ Cheryl Delmont (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Sally Faune
- ♥ Pat Gilling
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Marlene & Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Myra Hettic
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Kathryn Hume (Tracie Glasscock's sister)
- ♥ Melody Jerden (Judy Snyder's sister)
- ♥ Barbara Killion
- ♥ Kathy Lewis
- ♥ Kathleen Mais (John Peter & Laura Phillips' friend)
- ♥ Ina Fern McBride
- ♥ Barbara McGee (Jody Cash's friend)
- ♥ Florene & Tony Miele
- ♥ Ada Phillips (Teresa Phillips' mother)
- ♥ Meyra Redmon
- ♥ Nadine Sheldon
- ♥ Taylor & Gerry Spillers
- ♥ Gordon & Iline Toms
- ♥ Wilma Townsend
- ♥ Billie Warden
- ♥ Hayes Kendall Whitney (Wanda Whitney's great-grandson)
- ♥ Joe & Jean Zacher

### Continued Prayers

- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Nita Anderson
- ♥ Joyce Brooker
- ♥ Nancy Coffman
- ♥ Phyllis Cooke
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Duane Crane (Sharon & Cal McBride's neighbor)
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Christopher Elliott
- ♥ Corwin Elliott
- ♥ June Faltermeier (Nancy Coffman's sister)
- ♥ Pat Frisbie (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Lorraine Hartnett
- ♥ Bill Horton (Lee Horton's husband)
- ♥ Rowena Hutchinson
- ♥ Carole Ingram
- ♥ Mary Johnson
- ♥ Shirley McGee
- ♥ Nola McKee (Sharon McBride's friend)
- ♥ Wilma Nickum
- ♥ Max Norton (Marge White's son-in-law)
- ♥ Bonnie Prince
- ♥ Shari Prince (Bonnie Prince's daughter)

- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ Sharon Shankel
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Bill Sloan
- ♥ Lloyd Snell
- ♥ Sandy Teeple
- ♥ Marge White
- ♥ Wanda Whitney
- ♥ Charlotte Withrow (Evelyn Eastwood's friend)
- ♥ Evan Yoder (Cassy and Bob Evans' grandson)
- ♥ Judy Zeman

### Condolences

- ♥ to Richard Owens and family on the death of Richard's brother, Frederick Eugene Owens, on November 3.
- ♥ to the family of Karen Rowe who died on November 28.

### Military Prayer List

- ✪ Stephan Aelmore (Mary Aelmore's grandson), US Navy, Pearl Harbor, HI
- ✪ 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 Buehring in Kuwait

### Thank You

Thank you to all who supported the Worship and Arts bake sale. Also a huge thank you to those who braved the weather and came out to help decorate for Hanging of the Greens. Our worship space is beautiful!

A huge thank you to our church family for your love and support during Christopher's latest accident. A special thank you to Laura for your visits and prayers, to Carla Labunski for sitting with Sue during surgery, to Pat Gilling, Peggy and Wayne Moore, Calvin and Sharon McBride, and Roy and Judy Nickum for providing meals. The phone calls and many cards have provided much encouragement. We have been surrounded by God's love through His people!

~ Corwin, Sue, and Chris Elliott

Dear OPCC Family,

You have walked beside Alan and me for the two years of his illness, and for many years before that. Whether through visits, calls, cards, prayers at his bedside, hugs, food and in other ways, you have been with us. He loved and appreciated his church family. Thank you for your ministry of caring!

"True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us." (James 1:27)

~ Lois Wimpey and family

# The Impact of the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017" on Charitable Giving

The new tax law created sweeping changes in the tax law, including a reduction in tax rates and an increase in the standard deductions. A great deal of conversation is swirling among charitable organizations, nonprofits, and houses of worship to determine what, if any, the changes will have on charitable giving. Giving will take new and different forms, and churches need to be aware of alternative ways to give to suggest to members.

A one-hour presentation will be led by Kirby Gould, Vice-President of the Christian Church Foundation. The program is free, all are welcome to attend, and no RSVP is needed. Light snacks will be provided.

Saturday, December 8, 10:00–11:00 a.m.  
Merriam Christian Church  
9401 Johnson Dr, Merriam, KS 66203

or

Thursday, December 20, 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
Shawnee Community Christian Church  
5340 Martindale Road, Shawnee, KS 66218

see [www.kcdisciples.org](http://www.kcdisciples.org) for more information



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