



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

“Middlers” Adult Christian Education Class — 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
 “Growing In God’s Love” Children’s Sunday School — 9:30 a.m. in Room 32
 “The Broader Way” Worship — 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room
 Traditional/Blended 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



The scriptures and stories from this year’s Lenten season offer us narratives of the apostle Peter, a very normal human being, trying to figure out what it means to follow Jesus – just like us. Faith is a constant journey of steadfast pursuit, one that ebbs and flows. In Peter, we see a disciple that keeps going: he drops his nets, he walks on water, he runs to the empty tomb, he swims to the shore to meet the risen Christ. He keeps searching and yearning and loving,

even after missteps or mistakes. Ultimately, in Peter’s story, we are reminded that God loves imperfect people – with a *wandering heart* – in fact, time and again, that’s precisely who God claims and calls.

Please continue to join OPCC as we follow Peter’s *wandering heart*. We, too, are binding our own *wandering hearts* to God, this Lenten season. Whether in prayer practice, book study, Sunday worship, or more – YOU are welcome, and invited to this journey of faith!

Lenten 2024 Sunday Worship

To bring our theme together, and to give it life, each week of Sunday worship will focus on these Lenten phrases and scriptures:

-  Sunday, March 10 | **I’m fixed upon it** | Matthew 16:21-23 & Psalm 1-7:1-3, 17-22
-  Sunday, March 17 | **Teach me** | Matthew 18:15-22 & Psalm 119:9-16
-  Palm Sunday, March 24 | **Songs of loudest praise** | John 12:12-16
-  Easter Sunday, March 31 | **And I hope** | Luke 24:1-12

Holy Week at OPCC

The prayers, praise, and reflections of our journey with Peter will inspire our worship as we make our way toward Holy Week, March 24 – March 31. Mark your calendars for these special worship experiences on this holiest of weeks.



Sunday, March 24, 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday & Processional

Songs of Loudest Praise | John 12:12-16

As Holy week begins, Peter is no longer front and center, and so we imagine he is with the rest of the disciples when Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. The disciples are confused as they witness crowds shouting hosannas. When they look back on this experience, they will remember the songs. The singing is surely etched in their memories. As we imagine ourselves in the crowd on this day, may we remember that they are supposed to be praising Caesar, but instead they are shouting for the one entering the city on a donkey. Their singing is subversive, courageous, and contagious. Their praise shows the ripple effect of public displays of praise.



Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday

OPCC has been invited to join our sister congregation in south Overland Park, Hillcrest Christian Church, for Maundy Thursday worship. As they too have followed Peter's journey, we can together celebrate the "Streams of Mercy" Jesus offers on this holiest of nights. Worship will begin in the Hillcrest Christian Church sanctuary (11411 Quivira Road, OP) at 7:00 p.m.



Friday, March 29, 6:30 p.m. Good Friday

Prone to Leave the God I Love

All are welcome to come to OPCC at 6:30pm for a special Good Friday Worship in the OPCC Sanctuary, as we encounter Jesus and this day in a new way. On this Holy day, we are paying close attention to how Peter acts in Jesus' final hours. So much happens in a short amount of time: Jesus predicts Peter's denial, soldiers come and Peter draws his sword, Jesus is arrested and Peter denies him, Peter denies Jesus again and again and the cock crows, then Jesus is crucified and dies. Peter is prone to mess up, to fight, to deny, to leave, to seek safety for himself. But aren't we all? May we lament all the ways we are prone to leave the God we love.



Sunday, March 31 Easter Sunday – *He is Risen!*

And I hope | Luke 24:1-12

We might expect that, after denying Christ, Peter would cower in shame—or perhaps even run away in an attempt to leave his past behind him. Instead, when he hears the news from the women, he doesn't dismiss them like the other disciples. He gets up and runs to the tomb. When he peers into the empty tomb and sees the linen cloth, he is filled with awe. Even after the biggest failures, even after the worst case scenario has happened, can we run toward hope? Like Peter, will we keep going? Will we keep looking for God in our midst?

- ♥ Join us at 8:00 a.m. in the OPCC main courtyard for an outdoor "Sunrise" Service! You are invited to bring "camp chairs" for your comfort, or we will also have chairs available for everyone as we remember this amazing new day!
- ♥ Have fun with the Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 a.m.
- ♥ Gather at 10:30 a.m. in-person in the sanctuary, or virtually, to celebrate Christ's resurrection! Join us for songs, scripture, and communion as we celebrate the resurrection of the Christ on the morning of the third day!

Thank You Rev. Chuck!

Join OPCC on **Sunday, March 17th at 11:45am** to say "Thank You" to Rev. Chuck Pickrel for his ministry with OPCC since September 2020! Given that this will be St. Patrick's Day *and* one of Rev. Chuck's favorite meals, we will join together for a baked potato bar. OPCC will provide baked potatoes and dessert, but needs assistance in bringing "fixings" for a baked potato bar. So, please sign up on the TWO sign-up sheets (explained below) to get your name added.

- **Attendance:** Help us get an estimate of how many will attend this Fellowship Meal. Reservations are NOT required, but help us estimate how many potatoes to prepare.



- **Potato Bar "Fixings":** Can you help supply some "fixings" that we'll need for sharing? Sign-up for whatever you think goes best with a baked potato bar!

Our annual Easter egg hunt will be on Easter Sunday morning this year. All are welcome to join us at 9:30am in OPCC's large courtyard to hunt for fun and treats! Invite your friends and neighbors!

Church Camp 2024

Start planning now for Summer Camp at Tall Oaks! Register and find more information at the NEW website talloaks.org click the "DOC camps" button under the "Hosted Camps" tab.

Overland Park Christian Church offers partial scholarships — just register as an OPCC member to automatically get the discount. If you need further assistance, please let us know. Everyone deserves to experience camp at Tall Oaks!

Verdaderamente, Cristo ha resucitado. ¡Aleluya!
 예수님은 진실로 부활하셨습니다. 할렐루야!
 Le Christ est vraiment ressuscité ! Alléluia !
 Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

Received in most congregations

SUNDAY

MARCH 24 & 31, 2024

Supporting general ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

CAMP DATES

DAY CAMP 1	JUNE 26
DAY CAMP 2	JULY 13
PRIMARY CAMP	JULY 8 - 10
JUNIOR CAMP	JUNE 24-27
CHI RHO CAMP	JULY 14-18
EIGHTERS CAMP	JULY 6 - 12
CYF CAMP	JUNE 18 - 23
GRANDPARENTS 1 CAMP	JUNE 7 - 9
GRANDPARENTS 2 CAMP	JULY 12-14
FAMILY CAMP	JUNE 28 - 30
ADULT CAMP	MAY 30 - 2

LINKED IN LOVE

GKC DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Worship & Arts will again be decorating the Sanctuary for Easter with flowering plants. If you would like to purchase one of these plants in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the information below and return it, along with your check made out to OPCC, to the church office, drop it in the offering box at church, or contact Michelle Reiter at 913-677-4646, x223, or michelle@opccd.org. Cost is \$15.00 per plant. A list of all those honored will be printed in the bulletin on Easter.

Your name _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Number of plants _____ Paid \$ _____

Easter Flowers

Care & Share

All are invited to join for lunch, laughter, good food, fellowship, and support once a month with our Care And Share Support Group.

We meet at the designated restaurants at 11:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

- * Wednesday, March 20 – Ronnie's Restaurant, 12812 W. 87th St., Lenexa, KS
- * Wednesday, April 24 – Fazoli's Restaurant, 6345 Quivira, Shawnee, KS

RSVP to Peggy Moore by phone or email at least 3 days before the luncheon if you plan to attend so she can contact you if there are any changes.

Girlfriends

Women of OPCC, join us for study, fellowship, and fun! Our Girlfriends Bible Study and Support Group is a mid-week offering for women who are looking for ways to deepen their relationship with God by practicing their faith in everyday life.

We meet on Wednesdays 7:00–8:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We are currently reading and discussing the book "Jesus' Vision for Your One Wild and Precious Life." We would be delighted for you to join us — and bring a friend!

For more information, contact Peggy Moore.

Men's Fellowship Group

All men are invited to the Men's Fellowship Group on the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room for coffee, study, and fellowship. The Men's group is currently reviewing "The Chosen" video series.

Contact: Emerson Hartzler, 913-422-1378

Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education Class

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

The Middlers' Adult Bible Study meets Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Northwest section of Fellowship Hall. Middlers is open for all persons to join in fellowship and grow in faith as we study scripture utilizing the Feasting on the Word curriculum.

Contact Peggy Moore for more information.



JoCo IHN
A Community Response to Homelessness
Empowering Homeless Families
by Engaging People of Faith

Please mark your calendars for OPCC's next IHN Host Week April 7-14th.

Our last rotation of IHN was January 21-28th. We housed 2 single females and a grandfather with 4 grandchildren. They were wonderful guests and our volunteers provided hours of time and lovely dinners to support their stay.

For those who remember our guests of the past rotation, please join IHN in celebrating the graduation of Riley (25). Riley was able to move into housing with a friend last March 1st. Finally, Ramiro and his four grandchildren are moving closer to housing. The greatest challenge for Ramiro is childcare. He is well connected to the social worker homeless liaison for the Olathe Schools. Heather and Marilyn (our IHN social workers) have worked together to assist Ramiro, however, the schools have had unplanned closures which has made it more challenging for Ramiro.

Reporting on new guests, the IHN family grew by five on March 1st with the admission of a family of four, as well as a single female. Please join us in welcoming Staci (44), Daniel (47), Grace (14), and Patrick (11). Daniel has a long military background, and the family is receiving supportive services. In addition, please join us in welcoming Alex-Andrea (30). She is working full-time and is five months pregnant.

As of today, with the five new recent admissions, our IHN Family has now worked together to lift up 912 individuals. Of those served, 523 are children under the age of 18, and 100 are single unaccompanied female guests. Our family has worked together to provide 58,806 bed nights and 176,408 Meals. Please always know, 523 are little souls that would have gone to bed hungry, and not had a place to lay their head at night.

As you can see, our IHN population is consistently fluctuating with the needs of our guests. If you are not a volunteer and would love to join the number of people who assist our guests, please contact Barb Collins for training opportunities. Not only do our guests receive care and support from you, but you will receive an uplifting experience that will be even more meaningful for you!

OPCC Food Pantry

In the report below, you will find an informational snapshot of households and individuals served at our Food Pantry in 2023:

Total households served	1,991
Total individuals served	5,248
Adults	2,101
Children	1,554
Seniors	1,593

Approximately 75% of the food and products we distributed came from Harvesters.

The rest was donated by the community or purchased using the generous donations from OPCC members and friends.

Thank you.

What Does the Food Pantry Need This Month?



March - Spaghetti sauce
(we already have LOTS of pasta),
rice, macaroni & cheese

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

Church Music History Moment

Several people have commented how they enjoyed learning about singing different lyrics to familiar hymn tunes, so here is a little more information about early practices.

Many of the American Colonists from the 1600s were illiterate, so scriptures were passed through oral tradition. One of the ways this was accomplished was by writing the psalms into metrical meter that could fit familiar tunes. When singing these "hymns," folks would sing without instruments using a method known as *lining out*. The song leader would speak a line of text, and the congregation would echo back the text to using each line of the selected tune. Through this method, common people were able to memorize scripture.

Remember that it's never too late to join us in Reverberations Bell Choir and/or Chalice Chancel Choir on Wednesday evenings.

Mary Beth Boucher, Director of Music
marybeth@opccdoc.org
913.677.4646, ext. 229

Property Commission

February was a busy time for property. See activities below:

1. Snow and freezing drizzles kept H & R Lawn and Care busy cleaning the parking lot and sidewalks 5 times and putting down ice melt after clearing those areas.
2. Martz Brothers has applied the early spring fertilizing.
3. Regal Plumbing replaced flush value components on one of the toilets in the women's North restroom.
4. Temperature Maintenance repaired a fan coil.
5. Dave Hobbs, Richard Owens, and Lee cleaned out storage closet #38 so Tiny Pantry Times could move in supplies for the pantry.
6. Tiny Pantry Times has been moving all of their food supplies into Room 43 in addition to closet #38. We are very excited about Tiny Pantry Times moving to OPCC. Currently, they furnish bread and pastries for OPCC's two monthly food pantries. They are currently working with the city of Overland Park to determine the proper location for their outside food unit.
7. Landscaping has started cleaning up the flower beds around the building. Jan Sprinkle is looking for additional help with all the flower gardens. Work will be performed during the week days. Please call Jan (913-558-0903) if you can assist.

Submitted by
Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Bill Anthony
- ♥ Jolynn Carlton (Pat Warner's daughter)
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Chuck Elliott
- ♥ Cassy & Bob Evans
- ♥ Alan Felton
- ♥ Pam Felton
- ♥ Nicole Finley (Sally Withers' niece)
- ♥ Ruth Fletcher
- ♥ Pat Gilling
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Collette Jones (Perri Kolars' sister)
- ♥ Laura Krebs (Dennis Krebs' mother)
- ♥ Kathy Lewis
- ♥ Sue Mallery and family (Cassy Evans' sister)
- ♥ Mike McLain
- ♥ Bryce Moore
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Julie Norman (Lisa Engelken's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Cheryl Peters
- ♥ Jimmy Reynolds
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Mike Shankel (Sharon & Bob Shankel's son)
- ♥ Sharon Shankel
- ♥ Tony Shankel (Sharon & Bob Shankel's son)
- ♥ Barbara Sheldon
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Mary Sprinkle (Lee Sprinkle's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Larry Stouse
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ Mike Wilmore (Sally Roberts' and Bob Shankel's friend)
- ♥ Jim Withers

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Betty King
- ♥ Calvin McBride
- ♥ Randy & Pat Phillips (Laura Phillips' parents)
- ♥ Ann Sandler
- ♥ JoLynn Sloan
- ♥ Bernice Stouse
- ♥ Sandy Teeple
- ♥ Sally Withers

Condolences

- ♥ to Lisa & Bill Metcalf and family on the passing of Audrey Lavelly on February 27.
<https://www.johnsoncountychapel.com/obituaries/audrey-lavelly>

Congratulations!

- ♥ to Natalie & Matthew Vohs on the birth of their baby boy, Thomas Patrick Vohs, on March 2!



A large **THANK YOU** to all who donated shoes to the PEO shoe drive to send new or gently worn shoes to adults and children in need. Our OPCC friends donated 120 pairs of shoes, many of those for kids (a total of 2,050 pairs by the entire chapter). Isn't it nice to know that you are able to contribute things that others need and we have gathering dust in our closets?
A win-win for us all!

To submit items or to add persons to prayer lists in the Scene newsletter, please forward information to Michelle Reiter at michelle@opccdoc.org or 913-677-4646, x223.

Worship Participation for Everyone!

We continue to need volunteers who will share some of the elements of worship, and are excited to include those who worship in-person, or virtually! If you are willing to read scripture, or share in the Invitation to Worship, or other elements, in-person OR *by recording a video in advance to be included in the worship*, please let Cody in the front office know and he will get you on the schedule to participate in worship in this way, and Rev. Laura can guide you how to do this virtually. We would love to welcome you into worship no matter how you join!

Greeters at ALL the Doors

Since we utilize more than just the East main door on Sunday mornings, we need your help as greeters to help folks into the church, especially if they are arriving on the West or North sides of the building. Our receptionist, Cody, organizes volunteers to serve as greeters on Sunday mornings from 10:10am–10:40am. Please call the front office and let him know when you would be available to serve in this capacity as we welcome ALL to Overland Park Christian Church on Sunday mornings.