



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

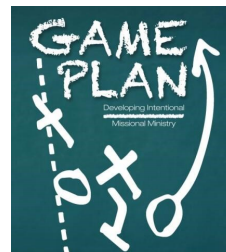
www.opccdoc.org • @opccdoc (Twitter & Instagram) • www.facebook.com/opccdoc

Lines from Laura — Missional Planning

In 2014, one Patrick Mahomes was beginning his career at Texas Tech University, to then make his way to the Kansas City Chiefs in 2017.

In 2014, Overland Park Christian Church went through a visioning process to identify the vision we have for "being church" in the world, and to identify the core values by which we will follow our mission to be God's love in Christ in this world. From this process we discerned our vision to be a church that:

- Authentically lives in hopeful expectation
- Serves with Heart
- Intentionally values and accepts everyone
- Lovingly embraces social, spiritual, and cultural diversity
- Focuses on that which unites us



In 2017, we covenanted together to carry out this vision for ministry as I was installed as your Senior Pastor in September.

No matter when we (or Patrick Mahomes) have joined together in our efforts, we always need to reassess our “game plan.” For the past couple of years our game plan has been to navigate a world-changing pandemic, and institutional-changing dynamics in the life of the church.

In the same way that our Kansas City Chiefs continue to work on their game plan for success, we too continue work on our “game plan” for intentional missional ministry. We want to engage the missional activities of our church to match our 2014 vision, 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 several upcoming activities that we hope you will attend so that you can play an important part of this “game plan” in the life of our congregation. Please mark your calendars for each of these activities and be on the look-out for more information as it becomes available. You can also stay up-to-date by checking out our [2023 Missional Planning page on our website](https://www.opccdoc.org/2023-missional-planning.html) (<https://www.opccdoc.org/2023-missional-planning.html>)

- **Community Audit Training** – Sunday, February 26 (after worship, lunch provided)
- **Strengths & Assets Gathering** (Pick ONE) –
 Sunday, March 5 @ 9am; Tuesday, March 7 @ 6:30pm; ONLINE, Wednesday, March 8 time TBD
- **Dreaming Together** (Pick ONE) –
 Sunday, March 19 @ 9am; Sunday, March 26 after Worship; Tuesday, March 28 @ 6:30pm



Prayer During Lent: Three Options!

OPCC has THREE interactive prayer practices for all of us to lean into as we **seek** a deeper faith on our journey toward the cross and resurrection of Easter Sunday.

- A physical, daily, devotional book will soon be available on the entry-way counter. Titled *Unsettling Lent*, this devotional will provide scripture, reflections, prayers, and meditative prompts focusing on the expansive grace of God. You can also purchase an E-version of *Unsettling Lent* as a [Kindle](#), [Nook](#), or [Google](#) book.
- Beginning with Ash Wednesday and continuing through the first few days of Easter, use daily devotional cards to expand and deepen your spiritual walk through Lent. Stacks of cards for each family or individual will be available next to the devotional books on the entry-way counter. Each card has a daily question and a prayer. You might place the stack of cards by your bed to read first thing in the morning or right before you sleep at night. Perhaps use the cards as prompts to journal and reflect. Day by day, may these prayers remind you that, as you **seek** God, God is always **seeking** you. Take one for yourself and your family, we have plenty and can print more.
 - A TEXT MESSAGE devotion from this same resource will come each day in Lent at 9:00am to your phone by way of our messaging system. Each provide a short scripture for you to read, followed by a prayer. To start receiving these devotional prompts text @OPCCDOC (yes, use the @symbol before the letters) to 22300 to join. You can also email your name and cell phone number to the front office (office@opccdoc.org) to be added to the list, or to make sure you are on the list from years before. Standard message and data rates may apply, and you can reply STOP at any time.
- Prayer Chapel - Each week OPCC will have a reflection center in the Prayer Chapel to reflect on these honest questions:
 Who will you listen to? How do we begin again?
 Will you give me a drink? Who sinned? Can these bones live?
 Where are you headed? Who are you looking for?
 You are invited to spend a few minutes each week during Lent as your time allows in prayer, meditation, and reflection.
 We hope that you find time to dwell with the Spirit of the Holy no matter when you are at church.

No matter how you engage in prayer, we look forward to praying together. As we **seek** God together, let us remember that God is **seeking** us.

Lent Begins at OPCC

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Stay tuned for Lenten updates that will include study, devotional, worship, and Holy Week opportunities as we **seek**, together.

Ash Wednesday

Join us as we begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday worship.

Wednesday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m.

we will offer a traditional Ash Wednesday worship service in the sanctuary.

Join us for scripture, prayer, song, communion and the imposition of ashes as we worship together as a community.

This worship opportunity will be FAMILY FRIENDLY including an opportunity for children and youth to learn more about Ash Wednesday, as well as a special music offering.

Regardless of where you begin your Lenten season, we hope you will join us for this meaningful time of year.

Family Faith Boxes for our OPCC Families

Each of our families with young children will be given a Lent Box to help you continue "**seeking**" at home.

On Sunday morning in Children Worship & Wonder and Growing in God's Love, we will work with the children with stories, wonder, and work around the **Seeking** Questions offered each week during Lent.

Children will be able to share those experience with their families as we all share the Sacred together.

MORE² METRO ORGANIZATION FOR RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY

As part of our Outreach-Mission efforts here at Overland Park Christian Church, we are a partner organization with Metropolitan Organization for Racial and Economic Equity (MORE2).

Please join in one of the following 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 in Kansas.
 - Monday, February 13, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Online by way of Zoom
 - Email marcus@more2.org to register
- **MORE² Annual Public Meeting** – OPCC has the opportunity to host MORE²'s 2023 Public Meeting right here in our sanctuary! Join live in-person or online for **Giants do Fall**, featuring a line-up of community leaders organizing to dismantle the giants of injustice in our own time.
 - Thursday, February 23, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
 - RSVP for In-Person or Online
Registration at www.more2.org



Week of Compassion Special Offering February 19-26

Week of Compassion Responds to Turkish Earthquakes

As soon as they received news of the devastating February 5th earthquakes, Vy Nguyen and his staff at Week of Compassion moved into action. The following is part of the Facebook report published this morning (Tuesday):

Week of Compassion is in close contact with our partners in the region, including colleagues who were coincidentally traveling in the affected area. Our Partners are currently conducting rapid assessments to respond to this disaster in both Syria and Turkey, and Week of Compassion will be ready to support efforts for immediate response and what will surely be extensive long-term

recovery. ...Our colleagues at Global Ministries shared this comment: I have heard from some partners in the region. Our own historic presence in Gaziantep, Turkey, included the establishment of a hospital... now owned and operated by our Turkish partner, the Health and Education Foundation. They wrote that the hospital sustained minimal damage but that "Unfortunately, ten cities are affected by the massive earthquake. Gaziantep is one which is badly affected." (Gaziantep is quite near the earthquake's epicenter).

Week of Compassion works with local ecumenical partners who are already on the ground and know the area. They are best prepared to assess the situation and respond immediately to the most urgent needs following a disaster. The dollars we at OPCC give will be used efficiently and effectively to help where need is great. You can follow stories of Week of Compassion's work on Twitter, their Facebook page www.facebook.com/weekofcompassion and their website www.weekofcompassion.org/stories

Fire Station Construction Update

In case you missed it — Overland Park Fire Station 41, across the street east of OPCC, is going to be replaced with a new building. One day soon (we were told February 1, but that obviously didn't happen!) the parking lot to the east of Conser, between the Marty Pool building and the current Fire Station, will be fenced in and will no longer be available for public use. After that time, OPCC Sunday church-goers will need to use our West and North parking lots, along with the parallel spots on Conser. (Please take note: if you park on the east side of Conser, heading north, there will not be enough space to open the doors on the right side of your vehicle!) Beginning immediately, the West and North exterior doors of the church building will be unlocked during Sunday morning gatherings. Please see Lee Sprinkle with any questions.



Welcome Cody!

We are delighted to welcome Cody Kreutzer to the staff as our OPCC Receptionist. Cody will serve in the front office during our regular business hours, 9:30am – 4pm Monday-Thursday and 9:30am – 3pm on Fridays.

Cody was born and raised in Hays, KS, and lived there for about 24 years before relocating to the Kansas City area in the summer of 2021. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Theatre and Master's Degree in Music from Fort Hays State University in Hays, KS, and is currently pursuing a Master's in Arts Leadership and Cultural Management from Colorado State University. In his free time he enjoys reading, watching TV, and performing. He has been in several shows in the KC area including *Something Rotten* and *Seussical* at Shawnee Mission Theatre in the Park, and *Something Rotten*, *Matilda the Musical*, and *The Addams Family* at The White Theatre at the J. He is currently playing an Angel in *Kinky Boots* at The White Theatre through February 19th. Cody wants to thank everybody for the warm welcome and he looks forward to getting to know more about you all! If you aren't regularly here during the week to welcome Cody, please do so by sending him an email at office@opccdoc.org

Empty Nesters



THE EXHIBITION — THE GREAT JAGUAR RISES

**Saturday, February 25
at Union Station**

30 West Pershing Road
Kansas City, MO 64108

You are invited to join the Empty Nesters Group on February 25 to go to Union Station to see the Maya Exhibit. Please purchase your own ticket at <https://unionstation.org/event/maya/> and plan to meet at the ticket desk inside Union Station at 10:00 am. Tickets are \$21.00 for adults. (If you are a member of the Union Station membership club, your ticket will be less.)

If you plan to join this group tour, please let Peggy Moore know by February 25.

Description of the Maya Exhibition:

"The Classical Mayan civilization lived in the tropical rainforests and reached improbable heights and mysteriously collapsed. The bustling ancient cities in the lowlands of Guatemala, Mexico, Belize and Honduras were abandoned. Yet Maya culture has never disappeared. Their descendants still live across Central America and Maya communities have succeeded in preserving their identity, languages, and traditions. See its architecture and astonishing cultural accomplishments in immersive exhibition spaces, deciphering hieroglyphs, learn about the intricate Maya calendar. Learn how this remarkable sophisticated civilization could build such complex cities in the middle of the jungle and learn why these cities were eventually abandoned."

See more at <https://unionstation.org/event/maya/>

And, Coming Up...

Empty Nesters St. Patrick's Party
Saturday, March 4
6:30 p.m.
OPCC Fireside Room



Baked Potato Bar and OPCC's Got Talent!

Baked potatoes and toppings will be provided. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert. Get your rusted talents practiced up to share with the Empty Nesters! RSVP to Peggy Moore.

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 hope you will join us in the northwest section of Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings at 9:00am - 10:10am.

Contact Peggy Moore for more information.

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. unless otherwise indicated. ** February 21 we will meet at 11:00.

Please let Peggy Moore know at least 3 days ahead of the luncheon by phone or email if you plan to attend. Don't miss out on the fun!

- * Tuesday, February 21, **meet at 11:00 a.m.** – Cheesecake Factory, 6675 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS, 66209
- * Wednesday, March 15 – Strang Hall, 7313 West 80th Street, Overland Park, KS (A food court with six chef-driven restaurants all under one roof in downtown old Overland Park)

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

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 Workshop (8-weeks long) – Thursdays, March 2 – April 20, 7:00 – 9:00pm
[Register Online Here](#)
 - Led by certified grief educators, the Faith & Grief Workshop meets for multiple sessions. The workshop gives you time to talk about your loved one, share your unique grief experience, and explore a spiritual practice designed to support you as you grieve. This workshop meets weekly via Zoom for eight sessions. After you register, you will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link information. Then the workshop workbook will be sent to you.
- Grief Support Gathering – Tuesday, March 7, 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 Central Time in person at Village Pres. Come share, find community and comfort with those experiencing similar grief.
- Online Grief Support Gathering – March 7, 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.

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 Wednesday evenings, 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.



Lent is almost here, beginning with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd. While it is not the only time, Lent is often the season in the Christian tradition when individuals who would like to be baptized will participate in a baptism preparation class. In this class, those who are interested learn more about individual faith journeys, the placement of our own stories within the wider context of the life of the church, and prepare for that important promise they will make to God. Though not always, this type of preparation has often occurred during Lent in those Sundays leading up to Easter. If you, your child, or someone else you know are interested in baptism, and would benefit from this class, please contact Rev. Laura for more information, or to let her know of your interest (laura@opccdoc.org). We can schedule class sessions around your availability, and get ready to welcome you into the faith community in this important way!

Summer 2023 Church Camp

Start planning now for Summer Camp
at Tall Oaks in June and July,
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.

From Rev. Chuck...

This Summer OPCC, SACC (Saint Andrew Christian Church), and HCC (Hillcrest Christian Church) youth and adults will be taking part in mission/service opportunities, as well as youth programming at the 2023 (DOC) General Assembly in Louisville, KY, July 28 through August 4.

In order to join us on Mission trip, youth (grades 6-12) will need to be registered for General Assembly. You can find that registration form and other details about General Assembly at this link :

<https://web.cvent.com/event/b8cdd40a-6cd8-48aa-a28c-22148adf819f/websitePage:ee6e6eee-07f7-428e-8d47-ec8b8e8534ec> The Early Bird registration for youth is \$80 and will be considered part of the mission trip registration fee. (After March 1, the youth registration fee goes up to \$100.)

Mission/service projects are not fully planned yet, but more information will be provided soon, and those opportunities will be justice oriented, meaningful, and experiential. I hope you'll join us in Louisville!

For more information about this mission trip or other Children and Youth Ministries and activities at OPCC, contact Rev. Chuck Pickrel at 913-677-4646, ext. 228 or chuck@opccdoc.org.

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

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Bill Anthony
- ♥ Ruby Ballard (Food Pantry guest)
- ♥ Barbara (Lois Wimpey's grandchildren's mother)
- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Julie Dean
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Chuck Elliott
- ♥ Ruth Fletcher
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Emerson & Marge Hartzler
- ♥ Perri Kolars
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kathy Lewis
- ♥ Laurie, Allison, & Aaron Loudonback
- ♥ Eileen McIntyre
- ♥ Bryce Moore
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Barbara Sheldon
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Larry Stouse
- ♥ Leslie Twite
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ Jim Withers

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Marian Bilyea
- ♥ Nancy Coffman
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Evelyn Eastwood
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ David Garner (son of Floyd & Marcille Garner, friend of Jody Cash)
- ♥ Pat Gray
- ♥ Donna & Marshall Howard
- ♥ Betty King
- ♥ Calvin McBride
- ♥ Sharon McBride
- ♥ Rod McBride (Mary McBride's son)
- ♥ Christina, Jeff, Scott, & Jenny Packard (Sharon & Bob Shankel's daughter & family)
- ♥ 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 Gaynell Lindo upon the death of her brother

Congratulations!

- ♥ to Zach & Elizabeth Watkins on the birth of their first child, daughter Lucy James Watkins, on February 8. Excited grandparents are Theresa & David Watkins and great-grandma is Judy Snyder.

HELP WANTED

Coffee Fellowship Returns!

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 the coffee on a Sunday morning, please contact Cody in the front office (office@opccdoc.org) or 913-677-4646 ext. 221 and he can get you scheduled for the Sundays that work best for you. We DO have instructions and guidelines to help you learn the process, and an email will be sent to remind you each week that you are scheduled.

Greeters at ALL the Doors

Whether it is the Fire Station construction, or simply that we are "opening up" more post-COVID, we are to a point that we will be utilizing more than just the East main door on Sunday mornings, and need your help as greeters at ALL of the doors.

We need a team of people, that our receptionist Cody will organize, to serve as greeters on Sunday mornings from 10:10am – 10:40am to help folks into the building, especially if they are arriving through the West or North doors.

Please call the front office and let Cody 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.

Property Commission

January started the year off with a several repairs:

- a. Follow up to last month's Scene — while looking for the water leak when doing the repairs to the air handler, found 4 automatic air vents that needed to be replaced.
- b. Regal Plumbing checked out the leaking water fountain in the hallway opposite the Fireside Room. The fountain cannot be repaired. Will keep it unplugged until decision is made whether to spend the money for a replacement.
- c. Reminder: During the next 18-24 months during the new Fire Station construction, we will need to use the North and West parking lots on Sunday mornings, as the parking lot between the current Fire Station and the Marty Pool building will not be available for public use. Yes, we will need to start using either the West or North entrances, since there will be only a few parking spaces on Conser Street near the East (front) doors.
- d. Lee has installed three bulletin boards in the hallways for directional signs made by Michelle. These signs will help any visitors to find their way to the Sanctuary and restrooms. In addition to the signs, if you see new faces in the hallway, please welcome them and help them find their way to the Sanctuary.

Submitted by,
Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

Congregational Care

One of the strongest ministries we have going at Overland Park Christian Church, is our Congregational Care ministry. We are blessed with many dedicated volunteers who make sure that any of our care and/or grief needs are addressed, reminding us that we are all a community! Let this serve as a reminder that if you are going through something difficult, perhaps in the hospital, or at home and needing care, please don't hesitate to contact our Congregational Care team.

Between the Congregational Care team and our pastors, we hope you know how loved and important you are! You can contact the Congregational Care team by calling the church office (913) 677-4646 and leaving a message on extension 224. The team will receive an email of your message and get in touch with you as soon as possible. You can also call one of our pastors. Many thanks for all the ways that each of you care for one another!

Your OPCC Staff

913-677-4646

info@opccdoc.org

(general church e-mail address)

Senior PastorLaura Ann Phillips
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ReceptionistCody Kreutzer
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Music DirectorMary Beth Boucher
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AccompanistJulie Dean
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 SigmonVice Chair

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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
March 7 for March 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