

The OPCC Scene



OVERLAND PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ) 

7600 West 75th Street

Overland Park, KS 66204 • 913.677.4646

www.opccdoc.org • @opccdoc (Twitter) • www.facebook.com/opccdoc

Sharing Christ's Love by
Serving our Neighbors while
Growing as Jesus' Disciples

SUNDAY SERVICES

Traditional Family Worship — 9:30 a.m.

Christian Education for Children and Adults — immediately following Worship
Nursery available at both hours

Lines from Laura

The word “Lent” originally derives from the Old English word “Lencten” which means Spring, and referred to the lengthening of the days that occurred in the spring time. For us, Lent also refers to the 40 days (not including Sundays) that occur prior to Easter. While Lent is a fairly recent addition to the church calendar (having only existed in its current form since around the Middle Ages), there are still traditions of the ancient church that peek through to our traditions today. Whether it’s beginning with Ash Wednesday and a reminder of our need for penance, adding a weekly Bible Study, or fasting from some kind of temptation, Lent is a time for re-focusing. It is a time when we reflect on what it means to follow Christ and what it means to be his disciple.

A friend of mine in Kentucky one year gave up cheese for Lent. I challenged her on that a bit because she had also been on a weight loss journey since the beginning of the year. She had great intentions as it went along with her desire to be healthier, and treat her body better, but I wanted to get to the bottom of that sacrifice. How would the renouncing of cheese actually draw her closer to God? Or was it just convenient timing? We worked together. We talked more about our dependence on food from an emotional standpoint, and also how the food industry does not care about how we treat our bodies. Her journey through Lent did include giving up cheese, but she also added a component of prayer to her food prep time. By reflecting on the bounty that God has given us and the beauty in the simplicity of home-made, made-from-scratch food she found a deeper connection to that sacrifice than just giving up something she liked.

Lent is a time to reflect on our own mortality, the sin all around and even within us, our own death, and the finality of death without Christ. Lent is a time to draw near to God through spiritual disciplines – worship, Bible study, acts of service, sacrifice and prayer. We have lots of options for you here at OPCC: Wednesday Worship through Lent, Tuesday Bible Study on the Gospel of John, Prayer Devotionals, and each of our regularly scheduled ministries are also including a Lenten component. Join us in drawing closer to God as we journey through Lent together.

Laura

Lenten Activities at OPCC

Lenten Bible Study

The Gospel lesson each week during Lent is from the Fourth Gospel, the Gospel of John. We will offer an in-depth introduction to the Gospel of John that will be both timely and beneficial. John is a unique gospel with a unique voice, a voice we strive to hear as we study together. The Bible study will be led by both Bo and Laura, and will meet Tuesdays, March 11 – April 15, at 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room.

Wednesday Night Worship

Join us for a mid-week Evensong worship through Lent. We'll be in the Sanctuary Wednesdays March 6 – April 16 at 7:00 pm as we continue through the season of introspection and renewal.

Prayer During Lent

OPCC has provided a Lenten daily devotional, "Fellowship of Prayer" for anyone interested, as we all pray together through this season of Lent. The devotional booklets are available by the Library counter. Whether as a family or on your own, we invite everyone to read the devotion each day and pray the prayer for that day, continuing through each day of Lent until we reach Easter morning!



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2014 OPCC Lenten Photo-A-Day Challenge



#lentenjourney14 & #opccclent

3.5	regret	3.17	night	3.29	eternal	4.10	death
3.6	purple	3.18	wonder	3.30	blind	4.11	leper
3.7	fast	3.19	world	3.31	heal	4.12	comfort
3.8	discipline	3.20	love	4.1	disbelief	4.13	triumph
3.9	temptation	3.21	hidden	4.2	repeat	4.14	anger
3.10	decide	3.22	son	4.3	challenge	4.15	trial
3.11	seek	3.23	water	4.4	wash	4.16	sorrow
3.12	desert	3.24	woman	4.5	question	4.17	bread
3.13	prepare	3.25	worship	4.6	weep	4.18	darkness
3.14	identity	3.26	well	4.7	belief	4.19	waiting
3.15	hunger	3.27	enemies	4.8	lord	4.20	alive
3.16	reborn	3.28	mountain	4.9	tomb		

Care & Share

The Care and Share Grief Support Group will go to Rye Restaurant, 10551 Mission Road in Leawood, on Wednesday, March 12. Meet at the restaurant at 11:30 a.m., or meet at OPCC at 11:00 to carpool. Please make your reservation with Peggy Moore at 913-856-3833 or wpmoore@wildblue.net by March 7.

Mary Martha CWF Circle

will meet on Thursday, March 13, at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room for Bible study and meeting. We will have lunch at Olive Garden afterward. Please join us.

CWF Circle 2

We will be meeting again and we'll enjoy anyone to join us. Monday, March 10, 7:00 pm at Geise's, 7318 W 54th. We will be studying "Balancing Wants and Needs."

Weaving Our Lives body, mind, & spirit

Greater Kansas City Women's Spring Retreat

March 14-15, 2014

Tall Oaks Conference Center

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Laura Phillips

Contact Evelyn Eastwood or Lois Wimpey for more information. We had a great time last year, and so did Marge White and 130 others! Or call the Regional Office, 913-432-1414.

Girlfriends Unlimited

All women are invited to join us Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We will be studying and discussing Sarah Young's "Jesus Calling." If you do not have a book, please get in touch with Peggy Moore at wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-856-3833.

Men's Fellowship Group

The Men's Fellowship Group meets on the first Saturday of each month from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room for breakfast, study, and fellowship. All men are invited to join us. For more information, contact Wayne Moore at 913-856-3833 or Emerson Hartzler at 913-422-1378.

Solo Sidekicks Singles Group

March 21st at 6:00 PM in Fireside Room

Corned Beef and Cabbage will be furnished by Jo Ann & Betty.

Everyone else bring a side dish or dessert of your choice.

Please sign up at Library counter. Bring a friend with you!!

Rummage Sale Fundraiser

Saturday, March 22nd
OPCC Fellowship Hall

revised date!

Do you have some extra "stuff" that you are looking to get rid of, and would like to help the church and our mission trip to Costa Rica at the same time? The Costa Rica Mission group will be hosting a Rummage Sale Fundraiser to assist us in going on our mission trip in June. If you have ANYTHING (anything that you would sell at your own garage sale we will accept as a donation) you would like to donate to our Rummage Sale, please make plans to drop it off at OPCC March 17th-21st during normal business hours, or in the evening 6pm – 8pm (those same days).

Help us with donations by telling your friends and neighbors that we will gladly accept their donation as well!



Also, please let us know if you are able to provide any cardboard boxes, plastic grocery bags, trash bags, price stickers and/or sodas/water and baked goods to sell on that day. All of these items will help us to set up the Rummage Sale and to box-up any donations left-over at the end. Help support our mission team and clean out your closets at the same time! Please contact Laura Phillips if you have questions.

Mission Trip

Let's try this again and hope
for no snowstorms!

BINGO				
15	28	37	51	73
6	17	32	45	61
9	15	★	60	70
12	26	44	52	66
7	22	34	48	72

Bingo is rescheduled for

April 5, 4-6 pm

**\$7 for first Bingo card and
\$1 for additional cards**

**Any "regifts" for prizes
are welcomed!**

Proceeds benefit the Costa Rica Mission Team.



Don't forget
to Spring Ahead!
Daylight Saving Time
begins March 9.

Christian Caregivers

The Christian Caregiver Support Ministry is a safe place to receive helpful guidance and accept your calling to be a caregiver. We invite you to join us in the Fireside Room on Monday afternoons from 1:00–2:30 as we seek to support one another in our sometimes challenging and difficult tasks.

(We will not meet whenever Shawnee Mission Schools are closed due to inclement weather.)

For more information, contact Peggy Moore at wpmoore@wildblue.net or 913-856-3833.

Stephen Ministries Training

Dates for 2014:

10:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

Wednesdays, April 2, in the Fireside Room, and May 7, in the Choir Room.

Empty Nesters

Our March 28 outing has been postponed. Stay tuned to your email and the April Scene for information about our next event.

Scrip

Spring is in the air or maybe just around the corner (or most of us certainly hope so!) Do you have special projects lined up just waiting for a warmer day so you can pursue them? Let's not procrastinate. Get the supplies you need now so you can hit those spring spruce up jobs at the first sign of, well, Spring! And if you do them with Scrip Cards, you will be helping OPCC meet Spring head on as well. And we will all be the better for it!

Summer Camp 2014

at Tall Oaks

It's time to get the kids signed up for summer camp at Tall Oaks. Camps options are offered for children just completing Kindergarten through 12th grade, and even a Grandparent's camp. The Tall Oaks informational fliers will be up on the bulletin boards at the church. You may also get information at <http://talloaks.org/WP/summer-camp/>. Early bird registration (prior to April 30) will give you a \$25 discount. OPCC does have a limited amount of scholarship money. Please see Lisa Setty for more information.



March 14th 6-8pm
Great Hall

Pizza, Popcorn, and Movie
Please RSVP to Lisa Setty
at 913-677-4646 x228
or lisa@opccdoc.org



You won't want to miss youth group during Lent!
We'll be using the video study titled:

"24 Hours That Changed the World"

Join us as we touch on the difficult final hours of the life of Jesus and how we reconcile that with the resurrection of Christ.

Youth group is for 7th-12th graders and meets on Wednesdays from 7-8 pm in the youth room (basement).



Save the date!
June 22-26
6 - 8:30pm

Jamaica Missions Trip

We had clinics in Castleton, Oberlin, Mannings Hill, Salsbury Plains, and Buff Bay. We had medical people (physician's assistants and nurses), one dentist, and an area where we did vision tests for reading glasses. Our statistics are as follows:

- Patients—1,081
- Prescriptions—3,278
- Nebulizer treatments—51
- Babies Seen—131
- Urine Analysis—47
- Pregnancy tests—16
- Worm medicine was given to all children seen
- Dental patients—248
- Teeth pulled—374
- Dental surgery—1 (tumor removed)
- Reading Glasses—882 given away

It was a very successful and busy trip. Thank you for your prayers and the great send off you gave me, I truly appreciated it.

— Jody Cash

Interfaith Hospitality Network

If you are interested in volunteering during our IHN host week and have not been trained,

new training sessions will be

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

or

Wednesday, May 14, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

(Locations to be announced)

For more information, please contact Barb Collins at barbcollins@kc.rr.com or 816-807-8520.

Did You Know?

Our church's food pantry really is serving our neighboring community. At our last pantry we served 51 households from the immediate Johnson county area, 3 households from the outer Johnson county area, and 22 households from either Wyandotte county or Jackson county, Missouri.

If you know of someone who may need help, please pick up a schedule card from the library counter and share with them. And if you don't know of anyone, consider purchasing paper goods or cleaning products the next time you are at the grocery store and placing them in the blue barrel by the receptionist's desk.

C . L . A . S . S .

Christian Living and Skills Series

"We teach everyone we can that we know about Him, so that, if possible, we may bring all to their full maturity in Jesus Christ." —Colossians 1:28



Adult Christian Education Class Schedule

Sundays 11:00 a.m.-noon

"Battlefield of the Mind"

The class in Room 40 will begin a new study on March 9. This is a video/discussion study by best-selling author and speaker Joyce Meyer. God wants us to experience the fullness of life. This study will show us how.

Sundays from 11 a.m. to noon.

All are welcome—please join us!

For more information,
call Mary Aelmore, 913-631-6328.

"Feasting on the Word"

This Adult Bible Study continues Sunday mornings at 11 in Fellowship Hall Northwest, and follows the lectionary used in our worship service. All are welcome to join us!

Leader: Peggy Moore

New Sunday Morning Discussion Group!

Let's try this again!

On Sunday, March 9th at 11:00am we will begin a new discussion group during the Sunday School hour. We will honor a variety of topics in this discussion group, so some days it might feel like "Sunday School," while many days it won't. We will focus on how we engage spirituality, and keep our faith in the home. Church isn't the only place we can be spiritually fed – and we want to help you with resources. If you are looking for a group that discusses a variety of topics and how our faith, religion & spirituality intersects with those topics, from a variety of view-points, then this is the group for you! We will use books, news clippings & stories, movies, the Bible, and your opinions to facilitate this group. Contact Rev. Laura with questions!

Renovation Committee

- Sure hope you were able to attend the Rededication Sunday on 2/23/14. The service was absolutely wonderful and focused on OPCC's purpose and ministries. A special **thanks** to Bo, Laura, Amy, and Lisa for such a beautiful and inspiring service. Also, the luncheon provided by Worship and Arts was superb and the attendance was super...sure hope you thoroughly enjoyed the day and time visiting.

- Although the service was great and the sanctuary look/feels wonderful, I'm sure you noticed we still have a "hiccup" with our new sound system. The experts are reviewing the equipment as we speak to determine what is causing our issues. We are still holding onto the final 10% of the cost (\$7,250) until the issue is corrected.

- Your participation in our "seat" drive has been just overwhelming. The total pledges now total 265 seats for \$35,351 which is 73% of the total pew/chair costs. The promotion committee felt we might hit 50% but **you** have graciously supported the "seat" promotion. Thank YOU. We will still wait a couple of months before having a plaque made...who knows, other pledges may still come in!!!

Submitted by Lee Sprinkle, Renovation Chair



Stewardship Green Moment

by Jody Cash

In the U.S., we could save quite a bit of money by not wasting food. The production, packaging and the transportation of wasted food is very costly. Without it, we could save:

1. 25% of the fresh water in our country,
2. 33 million tons of landfill space,
3. \$750 million in just disposing of the food,
4. 4% of U.S. oil consumption,
5. \$165 *billion* per year!!!

If you sometimes pack your lunch, slip a drink koozie over easily bruised fruit (such as an apple or pear).

When you eat out, if you do not like to take home leftovers, ask the restaurant for a half-portion. Many restaurants will give you a discounted price and so you not only save money, you save uneaten food from ending up in a landfill.

The Clinton Climate Initiative and the Metropolitan Energy Center are partnering to bring the Home Energy Affordability Loan (HEAL) program to Kansas City. This program allows employers to offer home energy improvements and financing as fringe benefits to their employees.

Try these 5 tips to help avoid food waste and to save on your grocery bill:

1. Plan meals, use shopping lists, buy from bulk bins, and avoid impulse buys.
2. Often, stores end up throwing out fruits and vegetables because their size, shape, and/or color are not "right". These fruits and vegetables are perfectly good and should be bought and utilized in order to reduce wasting food.
3. The "sell by" and "use by" dates are not federally regulated and are not indicative of when the food can be safely used (except for certain baby foods). Most foods can be used well past their "use by" dates.
4. Check your refrigerator for foods that may go bad soon. Then check the website www.kivefoodhatewaste.com to find recipes that use those foods. This will avoid throwing things out unnecessarily.
5. You should freeze fresh produce and leftovers if you will not have a chance to use it before it goes bad. Frozen foods remain safe indefinitely.

In your efforts to go green, remember to not waste food—there may always be a certain amount of waste, but by doing your part to cut down on the amount of food you throw out will be a big help!

Thank you to Roy Nickum for sending me the article about food waste. Next month, I will review tips for spring cleaning—especially, making your own (green) cleaning products!



OPCC is in need of a wedding coordinator! This will be a paid position (per occurrence). It will include negotiating the contract with the bridal party, hosting the rehearsal and ceremony, and reception when needed.

If you are interested in learning more about this position, please contact Laura Phillips, 913-677-4646 ext. 222 or laura@opccdoc.org.

The Nominations Committee continues to accept names for Board Members, Elders, and Deacons for the coming year. Please put your nominee's name, suggested position and qualifications, along with your name in box number 6 for Jane Fletcher.

News of our People

The article below appeared in the Ottawa University newsletter last fall and was brought to our attention by a friend of ours and hers...

Mary Alice (Edwards) Geise '54

Esther Ruth Award*

Mary Alice was raised in Wichita, Kansas, and attended the First Baptist Church there from the age of nine. Being able to attend Ottawa University was only a dream for her until W.C. Coleman from her church helped make it possible. She came to OU in 1950, graduating in 1954 with a double major in physical education and elementary education. While at OU, Mary Alice was the Homecoming attendant and a member of Gama Gama Gama. Her decision to add elementary education as a major led to her 30-year teaching career, from which she retired in 1994.

While at OU, Mary Alice was the Homecoming attendant and a member of Gama Gama Gama. The night of her graduation, she married former student Dudley Geise '53 at Ottawa First Baptist Church, with Rev. Roger Fredrikson officiating.

The Geises attended Prairie Baptist church for 25 years, where Mary Alice taught Sunday School and was a deacon. For the past 28 years, she has attended Overland Park Christian Church, where she serves as a deacon and advisor, is on the landscape committee, and is a circle leader in her home.

Mary Alice has also served for eight years on the Kansas City Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) board and helps with the organization's camps in Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas. She belongs to the Philanthropic Educational Organization and coaches a Bible study that has lasted 30 years. In addition, she has served as a volunteer at Shawnee Mission Hospital for the last five years.

Currently at OU, Mary Alice helps welcome new students to campus, works with the book fair and has assisted with the annual Adventures in Faith programming. She is also part of the team that established the Dave Owen Golf Classic and regularly volunteers at the event.

Mary Alice's late husband was president of the Braves Athletic Hall of Fame. After his passing, she and the BAHOF committee established the Dudley Geise Champions of Character Award that honors student athletes who exhibit outstanding sportsmanship. Still a great fan of Braves Athletics, she attends a majority of the basketball and football games each year.

Mary Alice has four children - Rich (wife Kristi), Randy, Terry (wife Lori), and Tamara – and seven grandchildren. She considers the classmates from OU to be her extended family, and she has been a strong leader of her class to this day.

*(Established by the Alumni Association in 1987 in honor of Esther Ruth Bemmels to recognize individuals who have given a significant amount of time to volunteer service for the benefit of Ottawa University, have shown initiative, understanding and leadership; have promoted the University's mission and purpose; and have exemplified the Ottawa "spirit." Nominees may be alumni or friends of the University.)

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Abby Anderson (Eric & Laura Sprinkle's niece)
- ♥ Betty Burton
- ♥ Bryan Byrd (Judy Nickum's son-in-law's father)
- ♥ Brody Gilcrist (Tom Nelson's great-grandson)
- ♥ Carole Ingram
- ♥ Marlene Harkness
- ♥ Bob Marangelli (Wilma Townsend's son-in-law)
- ♥ Ann Martin
- ♥ Everett & Ina Fern McBride
- ♥ William Pittman and his sister Delene (friends of Billie Warden)
- ♥ Kelsey Poston (Tom Nelson's granddaughter)
- ♥ Josh Townsend (Wilma Townsend's grandson)
- ♥ Kendall Whitney (Wanda & Duane Whitney's grandson)
- ♥ Elizabeth Withers
- ♥ Jim Withers

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Linda Anthony
- ♥ Frances Beattie
- ♥ Margaret Bogle
- ♥ Martha Brockman
- ♥ Margo Brown
- ♥ Virgil & Frances Bruning
- ♥ Lylia Bryant
- ♥ John & Brenna Cobb
- ♥ Phyllis & Harvey Cooke
- ♥ Glenn (Bud) Eastwood
- ♥ Corwin Elliott
- ♥ Haley Elliott
- ♥ Jim Foley
- ♥ Dave & Hazel Ginter
- ♥ Lee Horton
- ♥ Wilma Huffman
- ♥ Bob & Sue Jenkins
- ♥ Dan Jenkins
- ♥ Sandy Jewers
- ♥ Dorothy Jimerson
- ♥ Mary Johnson
- ♥ Theresa Krebs
- ♥ Audrey & Lloyd Lavelly
- ♥ Marie Lear
- ♥ Hazel McCullough
- ♥ Shirley McGee
- ♥ Jack McLain
- ♥ Marjorie McNaghten
- ♥ Tony & Florene Miele
- ♥ Wilma Nickum
- ♥ Mary Rayburn
- ♥ Chuck Reese
- ♥ Belva Snell
- ♥ Dale Warden
- ♥ Miriam Warren
- ♥ Esther West

Holy Land Trip

OPCC has been invited to partner with Liberty Christian Church in a Holy Lands trip in early 2015. The Holy Land via Jordan is a 10 day trip; we are looking to leave on January 13, 2015. It is a great way to experience the Holy Lands in addition to Petra, Jordan.

If you have ever considered (even slightly) a trip to the "Holy Lands," please contact Rev. Laura and we can explore this opportunity together! We will be traveling with a reputable, well-known company called Educational Opportunities tours, but talk to Laura about more information!

A Praying Congregation

As members of OPCC, we are all part of a faith community in which we have promised to pray with and for each other. The Congregational Care Commission invites you to be an active part of these prayers. To help us in this endeavor, we will begin sending prayer requests to all members through the phone tree. Should you desire that your personal requests be discretely shared only with pastors and Congregational Care members, please let the church office know.

February Gifts

- A gift has been given from Jim & Sally Withers to the Toodie Withers memorial
- A gift has been given from Grace Crispin to the Toodie Withers memorial
- A gift has been given to the Food Pantry from Lee & Jan Sprinkle in memory of Toodie Withers
- A gift has been given to the Food Pantry from Marie Lear in honor of Larry & Bernice Stouse's 50th wedding anniversary

Military Prayer List

- ✪ Stephan Aelmore (grandson of Mary Aelmore), US Navy, South Carolina
- ✪ Dustin Doree (grandson of Betty Craney), US Army, Seattle, WA
- ✪ Tiffany Doree (granddaughter of Betty Craney), US Navy, San Diego, CA
- ✪ LT Scot Engman (nephew of Monica Gfoeller McCarthy and Lawrence McCarthy), USAF, Elmendorf, Alaska
- ✪ SGT Stephen James Green (son of Marijane Green), US Marine Corps
- ✪ SPC Edward Pinkelman, Jr. (son of Ed & Kathy Pinkelman), US Army, Italy

To add persons to this list, please forward information to Michelle Reiter at

michelle@opccdoc.org or 913-677-4646, x223.