



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 • @opccdoc (Twitter & Instagram) • www.facebook.com/opccdoc



Following Jesus is a lifelong journey where we learn and do what Jesus said and did. It takes more than the head, checking off boxes of belief. It even takes more than the heart, feeling deeply about another person or a cause. Yes, Following Jesus is about these things, *and more*. It is also about doing. And doing takes practice. And practice. And more practice.

We are not practicing for perfection, however, but practicing to put faith and love into action. As we explore faith practices in many different ways at church, we are diving into the essence of what makes us Christian, those who follow the one who practiced what he preached!

During the months of October and November we will look at two practices in particular: the practice of generosity, and the practice of gratitude. These focuses are for lifelong Christians, those just beginning to ask questions, and everyone in between, centering around something Jesus told his followers to do. Jesus took these well-known behaviors, feelings, and attitudes and showed those around him — people throughout history, and us today — how we can love God and love others.

To practice generosity is love in action; our love for God and our love for neighbor. While English dictionaries define the term as a readiness to give more of something than is necessary or expected, that is, out of one's abundance, biblical teachings describe the practice as one rooted in justice and concerned with all of humanity's needs.

(continued on next page)

October 9 — **Share Wisdom**

- ~ Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- ~ Acts 18:1-4, 24-28

October 16 — **Share Justice**

- ~ Matthew 25:31-46
- ~ Luke 4:16-21
- ~ Isaiah 58:1-12

October 23 — **Share Resources**

- ~ Luke 10:25-37
- ~ Acts 4:32-35

October 30 — **Share Power**

- ~ Luke 18:18-30
- ~ Leviticus 25:1-17

Generosity looks after the welfare of our neighbor's mind, body, spirit, and life in community.

Jesus' ministry is a practice of generosity. It is evident in the liberality of his words and deeds as he loves, cares, heals, as well as teaches and preaches the good news. He tasks his disciples, his followers, to continue and expand this mission of generosity using all the resources, wisdom, and power given to them to proclaim the gospel of God's kingdom (Matthew 28:18–20). With his life, death, and resurrection, Jesus gives both from the abundance of his divinity and within the limits of his humanity.

The practice of generosity expresses the sum of the Ten Commandments, the Torah/law, the prophets, and the gospel of Jesus: to love God and neighbor. A practice of generosity is obedience to God's command to give ungrudgingly, whatever it may be, to meet the needs of the people, especially the poor (Deuteronomy 15:8).

Almsgiving, charity, and philanthropy often dominate our interpretation of generosity. Yet, in addition to having nowhere to lay his head, Jesus had no money to give. With his ministry as a model as well as his words and deeds, Jesus teaches his followers to be generous with the gifts God has given them — whatever they may be — to meet the needs of creation. More than money, the Bible offers many aspects of generosity. I hope you will join as we explore these four different aspects of what it means to practice generosity, and then come November, to practice gratitude.

Jana

Music Department Update

We have a lot of exciting music for everyone this month:

- October 9 – Emily Boedeker
- October 16 – Chalice Chancel Choir
- October 23 – Reverberations Bell Choir
- October 30 – Guest Organist
- November 6 – Reverberations Bell Choir

In addition, we will have special music at our Regional General Assembly praise service on Friday evening, October 14, at 7:30 pm here in our sanctuary. Several churches will be bringing special music to contribute to the service.

If you have suggestions for future service music or would like to be a part of our bell choir or chancel choir, please contact our director of music, Mary Beth Boucher, via email or the church phone.

All Saints Sunday

In commemoration of All Saints Day, we will remember loved ones we've lost in the last year in a special way in worship at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, November 6th. All Saints Sunday is a service of memory and hope that we look forward to every year, as we honor the saints of this faith community who joined the church triumphant during the last year. We hope that you will make a plan to join us in worship on this special Sunday.

Social Justice Group

Our Social Justice Ministry invites you to the following events for Fall 2022.

These opportunities give us a chance to help in moving the dial toward justice in our church, in our neighborhood, and in our world.

- √ Thursday, October 27, is the date of the MORE² Annual Transformation Event. See elsewhere in this newsletter for all the information about this event to support the work for the Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE²).
- √ Thursday, November 17, 7:00 - 8:30p.m., OPCC Fireside Room — "Medical Apartheid: Racial Disparities in Health Care." This presentation is of a video presented by Dr. Harriet Washington, author of Medical Apartheid. Dr. Washington is a Professor of Bioethics at Columbia University. Her presentation addresses how American history contributes to current disparities in health care. Q and A to follow facilitated by Dr. Wayne Moore.
- √ Thursday, December 15, 7:00 - 8:30p.m., OPCC Fireside Room — A discussion on Medicaid Expansion in Kansas led by representatives of MORE².

Contact Peggy Moore for more information.

Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education Class

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

The Middlers Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study class is open to all who are wanting to study scripture and deepen their faith. Whether you are a current participant or a new-to-class person wanting to make new friends and share your Christian journey, you are welcome.

We are currently studying a Bible Series called "Feasting on the Word" and hop that you will join us in the northwest section of Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:00am - 10:10am.

Contact Peggy Moore at wpmoore63@gmail.com or 913-592-0179 for more information.

Empty Nesters

Saturday, November 12, join us for a field trip to Historic Lecompton Territorial Capital.

See www.lecomptonkansas.com
www.facebook.com/HistoricLecompton

To carpool, meet at OPCC at 8:45 a.m. If driving direct, arrive in Lecompton Territorial Hall at 10:00 a.m. Lecompton, KS is located between Lawrence and Topeka. Signs in town will direct you to the Territorial Hall. This is about an hour west of OPCC. "Historic Lecompton was the Civil War birthplace - Where Slavery Began to Die." We will enjoy a tour of the Territorial Capital Museum, a tour of the largest indoor Christmas tree display in the Midwest, tour Constitutional Hall, shop in the unique gift shops and eat at Aunt Netter's Cafe. Cost is \$10.00.

Reservations needed — call or email Peggy Moore.

Saturday, December 3, gather for Soup and Salad and Surprises! Bring a Soup or Salad and meet at 6:00 pm in the Fireside Room at OPCC. RSVP to Peggy Moore by phone or email to let her know if you will be bringing a soup or salad.

Men's Fellowship Group

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

Contact: Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

Girlfriends

The Girlfriends Bible Study meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 in the Fireside Room. Our study is from the book of Philippians. We will be reading and discussing Tom Are, Jr.'s book "Joy: Even on your Worst Days". (Contact Peggy to get your book.)

All women are invited — and to bring a friend!

For more information, contact Peggy Moore at wpmoore63@gmail.com or 913-592-0179.

Grief & Loss Support Group

The next Grief/Loss Support Group will be on Tuesday, November 1 for lunch at Cozy's Café, 6740 W. 75th Street (just east of Price Chopper at the corner of 75th and Metcalf). Gather at 11:30 a.m. for lunch, support, and discussion.

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 at 913-592-0179 if you plan to attend.

Care & Share Support Group

Please join us for lunch, laughter, good food, fellowship, and support on the following dates with our Care And Share Support Group.

Even if you have not been part of this group before, you are cordially invited to join us. We meet at the designated restaurants on the following dates at 11:30 a.m.

Please let Peggy Moore know at least 3 days ahead of the luncheon by phone or email if you plan to attend. wpmoore63@gmail.com or 913-592-0179. Don't miss out on the fun!

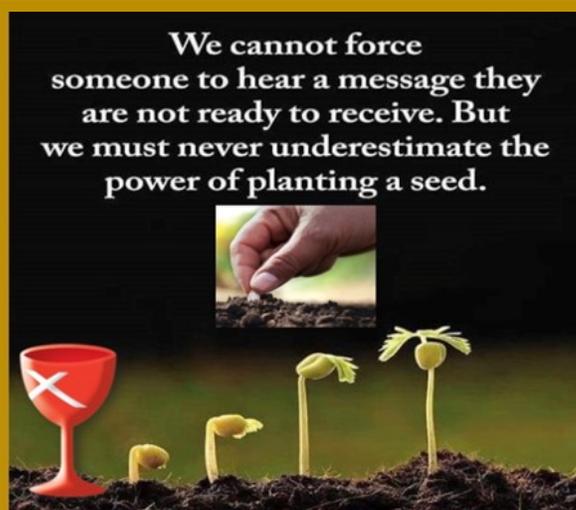
- * Thursday, October 13 – Olive Garden, 6750 W. 95th, OP, KS (on 95th, west of Metcalf)
- * Wednesday, November 9 – Snooze Eatery, 7012 W. 135th, OP, KS (NE corner 135th & Metcalf)
- * Wednesday, December 7 – Paulo and Bills, 16501 Midland Dr., Shawnee, KS

HELP WANTED / VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- * **Sunday Coffee Fellowship Volunteers** — Do you enjoy gathering with other folks before worship with a cup of coffee or tea? Maybe a donut or bagel? We would like to offer this time of fellowship in the Fireside Room again, but need a volunteer to coordinate it. If this is you, contact Jaime in the church office to get started!
- * **Pew Supplies Stocker** — Volunteers needed to straighten and restock the pew racks with pencils, hymnals, Bibles, and giving envelopes each week. This can be an individual or a team effort, and is best done on Fridays. For more details, contact Michelle in the church office at extension 223 or michelle@opccdoc.org.
- * **Sunday Worship Leaders** — 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! We will arrange mutually agreeable days for you to serve so that it works with everyone's schedule. Contact Jaime in the front office at office@opccdoc.org or 913-677-4646 ext. 221 to get added to the volunteer list.
- * **Sunday A/V Techs** — Help run the projection, sound, and recording on Sunday mornings during the worship service. No age requirement. No experience necessary — will receive on the job training. If interested, contact Kent Setty.



Seed Planter for God



We cannot force someone to hear a message they are not ready to receive. But we must never underestimate the power of planting a seed.

"Seeds to Empower God's People..."

Scripture: Matthew 9:38

Greater Kansas City Disciples Regional Assembly

Join Disciples of Christ from all over Kansas City, right here in our OPCC building and sanctuary, for our biennial Regional Assembly on October 14th & 15th.

On the evening of Friday, October 14th, the Regional Planning Team invites you to participate in the Red Friday Praise and Gratitude Concert Night, lifting praises to the Lord for the many blessings received over these last two years. Doors open at 5:30pm and the concert and praise will begin at 7:00pm. There is also the opportunity to participate in the Regional Assembly choir on Friday night.

On Saturday, October 15th, you are invited to participate between 9:00am – 3:00pm in worship, workshops, a meal, and fellowship to be renewed, affirmed, and better equipped for the ministries to which we are all called. There will be workshops designed to meet priority needs expressed by congregations, youth and children's activities, childcare for those 3 years and under, T-shirts available, and spirited worship and celebration.

No matter how you plan to participate, please register today!

You can register on the regional website, www.kcdisciples.org or you can contact Jaime in the OPCC office and she can get you registered! office@opccdoc.org or 913-677-4646. Don't delay!

Tall Oaks and Regional Board Update

The Regional Board of the Greater Kansas City Disciples of Christ met on Monday, September 26th to discuss plans for our regional camp and conference center, Tall Oaks in Linwood, KS. There were a couple hundred folks gathered at Merriam Christian Church to think through the motion presented by the Executive Committee (smaller set of officers on the Board). Despite the overwhelming support otherwise, the Executive Committee presented a motion to the Regional Board to sell Tall Oaks on the open market in August 2023. Thanks to the overwhelming support from region-wide church members, including several amazing lay leaders from Overland Park Christian, the Regional Board voted to table (postpone) the motion to sell, in order to form a steering committee committed to the future of Tall Oaks. Made up of stakeholders from across the region, and beyond the region, this steering committee will present more concrete next options for Tall Oaks.

From the moment this motion was presented to our regional churches and members (in an email on Labor Day), a grass roots capital campaign developed to demonstrate the wide-ranging support for Tall Oaks and its ministry to the region, raising over \$110,000 to help cover some deferred maintenance at the camp. If you are interested in pledging your financial support, or would like more information, please reach out to Rev. Laura, Rev. Chuck, or Pastor Lisa Engelken (who works in Children Worship & Wonder). We can connect you with folks who are passionate about Tall Oaks and are committed to seeing our regional camp and conference center thrive.

Summer 2023 Church Camp at Tall Oaks

No matter what happens in the coming months, *our regional leaders are already prepared and excited to host Summer Camp at Tall Oaks in June and July 2023, Fruit-full Faith:*

A Spirit Filled Life. We hope you will join this wonderful opportunity for growing in your faith in God's creation by saving these date(s) on your calendar. Please also remember that OPCC is committed to paying a portion of each of the camping fees because it is such a wonderful opportunity.

If you need more than a portion of the camping fees paid so that you or your family can experience this lovely place, please contact Rev. Laura or Rev. Chuck. Similarly, if you have any questions about which age group / camp is best for you / your children, please ask Rev. Chuck or Rev. Laura.

Register and find more information at: www.kcdisciplescamps.org/registration

Please note you are welcome to **register now and pay later** by selecting the check option on the billing page.



DOC brings you

TALL OAKS
Camp and Conference Center
Linwood, MO

SUMMER CAMP

- 2023 -

- Day Camp 1 - June 21st
- Day Camp 2 - July 8th
- Primary Camp - July 10th - 12th
- Junior Camp - June 26th - 29th
- Chi Rho Camp - July 16th - 20th
- Eighters Camp - July 7th - 13th
- CYF Camp - June 20th - June 25th
- Grandparent's Camp 1 - June 9th - 11th
- Grandparent's Camp 2 - July 14th - 16th
- Sequenti Capite - Adult Camp - June 1st - 4th
- Mental Health Retreat - October 5th - 8th

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE TABLE

fruitfull faith - a spirit filled life

What Does the Food Pantry Need This Month?

October – crackers, condiments

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



It's almost Turkey Time!

At our November and December food pantries, we traditionally share frozen turkeys (10-14 pounds) with each family that comes to our regular Saturday pantries.

We are soliciting donations of \$15 to help offset the cost of each turkey. If you are interested and able, please send your donation to the church office and mark it for the food pantry.

Because of limited freezer space, we are NOT able to accept the actual turkeys. (Instead we buy them at a discounted price from our local grocery store. And, they hold them in their freezer for us until the day of distribution.)

Would you, your family or group like to do more? Then consider purchasing from the following list and place the food donations in the blue barrel in the front reception area.

- ◆ Stuffing mix
- ◆ Canned Yams
- ◆ Potato flakes
- ◆ Canned gravy
- ◆ Canned pumpkin
- ◆ Small bottles of seasonal spices
- ◆ Tea bags
- ◆ Instant Coffee



Outreach Update

In September, OPCC continued its regular donations to local and global outreach efforts, including, Disciples Mission Fund, Interfaith Homeless Network, Salvation Army Family Lodge, the OPCC Food Pantry, Tall Oaks, and MORE2. We gave \$2,090.00 to these various ministries, collaborating in their important work! Additionally, we helped support the OPCC Food Pantry with \$345.00 and Reconciliation Ministries with \$275.00!

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

MORE² METRO ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts here at OPCC, we are a partner organization with Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2). Please join in one of the following events 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
 - Monday, October 10, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
 - Online by way of Zoom ([Click Here to register](#))
- **MORE² Annual Transformation Event: A Night at the Carnival** – This annual event to celebrate the success of MORE² over the last year is going to be pretty great! With options to participate both virtually or in-person, we are excited to honor the good work of our partner in ministry, MORE2
 - Thursday, October 27, 6:00pm – 9:00pm
 - OPCC has a 10-person table available for all who would like to attend. Please contact Peggy or Wayne Moore if you would like to join!
 - ADDITIONAL In-person, individual tickets can be purchased for \$75, or \$70 when purchasing 10 or more
 - Remote / virtual tickets can be purchased for \$5 at www.more2.org

A NIGHT AT THE CARNIVAL

Tickets \$75

Dress up for a night at the carnival with MORE2! Bring your friends & enjoy games, classy carnival food & beverage, and entertainment.

October 27, 2022 6-9PM

The LEX/ 300 W. 14th Street/ KCMO
(below Municipal Auditorium)

www.more2.org

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Jan Conner (Lorraine Hartnett's daughter)
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ 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)
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Lorraine Hartnett
- ♥ Perri Kolars
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kourtney Leibman
- ♥ Calvin McBride
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Rhonda Phelps (Roger Claar's sister)
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ Teresa Phillips
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ 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 (Mary McBride's son)
- ♥ Florene Miele
- ♥ Christina, Jeff, Scott, & Jenny Packard (Sharon & Bob Shankel's daughter & family)
- ♥ J.D. Price (Pat Warner's son)
- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ JoLynn Sloan
- ♥ Michelle Swanson (Sharon McBride's daughter-in-law)
- ♥ Sandy Teeple
- ♥ Sally Withers

Military Prayer List

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

Condolences

- ♥ to Lois Wimpey and her daughter and son-in-law, Kathy & Maurice Pendleton, on the death of their child, Sebastian Pendleton, on September 28.

Congregational Care

Would you, or someone you know in our church family, like to have a friendly contact? Would you enjoy a phone call, or like to have communion brought to you? Do you need to speak with an elder or pastor? Would you like prayer for a special need, or joy?

OPCC's congregational care ministry supports our pastors in meeting the needs of our church family. Elders are a part of this ministry. There are several ways you can contact Congregational Care:

- On Sunday mornings, the elders who serve at the Communion Table will be available near the front entrance after worship. They will be happy to answer questions, provide information for guests, and take messages for the pastors. An elder can also find a quiet place to pray with you.
- During the week, you can contact the church office by phone, (913) 677-4646, or email, office@opccdoc.org. Our receptionist, Jaime Cranford, will see that the right person gets your message.
- After business hours you can still contact either of the pastors by phone by calling the church office and using their extensions, which ring through to their cell phones, after business hours.
 - Rev. Laura: ext. 222
 - Rev. Chuck: ext. 228

Caring for each other is vital to a healthy congregation. Your elders are working to strengthen the ties that bind us, and Congregational Care is a ministry for more than the elected elders!

Contact any of the following if you'd like to help: Nancy Phipps, Jan Eilert, Jan Sprinkle, Richard Owens, Jody Cash, Lois Wimpey.

Your Congregational Care Elder Team

Nativities from Around the World

Mark your calendars now — we once again will be hosting Rev. Margi Colerick's beautiful nativity collection in our Fellowship Hall! Everyone welcome! Families, Schools, Church Groups, Youth Groups, Preschools, Clubs, Scouts, Senior Groups. Come walk through Bethlehem and explore the true meaning of Christmas!



Friday, December 9, 9am - 4pm — available for group reservations of 12+
Friday, December 9, 4pm - 7pm — open to the public
Saturday, December 10, 9am - 5pm — open to the public
Sunday, December 11, Noon - 5pm — open to the public
 Monday, December 12 — available for group reservations

Refreshments will be available. There will be a scavenger hunt for kids and the young at heart, and a play area where children can experience hands on play with "kid friendly" nativities.

Questions? Email: margicolerick@yahoo.com; call Margi: 816-799-2780; or call OPCC: 913-677-4646

www.nativitiesfromaroundtheworld.com

We will need set up and tear down help the week before and the week after —
 let Sue Elliott know that you can help!

Updated Records

If you have moved, dropped your landline, changed your email address, will have a temporary "snow bird" address this winter, or have any other changes to your contact information, please call or email Jaime in the office at 913-677-4646 or office@opccdoc.org so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

Annual Budget Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting held following worship on Sunday, November 20, 2022 for the purpose of voting on OPCC's 2023 budget. A proposed budget will be made available for review before the vote.

Your OPCC Staff

913-677-4646

info@opccdoc.org

(general church e-mail address)

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missjupes@gmail.com

Building & GroundsLee Sprinkle
lee@opccdoc.org ext. 237

Nursery DirectorKourtney 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
 November 8 for November 10 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