



Overture

The Almost Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church – December 7, 2008

Welcome to Old Orchard Church!

Welcome to our worship. We invite you to use our **child care services** for infants through children in kindergarten, located in the church building basement. Please see nursery details below. Also, visit our **Sunday School**, offered for all ages (9 a.m. on Sunday mornings). If you would like to find out more about Old Orchard and what we are about, please fill out one of our visitor forms.

Children's Ministries During Worship

Nursery is offered for infants & children through kindergarten age. Our nurseries are in the church building's basement.

Infant nursery for babies, crawlers, & very early walkers.

Toddler nursery for children who are walking up to three years of age. Children who turn three from January-August are invited to attend preschool worship starting September 1. Children who turn three from September-December are invited to attend preschool worship starting January 1.

Preschool worship for age 3 through Kindergarten. Three-year-olds (see above) and four-year-olds are welcome during the whole service. Five-year-olds remain upstairs in the worship service until dismissed at 10:50.

Children's Worship. **Children grades 1-5 are dismissed at 10:50 a.m.**

Adopt a Family & More

Bring back your gifts and food next Sunday (Dec. 14) the deadline!

See copies of the green insert in the parlor about what we collecting for families, children of parents in prison and children of the homeless ladies at the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter. See the tree for more gifts left for the children & grandchildren of the homeless women! If you want to give a monetary gift without taking a specific ornament, please write your check to Old Orchard Church and designate "Adopt a Family." Turn in cash and gift cards today to Janice Beekman; or to Durinda Hood next Sunday (the deadline) December 14 --Durinda Hood for The Mercy Ministry

Kids' Christmas Craft Sale!

Sunday, December 14 after worship

Kids! Christmas Craft Sale again! Kids 18 years and younger are bringing Christmas presents that they have made to show and sell to others in the fellowship on **Sunday, December 14** after worship. Come prepared to buy! Questions? Contact Kelli McKie know.

Orphanage Outreach Jewelry Party/Fundraiser!!

Do you love crafts? Do you love to give gifts? Do you love fellowship? If so, this event is perfect for you!!! My friend Katie Stephens recently bought a business called Bizzy Beads and has graciously offered to hold a private party in order to benefit my upcoming trip to Orphanage Outreach in the Dominican Republic. PLEASE consider coming out; mingling with others; making cool jewelry like bracelets, necklaces, key chains, etc.; and a portion of the funds will go toward the orphanage! It will take place on Friday, December 12th @ Bizzy Beads (135 Chesterfield Towne Centre, Chesterfield, MO 63005) @ 6:30 pm! Hope to see you there! Questions??? Contact Emily Roig.

Christmas Crafty Time - Women's Ministry
Saturday, December 13th - 9:00am to 1:00pm
Milligan House

Come join us for a time of crafting and fellowship! Bring your knitting, sewing, scrapbooking, or even last minute Christmas cards -- whatever! Tables and chairs will be provided. Bring snacks for yourself or to share if you want to nibble on something while you craft. And feel free to invite friends from outside Old Orchard; this can be a great opportunity for outreach! Questions: call or email Amy Butz.

***Neighborhood Caroling**

Friday, December 19, 7:00 p.m., meet at Milligan House.
Refreshments afterwards at the Milligan House.
Bring a platter of treats.



***Christmas Party**

Sunday, December 21, 5:30 p.m. Meal and Concert! Invite friends and neighbors!
Sign-up to bring food. \$5 per household for the meat & paper goods.

***Christmas Day Worship**

Thursday, December 25, **11:00 a.m.**
On Christmas Day we will be feeding our souls together on Christ and his Word and in the Lord's Supper, and then feasting in our homes on good Christmas fare!

Other Calendar Notes

Adult Choir. Meets Mondays at 7:15 p.m. See Greg Roig.

English Conversations. Meets 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Fridays at Milligan House. See Hurvey or Dorothy Woodson for more information.

Men's Bible Study. Saturday, Dec. 20, 7:15 a.m. at Milligan House. See Hal Pendergrass for questions.

Promise Academy Asks for Help in Move

Promise Academy is moving **Saturday, December 20** to St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf (Clarkson/Baxter). Help of various kinds wanted also evening of December 18. And they ask for prayer for this effort. Please let them know as soon as possible if you are able to help! More details are posted on the bulletin board. For the sake of our Jesus, Meredith Heintz, Administrator, Promise Christian Academy in Chesterfield, Missouri; Office 314 439 9711; mheintz@promisechristianacademy.org

Dominican Republic Benefit Concert

Please come out to enjoy a time of music, dessert, coffee, and fellowship on **Sunday, January 4, 2009, at 5 pm at OOC** in order to support Emily Roig as she prepares to venture off to the Dominican Republic and teach English at Orphanage Outreach. Emily and Wendy Jennings will be performing, and there will also be an opportunity to give money to support the orphanage if you feel led. But above all, your presence is desired!

Questions??? Email or call Emily Roig.

--Emily Roig

**OOC Brings Narnia
to the Dominican Republic in 2009!**

Old Orchard Church has decided to send a team to the Dominican Republic this June to put on our Narnia Summer Children's Program with Orphanage Outreach. This is the ministry that Emily Roig will be serving with this coming winter and spring. We are praying that the Lord would draw in the right folks for this team. We hope to send about 15 people from OOC. Please consider joining the team for this week-long mission trip. Keep your eyes open for details, or contact Mark Tucker. --Mark Tucker

L'Abri Annual Retreat, Winter 2009

L'Abri Fellowship and the Francis Schaeffer Institute will hold a two-week L'Abri Retreat at the Kramer Farm in the foothills of the Ozarks near Steelville, MO. Week 1: Jan. 5-12; Week 2: Jan. 12-19. Brochures are out in the parlor or you can contact April Barber at the Schaeffer Institute, 314.434.4044 for more info.

Rochester L'Abri Conference 2009

February 13-14--The Kahler Hotel in Rochester, MN

Brochures in the parlor. "Proclaiming All God's Wondrous Works." Jerram Barrs, Denis Haack, Dick Keyes, Randal Macaulay and Wim Rietkerk are giving plenary sessions. Our own Hurvey Woodson will be giving a workshop on "China, the Gospel and a Vibrant Church."

Overture Deadline

The next *Overture* will be out again on Sunday, Dec. 21. You are invited to write for it! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. All submissions should be signed by the person submitting them. 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). We have a rotating crew of *Overture* editors; the editor for 12/21 issue will be Prisca Rice (yes, she's at L'Abri; this is an experiment with long-distance editing.....)

Furniture & Household Items Wanted

Some families from the school where I work are in need of furniture and other household items. Three of these families' homes burnt down recently and other families do not have furniture. If you are replacing some of these items and they can still be used, please call me if you would like to make a donation to these families.

--Submitted by Donna Knobbe

Piano Lessons

Lina Stanly would like to offer her piano teaching services to the Old Orchard Church congregation. She has taught piano for over ten years to ages 3-76. If you or anyone you know would like to learn how to play, please contact her.

Free Office Desk

This is an old style professional office desk of heavy duty construction (pre-cubical). Its frame and legs are chromed steel and surfaces are 0.75" particle board with black laminated finish. It is very strong; a person can stand on the desk without damaging it.

The desk is 60" wide by 30" deep by 30" tall and has two drawers on the right as viewed when you are seated at the desk. I had two (2) mini tower PC computers on it along with flat screen monitor and there was still plenty of room left over for keyboards and paperwork.

The desk also comes with a typing machine return that is 36" wide by 17.5" deep by 27" tall that can be attached to the left side of the desk as viewed when you are seated at the desk. When attached, it gives the desk an "L" shape when viewed from above in a floor plan view. I used the typing machine return as a stand for a multi-function printer and stored my printer paper underneath.

This is a heavy duty desk! You will need a pick-up truck and two strong guys to move it. Please contact Chris O'Neal if you want it so we can coordinate a pick-up time.

Foreign Missions Prayer Requests for December 2008

- 1. Wilma Cross - Santiago, Chile.** Pray for the various activities that have been planned for Christmas. Pray for Wilma as she is busy with many teaching opportunities. Pray for physical strength as she often has to drive long distances and her health is not good.
- 2. Rob and Tunde Futo - Budapest, Hungary.** Pray for the Christmas concert on December 14 that Tunde is preparing with the choir, that it will be a blessing. Pray for finalization of the sale of the office in Budapest.
- 3. Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez - Huanta, Peru.** Pray for Ruthie as she teaches five Bible studies for women of very diverse backgrounds and needs. Pray for the Lord to work in the hearts of the many non-Christians who attend. Pray for Gerry and Ruthie's health.
- 4. L'Abri Fellowship - England and Switzerland.** The fall terms ends in both branches this month. Pray for the students as they adjust to their next step in their lives. Pray for a restful break for the workers. Pray for financial needs.
- 5. Dawn Miller - Madrid, Spain.** Praise for a very successful outreach among the university students last month. Pray for spiritual fruit as they follow up the many contacts made. Bekah, Dawn's co-worker will be arriving Dec 27. Pray for a good adjustment for her.
- 6. Joseph and Elfi Muutuki - Nairobi, Kenya.** Joseph and Elfi should have arrived back in Nairobi. Pray that their transition back into the work will go smoothly and that the Lord will bless the work of the church and their outreach to various groups.
- 7. Luciano and Luciene Pires - Goiania, Brazil.** They will be arriving back in St Louis after an extensive trip to the south and west, visiting churches and family. Pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of churches and individuals to begin or increase financial support.
- 8. Rene and Lani Quimbo - Mindanao, Philippines.** Praise that a tiny, simple structure was completed in the new city where they are working and that various programs have begun. Pray for protection as this is a strongly Muslim and high crime area. Pray for their other programs.
- 9. Joel and Jessica Rinn - Verona, Italy.** Praise that an appropriate room has been found to rent "permanently" in the city of Verona to be used as a ministry center, where they can hold church services and other activities. Pray for completion of the contract.
- 10. Bob and Shirley Woodson - Lima, Peru.** Pray for Bob with his heavy schedule teaching and preaching. Pray for both of them as they counsel and teach individuals and in churches.
- 11. Anne Reitsema - Darfur, Sudan.** Anne will be taking a much-needed break from her work in Darfur the end of Dec. Pray for protection and a sense of fulfillment these last weeks. I have a thought-provoking letter from her that I will be glad to forward to anyone who writes to ask me for it. hdwoodson@fastmail.fm

Articles and other Submissions

The Trip

About 85 years ago, I got on a bus. I didn't know where it was going, but I went along for the ride. After 25 years a lady got on the bus and sat down beside me. We became "friends" and she, too, enjoyed the trip. A lot of people got off along the way! Recently the driver handed me a couple of transfers. They said "destination heaven!"

Submitted by Dan Petty

Lunch

There would be odds and ends to patch a meal together, but I hadn't planned what to serve for lunch that day. Worn out, I didn't want my Mom-what's-for-lunch? role just then. I longed for a meal, prepared by someone else, for me. Irritated and disappointed with my failed planning, I sighed through the sermon. But as communion was announced, I realized a meal had been prepared for me. I, in my weariness, was just the kind of guest He wanted. As this thought penetrated, I felt brought in out of the cold, welcomed and tenderly cared for.

Rain pelted the roof of the massive stone church as the elders took their places. The sanctuary was gorgeous and old but so oddly lit with modern lights. Dark stained glass windows eclipsed the outdoors. The combined effect reminded me of being in a basement. The pews bulged with parishioners. I felt pressed in upon, too closed in to take a full breath, and trapped. Thoughts of Noah's ark came to mind as the rainfall intensified. I was calmed with the thought of being safe in that mighty sanctuary, that ark, so closed in, while the weather railed outside. Behind my closed eyes, I could see the Shepherd in a raging rain, drenched, searching for me and plainly calling out my name. "Suzanna!"

I shifted in my seat and awkwardly peered between heads so that I could see the minister pour the wine. I could hear it run up a liquidy scale as it filled the chalice. "This is His body, broken for you". With upraised hands, the man cracked the loaf in half. There, before my eyes, was proof positive that God does indeed care for me. I felt the Lord's loving chide, "Of course I care for you! I died for you!" It sunk in well that morning.

A stooped and wrinkled man passed me a shaking tray of communion cups. I grabbed hold of the tottering tray and thought that grace comes from shaking hands. My mind had been absorbed in exhausted worry over an upcoming family visit. I was not up for it. But grace from my Savior would come, even from my shaking hands. I would be able to minister to my family members. I held the tray filled with its small clear cups. I lifted out one. There were plenty of other cups to go around. Plenty of grace. For each person, for each need. And, unlike that communion tray, the grace supply would never be exhausted.

I yanked off a chunk of the loaf and discreetly sniffed it. I pictured the aproned baker kneading it that morning for such a sacred purpose. The pleasant, yeasty aroma was enveloping. As the yeast had transformed the floury mush and the grapes had fermented into a tart wine, I took courage that I am being transformed as well, however imperceptibly.

With the benediction came another familiar sound. "Cups! Cups!" called the old African usher, holding out a grocery bag. As his voice rang out, and I placed my used communion cup in the bag, I was glad to know I would be beckoned back to the table again with my empty cup and have it filled, again.

Submitted by Suzanna McKeon

Competent in Their Calling

Believers in Jesus Christ are called to be skilled and competent in their vocational callings, whether those are full-time, part-time or even “sideline” callings—things people do in addition to their main jobs.

Here a few vocational accomplishments of folks at Old Orchard that have come to my attention recently. This is NOT the result of a systematic search across the fellowship, so if anyone got recognition that isn't acknowledged here, it's only because I didn't know about it. One thing we might do to encourage each other is submit a short piece for the *Overture* if you hear that someone in the congregation has been recognized for accomplishment in their work.

We do live in a broken world, so it doesn't *always* work this way, but one biblical proverb attests to the principle that skill and excellence in one's work is recognizable and will be something highly prized by those with influence. And of course, the proverb is offered as incentive to pursue excellence in our work:

**Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings;
He will not stand before obscure men.** (Proverbs 22:29)

So here's how a few of our people's skillful work has been noticed recently.

Tami Poehlman. Tami, on a promotion in July, has been named a vice president of The St. Louis Trust Company, a family office and private trust company that today manages the financial affairs of about forty families across the United States, involving more than \$2 billion of investment assets.

Bob Carter. Bob was accepted in late spring for a part-time position at John Burroughs School teaching music, and has been having a very good semester there.

Ken Harris. The new *ESV Study Bible* has just been published and Ken is acknowledged in it for his contribution to the study notes below the text. He wrote the complete set of notes for the book of Exodus and edited the notes on Proverbs and Job.

Hans Bayer. Hans's commentary on the Gospel of Mark (in German) is about to come out any day now in Germany, and Hans too, is acknowledged in the *ESV Study Bible* as the author of the notes on Mark.

Betsy Tevebaugh. Betsy has earned the American Payroll Association's Certified Payroll Professional designation—it's the CPA of the payroll world! Betsy works for Edward Jones as an International Payroll Accountant, and is currently responsible for the whole Edward Jones payroll in the United Kingdom. She is also responsible for the payroll for expatriates (US citizens working in the UK and Canada) and inpatriates (Canadian citizens working in the US).

David Carter. In October David had a successful art show up at Lindenwood University where he majors in art. His show was titled, “Seeking Traces of Truth: One Boy's Search for a Sincere Mark.”

Gary Mitchell. Over the past year or two Gary's work as a sculptor has been recognized in the following ways: he won the competition for a year-long lease of 5 pieces of sculpture for a city park or city square in the following places: Blue Springs, Missouri; Charlottesville, Virginia; Effingham, Illinois; Cleveland, Mississippi; and Hot Springs, Arkansas. And the Hot Springs powers-that-be bought their sculpture after the year was up! Also, five of ten pieces displayed were sold (and another one ordered) at the “Sculpture in the Park” art show in Loveland, Colorado this summer.

Mary Ann Kelly. Just published by Bluestem Press is, *Nothing Smaller Than Your Elbow*, an anthology of

poems written by Mary Ann and three of her friends. Mary Ann, a retired Webster Groves English teacher (who taught all three of our children in the eighth grade), is part of the St. Louis Poetry Center and reads her work occasionally at “The Focal Point” over in Maplewood.

Cayce Zavaglia exhibited two of her portraits at the Pulse Art Fair in March, and is now represented by the Lyons Wier Ortt Gallery in New York. Her embroidered portraits can be viewed on the gallery’s website at www.lyonswierortt.com. They have placed five of the works with collectors and are planning a spring or fall solo show of the portraits in 2009.

Jane Winter. One of Jane’s bouquets was used for the St. Louis Bride’s magazine. Fall/Winter 2008.

Our Moms. The many mothers in our midst were (probably) given the Heavenly Approbation Award by the angels of God this year for thankless work done behind the scenes at home in raising children. No one sees all their toil and sacrifice, but look at their dear children growing up among us, and when you see these mothers, bless them—and the fathers too—for doing something right!

--Ron Lutjens

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