



Overture

The (Almost) Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church – August 15, 2010

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. We will not have Sunday School during the month of August & Labor Day weekend. If you would like to find out more about Old Orchard and what we are about, please fill out one of our visitor forms in the lavender or blue pads on the chairs or in the hymnal rack.

Our Children's Ministry

Nurseries, located in church building basement, are available for infants & children through kindergarten age. **Infant nursery** is for babies, crawlers, & very early walkers.

Toddler nursery is 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 is 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, for children in grades 1-5, does not meet during the summer.

Sunday School Announcements

No Sunday School in August and September 5.
Sunday School will resume Sunday, September 12.

Next Lunch at Milligan House

Sunday, August 22: Lunch at Milligan House after worship. Sign up sheets circulating today. Ann Stuber, Jackie Ahn and Jessica Burdette are hosting. The Bishop community group is assisting.

Church-wide Retreat

September 17-18, 2010

Registration starts today! See handout! See Overture article for more.

Pastor Ron Is Away

Pastor Ron will be away (vacation) from Friday, August 13 through August 23, 2010. You can contact Pastor Mark or a ruling elder if you need pastoral assistance.

In case you were wondering....Pastor Ron gets 4 weeks sabbatical every 4 years and each year gets 4 weeks vacation. He has taken 2 of his 4 weeks of sabbatical. He'll take the rest in the fall. Part of his time away in July was vacation, not sabbatical.

Next Overture!

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), or email them to the church office. The next issue will be out Sunday, September 5, edited by Jim Lowe. Deadline for submissions: Sunday, August 29.

A 5K Run & Walk 4 Life.
"Take Strides to Thrive (St. Louis)"

Sponsored by Thrive (formerly Pregnancy Resource Center)
Christ-centered organization "empowering life and healthy choice"

When: Saturday, August 21, 2010. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Forest Park

Participants: Looking for participants to walk/run and gather donations.

Questions or sign up: Contact Kellie, 314.738.3040 X224 or events@thrivetstlouis.org

See info & registration posted on bulletin board.

Lawn Mowing Volunteers — Please sign-up!

Looking for people to mow the lawns at the church building/Milligan House and at the home of Willie Lee, a disabled man who lives in Rock Hill. **Bill Grady** coordinates lawn mowing at the church/Milligan House, and **Mark Robertson** coordinates lawn mowing at Willie Lee's. Sign-up sheets are circulating today!

For questions, please contact Bill Grady or Mark Robertson [see print copy for contact info].

Communion Clean-Up Volunteers

We are looking for people to help clean-up communion ware on Sundays. You can take a turn regularly (once a month) or serve as a substitute. We work in teams of 2 to speed along the task. If you can help with this, please speak to Durinda Hood or e-mail her at the church office (office@oldorchardchurch.org). Thanks!

Winter Shelter's Rummage Sale

Donations Wanted for the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter's Rummage Sale!

If you didn't bring your donations in excellent condition to Old Orchard Church yesterday, you can deliver them to Grace & Peace Fellowship during office hours 8/16-8/27: 10:00am-3:00pm MWF & 10:00am-4:30pm TTh.

The Winter Shelter's annual rummage sale will be over **two** weekends: August 20 & 21 and August 27 & 28 and will be at Grace & Peace, 5574 Delmar, St. Louis 63112. You are also invited to attend the sale.

The Shelter is a ministry to homeless women during the winter months, November through March and is located at Grace & Peace Fellowship PCA. The Sale is a significant part of the Shelter's income. Thanks to all who have donated or will attend the sale!

Youth Group Calendar

Sunday, August 15: Back To School Party at church at 6pm (till 8pm). Everyone bring something to eat (sweet or savory). We'll have hamburgers! Bring your friends as well. Live Music will be there!

Friday, August 20: Cardinals game: Meet at the church at 6:15pm. Tickets are \$15. LET ME KNOW BY THIS MONDAY (August 16) IF YOU ARE COMING SO I CAN GET YOU A TICKET!!!!!!

Seminars Offered

Ed Killeen, who preached recently, offers two opportunities he is leading in the fall. Brochures are in the parlor.

Anger Healing

A therapy group starting October 5, 2010 for men wanting substantial healing from unhealthy anger and related wounds in their life. Led by Ed Killeen, MDiv, MA, LPC, Therapist with Kaizen Counseling Services.

Fee \$35/session (24 sessions) plus one-time fee of \$30 for study materials.

Ed states that this group invites "men to a deeper understanding of their anger in light of Scripture, and to a group that will support them in making wiser choices." A workbook called The Anger Workbook" will be used, as well as The Anger Trap. If interested, see brochure in parlor or contact Ed [see print copy].

Loving God in a Fallen Marriage

Marriage Workshop led by Ed and Margaret Killeen

Talks led by Ed; breakout sessions co-led by Ed and his wife Margaret. (Margaret Killeen, MAC, MATS, Therapist)

When: Sunday evenings, October 3, 10 & 17

Hosted by High Ridge Fellowship Baptist Church, 2735 High Ridge Blvd., High Ridge, MO 63049

Cost: \$40 per couple if mailed by 9/20/10; \$50 per couple after 9/20/10 and at the door.

Who would benefit? "These workshops are for husbands and wives who desire a renewed vision for marriage, who are willing to humbly examine themselves before one another, and who are open to receiving from the Scriptures, a life-giving word from God for their marriage."

People Are Not Plastic

A recent Breakpoint commentary dated July 20, 2010, and titled "Flabbergasted by Family" highlighted a study on children born by sperm donation. The Commission on Parenthood's Future surveyed 485 adults who were the offspring of sperm donors.

The study found that such adults suffer more depression, delinquency, and substance abuse than adults raised by their biological parents. These adults also reported significant emotional pain over the loss of their biological father. This pain exceeded the loss experienced by those who were adopted.

We forwarded the Breakpoint e-mail to several of our friends. One reply in particular caught our attention. It is reproduced with his permission.

"I agree with what you have said. I am from a broken home with no father and I believe this has affected me through my life and in my treatment of women. God intended that we have both a mother and a father. It is bad enough when a marriage ends in divorce, but at least I knew who my father was. I cannot imagine how it would be not to know who your father was. Man believes that he is on the top of the pyramid of life. This very thing is what caused the fall of man in the first place. He wanted to know as much as God. Now more and more man desires to be in charge and not depend on anything, other than himself. My own mind set changed when I discovered my real Father, God. God is the perfect father, the one all of us truly hope for."

To say that humans are made in God's image means that we are not blank tablets. There is an inherent structure which cannot be ignored. To pretend that we as humans can do whatever we want with no consequences is destructive and dangerous to the value of the person and indeed to the whole culture.

--Submitted by Larry & Marie Chambers

Letter to the Congregation from Heather Sparkman

August 9, 2010

Dear Old Orchard Family,

Thank you for the recent opportunity to share with you about my ministry with Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Arkansas. I spoke about a student I had been meeting with who has struggled with people, and as we spent the semester talking about some of these issues, we began to delve deeper and talk about her relationship with God. In one of the conversations that stood out to me most starkly, we talked about how she viewed God - was he close to her? Did she think that he loved her and it was evident? I remembered how she had once described God in more of a Deistic fashion - he had set the world into motion, had given her a set of circumstances, but really was uninterested in her life, in her struggles and heartaches. She felt alone both in her relationship with others and with God.

As we sat in a quiet coffee shop on campus, talking about what it meant that God loved her, I asked if she thought God heard her prayers, whether he even wanted to hear her prayers. And I could see the tension in her face - what she really thought was that God was not interested in her, but she knew the 'right' answer would be to say yes, God heard her prayers. We eventually looked at various passages from the book of Hebrews, building off of the sermon we had heard the night before on the Old Testament sacrifices from Leviticus. We talked about what it meant that Jesus was the perfect sacrifice - sacrificed for her - that God had come near to her, had not left her alone, but had drawn her near in Jesus Christ. We talked about how Jesus, now sitting at the right hand of God, was also the perfect High Priest who interceded for her before the Father, that if God was going to hear her prayers, it would be because of his beloved Son Jesus, who had died for her sins. She was not alone. There is a great love that is hers because of Jesus Christ.

This is why I love what I do - clearly, there has been a lot of continued struggle for this young woman, and likely will continue to struggle - but as we have spent time together, something that you have helped to make possible, what I could begin to see is the Lord working in this student, slowly opening her heart, changing her hardness into a tenderness. As you think of it, please pray for her, for all of our students, and for me, that the Lord would open us all to his abundant love!

As we move into the fall semester (classes start on August 23!) I am eager to see students return, the Freshman girls of my first year are now Juniors. We hope to welcome a new batch of students this year, new students to walk with, both in their faith and in their doubts, in their strengths and weaknesses. Please pray for our efforts to reach out to our campus, training students to do ministry and love their fellow students, and that the Lord will truly be at work on our campus. Please also pray for my continued support raising - I am moving closer to my goal of raising \$45,000 this school year, now around 85% raised or pledged.

Thank you all for your support, your prayers, and your encouragement!

In His Grace,

Heather Sparkman

[see print copy for address]

[see print copy for phone]

[see print copy for e-mail address]

www.arkansas.ruf.org

2010 Church-Wide Retreat

"Pressing On to Know the Lord: Lessons I Have Learned"

OOC's 2010 church-wide retreat is fast approaching. As we get ready to send the Tuckers off to plant a new church in St. Louis, we want to spend time reflecting on what it means to be a community of Jesus Christ's followers. The OOC theme for the last year has been "Pressing On To Know the Lord," and so that will be the theme of this retreat. We will have some time for teaching, sharing and worshipping. But also we will have plenty of time for enjoying one another for food, fellowship and general fun. Please join us!

This retreat will be September 17th & 18th from 6 pm Friday to 6 pm Saturday at **Eagle Hurst Ranch** owned & operated by members of Jim Butz's family and located approximately 14 miles outside of Steelville, Missouri, next to the Huzzah River. (240 Eagle Hurst Road, Steelville, MO 65565, <http://eaglehurst ranch.com>) Past church-wide retreats (2005 - 2008) were at Pinecrest but they are booked for 2010. Please direct questions about the retreat to either Jason Bartlett (314.520.8163; ja.Bartlett@hotmail.com) or Chris O'Neal (314.638.1550; ww1er@yahoo.com).

We have written this to both inform you and help prepare you for the retreat. It provides additional info than what is in the brochure and the registration form (the latter is for costs and sign-up).

There are some optional activities that are not included in the base retreat price and require additional fees if you want to participate in them and must be registered for when you sign-up for the retreat. They are:

- Horse back trail rides
- Pony rides
- Paint-ball

Eagle Hurst Ranch...

Eagle Hurst Ranch (Eagle) is smaller than Pinecrest and the two facilities offer different amenities. Eagle Hurst does not have; a motel, pre-prepared camp sites, a lake, soccer field, or indoor basketball court. Eagle has a lot to offer OOC but you should be aware that its chapel and public buildings are original structures (not new buildings with multimedia centers, handicap accessible restrooms and prepared rooms for infants, toddlers, and pre-K child care).

Meals...

Three (3) meals are provided in the base price of the retreat. Promptness will be required as they serve meals in exactly an hour! No make-up meals or refunds if you miss!

Non-meal drinks & snacks...

Eagle Hurst has no on-site vending machines so everyone needs to bring their own non-meal drinks & snacks. Eagle does have a **gift counter** that sells ice and pop (soda) on an honor system with payment-on-departure by you (not OOC). We recommend everyone bring their own drinks and snacks and share them with each other to create variety and community. Each cabin has its own small refrigerator.

Camping...

OOC members who want to bring their own tents and camp outdoors under the stars can do so. Eagle has identified a flat area with a shade pavilion where families can setup their camp sites. The site has little nature cover for shade or protection from rain. Ground fires are not allowed. Eagle does not have dedicated restroom/showers for campers so an unoccupied cabin, CYPRESS, will be available 24/7 for bathroom use.

Cabins...

Eagle provides all bedding (sheets, blankets, and pillows) for its 29 cabins; all mattresses were replaced six years ago. Cabin dwellers only need to bring their toys, snacks & drinks, clothes, and toiletries. All cabins have AC (but no heat), a mini studio sized refrigerator, and most cabins have two bedrooms with a shared bathroom.

There are fewer cabins (than at Pinecrest) and no on-site motel, depending upon attendance (and the attendance of a second group expected to also use the facilities), small families (4 members or under) may need to share the two bedroom cabins, each family getting one bedroom, so they share the entry, bathroom and refrigerator. **If** it becomes necessary to have some folks share a cabin, we will consult with you first before finalizing cabin assignments.

Laurel House...for Child Care (*not for overnight occupancy*)

Laurel House is a four bedroom house with AC & heat which will be used for childcare (infants, toddlers, and pre-K) during Saturday morning's meetings since it has its own bathrooms, kitchen, and living room. Throughout the retreat, Laurel House will also be a place where moms can nurse babies and parents can take very young children who need a break from the wilds of camping.

Parking...All vehicles must park in the parking lot. There are no roads for you to park right next to the cabins.

Tube float trip down the Huzzah River & country swimming hole...

Included in the base price is access to Eagle's tubes, entry into the Huzzah River and pick-up/transport back to Eagle. The tube float takes 1 to 1.5 hours depending on the river's current. It starts at Eagle and ends at the first public access point to the Huzzah River. Since there are no public access points above Eagle, people staying at Eagle have the whole river to themselves until they reach the first public access point which Eagle uses as its pick-up point. At the pick-up point is a 50 foot by 40 foot by 8 foot deep country swimming hole for those who want to fully submerge themselves in water. You should dress appropriately for floating which includes old clothes and tennis shoes that can get wet. If you want refreshments during your float you will need to bring your own cooler and ropes to secure it to a tube for floating with you. Eagle is located near the beginning of the Huzzah River so the water is generally clear and there is no pond scum smell.

Swimming ...

The outdoor pool on-site will be closed during OOC's retreat. For those that want to swim, Eagle will provide a time during which they will supply transportation to and from the country swimming hole at Huzzah River's first public access point. There is no sand, the ground is pebbles, so bring old tennis shoes that can get wet, to protect your feet.

Beach...

Eagle Hurst Ranch is along the start of the Huzzah River and offers tube floats in the river, but you must walk down a hill through some woods to reach the river. It also has a pebble beach on the opposite side of river from camp. This beach is great for nature exploration (explore for crayfish, tadpoles, and fish) but you must forge the Huzzah (knee deep water) to reach it. Bring extra socks and shoes that can get wet.

Outdoor games...

Eagle offers many outdoor playing fields for OOC's use. These include: sand volleyball, softball, horse shoes, tennis, basketball, shuffleboard and badminton. The tennis, shuffleboard and badminton courts are lit till 11 pm each night. Eagle provides balls, bats, birdies, brackets, horse shoes for these games. But if you need a glove or have a favorite bat or bracket bring it down and have fun. There are also two small outdoor playgrounds which appear designed for children ages 3 to 6 years old. One of them includes a sandbox so bring your child's shovel & pail if they are into sand construction.

Indoor games...

Eagle has a game room located off the lodge which has; (2) ping-pong, (1) pool table, (1) air hockey, (1) foosball, (3) video games. Video games are coin operated; all others are free. The game room is one of the few public places with AC and is open till 11 pm each night.

Things you should bring...You sign-up, we'll give you the list!

Some of the things you cannot bring to the retreat...

--Pets --Fireworks --Firearms

--Go-karts, ATV, dirt bikes, jet skies, and other such personal motorized vehicles. (Bicycles OK)

Camping Nuances...

This year mosquitoes are below average but flies are above average.

Poison ivy/oak/sumac low because for the past eight years they have been pulling it out when found.

No land-line phone service to the cabins.

No internet connectivity for laptops.

Cell phone signal reception can be spotty and weak.

Optional: Horseback trail ride...

For an **additional \$25 per person**, an individual can go on an afternoon horseback trail ride which last 1 to 1.5 hours.

Trail ride is a slow ride through woods and fields and you will cross or enter the river.

Minimum of 4 people from OOC need to sign-up in advance for this event to occur. First ride will be @ 3:30 pm. If more than 4 people register a second group of 4 will be setup for 2 pm. If more than 8 register, a shorter trail will be used to allow a third group of 4 to be accommodated and start times for all will be adjusted. Some other key items about horse rides at Eagle Hurst Ranch;

- Must sign a waiver (covenant not to sue).
- Must be 9 years old or greater to ride horse.
- Must wear a helmet if under 18 years old.
- Must want to ride horse without peer-pressure or parent-pressure. If someone says they don't want to go, Eagle will remove them from the ride no matter what a friend or parent says.
- Must be able to mount the horse yourself.
- No previous horse riding experience required per Steve Butz. Many of Eagle's guests only ride a horse once a year (Eagle Hurst Ranch has many repeat customers).

Optional: Pony rides...

For an **additional \$1 per child**, a child can go on a short pony ride Saturday morning shortly after dining hall closes for breakfast (9 am) and again at 4 pm Saturday afternoon just before dining hall opens for dinner (5 pm). Must sign a waiver (covenant not to sue).

Optional: Paint-Ball...

For an **additional \$20 per person**, a person can participate in a paint-ball game on Saturday afternoon which can last 1.5 to 2 hours at **No Hard Feelings** <http://www.nohardfeelingspaintball.com/>. The paint-ball is not part of Eagle, but is nearby and run by Eagle's chief cook. Free transportation to/from the paint-ball event provided. Minimum of 10 people from OOC need to sign-up for this event to occur. Some other key items about paint-ball are:

- Gun, goggles, and paint balls provided.
- Game has surrender rules for people who don't want to be shot at. Any player who does not follow surrender rules (shoots a surrendered player) will be removed from the game.
- Must sign waiver (covenant not to sue). If under 18 year old, parent/guardian must co-sign waiver.
- Appropriate clothes for deep woods required (old clothes that can get damaged. hiking boots, tennis shoes, long pants, long sleeve shirt). No flip-flops, sandals, heels, shorts, tank tops or swim wear (exposed skin a no-no).

Arts Ministry Meeting

Arts Ministry will meet on Thursday, August 26 at 7pm at Milligan House. New artists are welcome to come! For more information or questions please talk to Ron Lutjens upon his return to St. Louis (after August 23).

OOC Directory Update!

New E-Mail Addresses for Will & Gail Barker
See print copy for addresses

Sign Up for OOC Women's Daytime (& Possibly Evening!) Bible Study!

We are excited to announce that we will be studying Genesis for this year's Bible Study! Some of you may be very excited to hear that we're studying this first book of the Bible. However, some of you may find the study of Genesis daunting or uninteresting or maybe even irrelevant. If you're in this second group, let me encourage you that I think you will be very pleasantly surprised at the richness of the beginning of OUR story and at the frequency with which we will visit the New Testament during our study to more fully understand the fullness of God's Goodness and Redemption. We hope you will join us!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN EVENING STUDY, please let me know ASAP! We would very much like to offer this wonderful study to ladies for whom evenings are a better time.

What: Women's Bible Study
Topic: Genesis - In the Beginning GOD (start reading through Genesis as you're able before we start)
When: Fridays, 9:15am - 11:30am, starting September 17, 2010 & ending April 15, 2011
Where: Milligan House living room
Who: You! (Feel free to invite friends)
Led by: Betty McCracken
Materials Fee: one time fee estimated at \$15 - \$20 (scholarships available if needed)
Format: arrive, snacks, worship, discussion of lesson, prayer time
Childcare: available in church nursery (no charge!)
RSVP: by September 5th by contacting Melissa Nelson [see contact info in print copy or directory]

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 (no answering machine)

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