



Overture

The Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church – April 5, 2009

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.

Sunday School News

No Sunday School next Sunday, April 12, 2009

Please come join us for our Easter morning activities and worship.

9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings (for both children & adults)

Book of James—Manuscript study for adults led by Mark Tucker.

Today's Teen Fellowship

Today teens will meet at the church at 3:30 to have Pizza and a Movie! This week as we look ahead to Easter, we will watch a great classic movie, BEN HUR with the Pendergrass's. See Pastor Mark for details. PIZZA AND FOOD PROVIDED. MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 3:30 and we will return by around 8ish (it's a long movie).

Spring calendar is coming soon.

Good Friday Meals

April 10, 5:45 p.m.

Please sign up to attend a meal.

You are invited to participate in our meals in homes on Good Friday, April 10 at 5:45 p.m. The meal is simple with bread and soup as the menu.

There are two types of meals, sharing meals and reciting meals. In a sharing meal there is open sharing with each other how Christ's finished work on the cross is having its effect on us, right where we live. In a reciting meal we read to each other the dramatic story (highlighted from Genesis to Revelation) of our rebellion and God's redemption. We encourage you to bring non-Christian friends to these meals. Sign up sheets are posted in the parlor.

Children's Meal: Please sign up for the Good Friday program and special meal for children (divided ages:

1-4; 5-11 years) at the Milligan House during the adult meals (arrival time at 5:30 p.m.). We also are looking for volunteers to help with this meal. See Mark Tucker.



Good Friday Worship

7:30 p.m.

Location: Old Orchard Church

All invited to worship with our brothers and sisters from Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church. OOC senior pastor Ron Lutjens will be leading worship while Cornerstone's senior pastor, Terry Schoenfeld, will be preaching. *Nursery provided for children under four years of age, but you must sign-up.*

Eggs Wanted!

We'll also need people to each bring a dozen **decorated hard boiled or plastic eggs** on Easter morning for the children to enjoy an Easter Egg hunt at 9:00 a.m. Please bring eggs by **8:45 a.m.**



Flowers Wanted for Easter Morning (April 12)

Part of our tradition is to decorate the sanctuary and parlor with **spring flowers**. We are looking for people to bring flowers Easter morning, Sunday, April 12. If you can help, please let Barbara Winters know.

Nursery Volunteers Wanted During Easter Sunday

We suspend our usual nursery schedule on Easter morning (April 12) and ask for people to volunteer to help instead of assigning people. We divide the service into two shifts so that no one will have to miss the entire Easter worship. We are looking for **6 more nursery volunteers** to serve during one of the shifts (10:00 - 10:50 or 10:50 - end of service). Please see the sign up sheet circulating or call Alice Tucker to volunteer or if you have questions.



Easter Morning - April 12, 2009

7:15 a.m. Sunrise Service at Blackburn Park

8:00 to 9:40 a.m. Hallelujah Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

Please plan on joining us for our festivities on Easter Sunday morning, beginning with a **Sunrise Service** at 7:15 a.m. led by our teenagers.

We will have a **Hallelujah Buffet** at Milligan House starting at 8 a.m. Today there is a pink insert in the bulletin for you to let us know you are coming to the buffet and what you can contribute. Please fill it out and put it in the Easter Basket that you will find in the parlor.

Thanks to our Hospitality Ministry (Lois Easterling, Sharon Kern, Laurie Lowe, and Michelle Kraft) for organizing this for us.

And at 9:00 a.m. we'll have an Easter Egg Hunt for our kids!



Consider Adoption

Throughout Scripture, God reveals how important orphans are to Him. James 1:27 says: "...pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress..." There are 143 million orphans worldwide. 400,000 of them will die this year due to malnutrition. The most often overlooked ones are special needs children, children with medical issues, older children, and sibling groups. In the U.S. alone there are more than 100,000 children in foster care, waiting to be adopted.

There are 3 ways someone might help:

1. Commit to praying for these special needs children. If you want to commit to praying for a specific child to find a family, Bethany Christian Services will email you updates on that child, and let you know when they have found a home.
2. Like most charitable organizations, Bethany has felt the effects of the economic downturn, but the expenses of orphans don't go down. Consider helping Bethany financially to keep their programs going.
3. Consider adoption: If there are even a couple of people who have had some thoughts of adopting, some inkling that God may be calling you to open your home to some of these children, Bethany will meet with us here at the church and answer any questions you may have. If you have even the slightest interest, please call Debbie Pendergrass. And check out all that Bethany does, in Missouri and around the world, at bethany.org.
--Submitted by Debbie Pendergrass, OOC representative to Bethany, St. Louis



Free Classical Piano Recital

Our son Ethan Rogers will be giving a free piano recital on April 22, 2009 at 7:00 pm. The recital will be held at Webster University, Thompson Music Building (8282 Big Bend), across from the Episcopal Church on Big Bend. The recital is a requirement for his M.A. in classical piano. He will be performing several classical pieces.

--Bill and Nancy Rogers

Overture Deadline Next Week

Deadline next Sunday, April 12 for the next *Overture* which will be out Sunday, April 19. You are invited to write for any of our issues! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. All submissions should be signed by the person submitting them. You can submit articles to 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 the next issue will be our editorial team of Prisca & Tamara Rice (Prisca at Rochester L'Abri; Tamara in St. Louis).

Some Calendar Notes

Adult Choir. Rehearsals Mondays at 7:15 pm. See Greg Roig for questions.

English Conversations Class. Will not meet this Friday, April 10, but will resume next Friday, April 17, 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Milligan House. See Hurvey or Dorothy Woodson for questions.

Men's Bible Study. Next one is Saturday, April 18, 2009, 7:15 a.m. at Milligan House. See Hal Pendergrass. (Meets the first and third Saturdays of the month)

Women's Bible Study. We will not meet this Thursday, April 9. We resume the following week. Meets Thursdays, 6:45-8:45 pm. Jerram Barrs teaching. See Melissa Nelson or Megan Philip for more.



Women's Crafty Saturday!

Women's Ministry Crafty Time

***** Saturday, April 25, 2009 ** 10 am to 1 pm***

***** Milligan House *****

Come join us for a time of crafting and fellowship! Bring your knitting, crocheting, sewing, scrapbooking, origami--whatever! Or, if crafting is not your thing but you still want to visit with friends, you can bring any other work you need to catch up on, or just bring yourself. 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.

Letter to OOC congregation

When I was looking for a church years ago during a difficult time, my son Michael said to me, "I think I know the church for you, Mom," and he was right. From the time I entered Old Orchard Church, this house of God has been a balm for me. Kindness and sensitivity among the members and ministerial staff is ever-present and I thank you all for exemplifying it in your prayers and acknowledgements about the death of my husband Joe. And to the women I would like to give particular thanks for offering the beautiful flowers from your retreat. The spontaneous thoughtfulness you expressed upon hearing about Joe touched my heart immensely. Thank you to all.

--Mary Ann Kelly

Photographs Wanted

The Website Committee is seeking digital photos of people at Old Orchard Church events. Please send them to Amy Butz.

Free house sitting available!

My nephew, Aaron Hofius, a graduate of Covenant Seminary, and present Assistant Pastor at Christ the King PCA Church in Roanoke, Virginia is looking for a home to stay from the night of June 23 until the morning of June 28. He will be on vacation with his wife and three girls ages 2-6 years. His wife is known for her tidiness and his children are all very well behaved so you can be at peace that your home would be in good hands during your absence. Please contact Marie Chambers at if you or someone you know would be interested. Thanks so much.

WRHM Summer Camp Program Opportunities

See bulletin board for opportunities (paid and volunteer) to work in a summer camp program offered through Webster-Rock Hill Ministries. Deadline: May 17, 2009

Additional Communion Cleaning Help Sought!

We are looking for a couple more people to be on the monthly rotation regularly to clean communion ware, and also substitutes. We work in pairs. See Durinda Hood.

Looking for a Room

Lina Stanly is currently looking for a spare bedroom or basement closer to the city as she starts her unpaid internship for her last year at Covenant seminary. If anyone has the extra space and would be willing to preferably house or rent for a small price, please contact her (see print copy for contact info).

Foreign Missions Prayer Requests for April 2009

1. **Wilma Cross – Santiago, Chile.** Wilma asks prayer for her health, teaching opportunities, the next Mercy School [dates not given], opportunities to present Christ to many and the continued work in the Valparaiso women's prison.
 2. **Rob and Tünde Futo – Budapest, Hungary** Pray for the Wed. evening group of young marrieds for honesty and good discussion after the lectures. Pray for prepared hearts as Rob teaches and preaches this month. Pray for Tünde as she directs the choir in special music for Palm Sunday and Easter. Pray for direction as they consider starting a Christian school.
 3. **Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez – Huanta, Peru.** See letter from Ruthie Pray for justice regarding the Presbyterian Church properties in Huanta. Pray the Gerry will be able to sleep in spite of the difficult situations he is dealing with right now. Pray that the Lord will move quickly in what they are not able to do.
 4. **L'Abri Fellowship – England and Switzerland.** In Switzerland, pray for funds to redo the roof of Chalet Bellevue. Pray for the health of Mrs. Schaeffer, Prisca and John Sandri. In both branches: pray for wisdom for the staff as they deal with the problems and questions that the students have.
 5. **Dawn Miller – Madrid, Spain.** Pray for Dawn as she interacts with students, that Christians will be encouraged in growth and others will be brought to saving faith. Pray that the Lord would continue to work in the hearts of the Christian students who have been reaching out to others.
 6. **Joseph and Elfi Muutuki – Nairobi, Kenya.** Praise that the difficult situation they were dealing with is being resolved. Pray for the church as they choose new elder and deacons. Pray that refugees from East Congo who attend the church will receive residence status soon.
 7. **Luciano and Luciene Pires – Goiania, Brazil.** Praise that they will be able to stay in their present location for at least four more years! Praise for the good attendance at the Colloquiums events Pray for added financial support.
 8. **Rene and Lani Quimbo – Mindanao, Philippines.** The new work among Muslims in Zamboanga City is in a very dangerous and hostile neighborhood. As far as I know, the day care teacher, Maribeth, is there alone. Pray for protection for her and the tiny room where she lives and where they hold the day center for children and adult literacy classes. There are frequent fires and violence in the area.
 9. **Joel and Jessica Rinn – Verona, Italy.** Praise that on March 15, the first church service in the new ministry room went well, with over 20 attending. The next service will be on Easter. Pray for new contacts. Pray also for a possible English service on April 26. Pray for the wedding of Maria and Emanuele on April 4, that the wedding itself will be a testimony and that they will base their marriage on their faith in Christ.
 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. Pray that the Lord would continue to use of a course on discipleship for women that Shirley has developed and directs.
- Emily Roig – Dominican Republic.** Continue to pray for Emily as she teaches in the orphanage in the DR.

Sons & Daughters

I was a “cradle” Catholic and it was who I was. No explanations, no doubts and no questions. Being Catholic was a part of who I was. I am the fourth of 4 children, the only girl with 3 older brothers. I grew up in North St. Louis, in a small city by the name, Bellefontaine Neighbors. I went through Catholic grade and high school. No other choice was ever given. I went through all the milestones of the Catholic faith without any real understanding. The few times I asked about what we believed when growing up I was told to read more in my religion book.

I would do things that I thought were sins but it was just a part of growing up. I use to joke that I knew God never turned His back on me that I just kind of turned sideways. I know now that turning away was wrong and it is no laughing matter. It wasn't until I actually got married and no longer had to live with my family that church attendance was sporadic. When we went to church it was usually for a holiday or occasion that included a Mass.

When my children were born I thought it was a good idea to have them in the church, so I did everything that was expected. I actually felt good about it and wanted to do this to make sure they were raised with church as a part of their lives. When we moved up East I decided to keep the children on the “right path”. We attended a nice church but never got involved beyond the basics.

When we moved back to St. Louis and continued the middle class living we just went through regular life as Catholics. Because of resentment and lack of communication and our inability to cope, divorce was just another setback. Once my marriage was over I thought that I would just move in with a male friend (words of marriage in the future had been mentioned) and regrettably put my children through this sinful life. After letting down my guard I allowed God to give me a wake up call and I finally made arrangements to move in with my mother. This was a good beginning but even though I had immersed myself in the church I still felt unfulfilled. I would go to Mass and then sneak to another church to see how other churches worshipped. It was interesting and enlightening in many ways. When my daughter began dating her now husband I opened up to them and they asked if I would like to see the church they were considering for their wedding. That is how I got the opportunity to come to Old Orchard. The first service was amazing and I experienced what other people had spoken of as “the resting of the Spirit”. I felt calm and at peace. I continued to come just to make sure this was not just a fluke. After a few months I realized that I really felt at home and if I missed a service I felt sad. I joined the new members class and was learning more. My mom confronted me and I thought this would be horrible. But when we each said our piece I felt bad for her hurt feelings but I felt a great weight had dropped and I could concentrate on going to “my” church. My mom approached me and said she didn't know what she was going to do about getting to church, so I offered to take her to her church but I also let her know that I was going to continue to go to Old Orchard. She had debated on whether she would come to my daughter's wedding and when she was told we respected whatever she felt she should do she decided to come. About two weeks after the wedding I was walking to work and was struck by a small passenger van. I suffered a concussion, fractures of my eye socket and 7 broken ribs. I don't have any memory of the actual impact and 4 days after. But through people telling me and by the cards I received from friends and many of them from Old Orchard. I was out 7 weeks of recovery and

throughout it all I was certain that God had given me the opportunity to actually start over again. It was at this time that I rededicated myself to Him as my Lord and Savior. I no longer fear that I will never make it to Heaven. I know that I am a sinner but that in His unconditional love and mercy that He died for my sins. I consider myself just a beginning Christian. Reading the Scriptures and listening to sermons with the “right” ears has made a great impact on me and I am glad to be able to do what I can for the church and my family. I suffer at times with lonely feelings but I know I am never alone with God in my life, or should I say that He is in me. I know that I can never do enough to make up for hurting Him. It is only by His will that I will be with Him in Eternity.

POST SCRIPT

Since I wrote this a year has passed and I am now a member of Old Orchard Church and have had many blessed days not only in the church, but also with my church family in other places. Just before my mom went to the Lord she had said that if someone needed to come and stay with her during the day while I worked she thought that there were many good people who would be willing to do this from “Maryann’s church”. This gave me a peaceful feeling that she may have come to terms with my decision.

--Maryann Kohl

April Birthdays

4/1.....Clara Lee
4/1Mark Tucker
4/4.....Jennifer Brown
4/4.....Suzanna McKeon
4/4.....Cayce Zavaglia
4/5Anna Coody
4/7.....Luciene Pires**
4/11Matthew Kindt
4/14.....Lois Gutierrez**
4/14.....Elfi Muutuki**
4/17.....Linda Lemen
4/17Phoebe Philip
4/19Katie Tevebaugh
4/22Haaken Anderson
4/22Avery Dixon**
4/22.....Janet Rau
4/22.....Jonathan Tag
4/23.....Jennifer Foss
4/23Emma Glasgow
4/24.....David Gibbar
4/24.....Hal Pendergrass
4/25.....Nate Woodard
4/26Ben Gutierrez**
4/29.....Ellen Petty

**members of missionary families

Old Orchard Church

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