



## Overland Park Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

**7600 West 75th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204  
913-677-4646**

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Sunday Services

**Adult Christian Education Class** — 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Worship** — 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Nursery care available for children through 3 years old

**Sunday Worship is Live-Streamed on our Website and Facebook Page**

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

## *Imagine a World with More...*

The church – both this church, Overland Park Christian Church, and the church universal – the church is in a season of imagining anew how we do ministry, worship, care for one another, and connect with our communities in impactful ways. We are imagining what it means to be God's people, to study scripture, to proclaim the resurrection of Jesus Christ in this new world. Often our communities get caught in a vision of scarcity—what if there is not enough? What if we are not enough?

Instead, what if we imagined a world with MORE? What if we imagined a world in which God's love was limitless? A world where there was more hope, more love, more connection? What would our communities look like? How would they feel? Who would be changed in a world with more? What would be transformed? For the next four weeks during worship we will imagine a World with More... invited to see God's love as the limitless and abundant force in our world, or the world we want to create.

In her 2022 State of the Church address, our General Minister and President, the Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens shared, "God's imagination is so limitless that we are called to continually move the stake. We can't think of anything beyond what God can accomplish. And if we don't believe that, I always say, if we don't believe that God can do exceedingly and abundantly as Ephesians tells us, all that we can ask or think, we might as well hang it up right now. First Corinthians 1 tells us that God's foolishness is wiser than human weakness and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. A later part of that verse in the King James says that God uses the foolish things of the world to confound the wise."

These next four weeks of worship will help us explore what our world might look like with more of the church in it. More of the church's expansive love. More of the church's radical hope. More of the church's deep compassion and commitment to justice. And not just the more of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), but more of your community doing what it does best and revealing God's limitless love in your community. These next four weeks are an invitation to imagine what God is doing and what God could do in our community and beyond. I hope you will join us!

- August 7 – Imagine a World with More Compassion (Matthew 25:31-45)
- August 14 – Imagine a World with More Community (Acts 2:42-47)
- August 21 – Imagine a World with More Hope (Hebrews 10:23-25)
- August 28 – Imagine a World with More Justice (Isaiah 58:6-9)

*Jana*

## Elders Monthly Gathering

**Sunday, August 21  
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Fireside Room**

All OPCC Elders are encouraged to join as we continue "A Covenant Conversation for Disciples," enjoy lunch, and discuss plans for 2022-2023.

RSVP to Jaime, OPCC receptionist, at (913)677-4646 or [office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org)

## Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education Class

**Sundays, 9:00 – 10:10 am  
NW Section Fellowship Hall**

Middler's Adult Bible Study Class will resume our regular Sunday morning studies on August 14.

All are welcome to join this fellowship, study scripture with the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum, grow in your faith, and make new friends.

## Empty Nesters

Empty Nesters will host a **Picnic in the Park for the all in the OPCC community on Saturday, September 17th, at 6:00 p.m.** at Shelter #4 at Antioch Park, 6501 Antioch Rd, Merriam, KS. We will have prepared box lunches so **RSVPs will be necessary**. Please reply to Peggy Moore by email at [wpmoore63@gmail.com](mailto:wpmoore63@gmail.com) or call 913-592-0179 with your reservations before September 11. Please bring your own drinks and a dessert to share.

(Click on this link [Jo. Co. Park and Rec. website](#) to find the location of shelter #4 at Antioch Park.)

## Social Justice Opportunities at OPCC

The Social Justice Group will meet Thursday, September 15, at 7 pm in the Fireside Room.

Our focus will be a video presentation by Dr. Harriet Washington, author of Medical Apartheid and Professor of Bioethics at Columbia University.

Her research shows how American history contributes to current disparities in health care. Q and A to follow facilitated by Dr. Wayne Moore.

## Care & Share

This group meets approximately once a month at a designated restaurant at 11:30 a.m. for lunch, laughter, good food, fellowship, and support.

We will resume monthly meetings on Wednesday, August 17 at 11:30 a.m. at Dos Reales, located at 8841 West 75th Street (close to 75th & Antioch). RSVP to Peggy Moore at [wpmoore63@gmail.com](mailto:wpmoore63@gmail.com) or 913-592-0179 at least 3 days ahead of the luncheon if you plan to attend. Even if you have not been part of this group before, you are cordially invited to join us, and feel free to bring a friend or guest.

## Grief & Loss Support Group

The OPCC Grief/Loss Support Group will be will meet on the first TUESDAY of every other month. We will be meeting for lunch at Cozy's Café, 6740 W. 75th Street (just east of Price Chopper at the corner of 75th and Metcalf) at 11:30 a.m. for support and discussion.

Our remaining meeting dates for 2022 are:  
September 6 and November 1.

In this support group, we will: Explore your Feelings of Loss, Recognize You Are Not Alone, Understand the Needs of Mourning, and Appreciate Your Transformation and Seek Reconciliation. RSVP to Peggy Moore by email or 913-592-0179 if you plan to attend.

## Girlfriends

will resume regular meetings on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room on August 24. Hope to see all the Girlfriends then. Feel free to invite a friend.

For more information, contact Peggy Moore at [wpmoore63@gmail.com](mailto:wpmoore63@gmail.com) or 913-592-0179.

## Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group meets on the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Fireside Room for coffee, study, and fellowship. Our current study book is "Mere Christianity."

All men are invited.

Contact: Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

## Music Department Update

The Reverberations Bell Choir and Chalice Chancel Choir rehearsals resume Wednesday, August 31. If you are thinking about joining us for either or both of these ensembles, we would love to have you with us. In addition, if you have a friend or family member who might be interested, please let them know as well. We have musicians as young as 13 years of age and up. We can also work with you on your level of music reading and/or experience.

- Bell Choir: rehearses every Wednesday at 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the bell room
  - They play in worship one Sunday a month September through May, as well as at Christmas Eve service.
- Chancel Choir: rehearses every Wednesday at 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. in the choir room
  - The choir generally sings in worship two Sundays a month, as well as at the Christmas Eve service.

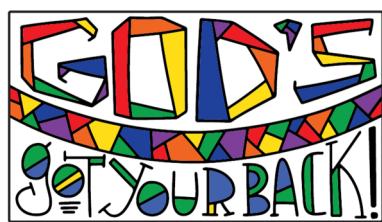
If you are interested in joining us or want more information, please let Mary Beth Boucher, our director of music, know via email at [marybeth@opccdoc.org](mailto:marybeth@opccdoc.org) or by the church phone number at extension 229.

## Family Life

Compassion Camp VBS was a fantastic blessing! 12 kids in total joined us to learn, sing, play, and worship together. Some of the families involved are new to OPCC! Together we learned about Loving Kindness through Compassion, jumping in to help and heal others, and some of what the Bible has to say about compassion as well. Thanks to our amazing volunteers who gave of their time and talents to make VBS a success. I am so grateful for the work that was put into this program.

**This Sunday, August 7th**, during church we'll be blessing backpacks, lunch boxes, computers, students, teachers and anything else pertaining to the new school year. We hope you'll be with us and receive the blessings, backpack tags, and stickers for a fantastic start to the school year!

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



## American Red Cross Blood Drive

**Friday, September 2  
Noon - 5:00 p.m.  
OPCC Fellowship Hall**

**Appointments are needed** — for an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and search zip code 66204 for September 2 or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. That's why OPCC is on a mission to help save lives by hosting a blood drive. The community is invited to take part in this special event and donate blood for hospital patients in our neighborhoods and across the nation. The need for blood is constant, but only 3 percent of the U.S. population donates. By rolling up a sleeve, donors can play a critical role in the treatment of accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease. A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood.

## FINANCIAL PEACE University

Take control of your money with Financial Peace University! This nine-lesson class uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you. Join my Financial Peace University class, and we'll learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future together!

Interested? Join me at OPCC's Fireside Room starting Monday, September 12, 6:30 p.m. You can sign up for this class and start your 14-day free trial of Financial Peace at [fpu.com/1151375](http://fpu.com/1151375).

Emerson Hartzler  
913-302-7612  
[jehmph41@gmail.com](mailto:jehmph41@gmail.com)



**OPCC's IHN host week is September 4-11.  
Circle the dates on your calendar —  
an email will arrive soon.**

A great big thank you for the help during the June IHN week! We had a total of 6 guests with one family arriving on Wednesday. Flexibility is what makes our volunteers so special! All of our guests from June have graduated into their new living arrangements and more families are being interviewed for placement. It is exciting to see our guests become independent and successful!

**Our next IHN volunteer training is scheduled for Thursday, August 25 at St. Andrew Christian Church, 13890 West 127th Street in Olathe. The training will begin at 6:30pm, ending by 8:30pm. Timely and full attendance is required to be considered a trained volunteer. No RSVP's are necessary. Attendees do not need to be connected to any of our congregations to lift up those in need. Please ask friends and family to join us in our mission.**

For further information about IHN, please contact Barb Collins at [barbcollins919@gmail.com](mailto:barbcollins919@gmail.com)

*below is a note received recently by OPCC*

July 3, 2022

*Greetings ~*

*None of us got to where we are alone. We thank you and appreciate all you have done. Your generosity has given IHN guests new hope.*

*Overland Park Christian Church is a wonderful blessing to IHN and those that we serve. We are so grateful to you and your dedicated members. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for hosting our families the week of June 26th. You and your members are the reason someone feels welcomed, seen, heard, loved and supported. Please convey our gratitude to all involved and let them know their efforts make a difference in the lives of our IHN guests.*

*Sincere Thanks,*

*Vicki & Cheryl (JoCo IHN Directors)*

## **Food Pantry- Did you know?**

\* Over 65,000 people in Johnson County are food insecure. (Food insecurity is defined as not knowing where the next meal is coming from.) That's 12% of the population of Johnson County. (source: Food Policy Council of Johnson County)

\* Why don't they get a job? About one half of our guests are retirees, trying to live on their social security. Approximately one fourth have a physical or mental disability and have limited abilities to work. The rest are generally people that have a job but for a variety of reasons their income doesn't stretch. (source: our stats)

\* Another way to think about this is the living wage chart. This has been calculated for Johnson County, KS. A living wage is defined as the hourly pay rate to have basic housing and needs met and off of public assistance.

1 adult and 0 children:

Living Wage = \$17.21 per hour  
Poverty Wage = \$6.19 per hour  
Minimum Wage = \$7.25 per hour  
Base Social Security Pension = approximately \$5.91 per hour

2 adults and 2 children:

Living Wage = \$25.21 per hour  
Poverty Wage = \$6.37 per hour  
Minimum Wage = \$7.25 per hour  
(source: [livingwage.Mit.edu](http://livingwage.Mit.edu))

\* But don't they get food stamps? (SNAP Benefits) 99% of our pantry guests do not receive SNAP because they make too much money to qualify, or because they own their home. (source: our stats)

Thank you for your loving support of our neighbors through the OPCC Food Pantry.

Want to volunteer at our twice-monthly pantry?  
Contact Barb Collins or Jane Fletcher!

### **What Does the Food Pantry Need This Month?**

**August – canned beef stew,  
small packages of dried fruit**

Please place your donations in the blue barrel by the Receptionist's Desk. Thank you!



## Responding to July Flooding

*Living in covenant with the people of God*

At the end of July, St. Louis endured record-breaking rainfall and massive flooding. At the same time, in eastern Kentucky, 8 to 11 inches of rain fell in just 48 hours, devastating communities that are still recovering from last year's record flooding.

Since the news of these storms, Week of Compassion has been in touch with Regional Ministers and local church pastors of Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations. Early reports are that 3 church buildings in the St. Louis area have been damaged. Several member families in eastern Kentucky have been affected. Week of Compassion is also working with our ecumenical partners in the affected areas to provide safety and shelter. These partners are preparing for long-term recovery in these communities.

How can we help??

(1) Stay in touch. Go to

[www.weekofcompassion.org](http://www.weekofcompassion.org) or follow on social media to learn how Disciples can help.

(2) Make a special gift. You can give through OPCC, designating Week of Compassion, US Storms; or directly through their website.

(3) Remain steadfast in prayer.

*And so in Christ, we who are many are one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (Romans 12:5)*

## MORE<sup>2</sup>

METRO ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts at OPCC, we are a partner organization with Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2). Please join to find out how you can be involved:

- **Issues2Action 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, August 8, 6:00 – 7:30pm  
Online by way of Zoom  
[\(Click Here to register\)](#) (UPDATED LINK)

## Tall Oaks Listening Sessions

Our Regional Board is discerning the future of our Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center and asks for your help with that. This is a time for Greater Kansas City Disciples to pull together to help discern the will of God concerning our stewardship of this sixty-one year old gift from our predecessors.

The remaining three listening/information session for discernment of the next step for Tall Oaks will be held:

- Sunday, August 7, 2022, 2:00-3:30pm at Hillcrest Christian Church 11411 S Quivira Rd, OP, KS
- Sunday, August 14, 2022, 2:00-3:30pm at Lee's Summit Christian Church 800 NE Tudor Rd, Lee's Summit, MO
- TBD: Zoom / Electronic version of the listening session will be scheduled and communicated soon!

For more information visit:

<https://www.kcdisciples.org/todr.html>

Your input is needed, please join us. All are welcome at the table - See you there!



## Disciples Women's Ministry Fall Retreat

September 9 and 10  
Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center  
“Are You Listening?”

We will be listening, like Samuel did so long ago, to some of the needs of our world right now. We are excited to share the following sessions being planned for our retreat:

- **Human Trafficking** (Justice Project KC)
- What is it like being a **Refugee** as you enter a new land (KC for Refugees)
- Local efforts on **Racial Relations** (MORE<sup>2</sup>)

In-person and virtual options are available for both Friday and Saturday, or Saturday only. You will find all the information and the registration form for this retreat at

<https://www.kcdisciples.org/women.html>

The registration form will need to be printed out and mailed in along with your payment. Don't have computer or printer capabilities? Contact Jaime in the OPCC office and she will be happy to print it out for you!

# Prayer List

## Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Jan Conner (Lorraine Hartnett's daughter)
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Fran Dawson
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Chuck Elliott
- ♥ Ruth Fletcher
- ♥ Tom Fletcher, Sr.
- ♥ David Garner (son of Floyd & Marcille Garner, friend of Jody Cash)
- ♥ Loretta Garza (Calvin McBride's sister)
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Lorraine Hartnett
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kourtney Leibman
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Rhonda Phelps (Roger Claar's sister)
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Laina Willoughby (Pat Owsley's granddaughter)
- ♥ Jim Withers

## Continued Prayers

- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Marian Bilyea
- ♥ Barbara Cash (Jody Cash's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Nancy Coffman
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Evelyn Eastwood
- ♥ Jan Eilert
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Betty King
- ♥ Rod McBride (Calvin McBride's son)
- ♥ Shirley McGee
- ♥ Florene Miele
- ♥ Christina, Jeff, Scott, & Jenny Packard (Sharon & Bob Shankel's daughter & family)
- ♥ J.D. Price (Pat Warner's son)
- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ JoLynn Sloan
- ♥ Tamara Strange
- ♥ Michelle Swanson (Sharon McBride's daughter-in-law)
- ♥ Sandy Teeple
- ♥ Doris Watts
- ♥ Sally Withers

# Military Prayer List

- ✿ PV2 Rachael Dawson (Fran Dawson's granddaughter), Ft. Campbell, KY
- ✿ Cameron McDonough (Cathy Wilson's son)

## Condolences

- ♥ to Nancy Coffman on the passing of her sister, June Faltermeier, on June 2.
- ♥ to Vickie & Roger Claar and family on the passing of their granddaughter, Harper Claar, on June 29.  
<https://www.johnsoncountychapel.com/obituary/Harper-Claar>
- ♥ to Calvin McBride on the passing of his friend, Leslie Smith, in July.
- ♥ to Peggy Overstreet and Brett Zacher on the passing of their father, Joe Zacher, on July 30.

## Thank You

Thank you to those who sent a card for my 90th birthday. I still have fond memories of the people I knew and the many activities I participated in at Disciples of Christ churches over the years.

Thanks again,  
Joan Kawa

Thank you to OPCC leadership, staff, members and friends for all the grace, love, and support you've shown to our family as we grieved the loss of our beloved doggo Sally. It is so helpful to know our congregation is full of such animal lovers, that know the grief is as strong and as real as if it were a human.

Thank you, again..  
Laura, John, and T-man

## Volunteers for Worship Leading

Would you be willing to serve as a liturgist and read either scripture or a call to worship provided for you? No age requirement – anyone willing to read is welcome! Please contact Jaime in the church reception office if you would be interested and we will keep your name on a list.

We will arrange mutually agreeable days for you to serve so that it works with everyone's schedule. Please email [office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org) or call the main church number and leave a message on extension 221.

# Property Commission

Late June and all of July has been a very busy time for the Property committee. See listing below:

- a. During the second week of July, Temperature Maintenance made OPCC staff very happy and cool by installing the new air conditioning coil in the air handler which cools the offices.
- b. Temperature Maintenance completed their quarterly inspection and maintenance of all the HVAC units throughout the entire building.
- c. After the above quarterly maintenance, the drain line to the air handler above the Great Hall got plugged up causing the pan to overflow and soaked 9 ceiling tiles. Richard Owens cleaned up all the ceiling tiles and sucked up all the excess water from the carpeting. Lee replaced all the ceiling tiles this past week.
- d. Boiler was inspected by the State Fire Marshal's office and annual certificate has been received.
- e. Lee repositioned the Emergency Fire Department box outside the front doors so the O.P. Fire Inspector could access it without using a tall ladder.
- f. Augustine Exterminators did their quarterly service.
- g. JP Company has completed the installation of an emergency door exit within the lease space for Honey Bee as required by the State Fire Marshal.
- h. Lee planed the top and side of door to Room 43 during IHN week.
- i. We are in the midst of replacing two short exterior stair hand rails and one long exterior ramp hand rail on the West side. The two short stair rails have been installed and ramp rail is still being fabricated...installation coming within the next two weeks.
- j. Dave Farley is coordinating getting bids to have gutter covers for the front of the church and the Memorial Garden area. This will eliminate our church gentlemen from climbing ladders to clean out the gutters twice a year. More on this next month.
- k. Richard Owens scrapped off paint from a window in the Great Hall and repainted the window frame. He also installed vinyl over the kitchen sink cabinet flooring. Thanks, Richard!

Submitted by,  
Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

## Your OPCC Staff

**913-677-4646**

[info@opccdoc.org](mailto:info@opccdoc.org)

(general church e-mail address)

Senior Pastor ..... Laura Ann Phillips  
[laura@opccdoc.org](mailto:laura@opccdoc.org) ext. 222

Associate Pastor ..... Chuck Pickrel  
[chuck@opccdoc.org](mailto:chuck@opccdoc.org) ext. 228

Receptionist ..... Jaime Cranford  
[office@opccdoc.org](mailto:office@opccdoc.org) ext. 221

Congregational Care ..... Sharon McBride  
[slmcbride19421965@gmail.com](mailto:slmcbride19421965@gmail.com) ext. 224

Communications Coordinator/  
Bookkeeper ..... Michelle Reiter  
[michelle@opccdoc.org](mailto:michelle@opccdoc.org) ext. 223

Music Director ..... Mary Beth Boucher  
[marybeth@opccdoc.org](mailto:marybeth@opccdoc.org) ext. 229

Accompanist ..... Julie Dean  
[missjupes@gmail.com](mailto:missjupes@gmail.com)

Building & Grounds ..... Lee Sprinkle  
[lee@opccdoc.org](mailto:lee@opccdoc.org) ext. 237

Nursery Director ..... Kourtney Leibman

## Your 2022-2023 OPCC Board of Directors

David Collins ..... Chair

Phill Sigmon ..... Vice Chair

Teresa Phillips ..... Secretary

Richard Owens ..... Treasurer

Alan Felton ..... Commission Liaison

Jody Cash ..... Leadership Development

**The OPCC Scene is generally published the first Thursday of each month, except in July.**

**Copy deadline for next issue is September 6 for September 8 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](mailto:michelle@opccdoc.org)