



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
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

Holy Week at OPCC

The prayers, praise, and reflections of our Lenten questions will inspire our worship as we make our way through this Holy Week. We hope you will join these Holy Week opportunities!



seeking: Maundy Thursday, April 6
Will you wash my feet? John 13:1-17, 31b-35

OPCC has been invited to join our sister congregation in south Overland Park, Hillcrest Christian Church, for Maundy Thursday worship. As they too have wondered about these holy questions, we will worship together as the disciples ask Jesus, “will you wash my feet?” Worship with their choir cantata will begin in the Hillcrest Christian Church sanctuary (11411 Quivira Road, OP) at 7:00 p.m.



seeking: Good Friday, April 7
Why have you forsaken me? Matthew 27:27-50

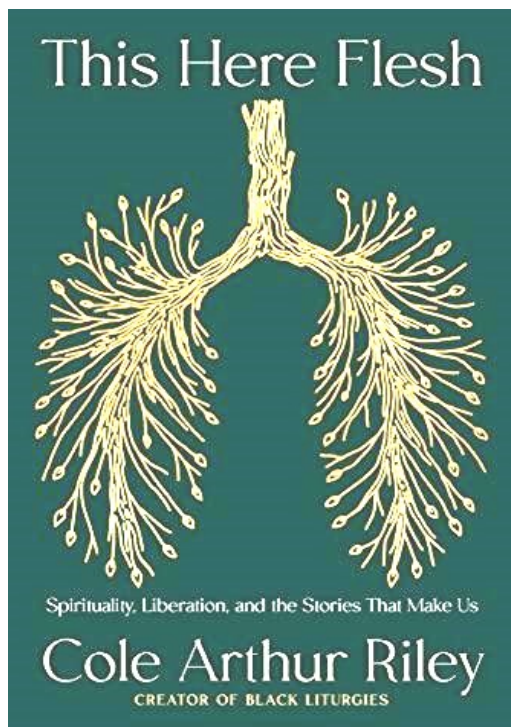
All are welcome to come to OPCC at 6:30pm for a special outdoors Good Friday Worship in the main Courtyard as we encounter Jesus and this day in a new way. Of all the questions in our series, this one remains the most unanswerable. Jesus’ final lament gives voice to all those who have been forsaken – those who suffer injustice, those who are abandoned. Instead of trying to answer this question with logic or theology, we are invited to live it and sit with it, just as Peter had to live with the questions he encountered around the fire on that fateful night so many years ago. Bring a camp chair if you are able, come as you are, and enjoy our outdoor fireplace, as we worship on this sacred day, together.



seeking: Easter Sunday, April 9 – He is Risen!
Who are you looking for? John 20:1-18

These are questions so many of us remember from scripture when Jesus, mysteriously appearing to Mary as the gardener, asks her: “Why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?” On this morning, come ponder together who we are looking for? Why have we come to the tomb? What kind of resurrection are we looking for?

- Join at 8:00 a.m. in the OPCC main courtyard for an outdoor “Sunrise” Service! You can leave your chairs on Good Friday, or we will have chairs for everyone as we remember this amazing new day!
- Join at 10:30 a.m. in-person or virtually to celebrate Christ’s resurrection! Join for songs, scripture, and communion as we celebrate the resurrection of the Christ on the morning of the third day!



As we conclude our Lenten and Easter series of questions, we are reminded that it can be tempting to intellectualize our faith, and keep our faith there in our brains. Yet God reminds us (especially around Easter and Christmas!), of the sacredness of *body*. Jesus, the incarnation of God, was the person who *embodied* God here in God's creation, in a body that was born to a woman's body. Jesus was the person who *embodies* God in a body that died as our bodies do, and a body that rose from the grave. Our bodies are part of our faith journey, not just a vessel that carries the faith in our brains from God, and back to God, from dust to dust.

Beginning the Sunday after Easter, OPCC will guide worship with, and begin a study of, the book, *This Here Flesh* by author Cole Arthur Riley.

In personal stories and reflections, Cole Arthur Riley discovers the sacred in her own skin, her own flesh, revealing an embodied, dignity-affirming spirituality. One reviewer says, "at once a compelling meditation, and a powerful intergenerational account, *This Here Flesh* speaks potently to anyone who suspects that our stories might have something to say to us."

As Christians, we certainly know that our stories, both as individuals, and as a community, have something to say to us. By pairing chapters of this book with the stories of the faithful we find in scripture, we are invited to descend into our own stories, and examine our bodies' capacities to rest, wonder, joy, rage, and repair, and ultimately be reminded that our humanity is not an enemy to faith, but evidence of it.

Beginning Sunday, April 16, we will celebrate the bodies that God gave to us, the body of Christ in which we worship, and remember *this here flesh* that is made in the image of God. We will be giving space to breathe, using stretches or relaxation, and encouraging one another to feel things more fully. We will be walking together in our humanity, as beloved children of God. Because *this here flesh* is imperfect, but it is *ours* and beloved by God. Come, journey with us.

2023 Missional Planning

Beginning in February we've been taking some steps to organize our missional activities to match the OPCC vision (clarified in 2014), and make specific plans for the next 12-18 months about how we will live-out these core values in all that we do. To that end we have had several activities, attended by many of you, as you are an important part of this "game plan" in the life of our congregation. Yet there is still more!

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming activities and be on the lookout for more information about each of these gatherings. You can also check out the [2023 Missional Planning page on our website](https://www.opccd.org/2023-missional-planning.html) (<https://www.opccd.org/2023-missional-planning.html>) to stay up to date!

You are invited to choose ONE of two gatherings that will be offered for OPCC members to prayerfully consider and prioritize the dreams that are emerging, bearing in mind what we have been hearing about our community, and our church. We will consider what God is calling us to prioritize in the coming 12-18 months. This is NOT about adding lots more things to everyone's to-do list; it is about deciding what specific things we will do well.

- Sunday, April 30 @ 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room
- Thursday, May 4 @ 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall



Join us for our Easter Saturday Egg-Stravaganza!

Saturday, April 8, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

OPCC Playground and West Parking Lot
(in case of rain — Fellowship Hall)

We'll have lawn games, a giant inflatable slide and inflatable obstacle course, as well as over 1000 eggs for our "rotating" Easter egg hunt on the playground. Everyone is welcome, so bring friends and join in on the fun!



Tall Oaks Summer Camps

are fast approaching, and the early registration deadline is May 1st! You can find the registration link and more info for each camp at this link:

<https://www.talloaks.org/2023-gkc-summer-camps>

Some of the best moments in ministry happen at Youth Summer camps. Get registered today and join in on the faith-filled, fellowship, and fun with friends new and old at one of the most beautiful places in the country, Tall Oaks! Scholarships are available through Overland Park Christian Church and the Greater Kansas City Region.

DOC brings you

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



Seeking Graduates

In the May OPCC Scene we will highlight family and friends who are graduating from high school, college, grad school, or other programs. To include your loved one, contact Michelle in the church office with your graduate's name, parents' or grandparents' names, school from which they are graduating, any honors, and their plans following graduation.

Our graduates will be honored during worship on Sunday, May 14.



VBS at OPCC

OPCC's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the evenings of June 28-30, 5:30-7:30pm!

We'll dive into **"Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs"**

Children 4 years through rising 5th graders are invited to be a part of our Compassion Camp VBS and parents are welcome to join in the fun.

A donation of \$10 is suggested, though it is not required if it is a burden on the family, or a hindrance to the child's participation.

Registration is now open on our church website at <https://www.opccdoc.org/vbs.html>

If you'd like to volunteer to help with VBS, we'll have our first planning meeting after church on Sunday, April 16th with lunch provided. Come and learn about the curriculum and the great stuff we'll get to do at Compassion Camp!



Our **Youth Mission Trip** to Louisville, Kentucky is fast approaching! July 28th through August 4th, including youth programming at the General Assembly of the Disciples of Christ, and some special activities as we travel home. If you'd like to join us, be sure to get registered ASAP. You can find the registration form here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/c32ul_JaU2OtVqMMIqNC5VPU_tvoVY9vytnTMlMtDoUkplTQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

Hurry, the discounted General Assembly registration fee ends on April 15th!

For more info, contact Rev. Chuck Pickrel at chuck@opccdoc.org or x228.

Middlers Sunday Morning Christian Education Class

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

***Please note: the Middlers will meet
as usual on Easter Sunday!***

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 hope 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.

Faith & Grief Gatherings

While OPCC is not hosting specific faith & grief ministries on a regular basis anymore, we know that grief can still be overwhelming to so many and want to provide support for those who need it. Check out the organization called Faith & Grief at their website, www.faithandgrief.org and the opportunities they have coming up in our area.

- Online Grief Support Gathering – April 19, 7:30pm – 8:30pm, [Register Online Here](#)
 - Join us for an online grief support gathering. Come share, find community, connection, and experience comfort as we grieve.
- Grief Support Gathering – Tuesday, May 2, 12:00pm – 1:00pm at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Rd., Prairie Village, KS
 - A grief support gathering for those whose loved one has died. Meeting begins at Noon in person at Village Pres. Come share, find community and comfort with those experiencing similar grief.

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

Empty Nesters

Our next event will be Saturday, April 29 at the C.W. Parker Carousel in Leavenworth, KS. If you want to carpool to Leavenworth, be at OPCC at 9:45 a.m. If you drive directly, please arrive at the Carousel, 320 Esplanade, at 11 a.m. Tour with Carousel tour is \$5.00 and includes a ride on the Merry Go Round if you choose. Check out the video on the C.W. Parker Carousel website <http://firstcitymuseumslehma.com/>

Lunch at Pullman Place Family Restaurant, 3rd & Cherokee in Historic Leavenworth. Lunch paid for individually at the restaurant.

Reservations will be needed with Peggy Moore one week ahead of the event.
wpmoore63@gmail.com or 913-592-0179.

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 at 11:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

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, May 4, – Leafy Korean Dessert, 7406 W. 121st St, Overland Park, KS 66213 (dessert only)

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 Tom Are, Jr.'s book "Joy: Even on Your Worst Days". We would be delighted for you to join us — and bring a friend!

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

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Theresa Adams (Monica Fuentes' daughter)
- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Bill Anthony
- ♥ Ruby Ballard (Food Pantry guest)
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Julie Dean
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Nicole Finley (Sally Withers' niece)
- ♥ Ruth Fletcher
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Perri Kolars
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kathy Lewis
- ♥ Eileen McIntyre
- ♥ Bryce Moore
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Jimmy Reynolds
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Mike Shankel (Sharon & Bob Shankel's son)
- ♥ Barbara Sheldon
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Mary Sprinkle (Lee Sprinkle's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Larry Stouse
- ♥ Chuck Warner
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ Jim Withers

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Marian Bilyea
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Evelyn Eastwood
- ♥ Chuck Elliott
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ David Garner (son of Floyd & Marcille Garner, friend of Jody Cash)
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Betty King
- ♥ Calvin McBride
- ♥ Sharon McBride
- ♥ Christina, Jeff, Scott, & Jenny Packard (Sharon & Bob Shankel's daughter & family)
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ 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 Katherine Ann Haggard and family on the death of her uncle, Dean Thornburg, on March 10.
- ♥ to Kathy Murphy on the death of her mother, Nancy Coffman, on March 23.
- ♥ to Jimmy Reynolds and family on the death of his cousin, Betty Sanders, on April 4.

Congratulations!

- ♥ to Joyce Brooker on becoming a great-grandmother! Grant William Fritz was born to Rebecca & Wes Fritz on March 22. Excited grandparents are Susan (Brooker) & Willie Fritz.

Thank You

Thank you dear OPCC members, friends, and family. I was absolutely shocked at the reception you held to celebrate our ten years together. I'm so grateful to have spent these last 10 years with you, sharing God's love together. I look forward to where God is guiding us into the future!

Jana

HELP WANTED

**Do you attend our Sunday morning services?
Are you also looking for an opportunity to become
more involved in the church while you're here?
Have we got opportunities for you!**

- We are seeking much-needed additional projectionists to run the PowerPoint slides on Sunday morning. If you can click a button on the computer, we would love for you to join our rotation of people in the booth. Please either speak with Barb Collins or contact the church office to set up a brief training session with you.
- More and more of us are gathering for coffee in the Fireside Room on Sunday mornings, and so we need help organizing the coffee "fixings" each Sunday morning. If you are able to set-up or clean-up the coffee on a Sunday morning, please contact Cody in the church office. Instructions and guidelines will be provided.
- Greeters are needed on Sunday mornings from 10:10am – 10:40am to help folks into the church building, especially if they are arriving through the West or North doors. Please call Cody in 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 and to our sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

MORE² METRO ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts at OPCC, we are a partner organization with 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, and discuss how we can work towards racial and economic equity.
 - Monday, April 10, 6:00pm – 7:30pm, via Zoom
 - Monday, May 8, 6:00pm – 7:30pm, via Zoom
- For BOTH, email marcus@more2.org to register

Celebrate OPCC on May 21

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 21st, where we will have a lot to celebrate!

We will honor and say thanks to our musicians, celebrating “Music Sunday” in worship, and then have a short congregational meeting following worship to elect our congregational leaders for June 2023 – May 2024.

We will round out the day following that quick meeting with a congregational pot-luck in the Fellowship Hall. Make your plans now to join in this shared meal!

Property Commission

First quarter is now completed and left us with some heavy expenditures.

1. The fire pull station has been installed in the leased space for Honey Bee (this was a State Fire Marshall requirement).
2. The main ice maker in the large kitchen has quit working and a replacement has been ordered. The new ice maker is expected within the next 7-10 business days.
3. Now that more outside groups and inside activities have picked up, we are finally replacing the ice maker in the kitchenette (Fireside Room).
4. Fire house construction update:
 - a. Old fire house has been demolished
 - b. Basement of old house has been filled in with dirt
 - c. Trenches are being dug for the foundation walls
 - d. “NO RIGHT TURN ON RED” signs have been put up at the stoplight at 75th and Conser as you head south. This is a safety measure related to the Fire Station construction as a result of required orange fencing along the site while construction is in progress that reduces the sight distance at the intersection. This “no turn” sign will be in effect for the duration of construction.

Submitted by,
Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

Your OPCC Staff

913-677-4646

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Building & GroundsLee Sprinkle
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Nursery DirectorKourtney Leibman

Your 2022-2023 OPCC Board of Directors

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

**Copy deadline for next issue is
May 2 for May 4 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