



Overture

*The Pretty Much
Fortnightly Newsletter of*

Old Orchard Church

September 27, 2009

Welcome to Old Orchard Church!

Welcome to our worship! If you would like to find out more about Old Orchard & what we are about, please fill out one of our visitor forms. Please see below for information on children's ministries and Sunday School.

Sundays @ a Glance

9:00 a.m. **Sunday School** for adults (Milligan House) and children (basement of church building)
10:15 a.m. **Worship**
6-8 p.m. **Youth Group/Teen Fellowship** (see below)

Children's Ministries

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

Infant nursery for babies, crawlers, and 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 a.m.

Children's Worship: For children grades 1 through 5 at Milligan House. Dismissed around 10:50 a.m. for Children's Worship in Milligan House.

Sunday School Class for Adults

A class entitled "Job: Text, Image, Music," led by Jim Lowe, has commenced, and will run up to the Sunday School break for the holidays. We read and discuss three chapters a session, and pause to consider artistic reactions to this book, and to listen to "Job: A Masque for Dancing," by the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. Please join us in the Milligan House at 9:00 a.m. sharp on Sunday mornings.

Old Orchard Church Contact Info

Church Office (in Milligan House), 639 Amelia: 314.962.3795 (fax 314.962.8285)

Church Building, 640 Amelia: 314.961.6932

Ron Lutjens' (Home) Study: 314.962.6196 **Email:** see print copy

Mark Tucker's Office: 314.680.3670 **Email:** see print copy

Church Office E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org

Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org

Calendar Notes

Recurring events

Adult Choir has resumed, meeting Thursday evenings at 7:15 p.m. for rehearsal. See Greg Roig with questions.

Next Parlor Fellowship will be held after worship on Sunday, October 11. Gretta Kraft and Laurie Lowe are hosting.

Please sign up to bring food on the sheets circulating.

Community Groups meet in homes in the evening of Wednesday, September 30.

Women's Bible Study meets Fridays, 9:15 – 11:30 a.m. at Milligan House.

English Conversations happen on Friday, October 2, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at Milligan House.

Men's Bible Study meets Saturday, October 3, 7:15-8:30 a.m., at Milligan House.

Wednesday, October 7. **Community Groups** meet in homes in the evening. There will be **no House Church**.

Women's Ministry Crafty Saturday. Saturday, October 17. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Milligan House.

Deadline for the **"Food & Diapers Drive"** collection. Sunday, October 18.

Lunch at Milligan House. October 25 after worship.

For Teens

****Sunday meetings are 6-8 p.m.****

October 5 -- Harvest Night: Bigger and Better Scavenger Hunt (6th graders invited). Bring a friend!

October 11--Loving People. Teen Leadership Team meets at 4 p.m.

October 16-18 -- Sunday, 5th Annual Fall Retreat. Sign-up Deadline: October 1.

October 31: Hot Topix. Guest Speaker. 6-8 p.m.

Special Calendar Goodies

Leaders' Meeting on Tuesday, September 29, 7 p.m., in the Milligan House.

Fall Work Day

When: Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Lunch** provided at Milligan House.

What: Come join us to work on our two beautiful buildings. We have 17 people coming, thus far, and more are welcomed. Please sign up on the sheets circulating so we can plan lunch. Lunch will be provided, and we have a good crew that will get food on the table. If you are unable to come, but want to work on a project at another time, please indicate that on the sheet.

--Matt Philip & Durinda Hood

Pastor's Study Break. Thursday, October 8 through Friday, October 16. Ron Lutjens will be away on Study Break.

Fall 2009 Francis A. Schaeffer Lectures: Culture Making

When: October 9-10, 2009, Fri., 7-9 p.m.; Sat., 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Where: Covenant Theological Seminary

Speaker: Andy Crouch, author of *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling*, and a senior editor for Christianity Today International, will discuss the creation and cultivation of culture and how Christians can and should be involved in the process.

FREE and open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

"3 Nights Together." Theme: "Beauty, God, and Our Humanness" Mark your calendar!

Wednesday, October 28. 7:00 p.m. First of **"3 Nights Together."** Meets at Milligan House.

Wednesday, November 4. 7:00 p.m. Second of **"3 Nights Together."** Humanness" Floral Designer Jane Winter's talk: "Beauty, Flowers, and Truth." Meet in sanctuary. Invite friends.

Wednesday, November 11. Third of **"3 Nights Together."** Meet in Community Groups in homes.

KHPYΓΜΑΤΑ ΤΗ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΙ (Announcements for the Church)

Old Orchard Church's Anniversary Celebration!

Today we celebrate 28 years of God's faithfulness to Old Orchard Church! After worship we will meet at Larson Park for a picnic! Directions to the park are in today's bulletin. Please join us!

Directory Updates

- Sue vanHoornbeek's e-mail address has changed: See print copy.
- New phone numbers for Jon & Tanya Coody: Jon: see print copy; Tanya: See print copy.

Note from Jon: We do not use a land line, and unfortunately, our only numbers now are non-314 numbers. The reason for this change in cell numbers is related to our plan to return to Russia sometime in the next 2 years.

Please make a note in your directories to remove the Coody's landline number and put in their cell phone numbers. Please also send to Durinda Hood any changes in your listing so we can publish them: office@oldorchardchurch.org.

Overture Deadline Today!

You are invited to write for any issue of our newsletter, the *Overture*! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. All submissions should be signed by the person submitting them. You can place your signed articles in the *Overture* box (in the coat room). We will have another *Overture* next week (we postponed the *Overture* due to the office being closed and on vacation.) The editor for the next issue is Susan O'Neal and will be out Sunday, October 4. Deadline is today. We are back on our regular schedule of *Overtures* on the first and third Sundays of the month.

in memoriam: Ted Barker

It is with sadness that we inform you that Dr. Ted Barker, Will Barker's brother, passed away this past Monday evening, September 21, 2009. Ted was a long-term member of Covenant Presbyterian Church and a friend to many in Missouri Presbytery.

The funeral is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 29, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2143 N. Ballas Road, St. Louis, MO 63131.

Please lift up Julia (also goes by Judy), Ted's wife, Will & Gail and the extended family in your prayers and thank the Lord for Ted's life.

Will & Gail Barker are staying in Wisconsin these days, at this address:

See Print Copy for Address

In Search of Weekday Childcare

I'm in the last stages of my dissertation and am looking to work more during the week. I would like to find someone who can watch Elliot for three or more hours on either Tuesdays or Thursdays. My schedule is very flexible on those days, and we could find times that work for both of us. Contact Jill Storm if interested. See print copy for phone & e-mail.

News of Sandra Kuhlman

From Sandra: "I talked to the otolaryngologist and got some good news. It is a benign acoustic neuroma, he can tell by the MRI. Not life threatening at this stage, much smaller than last time, no restrictions on what I can do. Another MRI end of October to see the growth, if any. Then decide from there. If it has grown, I can have radiation therapy, which is targeted at the tumor only, not through whole body. One day thing, no side effects. :) So, surgery might not be necessary, unless the

experts say they cannot use radiation due to the scar tissue or something. I will make appointments with the specialist after I find out more in October...

“So, I am doing much better at this outlook, though the thought of having something grow in my head is not fun...Anyway, God is in control, as always....”

Please continue to pray for the Kuhlman's...and they would love to hear from us anytime

--Submitted by Melissa Nelson from an e-mail Sandra sent to her.

Kuhlman contact information:

See Print Copy for this.

Food & Diapers Drive

Sponsored by OOC Mercy Ministry Team

When: September 13 – **October 18, 2009** – We’re extending the deadline!

Please Note: Checks may also be given in place of food or diapers; please make it payable to Old Orchard Church and mark it for “Food & Diaper Drive.”

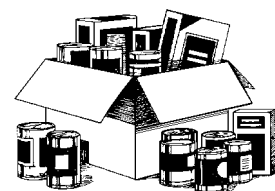
Food will divided up and be given to families & individuals served by:

- ◆ Grace and Peace Food Pantry (St. Louis City)
—food pantry operated by Grace & Peace Fellowship
- ◆ Sunshine Ministries (St. Louis City)
—food pantry is part of Sunshine Ministries’ outreach program in North City
- ◆ Webster-Rock Hill Ministries
—multi-church ministry of mercy in Webster & Rock Hill

What Food to Bring:

Bring nonperishable items. Individual or family sizes.

No glass please (easier and safer to transport).



Suggested Food List: (* marked items are in a “typical bag” given at Grace & Peace’s Food Pantry)

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|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| *Canned soup (large & small) | *Macaroni and cheese | *Rice |
| *Canned vegetables | *Ramen noodles | Vegetable Oil |
| Canned meats | Boxed Meals | Instant Potatoes |
| *Tuna | *Baked Beans | Peanut Butter |
| *Pasta | Canned tomato sauce | Juices |
| Spaghetti sauce | Oatmeal | Jelly |
| *Canned fruit | Cereal | Crackers |
| Canned tomato product | Cane Sugar | Gravy Mix |

Diapers & Baby Wipes

- ◆ **Bethany Christian Services:** **newborn size only diapers**, and also **gentle newborn wipes**, for Bethany to disperse to their clients. Often birthmoms will decide to parent, with counseling and other help from Bethany, and it is a blessing to start them off with gift baskets of necessary supplies. Bless these little ones with supplies!
--Debbie Pendergrass, Representative to Bethany for Old Orchard Church and Infant Foster Care Mom for Bethany
 - ◆ **Refuge of Nations:** **Diapers, sizes 3, 4, 5** for children of immigrants and refugees who Refuge of Nations works with. This is such a tangible way to show God’s love and care to these families.
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Elder Visitation

In the Bible, I Peter 5 contains one of the lists of requirements for those who would be spiritual leaders in the church, known as elders. There Peter exhorts elders to “*Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care.*” First and foremost then, elders are to care about the spiritual well being of God’s sheep—that’s their primary joy and responsibility. To that end it is common for elders to visit regularly each household in their church. We worked at that in earlier years here at Old Orchard, and now that we have three ruling elders we want to revive it.

What will this look like? *For starters, each household will be assigned to the care of a particular elder.* Then sometime over the course of this year, the elder will arrange a time to meet with each of the households under his care. This meeting will not be an interrogation (!) but a time for you to share joys and struggles with an elder as we all press on to know the Lord better than we do now. It’s also a time to share with him what needs you may have. Of course, once your elder contacts you, you are welcomed and encouraged to seek him out on your own, whether it be for specific needs or simply because you want to get to know him.

The Session would like to ask each of you to be willing to carve out the time to meet—and particularly to return an elder’s phone call or e-mail when he contacts you (and we really would like to meet with husband and wife together).

Finally, we ask that you, as part of the OOC community, commit to praying for your elders and pastors. The best way you can support the ministry at OOC is by committing the leadership to prayer (but please do tithe and volunteer for ministry needs as well).

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Ron Lutjens or Associate Pastor Mark Tucker.

Westminster Christian Academy Open House

Westminster Christian Academy invites interested parents and students to attend an Open House on Monday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. Westminster is located in Creve Coeur and has a current enrollment of 900 students in grades 7-12. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to tour the school, ask questions, and receive valuable information concerning financial aid and special services for students with diagnosed learning needs. Please call 314.997.2900 to pre-register or for additional information.

A Gift of Love in the Face of Death

We continue to pray for Jim Butz and his family in their ongoing grief over the terrible loss of Jim’s sister, Teresa. In the experience of many who lose someone close to them, this time after the funeral, when everyone has gone home and gotten back to their own lives, is particularly hard. They have begun to face the painful task of going on, for a long, long time, without the person they loved.

One way we thought we could continue to support and encourage the Butz family as they grieve and seek the Lord’s face, is to take up a collection in the congregation for a nice tree that Jim’s parents could plant in their yard in memory of Teresa. Some in our fellowship may have already given memorial gifts, but for those who want to contribute toward a gift to Jim’s mom and dad from Old Orchard Church, please make your check out to the church and designate it “Teresa Butz Memorial.” If we get more than we need for a tree, we’ll put it toward a bench or birdbath—something Jim thinks his parents would appreciate and would go nicely in their large and lovely backyard.

Please continue to hold up Jim and Amy, Jim’s brothers and sisters, and especially Mr. and Mrs. Butz, before the Lord; and let Jim know you continue to remember him in his ongoing sadness over the loss of the sister he loved and held dear.

--Ron Lutjens, for the Session

Work Teams Coming....

(This is a reprint of an article that came out in early August. We are still looking for teams. Men, please consider joining a Work Team!)

Overview

Some of the men at Old Orchard Church have been batting around for a while the idea of putting together little work teams. These teams would get together to pool their time and talents to help members of our church with house and yard maintenance/repairs/odd jobs--especially widows, single moms, and older folks.

Mainly, the Work Teams would be involved in the following:

1. Work with the Mercy Ministry to determine what needs exist in the congregation. Typically, these needs would

involve tasks related to home repairs, gardening/landscaping, painting, clean-up, carpentry, simple car repairs/maintenance, plumbing, electrical, and any other "odd jobs" that the men have the skill and time to do.

2. Some of our services could also include legal advice/representation, technical assistance, financial counseling, "big brother" outings, job search assistance, clerical services, etc... Whatever you're GOOD at, someone else could probably benefit from...

The goal is simple: To participate in, and share, the love of Christ in substantial ways with those who have practical needs; we want these teams to be demonstrations of "the Gospel with rolled-up sleeves." Some of us men have practical skills and talents; some can contribute financially; ALL of us can pray and work to fulfill the mission Christ has called us to: to love one another. It's a great opportunity to let God use us and to put what He has placed into our hands back into his so that we might be a blessing to others in our fellowship.

Scriptural Basis

Why organize something like this? Because we're supposed to dedicate ourselves to doing good for others. Consider just these two passages:

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: To loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. (Isaiah 58:6-10)

For we are God's masterpiece, created in the Messiah Jesus to do good works that God prepared long ago to be our way of life. (Ephesians 2:10)

The Call to Serve

As you consider whether or not to get involved with one of these teams, pray, and ask God to direct you. It might be that he is calling you to offer yourself to Him in this service so that you can become a tool in His "hands," and thereby exemplify His heart to those who will benefit from the resources you have to offer.

We're looking for men willing to commit to 3hrs./Saturday once a month, or once every 6 weeks, or once every two months—whatever cycle of time you can commit to. Please contact Greg Kern or Ron Lutjens if you want more information. But if you're ready to sign up, call or e-mail Greg Kern (see print copy for contact info)!

—Greg Kern and Ron Lutjens