



Overture

The (almost) Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church – May 4, 2008

Your Daughter's Graduating!!!!

Come Celebrate May 18 at 6:30 p.m.!

Which of you parents would be so heartless as to miss your daughter's high school graduation for a TV show or a nap you wanted to take, or even for supper? Well, if you are a part of Old Orchard Church, your daughter **is** graduating--on **Sunday night, May 18**, at 6:30 p.m., and the ceremony is in our sanctuary: *Our daughter church, South City Church, in a service of praise to God, is going to be officially declared graduated, out from under our oversight, and a full-fledged church in its own right!* We will be ordaining/installing elders that night, so South City will, from that point on, under Jesus' leading, be able to govern itself. They had their first worship service at Old Orchard in January, 2005, and so it's fitting that, three and a half years later, we should worship the Lord together at Old Orchard as we cut them loose from our apron strings...Consider how encouraged they would be if we fill the place in their honor—in honor of the Lord's grace in their lives as he has pulled them together into a community in South City St. Louis.

We realize that not everyone can be there to mark the occasion, but we want to encourage you, if you don't have another engagement already planned for that night, to come and celebrate your daughter's independence. It will be South City Church-style worship service—which is different from Old Orchard's, so if you've never been to a South City service, you should come and see what your daughter is becoming as she grows up....

All of us have had a share in the birth of this church. The 18th will be a happy night, and we're asking you to make it a priority and come! *Please bring finger food for a reception after the service.* No sign-ups; just bring a plate of treats of some kind. Hope to see you there!

--Ron Lutjens, for the Session

OOC Work Day



OOC Work Day
Sat. May 10, 9 to 5

Our deacons are hosting an OOC Work Day for this Saturday!! Lunch provided!! As of this writing, we still need a **lunch host** for the main dish. Gretta Kraft is making the salad. See Matt Philip if you can help.

Sign-up on the sheets circulating to come to the Work Day!

Saturday, May 10, 9 to 5 (come morning or afternoon or both)

Parlor Fellowship.

Please sign-up today for the next Parlor Fellowship next Sunday, May 11. We will be honoring our seminary and graduate students then. Thanks to Donna Pollihan and Chris Carter for hosting!

Thus far, graduates I have are:

Seminary Graduates: Emily Wicker (MAC); Matt Wicker (MAEM); Jessie Swigart (MAET), Heather Sparkman (MDiv); Brian Curry (MDiv)

Graduate School: Jessica Pederson (Master of Medical Science; Physician Assistant program)

Anyone else? **Please, if you are graduating, either e-mail or call the church office.** Thank you!



Congregational Budget Meeting—

Mark your calendar!

We will have a congregational meeting Wednesday, evening, May 28, 2008, 6:45 pm.

The purpose of the meeting will be to review the budget. Child care will be provided.

Please mark your calendar and plan on coming.

Narnia Children's Summer Program

Please Note the Dates:

Tuesday, July 29 through Saturday, August 2.

We will be looking for volunteers. See Kelli McKie.

Tissue Boxes Needed

Tissue boxes are needed for crafts during the Narnia Children's Summer Program.

Please save the longer rectangular shaped boxes and give them to Susan O'Neal. Thank you.

Sunday School News

Due to this weekend's retreat, we are not having Sunday School classes today.

Classes will resume next Sunday at 9 a.m.

Adult Classes:

Leviticus at Milligan House. Teachers: Mark Tucker and Currie Bishop.

New Members Class meets with Ron Lutjens also at the Milligan House.

Overture Editor Wanted

We did have four editors who take turns producing our newsletter. Heather Sparkman is graduating from Covenant Seminary. Thanks, Heather! We are therefore looking for a new editor. If you are interested, and want to know more, please contact any of the current editors: Melissa Nelson, Jim Lowe, Susan O'Neal. Or contact Durinda Hood in the church office. Thanks!

Overture Deadline. The next *Overture* will be out again on Sunday, May 18. You are invited to write for it! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. You can send your submissions for our newsletter via e-mail to the church office (office@oldorchardchurch.org) or you can place your signed articles in the *Overture* box (in the coat room). The editor for that week will be Melissa Nelson.

Art Show at Francis Schaeffer Institute

Journey Planner: Works by Johanna Harper
 Continues through May 9, 2008 (*just a few days away!*)
 Artist: Johanna Harper (daughter of Richard & Jane Winter)
 Place: Francis Schaeffer Institute, Covenant Seminary

Calendar Notes

House Church:

Wednesday, May 7
 At Milligan House
 6 p.m. potluck supper (bring a dish to share!)
 7 p.m. meeting.

English Conversations Class

Meets Fridays, 5:00 p.m.
 in Milligan House.
 Last class until fall May 9.

Parlor Fellowship

Sunday, May 11 after worship

Men's Bible Study

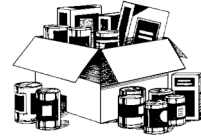
Saturday, May 17, Milligan House
 at 7:15 a.m.
 See Hal Pendergrass for questions.

OOO Youth Group

- May 4** (Sunday) No Teen Fellowship or Sunday School.
- May 11** (Sunday) 6– 8 p.m. – *Mother's Day*. No Youth Group. Go be with your moms!
- May 16** (Friday) 6 pm Guys Night Out.
- May 18** (Sunday) Teens out to eat after church. Special Service for the particularization of South City Church. 6:30 p.m.
- May 25** (Sunday) 6 to 8 p.m. Hot Topix. "same sex attraction." Special guest speaker.

Bring Food Any Sunday

Non-perishable food donations welcomed and will be given to a food pantry, usually Grace and Peace Food Pantry. Just leave it in the container in the parlor. Thanks!



Cheryl Cook Funeral Service

Recordings Offered

The Sound Ministry can make CDs of Cheryl Cook's funeral service. However, Mike Kuhn would need to make duplicates all at the same time. If you want a copy (it will not have the music on it due to copyright issues), please e-mail or call the church office with your request. Each copy will be cost \$2 (plus postage if it's mailed). Please get your request to Durinda (or e-mail church office) by Wednesday, May 7.



*BIRTHDAYS
this month*

- 5/1 Sharon Kern
 - 5/2 Vicki Leung
 - 5/3 Carine Barrs
 - 5/6 Liam Donovan
 - 5/7 Tamara Rice
 - 5/10/00 Emeline Rinn**
 - 5/13 Greg Kern
 - 5/15/02 Theodore McKeon
 - 5/15/01 Raphaella Zavaglia
 - 5/21 Michael Barber
 - 5/22/00 Alex Bielefeldt
 - 5/23/97 Bridgette Clifton
 - 5/24/88 Toby Lowe
 - 5/24 Betsy Roig
 - 5/25 Ian Storm
 - 5/26 Kevin Li
 - 5/29/93 Adam Taussig
 - 5/29/07 Abel Tucker
 - 5/31/87 Matthias Muutuki**
- **members of foreign or domestic missionary family

Old Orchard Church

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Ron Lutjens' (home) Study: 314.962.6196
Mark Tucker's Office: 314.680.3670
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Ron's E-mail: see print copy.

Mark's E-mail: see print copy.
Church Office E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org
Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org

Foreign Missions Prayer Requests for May 2008

Note: With the falling value of the dollar and increasing inflation in most countries, all of our missionaries are facing financial crunches. Pray for the Lord to supply their needs.

- 1. Wilma Cross – Santiago, Chile.** Pray for Wilma as she is busy with seminars and other teaching opportunities, the prison ministry and other opportunities to minister to the needy in Santiago.
- 2. Rob and Tünde Futo – Budapest, Hungary.** Continue to pray for Rob as he leads the various ministries that he has begun and speaks in churches and conferences. Pray for Tünde's work in the choir in their local church.
- 3. Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez – Huanta, Peru.** Pray for continued fruitfulness and protection in their ministry in their church, in mentoring young people and in various Bible studies and personal contacts.
- 4. L'Abri Fellowship – England and Switzerland.** Pray for a good rest for workers during their break. Pray for God's choice of students for the new terms (May 13-Jul 21 in Switzerland, May 26-Aug 16 in England). Pray for more regular financial givers.
- 5. Dawn Miller – Madrid, Spain.** Praise for two MTW couples who have come to work in Madrid and who are helping Dawn: for both the actual help but also the fellowship. Pray for a newly formed English Club started in the PE dept of the university that is showing fruit.
- 6. Joseph and Elfi Muutuki – Nairobi, Kenya.** In their church, Joseph recently married an African girl to a new believer who is an Indian from a Muslim background. Pray for this couple and for the relatives who heard the Gospel at the wedding. Pray for peace in Kenya.
- 7. Luciano and Luciene Pires – Goiania, Brazil.** Pray for preparations for the conference that will be held the end of May with Jerram Barrs. Praise that Luciano's diabetes is in remission. Pray that he will remain disciplined.
- 8. Rene and Lani Quimbo – Mindanao, Philippines.** Pray for wisdom and protection for the Quimbos as they deal with extremely difficult situations, sometimes involving violence. Praise that all areas of their work continue to grow. Pray for physical and spiritual strength.
- 9. Joel and Jessica Rinn – Verona, Italy.** Pray that as they both spend a lot of time counseling individuals, that there will be spiritual fruit. Pray that they will be led to people who could help eventually with a church plant. Continue to pray for a place for worship.

10. Bob and Shirley Woodson – Lima, Peru. Pray for the Woodsons as they continue teaching and ministering to individuals and small groups. Pray for Robert as he preaches in various churches. Pray for Shirley as she has Bible studies with Marilu and Lourdes.

Sons & Daughters

We are again beginning to publish testimonies of God's work in the lives of those who have been attending the New Members' Class. This week we hear from Prisca Rice.

I don't remember in detail all it took to get me here, but I think I can call to mind the most important elements. I remember always knowing that my parents loved God and wanted to raise us kids to have faith in Jesus Christ's finished work on the Cross. I remember hearing about the crucifixion, being asked by my Mom if I knew it was true, and inviting Jesus to come live in my heart. I think I was eight years old when I did.

I've always loved my childhood –reading from the picture Bible, listening to Adventures in Odyssey, Uncle Bob's animal stories, my mom reading the Chronicles of Narnia aloud to us, singing all the requisite Sunday school songs, Bible-themed dress-up birthday parties. I remember my Mom always had on Vineyard and Maranatha praise and worship music and that she would fill notebook upon notebook from her 4:30 am devotions, that she would talk us through things we heard or were studying at public school and help us understand the Biblical perspective.

So that continued until my teens. Ah, angst: I hated my body, I disliked my family, maybe hated my parents, I thought only my friends were alright. As the Scottish pop group Belle and Sebastian say, "I don't love anything."

I did try to feel better by indulging in the vanity fair of the self, even though I felt like the victim.

I never did make it as far as some of my friends. I never took drugs or shaved my head or pierced anything. I never ran away from home or was sexually promiscuous. I never took up smoking or blasting death metal. I didn't even quit my job or stop going to church.

I used to really want those kinds of pock marks, so that I could say that I saw into the abyss of depravity and was rescued. Good for posterity.

Instead, I just quietly but resolutely decided that life was ME first, others somewhere else, and God unknowable. I could not have cared less about God, and he didn't appear to be paying much attention to me. He ignored me, just like everyone else in the world. So that was a good starting place for cynicism, which bred sarcasm, and that was a definite skill I had and honed. I was pretty good at it, too. I became one of those "do but not think" teen Christians. Yeah, the really lame ones who snicker during chapel services and generally think they're hot stuff.

Then two very bizarre things happened: my junior-year literature teacher told me that my nickname (The Ice Queen) was apt, but that I could do better things with my time. "You might like that title," he said, "but that's not who you are." And then a complete stranger sat next to me at church one Sunday and told me that God had given me a beautiful smile and would like to see it more often.

After that, I remember experiencing a number of intangible but significant internal changes. God was talking to me and teaching me about himself, and he had been readying my heart to listen. Through the Psalms, especially, hymns, and his creation, even in other people, he was talking. It was everyday stuff, but totally new to me. As Thomas Howard said, "humankind can't bear very much reality."

I remember feeling like the roof of the ME house, or really, hut, had been removed and the walls were falling over, too.

Like I said, mine is not a megahit, shock-and-awe, jaw-dropping conversion story. My testimony is still incredibly profound, though, in that the Father woos and cares for those from the "right families" just as he does all his people, tattooed or not.

So there's my story and I guess the rest of my life will be that pursuit of, as John Piper says, Christian hedonism.

The chief end of man, after all, is to glorify God and enjoy him forever.

--Prisca Rice

Brazil Friends Celebrate!

Last Christmas we collected money for Zion Presbyterian, our sister church in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Pastor Leonardo deCarvalho and his wife Alessandra used the money to give gifts to children at a celebration they had in March. Here's their thank you and a few photos.

"Dear friends,

We had a very good time in church last Sunday. [March 16] The church celebrated 28 years old and pastor Leonardo celebrated 15 years of ministry. We had a wonderful time. We made hot dog, juice, cake and we give gifts to the children. Everybody were happy. We told the people that the gifts are from OOC. Our church would like to say thank you again. You are part of our history. God Bless you...very much!!!!"

Alessandra and family



Congratulations!!



Elders from Zion



