



## 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

**Traditional/Blended Worship** — 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

**“The Broader Way” Worship** — 11:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room

**“Middlers” Adult Christian Education Class** — 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

Nursery care available for children through 3 years old beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**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)

## *Dare to Dance Again*

For many years as a child, I participated in dance classes. I trust I am not the only one within our congregation who did the same; I know some of us still take lessons, even today! Whether you took dance classes as a child, as an adult, or not at all, you don't have to have taken lessons in order to know the freedom of dancing (especially the freedom of dancing when no one is watching)! Each of us as our own “groove.” What's yours? Head-bopping? Hip swinging? Shuffle? Slide?



The Easter season is all the weeks (and Sundays) that follow Easter, through to Pentecost, and it is a time of ‘coming out of the tombs.’ Tombs of death, economic loss, grief, world war, and unrest, can be obvious challenges we face as a community. Yet some tombs we need to emerge from are of our own making and we ask ourselves, “what holds us back from claiming our freedom to really LIVE and to dance fully, while being our whole selves?” No matter what confines us, the Easter message is one that offers the courage for new starts, and new movement.

Gene Kelly sang, “the sun's in my heart and I'm ready for love,” as he danced in the rain. Nothing could ‘dampen’ his spirit. Indeed it is still daring to dance when pain still exists in the world. Yet, when we dare to dance together in spite of the pain, we proclaim our readiness, courage, and celebration of the love that has, and will, get us through.

No one will make you dance in worship if you don't want to, but we hope you will join Sanctuary (9:30am) and Broader Way (11:00am) worship gatherings in April and May as we “dare to dance again” as a community of faith. When we put one foot in front of the other, in the presence of other daring dancers, we will be empowered by the spirit of new life found in this Easter season!

*Jana*

## Dare to Dance Again Sunday Worship Gatherings

- April 7 | **Dancing Together** | John 21:1-19
- April 14 | **Dancing Sure** | Luke 24:36b-48 & 1 John 3:1-7
- April 21 | **Dance of Love** | John 10:11-18 & 1 John 3:16-24
- April 28 | **Guide My Steps** | John 15:1-8 & Acts 8:26-40
- May 5 | **Break Forth!** | John 15:9-17 & Acts 10:44-48
- May 12 | **Clap Your Hands!** | Luke 24:44-53 & Psalm 47
- May 19 | **Dare to Dance Again** | Acts 2:1-21

## Journal Your Dancing

While we spend seven weeks of worship focused the rhythm of dancing in step with God's very self, please take a devotional booklet to supplement your prayer life for these 7 weeks. This prayer devotional will help readers explore the scripture, along with questions, journaling pages, and historical background. These devotionals will be available at church beginning April 7th, or can be mailed to you. Please contact the church office if you would like a copy of this devotional to be mailed to you.

## Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education Class

**Note New Meeting Time!** **Sundays, 11:00 – 12:10 am**  
**NW Section Fellowship Hall**

The Middlers' Adult Bible Study meets Sundays at 11:00 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.

## 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, April 24 – Fazoli's Restaurant, 6345 Quivira, Shawnee, KS
- \* Wednesday, May 8 – Olive Garden, 6750 W. 95th Street, Overland Park, 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.

## 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

## Empty Nesters

Empty Nesters are invited to attend the Encore KC Concert on Sunday, April 21, at 3:00 p.m. at Village Presbyterian Church, 14895 Antioch. Several of our own OPCC people are participants of this musical community. This concert will include music from Handel, some gospel, and handbells. All are invited.

The concert lasts about one hour.

No charge, but donations are welcomed.

## 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 will be studying the book "The Characters of Easter: The Villains, Heroes, Cowards, and Crooks Who Witnessed History's Biggest Miracle" by Daniel Darling.

For more information, contact Peggy Moore.

## Calling all OPCC ELDERS

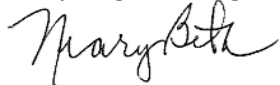
It's time to schedule your serving dates for the communion table on Sunday mornings! Elders are still needed to fill slots in July, August, September, and October, 2024; and January through May, 2025.

Please contact Jody Cash to let her know when you can serve! [jody.cash.1950@gmail.com](mailto:jody.cash.1950@gmail.com)

## Church Music History Moment

Here's another music history tidbit about the use of hymn tunes (such as the ones we used for "Come, Thou Fount") in early America: To elevate the quality of singing in churches of that day, traveling teachers would move from town to town and hold a singing school teaching all ages of people to sing 4-part harmony using hymn tunes. No instruments were used because the voice was considered the only sacred instrument. The book containing the tunes was appropriately called The Sacred Harp. In place of lyrics, the singers sang the music using the syllables of *do, re, mi, fa, so, la, and ti*. Remember Maria in The Sound of Music? The notes were different shapes to aid in identifying which syllable to sing, so the method was called shaped-note singing.

No matter your age or musical experience, you are always welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings in Reverberations Bell Choir (6:00pm) and/or Chalice Chancel Choir (7:15pm)



Mary Beth Boucher, Director of Music  
[marybeth@opccdoc.org](mailto:marybeth@opccdoc.org)  
913.677.4646, ext. 229

**An inspiring one-woman show is coming to Overland Park Christian Church on Tuesday, May 7th, at 6:30 p.m.!**

### *Haunted By God: The Life of Dorothy Day*

is a moving dramatic portrait of one of the most outspoken and influential American Catholics of the 20th century. The production incorporates all the wit and prophetic grit of Dorothy's own words about war, peace, American society, compassion, and protest in the Spirit of Jesus. Come, watch our very own Lisa Wagner-Carollo who has been singing in the OPCC Chancel Choir as she offers this presentation in the OPCC Sanctuary on May 7.



For more about Lisa and this production, go to [www.stillpointtheatrecollective.org/haunted-by-god](http://www.stillpointtheatrecollective.org/haunted-by-god)

## What Does the Food Pantry Need This Month?



**April - small containers of cleaning supplies,** (glass cleaner, counter cleaners, grease cleaners, bathroom cleaners)

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

## Church Camp 2024

Start planning now for Summer Camp at Tall Oaks! Register and find more information at the NEW website [talloaks.org](http://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!

**NOTE: All camp registrations are 10% off on Sunday, April 7th!!**

In honor of the Capital Campaign Kickoff event, Tall Oaks is offering a one-day-only discount. Be sure to register for camp this Sunday, April 7, to receive 10% off your registration in addition to any church-offered discounts.

All camp registrations can be found at: [www.talloaks.org/doc-camps](http://www.talloaks.org/doc-camps)



**TALLOAKS SUMMER CAMP 2024**

**LINKED IN LOVE**

**GKC 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

## Fantastic Worship Opportunities with OPCC

Beginning in 2023, through these last several months of 2024, our entire church, guided by the leadership of our elders, and board, have been discerning how we continue to live out our vision that was established in 2014: **Overland Park Christian... Re-Visioning Church - Valuing, Affirming & Serving with Heart**, as well as our **five core values** at the center of who we are as a congregation:

- Authentically living in hopeful expectation
- Serving with Heart
- Intentionally valuing and accepting everyone
- Lovingly embracing social, spiritual, and cultural diversity
- Focusing on that which unites us

From these TEN all-church gatherings offered in early 2023 **four missional priorities** emerged. These priorities were discerned by our elders in July 2023 based on congregational responses to missional planning gatherings, and these priorities will continue to guide the ministries of OPCC through the rest of 2024.

- Exploring worship opportunities that speak to a broader audience
- Exploring the relationship and partnership with Broadway Church (DOC)
- Growth of our community: both individual growth, and growing our community of faith, through invitation and opportunities
- Maintaining a Social Justice focus that moves from education to ACTION!

As these missional priorities have been, and will continue to be our focus for how we act as the Body of Christ in our little corner of the world, it is with *great excitement* that I share with you some **new opportunities that will begin on Sunday, April 7.**

9:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship & Nursery Care Opens – Coffee fellowship will take place in The Fireside Room, and our nursery is staffed in Room 41.

9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship – This worship will take place in the sanctuary and include contemporary and well-loved music, woven into a traditional liturgy format that includes songs, hymns, sermon, The Lord’s Prayer, communion elements, Children Worship & Wonder, and more. We will continue to be creative in our exploration of God’s word, in a worshipful, sanctuary setting.

10:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship continues in The Fireside Room

11:00 a.m. The Broader Way – Recognizing there are “broader ways” to commune with God, this worship will take place in the Fireside Room around tables. Knowing that many of our neighbors and community might have a complicated history with “church,” and now consider themselves “nones or dones,” The Broader Way gathering will include elements of fellowship, conversation, worship, song, a light meal, participation for all ages, and the love of the God.

It is our expectation that each of these gatherings will be unique enough, that some may choose to attend both on a Sunday morning. Others may find a rhythm of one worship gathering or another, yet we will also all continue to be community *together* on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of those months (June 30, Sept. 29, Dec. 29 in 2024), and on “high holy days” like Easter, Pentecost, and Christmas.

We share this news with great thanksgiving to Broadway Church (DOC) that saw OPCC and our hope to speak to a broader audience, communing with God in innovative and invitational ways. This visible hope inspired the financial gift that will make The Broader Way feasible for at least two more years.

I continue to be so proud to lead such a loving, and transformational community of faith. Overland Park Christian has continued to inspire me, as we listen for where God is leading us, and looking “outward” to what might speak to those not already stepping foot in our building. I continue to sing our praises that we want to welcome a diversity of experiences of God, and grow together through community, education, service, and worship, as we have grown with, and because of one another these last 70+ years.

Thank you for continuing to commit to your growth as a disciple of Christ, and as a Disciple of Christ. We continue to grow closer to God, as we grow closer together in holy community! I look forward to seeing you at one of these gatherings, very soon!

*Rev. Laura*

## Prayer List

### Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Bill Anthony
- ♥ Shelli Brown (Sharon McBride's niece)
- ♥ 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)
- ♥ Sharon McBride
- ♥ 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
- ♥ Van Swanson (Sharon McBride's brother-in-law)
- ♥ Chuck Warner
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ Mike Wilmore (Sally Roberts' and Bob Shankel's friend)
- ♥ Jim Withers

### Continued Prayers

- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ 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 the family of Lawana Faye Degraffenreid who died on March 23. Services will be held at Johnson County Memorial Chapel, 11200 Metcalf, OPKS, on Friday, April 5. [www.johnsoncountychapel.com/obituaries/faye-degraffenreid](http://www.johnsoncountychapel.com/obituaries/faye-degraffenreid)

## Thank You

Pastor Laura & Congregation —

On behalf of PEO Chapter FX of Kansas, I wish to thank you for all the shoes collected from your congregation. You all have a generous spirit. We appreciate your help & support for our fundraising project. Blessings to you and your congregation.

Sincerely,  
Elaine King, Ways & Means

## 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 9:10am–9:40am. 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.

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

# Property Commission

Past month's activities:

1. GREAT NEWS: Construction of the new O.P. Fire Station 41 will be COMPLETED by the end of April!
  - a. Yes, we will get our front parking spaces back.
  - b. Six additional spaces will be available on the East side of Conser (one will be signed for handicap).
2. Richard Owens and Lee are finishing the painting of curbing at the South and East parking lot entrances and at the ends of the islands.
3. Landscaping:
  - a. Had all the bushes along the southwest windows of Fellowship Hall removed by H & R Landscaping. This space is being made available for Monarch School children to plant. Will be interesting to see what they plant...flowers, vegetables or both!!
  - b. Jan and Lee Sprinkle have been cleaning out all the gardens, trimming bushes, and preparing the soil for planting flowers.
4. Lawn and Sprinkler Guys checked out and started our sprinkler system.
5. Richard Owens and Lee used a drain snake to open up the small sink in the main kitchen.  
REMINDER: the small sink is to be used to wash hands only. Do NOT put any food particles or coffee grounds down this sink.

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

Pastor of Sacred Spaces .....Lisa Engelken

[lisa4women@gmail.com](mailto:lisa4women@gmail.com)

Receptionist .....Cody Kreutzer

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

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

## Your 2023-2024 OPCC Board of Directors

Roger Claar ..... Chair

Katherine Ann Haggard ..... 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  
May 7 for May 9 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)