



**Overland Park Christian Church**  
(Disciples of Christ) 

7600 West 75th Street • Overland Park, KS 66204 • 913.677.4646

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9:30am - 4:00pm; Friday, 9:30am - 3:00pm

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

## *Lines from Laura*

We all have a money story, whether we recognize it or not. Perhaps we are living from a story of fear or shame. Or a story that the church is dying and no longer relevant.

Or a story that our actions won't have an impact. Or a story that we don't have enough.

Where might God be speaking a new narrative into the limited stories we have told ourselves?

I know 2020 is the craziest. Some churches have opted not to engage in a stewardship season. Part of the reason OPCC will continue to share in a stewardship focus is that it's not only about raising money for the ministries and missions of our church, it is about reframing the way we understand our work with God. No matter what's happening in the world, it is a good time to discover and tell our money stories in light of God's story of liberation and justice.

It is a good time to encourage one another to transform our stewardship practices into fuller expressions of who we are and what we believe.

Beginning October 18, you are invited to remember, release, reimagine, restore, and rejoice in your money stories so that we can write the one God is begging us to live into.

These next few weeks we will be intentionally direct — naming exactly what we're talking about and not skirt around it. Too often, we avoid talking about money with transparency and vulnerability. It's time we reframe this. Money and possessions are one of the most common topics in scripture, and Jesus talked about money more than faith and prayer.

Our money story, therefore, is a spiritual story.

The best stories captivate and transform us — they change how we live.

This stewardship season, we invite you to remember, release, reimagine, restore, and rejoice in your money stories so that we can write the one God is begging us to live into.

- October 18 – Remember (Exodus 16:1-18 & Luke 22:1-23)
- October 25 – Release (Deuteronomy 15:1-11 & Matthew 19:16-22)
- November 1 – Reimagine (Leviticus 19:9-10; 25:8-12 & Mark 12:38-44)
- November 8 – Restore (Genesis 33:1-17 & John 21:1-19)
- November 15 – Rejoice (Psalm 98)

*Laura*

## Meet our New Associate Pastor

Come meet our new part-time Associate Pastor, Rev. Chuck Pickrel! Chuck started with us on October 1 and is excited to get to know the community. We will have informal introduction times on Wednesdays October 7 and October 14.



An "open house style," come between 6 and 8pm and meet Chuck in the OPCC Courtyard. Please enter through the main / East doors, wear your masks, and check in at the main entrance to record your attendance and temperature.

We'll have "tailgate" style games so people can socially distant hang-out and introduce yourself to Chuck!

### from Rev. Chuck...

Greetings Overland Park Christian Church! As your new Associate minister I am so excited to meet and get to know you all and grow into this community. During the pandemic, I'll be working from home a lot, but I will make time for anyone who'd like to safely meet either online or in person. Here are a few fun facts about me:

- I was born here in Overland Park, but as an ARMY "brat" I have lived all over the country.
- I've been to every state in the US except Hawaii.
- I have too many hobbies, but my favorites are cars, video games, and Lego.
- This summer marked my 24th consecutive year on Staff at church camp. Most of those summers included two or more weeks, so I have spent more than a year of my life at church camp.

I can't wait to meet you all. Until then, you're in my prayers. Stay safe and healthy,

Rev. Chuck Pickrel  
[chuck@opccdoc.org](mailto:chuck@opccdoc.org)

P.S. **Junior Youth Group** and **Youth Group** are back in session every Wednesday evening!

6:00-7:00pm — JYG (4th-6th grades )  
7:00-8:30pm — Youth (7th-12th grades)

## In-Person Prayer Service

Join us for an outdoor prayer service on Sundays at 5:00pm in the OPCC Courtyard. Please read the covenant of participation before considering whether this is right for you and your family.

This covenant includes things that are very familiar to us these days, masks, social distancing, temperature checks, and symptom free, etc., but it is important that you read it!

<http://www.opccdoc.org/a-community-of-voices-blog/outdoor-prayer-service>

The OPCC Board and COVID-19 Committee both recognize that this has been extremely hard to keep our community connected. Although nothing is without risk, it seems appropriate time to take advantage of temperate weather and try an outdoor, masked, socially distant gathering for prayer and meditation in addition to our Sunday morning virtual worship (online and over the phone at 10:30am on Sundays). COVID-19 is still considered in an "uncontrolled spread" in Johnson County, and your personal risk factors have not changed, so please remember that when deciding if it is right to attend this prayer service.

Reservations ARE REQUIRED. You can email the church office ([office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org)) or leave a message at the front desk (913.677.4646). Please make sure you have confirmation before planning to attend on Sunday - Thank you!

### It's Almost Turkey Time!

We would like to provide a turkey for every household that visits our November 21st Food Pantry.

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 21.

If you would like to share our goal of providing turkeys, please donate \$15 per turkey. (Sorry, we cannot accept actual turkeys since we don't have the freezer space to store them.)

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 thanks-filled season for our pantry guests.

# Prayer Vigil & Virtual Worship for Election Day November 3, 2020

## Johnson County Disciples of Christ Praying Together

This November 3 will be an election day that not only elects local races, but includes our national presidential race. The year of 2020 has been filled with many anxieties and challenges. It has also been a year in which the church has exhibited creativity and faith to face this difficult time.

Prayer has been a vital spiritual practice that encourages us as individuals and as a community. The Johnson County churches associated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Greater Kansas City Region are joining in a spirit of prayer for our national election day. We are encouraging all the churches in Johnson County to host a prayer vigil from 7:00am to 7:00pm on November 3 which are the hours in which the election polls will be open in Johnson County.

Additionally, OPCC faith leaders will be participating in a joint virtual prayer service to be shared on the evening of the election.

The collective prayer effort is to provide a wider collaborative spirit of prayer beyond congregational lines on a day that will have a wide array of emotions and responses. We want to ground this day in prayer as communities of faith. Strength can be found in the growing number of people prayer together during the same time period. Please contact the church office ([office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org) or 913-677-4646) to sign up for a 30 minute time slot for this prayer vigil, and some resources can be provided for you to use during those 30 minutes.

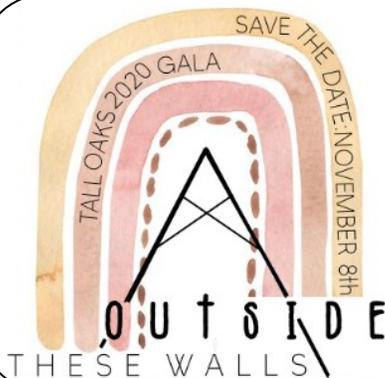
Check our website and Facebook page on the evening of the election to participate in the virtual worship service.

## MORE<sup>2</sup> METRO ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts at Overland Park Christian Church, we are a partner organization with MORE<sup>2</sup> (Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity). However, we are more than just a pastor-led partner, and invite you to join in our efforts.

To get to know MORE<sup>2</sup> and the kind of ministry in which they engage, please join us for a virtual MORE<sup>2</sup> Annual Transformation Event: Building a Beloved Community. The keynote speaker is Kansas City's own Lisa Benson, an Emmy award-winning journalist, author of *Anchored in Bias: Fired Over White Tears*, and founder of Winning Truths, a diversity and inclusion training and consultation firm. On Thursday, October 29th from 6 – 9pm, you can join the MORE<sup>2</sup> Transformation Event in one of two ways:

- Attend the Live Event at the Lex!
  - At 13th & Baltimore in KCMO there is a live event. Tickets are \$100 / person. Limited seating for 150 only. Social distancing event, masks required. Enjoy appetizers, cash bar, dinner, dancing, DJ, photo booth, party favors, and more!
  - You can sign up by visiting their website, [www.more2.org](http://www.more2.org)
- Attend virtually "sitting with" the OPCC Table!
  - Sign up with Rev. Laura to "attend" the event from home! You will receive a catered meal that you can pick up from OPCC including dessert, a program book, party favors, and a link to watch the live program!
  - Contact Rev. Laura to choose your meal option (Hearty Chicken & Turkey Jambalaya, Vegetarian Jambalaya & Vegan Sweet Potato Muffins, or Skillet Monterey Chicken with Garlic Mash & Sweet Potato Muffins)



## Tall Oaks Gala – It's Virtual! It's Online! It's Time to Register!

**November 8, 2020 - Evening Program and Live Auction**  
**November 8th through the 15th - Silent Auction**

The Virtual Live and Online Silent Auctions will be new and exciting!  
Create an account, become a bidder, and peruse the items!

For all the details, go to:

<https://www.talloaks.org/2020gala>

## Virtual Worship Options

We continue to offer our worship experience online, and are always looking for more ways to “bring it home” to you so that you still feel a part of our wider Christian community in the midst of these unprecedented times. Join us on Sundays at 10:30am on Facebook, or on our Worship This Week page on our website, for our worship services. You can also view these services anytime after they go live as they are archived in both places.

The worship order is available each Sunday on our Worship This Week Page on our website. Please comment, or send an email to let us know you are “with us.” Even if you think “oh, they know we’re watching,” we’re not 100% sure how many watch each week – so a comment on the video, or an email to the front office each week is extremely helpful ([office@opccd.org](mailto:office@opccd.org))!

## Volunteers for Virtual Worship Leading

We continue to need volunteers who will share some of the elements of worship, virtually!

If you are willing to read scripture, or share in the Invitation to Worship, or other elements, please let Rev. Laura know. She can guide you through how to do this, and would love to welcome you into worship!

## Worship by Phone

If you do not have a computer, smart phone, or tablet, but still want to worship with us virtually, you can join us over the phone!



Just call **913-299-9002** from your home or cell phone on Sunday morning, or anytime throughout the week when you are available, to listen to the scripture, meditation, prayer, and song on your phone!

You can even call in as many times as you would like to listen to the service again. The worship service remains up until Saturday night when the audio switches to the new Sunday worship audio. Though there are minor differences accounting for visual vs. auditory worship, the audio is the same music, message, and more each week, continuing to connect us no matter how we worship! If you would like to receive a mailed copy of our worship order so that you can follow along by phone, please contact Eileen in the front office (913-677-4646 or [office@opccd.org](mailto:office@opccd.org)) to let her know that you would like a copy of the worship order mailed each week.

## Zoom Links and Update

Whatever gathering you are hoping to attend, you can join Zoom in one of two ways. Both manners of joining will allow you to participate with the various meetings listed throughout this newsletter.

- You can download Zoom to your computer, tablet, or cell phone, and after creating an account, you can join the meetings by clicking on each weblink.
- You call into Zoom from your phone (home or cell), to any of these numbers below and utilize the Meeting ID listed in the newsletter to join that specific meeting.
  - (346) 248-7799
  - (301) 715-8592
  - (312) 626-6799

## Virtual Community at OPCC

Please continue to check out our OPCC Website and Facebook pages for information on how to “be community” even when we aren’t physically in the same space. Nearly everything we are doing virtually is available on our website, [www.opccd.org](http://www.opccd.org). There are three blogs in particular that you will want to visit.

- <http://www.opccd.org/worship-this-week-blog> (Weekly Worship available here!)
- <http://www.opccd.org/families-youth-children-during-covid-19> (For Families)
- <http://www.opccd.org/a-community-of-voices-blog> (General/Community)

You can also [visit our Facebook page](#) where these same things are being shared. By visiting these events and information through Facebook, it gives an interactive aspect to worship. However, we are aware that not everyone enjoys Facebook, and so we will continue to share our information and opportunities on both our website and Facebook page.

## Annual Congregational Meeting

The OPCC Board is planning a congregational-meeting-by-mail with an opportunity for discussion and questions by conference / video call on Sunday, November 22. All OPCC members will receive a letter during the week of November 16 with a budget for 2021 for voting by mail. The letter will include a pre-addressed, pre-stamped postcard for members to send back to OPCC. We know this isn't until November, but we want to make sure you are aware of this important work and vote. Please check your letter the week of November 16 for information on how to join this virtual congregational meeting on Sunday, November 22.

## Choir and Bells

### RBC & CCC Zoom Chat:

As we continue social distancing, we invite all members of the Chalice Chancel Choir and Reverberations Bell Choir to join us online via Zoom for some reconnection time and an opportunity to share ideas for music in our upcoming online worship videos. Look in your emails for the code to tune in on Wednesdays, October 14 and November 4, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. (Note: the dates are slightly different from previous months.)

Please [email our Director of Music Mary Beth Boucher](#) to find out how to connect with this gathering of our music ministry!

### Seeking Musical Talent:

If you have a musical talent to offer our congregation or know of someone we should personally invite, please contact Director of Music Mary Beth Boucher at 913.488.7796 or [marybethboucher2@gmail.com](mailto:marybethboucher2@gmail.com).

## Middlers Sunday CE Class

The Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education will meet weekly at 9:00am on Sunday Mornings for a discussion of scripture following the Revised Common Lectionary scriptures. All are welcome!

Please [email our church office](#) to find out how to connect with the Middlers Sunday Morning Class,

## Growing in God's Love: Virtual Family Faith Formation

For the last half of October and into November, OPCC families are invited to again join for a time of faith formation using the Growing in God's Love Story Bible. This Zoom gathering on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. will be accompanied by the Home Kit that will be prepared by mid October. Please check your email for more information on how we will continue to stay connected!

Please [email Rev. Chuck](#) to find out how to connect with this Faith Formation for Families opportunity.

## Girlfriends Unlimited

Girlfriends is a Women's Bible Study that meets virtually on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. via Zoom. Our current topic is "Resilience Through a Biblical Lens." We will learn to access and share the skills we need to help keep ourselves and those around us as mentally and physically healthy as possible. This pandemic certainly has given us reason to increase our ability to be resilient.

For more information, contact Peggy Moore at [wpmoore63@gmail.com](mailto:wpmoore63@gmail.com) or 913-592-0179, or [email our church office](#) to find out how to connect with the Girlfriends Unlimited Group,

## Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group continues to meet over Zoom, on the first Saturdays at 9:00am:

Please [email our church office](#) to find out how to connect with the Men's Fellowship Group.

## Giving to OPCC

You might consider setting up an electronic payment plan to the church with *your* banking institution so they can automatically send a check to the church, or you use our secure online giving system ([www.opccdoc.org/online-giving](http://www.opccdoc.org/online-giving)) so you can give more consistently without bringing it in-person. Online giving is also great for individual donations if you aren't ready to put a weekly or monthly plan into place.

If you have any questions about online giving or EFT transfers through your bank, contact Michelle in the church office and we'll be happy to guide you through the process!

## *Hello Congregation & Friends!*

The season of Fall is upon us with the changing weather. Change is never easy and no one likes doing it, but I appreciate all of you for making those changes and sticking together as a community.

Speaking of community, I would like to offer just a little anagram for you to think about:

- C** - Christ is always with us no matter where we are
- O** - Opportunity for self reflection and growth
- M** - Meditate on God's word daily for strength and support
- M** - Music is good for the soul so listen to some good Christian songs
- U** - Unified as a group of believers that can't be broken apart
- N** - No Christian has ever been called to "go it alone" in his or her walk of faith — Charles Stanley
- I** - In these trying times, lean on one another
- T** - Take time for yourself and do something that makes you happy at home
- Y** - You are a child of God, cared for and loved by God

I have been studying resilience with our Girlfriends group on Wednesday evenings.

Please stay strong and hopeful. I hope this brought a smile to your face today!

Theresa Krebs  
OPCC Board Chair  
on behalf of the board members

## *Property Commission*

Wow, fall is here...cool weather, fall flowers blooming, and leaves are turning. Hope you got to enjoy the gardens at OPCC in person or during virtual church service on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Laura for taking and including her pictures during the virtual service.

Here are property activities which took place in September:

1. East wall project has been completed by Atlantis Drainage.
2. Freedom Electric completed the following projects:
  - a. Replaced a ballast in the North ladies restroom and installed 8 LED fluorescent bulbs.
  - b. Retrofitted 13 ceiling cove lights in the Fireside room with LED surface mounted light fixtures.
  - c. Removed and replaced all 4' fluorescent fixtures in the North hallway with 15-2'X2' LED fixtures.
  - d. Removed and replaced 12-4' fluorescent fixtures in classroom #40 with 6-2'X2' LED fixtures.
  - e. Removed and replaced 11-4' fluorescent fixtures in Northwest corner of the Fellowship Hall with 6-2'X2' LED fixtures.
  - f. Removed and replaced 4 ceiling lights over the East ramp with 3-2'X2' LED ceiling lights.
  - g. Many of our old fluorescent fixtures needed bulb sockets, new coverings, or ballasts so it was cheaper to replace them. The new LED fixtures are brighter and use less electricity. Old fixtures uses either 80 or 160 watts each as the new use only 40 watts each.
3. Temperature Maintenance had to replace two fan motors and 4 squirrel cages in a wall HVAC unit in the office area of Monarch school.
4. Have signed a contract with Luke Kush's Painting to scrape and paint the East and West outside sanctuary structural beams, plus replace and paint dry-rotted fascia boards over the East entrance. Will also have the Fireside Room and kitchenette painted. Waiting for start date.

Pray that all are staying healthy.

Submitted by Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

# Prayer List

## Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Raelene Berry
- ♥ Marian Bilyea & Rick Everist
- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Joyce Brooker
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Barbara Cash (Jody Cash's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Harper Claar (Roger & Vicki Claar's granddaughter)
- ♥ Phyllis Cooke
- ♥ Julie Dean
- ♥ Steven Eckman (Lisa Setty's uncle)
- ♥ Lorraine Hartnett
- ♥ Carol Huffman (Peggy Fach's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kenneth McBride (Calvin McBride's brother)
- ♥ Rhonda Phelps (Roger Claar's sister)
- ♥ Ada Phillips (Teresa Phillips' mother)
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ Barbara Sheldon
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Leslie Smith (Calvin McBride's friend)
- ♥ Marshall Swanson (Sharon McBride's grandson)
- ♥ Billie Warden
- ♥ Joe & Jean Zacher

## Continued Prayers

- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Margo Brown
- ♥ Frances Bruning
- ♥ Nancy Coffman
- ♥ Barb Collins
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Jan Eilert
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ June Faltermeier (Nancy Coffman's sister)
- ♥ Pat Frisbie (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Rowena Hutchinson
- ♥ Ina Fern McBride
- ♥ Sharon McBride
- ♥ Shirley McGee
- ♥ Florene Miele
- ♥ Teresa Phillips
- ♥ Lori Rapoff (Laurel Elliott's daughter)
- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ Sandy Teeple
- ♥ Gordon & Iline Toms
- ♥ Doris Watts
- ♥ Judy Zeman

## Military Prayer List

- ✦ Jamie Crowe (Bo & Chris Crowe's son)
- ✦ Cameron McDonough (Cathy Wilson's son)
- ✦ SSG Edward Pinkelman, Jr. (Ed & Kathy Pinkelman's son)

## Coronavirus Prayer List

- ♥ The Bayer family
- ♥ Charmaine Cherrell (Monica Fuentes' friend)
- ♥ Ronita & Mike Espinoza (Monica Fuentes' niece and her husband)
- ♥ Garden Terrace
- ♥ Lakeview Community
- ♥ Levi (Kathy Lewis' son-in-law)
- ♥ Amelia Pantoja (Monica Fuentes' sister)
- ♥ Joe Pendleton (Lois Wimpey's grandson)
- ♥ Carma & Matt Roberts (Jimmy & Edith Reynolds' daughter & son-in-law)
- ♥ Sharon Sjoblom (Marijane Green's mother)
- ♥ Sharon Sjoblom's sister (Marijane Green's aunt)
- ♥ Sharon Sjoblom's brother (Marijane Green's uncle)
- ♥ Villa St Francis Care Center

## Condolences

- ♥ to Ann Sandler on the death of her friend Tom on September 23, and also on the recent death of her "long time fur baby".
- ♥ to Don Killion and family on the death of Barbara Killion on September 27.

*To add or remove persons from this or any of the prayer lists, please contact Michelle Reiter at ext. 223 or [michelle@opccdoc.org](mailto:michelle@opccdoc.org)*

## Thank You

I want to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy, etc., and especially thank the Care Committee for their many phone calls, visits, letters, and for bringing communion to Barbara. She really appreciated it, as did I. Thanks again,

Don Killion



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**Your OPCC Staff**

**913-677-4646**

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**Your 2020-2021 OPCC Board of Directors**

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**Help us reduce paper and postage costs!**

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