



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

Adult Christian Education Class — 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

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

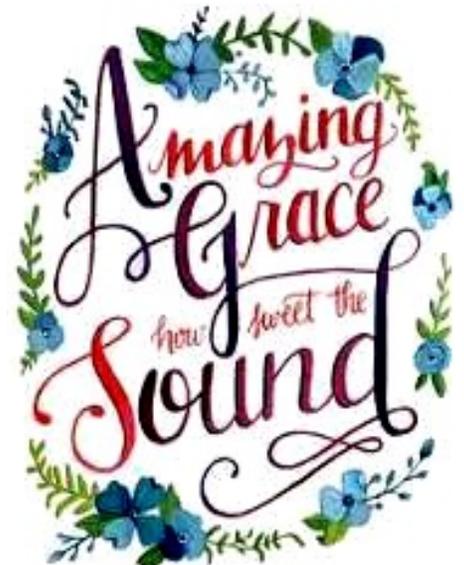
New Year, New (and old) Songs

“Sing to the Lord a new song!” Three of the 150 psalms begin with this exuberant call to praise (Psalms 96:1; 98:1; 149:1). Three more psalms make reference to a “new song” on the psalmist’s lips (Psalms 33:3; 40:3; 144:9), joining the voices of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 42:10) and the heavenly choir (Revelation 14:3). Why are people of faith called to sing?

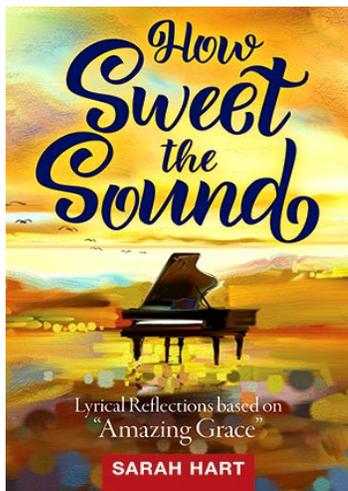
Singing is an essential element in the praise and prayer of the people of God. It always has been, as we have heard in the witness of Scripture; and it always will be, as Revelation reveals. During the next six weeks we will explore the ways how singing can remain a vital practice for Christian disciples, even those who don’t think of themselves as singers.

From January 15 through February 19, we’ll explore the “Sweet Sounds” of Grace, Lamentation, Liberation, Tribulation, Transformation, and New Creation, in worship and in Christian Education opportunities, celebrating the ways that song has carried the faithful from generation to generation. We’ll begin this series looking at the favorite hymn, “Amazing Grace,” honoring the 250th year of this beloved hymn, that was first preached as part of a sermon by Anglican clergy John Newton on New Year’s Day, 1773.

After we’ve spent the Advent and Christmas seasons celebrating the ways we’ve told the story of Jesus “from generation to generation,” please join us in worship to honor one of the most beloved ways the faithful have shared this story through the generations: in melody and song. Whether you consider yourself a musician, or can’t hold a tune in a bucket, all are welcome to join in these experiences of worship at 10:30am on Sunday mornings!



Jana



How Sweet the Sound

In the past 250 years, the sweet sounds of “Amazing Grace” have become a deeply treasured and universally known melody of personal faith and shared worship. While we spend 6 weeks of worship focused on the power of hymns and song in our worship of God, please also take a devotional booklet by popular musician Sarah Hart to supplement your prayer life for these 6 weeks. This prayer devotional titled, “How Sweet the Sound,” will help readers (and singers!) explore the lyrical text, taking to heart the tune of Amazing Grace with reflections on each of the hymn’s verses, along with questions, journaling pages and historical background. These devotionals will be available at church beginning the week of January 9th, in worship on January 15th, 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.

Music Department Update

The music department is currently reviewing the plans for the upcoming services in the new year. If you are not currently a member of our Reverberations Bell Choir or Chalice Chancel Choir but would like to join us, please contact our music director at marybeth@opccdoc.org. We would love to have you aboard, and the new year is an excellent time to start!

Here’s the special music for you to look forward to this month:

- ♪ Sunday, January 8: Emily Boedeker
- ♪ Sunday, January 15: Chalice Chancel Choir — “Amazing Grace” for the anniversary
- ♪ Sunday, January 22: Reverberations Bell Choir
- ♪ Sunday, January 29: Arthur Rinehart, guest organist

Lastly, we are still seeking feedback from the congregation regarding specific songs you would love to hear in worship. Please email our music director, Mary Beth Boucher, with your requests.

Summer 2023 Church Camp at Tall Oaks

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 may **register now and pay later** by selecting the check option on the billing page.

Elders Gathering

All OPCC Elders are called to start off the new year with a gathering on Sunday, January 15th!

Meet in the Fireside Room after worship for a light lunch and ready to discuss plans for 2023.

So that we may plan accordingly for the food, please call the receptionist office at 913-677-4646 or email office@opccdoc.org to be added to the reservation list to let us know you will be there.

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 that 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.

Girlfriends

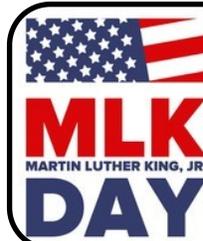
Women looking for an evening Bible Study? Join our Girlfriends Bible Study and Support Group on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 - 8:30pm. in the Fireside Room! We are currently reading and discussing Tom Are, Jr.'s book "Joy: Even on your Worst Days". We would be delighted for you to join us — and bring a friend!

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

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



In observance of
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,
the OPCC offices will be
closed on Monday,
January 16.

Baptism Possibilities

Though we've just finished Christmas, Lent is right around the corner, 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 or someone you know would be 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!

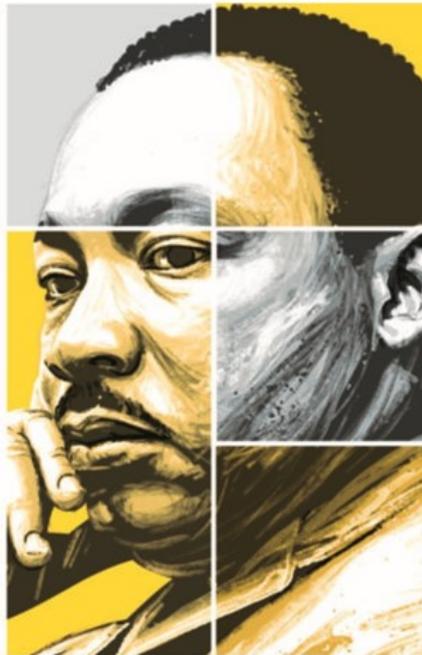
CHAMPSS: Seniors Meal Plan

If you are age 60 and older and a resident of Johnson County Kansas, there is a nutrition program that you can join. This program is subsidized by Johnson County, Kansas. You can pick up a meal for four dollars at a Hy-Vee store or you can go to an IHOP restaurant and have a meal there. Peggy Moore and Jody Cash would be glad to explain this program to you in a meeting, but we first need to know who is interested in the program. If you wish to find out about the program on the web, you may go to www.jocogov.org/department/aging-and-human-services/johnson-county-area-agency-aging/nutrition-services/champss-seniors-meal-plan or call 913-715-8894. If you are interested in hearing more about the program, please call Jody Cash at 913-707-2832 or email her at mcash1@kc.rr.com. Thank you for your interest.

An Ecumenical Collaboration
of the Faith Communities
of Blue Springs & Independence

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY SERVICE

Expanding the Dream
TOGETHER:
The "WE" Behind MLK



SUNDAY 15 JANUARY

3:00PM 1405 W MAIN ST
BLUE SPRINGS, MO 64015

MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED! (The old First Baptist Church
location at 15th & Main)

QUESTIONS: 816-229-8400 or info@fcbssmo.org



On Sunday, January 15 at 3:00pm, an ecumenical collaboration of faith communities in Blue Springs and Independence will host a service at the old First Baptist Church building, 1405 W. Main St, Blue Springs, MO. (This is an revised location due to the expected attendance!)

Guest speakers will be Mr. Alvin Brooks and Rev. Dr. Delesslyn Kennebrew. The theme of the event is 'Expanding the Dream Together: The "We" Behind MLK', and focusing on the hidden figures in the movement of the past and how it takes continued expansion of inclusion to keep the dream alive.

We encourage attendees to wear masks to protect themselves and others.

In addition, we welcome anyone to participate in our community choir for this event. Rehearsals will be held at the event location on the following days:

- Thursday, January 12, 6:30-8:30pm
- Friday, January 13, 6:30-8:30pm
- Saturday, January 14, 11am-12pm

Please feel free to share this information and join the Facebook event at https://www.facebook.com/events/1591193974660362?active_tab=about

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, January 9, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Online by way of Zoom
 - Email marcus@more2.org to register
- **MORE2 Annual Public Meeting** – Overland Park Christian has the opportunity to host MORE2's 2023 Public Meeting right here in our sanctuary! Join live 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
In-Person at OPCC and Online at the MORE² Facebook Page

Prayer List

Prayers of Concern

- ♥ Mary Aelmore
- ♥ Ruby Ballard (Food Pantry guest)
- ♥ Pat Brennan (Maurica Campbell's friend)
- ♥ Maurica Campbell
- ♥ Nancy Corbin
- ♥ Julie Dean
- ♥ Gary Eilert (Jan & Ed Eilert's son)
- ♥ Chuck Elliott
- ♥ Ruth Fletcher
- ♥ David Garner (son of Floyd & Marcille Garner, friend of Jody Cash)
- ♥ Gordon Harkness
- ♥ Emerson & Marge Hartzler
- ♥ Perri Kolars
- ♥ Audrey Lavelly
- ♥ Kathy Lewis
- ♥ Laurie, Allison, & Aaron Loudenback
- ♥ Eileen McIntyre
- ♥ Bryce Moore
- ♥ Roy Nickum
- ♥ Pat Owsley
- ♥ Rhonda Phelps (Roger Claar's sister)
- ♥ Randy Phillips (Laura Phillips' father)
- ♥ Bette Scafe
- ♥ Barbara Sheldon
- ♥ Earl Sheldon
- ♥ Larry Stouse
- ♥ Leslie Twite (Carl Brockman's daughter)
- ♥ Mike Williams (Coleen Thigpen's friend)
- ♥ Laina Willoughby (Pat Owsley's granddaughter)
- ♥ Jim Withers

Continued Prayers

- ♥ Marian Bilyea
- ♥ Barbara Cash (Jody Cash's sister-in-law)
- ♥ Nancy Coffman
- ♥ Lawana Degraffenreid
- ♥ Evelyn Eastwood
- ♥ Laurel Elliott
- ♥ 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 the family of Carl Brockman on his death on December 11.
<https://parklawfunerals.com/obituaries/brockman-carl-j/>
- ♥ to the family of Florene Miele on her death on December 18.
www.amosfamily.com/obituary/Florene-Miele

Welcome to OPCC!

We are happy to announce a new family has joined our OPCC community. Mollie & Aaron Blackburn, along with their children, have attended worship and participated in our children's programs with us for several months, and have recently formally joined Overland Park Christian Church. Welcome to the Blackburn family!

OPCC Receptionist Position

On December 15, our church receptionist, Jaime Cranford, submitted her resignation at OPCC for a new position that will provide her with a full-time salary and benefits. While we were sad to see her go, we are grateful for Jaime's work here, and also wish her the best in her new adventure.

Knowing of this change, we also want to assure you that you will still receive bulletins, monthly newsletters, and important church communication via mail, email, and phone tree. Our office email, office@opccdoc.org, and main phone number, along with voicemail (913-677-4646), will be monitored by other OPCC staff and volunteers who have agreed to serve in the office through the month of January. We already have three interviews for the receptionist position scheduled for the week of January 9, and are looking forward to possibilities that will come with a new staff member. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the church office, where one of us will respond to you as soon as possible to clarify any questions you may have.

Fire Station Construction Update

You are invited to gather in the Fireside Room right after worship on January 22nd to hear from O.P. Fire Chief Bryan Dehner on the timeline for the new fire station construction across the street. In addition to the timeline, there will be picture boards and an opportunity to ask questions. We do not anticipate this will be a long meeting, but it will be an informative one!

Property Commission

December was another very busy month for Property as you will see below:

- We regret that our heating system was not working for Carl Brockman's funeral and for our Christmas Eve services. Thanks to our amazing and very responsive HVAC person (James), our heating system was working in part of the building by Christmas Day. A major coil sprung a water leak and James crawled inside the unit to fix the leak which prevented us from having to order a new coil, and who knows how long it would have taken to get one.
- The kitchen ice maker had the internal water valve replaced, cycling system analyzed, and main line water valve checked, plus the dishwasher sprayer handle replaced. Still waiting for on a external water filter to be replaced.
- Regal Plumbing replaced a toilet flush valve and two sink water faucets.
- The kitchen storage window has finally been replaced...had to wait for glass to come in.
- Last month's Scene mentioned that Property was getting competitive insurance bids. We have changed insurance companies as of 1/1/23 which will save OPCC money this year. Our new coverage covers Property, Liability, Workers' Compensation, and an Umbrella policy.

Submitted by,
Lee Sprinkle, Property Chair

Your OPCC Staff

913-677-4646

info@opccdoc.org

(general church e-mail address)

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laura@opccdoc.org ext. 222

Associate PastorChuck Pickrel
chuck@opccdoc.org ext. 228

Receptionist
office@opccdoc.org ext. 221

Congregational Care
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Communications Coordinator/
Bookkeeper Michelle Reiter
michelle@opccdoc.org ext. 223

Music DirectorMary Beth Boucher
marybeth@opccdoc.org ext. 229

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 Sigmon 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 February 7 for February 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