



## OVERTURE

The (Almost-Fortnightly) Newsletter of Old Orchard Church

✝ Sunday, December 5, 2010 ✝

### Welcome!

#### **Guests, we welcome you and thank you for coming!**

- Child care services for infants through children in kindergarten are offered and located in the church building basement. Please see nursery details below.
- Sunday School meets at 9 a.m. and is offered for all ages.
- 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 in the hymnal rack or on the chairs.

#### **Our Children's Ministry**

- **Nursery** is offered for infants & children through kindergarten age. Our nurseries are in the church building 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** for children in grades 1-5. Listen for dismissal time during worship, usually around 10:50.

### Old Orchard Church

#### Old Orchard Church

**Church Office/Milligan House:** 314.962.3795

**Church Building, 640 Amelia:** 314.961.6932

(no answering device at this number)

**Office E-mail:** [office@oldorchardchurch.org](mailto:office@oldorchardchurch.org)

**Web Site:** [www.oldorchardchurch.org](http://www.oldorchardchurch.org)

**Ron Lutjens' (home) Study:** 314.962.6196

**Ron's E-mail:** see print copy

**Mark Tucker's Office:** 314.680.3670

**Mark's E-mail:** see print copy

## OVERTURE

### ❖ 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, December 19, edited by Susan O'Neal. Deadline for articles is next Sunday, December 12.

## CALENDAR NOTES

### ❖ Youth Group December Calendar:

Sunday, Dec. 5. **Tucker Farewell Dinner.** 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 12. Church-wide **Christmas Party** at 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 19. **Caroling** @ 6 p.m. Meet at Milligan House. Refreshments afterwards at the Taussigs.

Sunday, December 26. **Christmas Break.** No Teen Fellowship.

### ❖ OOC Calendar

#### ○ Men's Bible Study

Next study will be Saturday, December 18, 7:15-8:30 a.m. at Milligan House.

Newcomers welcome! We usually meet the first and third Saturdays of the month and are studying the book of Revelation. -- Hal Pendergrass

#### ○ Women's Bible Study News

Both of the women's Bible studies are studying the book of Genesis. The Morning Study meets Fridays, 9:15 am - 11:30 am, @ Milligan House. Child care available.

Evening Study meets Thursday evenings also @ Milligan House, 7-8:30 pm. No childcare available. \$20 materials fee for either study (scholarships are available).

Evening study women: We hope to have substitute facilitators for the evening study during Jessie's absence. For more info, please contact Melissa Nelson.

#### ○ Adult Choir

Meets Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. Will not meet December 16. Please see Greg Roig, music director, for questions.

#### ○ Reminder of Advent Worship Schedule

**November 28** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent    *Celebrating Messiah Jesus: Prince of Peace* (last week)    Isaiah 9: 1-7

**December 5** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent    *Celebrating Messiah Jesus: Emmanuel* (today)    Isaiah 7:14

**December 12** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent *Celebrating Messiah Jesus: Root of Jesse*  
Isaiah 11:1-10

**December 19** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent *Celebrating Messiah Jesus: Lion of Judah*  
Genesis 49:8-9; Revelation 5:1-10  
Special Children's Worship: (Early Christmas worship oriented toward our children, since many families will be gone when Christmas arrives)

**December 25 Christmas Day** We will worship Jesus together on Thursday morning, at  
**11:00 am**—not 10:15, our normal Sunday worship time!

### CHURCH BUSINESS

#### **Mark Tucker Farewell Dinner**

Tonight! Sunday, December 5, 5 p.m. we are having a farewell dinner with the Tucker family.



Please join us!

#### **No Sunday School on 12/26.**

#### **★ Adult Sunday School**

"*Dramas of Grace.*" We're watching stories in film of God's intrusion into the lives of people like us. Today, December 5, we are viewing a documentary *Through Gates of Splendor* (based on the book of the same name by Elisabeth Elliot). On December 12 & 19, a film will be shown with Professor Andrew Walls describing Christian growth in Africa. In an article (2008) posted by Christianity Today Andrew Wells is described as: "He is one of the few scholars who saw that African Christianity was not just an exotic, curious phenomenon in an obscure part of the world, but that African Christianity might be the shape of things to come." American church historian Mark Noll says that "no one has written with greater wisdom about what it means for the Western Christian religion to become the global Christian religion than Andrew Walls."  
Please join us @ 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

--Ron Lutjens & Larry Chambers

#### **Christmas Party with Concert**

Sunday, December 12, Concert @ 5:00 p.m. Refreshments afterwards hosted by Michelle Kraft, Lois Easterling and Nancy Weir. Sign-up sheets circulating to bring treats, cheese & crackers, fruit or veggie tray. **Bring friends!!**

#### **Kids' Christmas Craft Sale!**

Kids 18 years and younger are invited to make Christmas presents that they can show and sell to others in the fellowship. Date of the sale: after worship **Sunday, December 19**. If you plan to make things this year, please let Mary Beth Glasgow know. For those of you new to the church, our kids have displayed some wonderful talents and hard work in the past. Some have made candlesticks, wax candles, cookies, breads, note holders, marbled note paper, fire starters, wrapping paper, ornaments. Plan on buying a few last minute gifts! Bring cash! Also, see Sarah Lowe's offer in this Overture.

### **Staff Christmas Gift**

As is our custom, we will be taking up a collection for all our paid staff (part-time and full-time). Checks can be written to "Old Orchard Church" and designated "Staff Gift." (If you wish to designate a specific staff person you may do so. The rest of the money collected will be divided among the staff.) Our paid staff includes Greg Roig, music director; Susan O'Neal, custodian; Lina Gentry, accompanist; Durinda Hood, administrative assistant; and Mark Tucker, and Ron Lutjens, pastors.

### **Adopt a Family Christmas Gift Giving Tree!**

We invite you to participate in any of the following ways:

--Purchase a gift or gift card for a child or adult. Thanks to all who have already taken a gift ornament.

Snowflake Ornaments represent gifts for the 2 families. We are adopting 2 families: a single mom receiving SSI/disability with 5 children and grandchildren: 6, 18 & 19 year old girls, 4 & 15 year old boys; the other family is an unemployed single mom with two children, ages 10 (boy) and 12 (girl). Angels represent those gifts to children whose parents are in prison and served by Mission Gate, a prison ministry.

Gold-glittered ornaments represent gifts to children of homeless women served at the Grace & Peace Fellowship's Winter Shelter. We now have those up! We particularly invite children in the congregation to take one and get a gift for that child. These gifts are suggested to be in the \$5 to 10 range.

Instructions for gifts: Take an ornament or angel from our tree. (Put your name on the second half of the ornament or the gold tag of the angel & put it in the designated basket.) Purchase the gift or gift card. If it is a gift, please return it wrapped, and put the ornament or angel identifying the gift on the top of the present. Please bring back the gift card in an envelope, with the ornament on top of the envelope identifying the gift. (Gift cards are to be given to Durinda Hood.)

You are invited to write a Christmas greeting to the child or parent. We'll add the real names of the families before we give the gifts away.

--Bring food. Bring food for a Christmas dinner and/or food to help stock the families' pantries. Please do not bring items in glass containers. (Safer to transport!)

--Contribute money that the Mercy Ministry will use toward meeting the families' needs (gift card for fresh food or meat, utility assistance, to supplement donated items, etc.) or gifts. You can make your check out to Old Orchard Church and designate it "Adopt a Family."

We will need everything turned in by next Sunday, December 12. Thanks.

Questions? See Debbie Pendergrass, Phil Patterson, Linda Lemen, or Durinda Hood.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Wilma Cross - Santiago, Chile.** Pray for Christmas outreach activities this month. Pray for Wilma as she speaks in various locations and mentors and counsels individuals. Pray for physical and spiritual strength and protection. Pray that the Lord will supply others to come along side of Wilma in the work.
- 2. Rob and Tünde Futo - Budapest, Hungary.** Pray for the ministry of the Christmas concerts given by the choirs that Tünde directs. Pray for wisdom and strength for Rob in his teaching and leading various programs
- 3. Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez - Huanta, Peru.** Continue to pray for their widespread ministry in the mountains as well as in their town. Pray for their ministry in the church, various Bible classes and individual counseling and shepherding. Pray for continued health and physical and spiritual protection.
- 4. L'Abri Fellowship - England and Switzerland.** Pray for the students who are leaving early this month as this term ends. Pray for their reentry into their "normal" lives with new challenges. Pray for a restful break for the staff. Pray for the Lord's choice of students for the winter term beginning in January.
- 5. Dawn Miller - Madrid, Spain.** Pray that Dawn will have opportunities to present the true message of Christmas with students this month. Pray that Dawn herself will have a joyful Christmas. Pray that Ana will grow in her new faith.
- 6. Joseph and Elfi Muutuki - Nairobi, Kenya.** Pray for Joe and Elfi as they carry on their work with their church, while dealing with the issue of Joe's father, who is terminally ill with cancer. Continue to pray for Anishmas, the 12 year old girl who is living with them.
- 7. Luciano and Luciene Pires - Goiania, Brazil.** Pray for the ongoing work of Colloquium, for the Lord's work in the hearts of those needing him, and believers. Pray for provision of a new home for the work and the Pires family, if this is the Lord's will. Pray for an exchange program with US churches and a Christian school in Goiania that is being planned for this summer.
- 8. Rene and Lani Quimbo - Mindanao, Philippines.** (Portal Study Center; the church and various school ministries in the city; House of Hope; Hillside Learning Center; Zamboanga City Ministry Center.) Pray that the Lord will continue to show them His plan for each ministry center with their different programs. Pray for physical and spiritual protection and strength. Pray for the Lord to supply urgent financial needs. [See the Foreign Missions bulletin board for pictures and parts of their latest prayer letter.]
- 9. Joel and Jessica Rinn - Verona, Italy.** Praise for Luca, a student who is helping get the student ministry going. Pray for a good group to form. Pray for solid, consistent people to attend church services. Pray that the Lord will supply funds so that the ministry room in Verona can continue to be rented. Pray that there will be spiritual fruit from good contacts they have in the small town where they live.
- 10. Bob and Shirley Woodson - Lima, Peru.** Praise for their safe arrival in Atlanta where they have already purchased a house near some of their children! Pray for them as they will be visiting churches and Shirley's family for several weeks on the east coast. Pray for guidance as they seek the Lord's will about choice of church and ministry here. Pray for the continuing work of the Gospel in Peru.

**BIRTHDAYS!!!**

12/1..... Brent Helton	12/20..... Ana Helton
12/7..... Matt Philip	12/21..... Nicolas Rinn**
12/7..... Nicholas Skrainka	12/22..... Thais Marques
12/7..... Amanda Tevebaugh	12/22..... Dan Petty
12/9..... Nathaniel Gutierrez**	12/26..... Hajnal Futo**
12/10..... Ted Winters	12/26..... Debbie Pendergrass
12/11..... Luca Zavaglia	12/26..... Reneirio Quimbo Jr.**
12/12..... Sarah Lowe	12/26..... Adele Raquepaw
12/14..... Currie Bishop	
12/15..... Will Barker	**members of a missionary or ministry family
12/16/01..... Csege Futo**	
12/18..... Ben Kraft	
12/18/95..... Caileigh O'Neal	

**ADVERTISEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Toffee For Sale**

Sarah Lowe will be out of town for the Kids' Christmas Craft Sale, but she is happy to fill special orders of her famous toffee for delivery at a mutually agreeable time. \$5.00 for an eight-ounce bag. Email her (see print copy for e-mail address).

**Carols and Strings!**

Come enjoy a hot drink at Foundations Coffee while listening to Christmas carols played by the Six String Quartet! This young ensemble taught by Alyssa Catlin will be performing from 2:00 to 3:30 on Saturday, December 18th. The coffee shop is located in Maplewood on Manchester, across the street from Schlafly Bottleworks.

7298 Manchester Rd  
Maplewood, MO 63143

Submitted by Alyssa Catlin

**"Islam...A Christian's Response" Seminar**

Two Islamic experts and former Muslims coming to Central Presbyterian Church on **Sat. Dec. 11th** for a day long seminar on *"Islam...A Christian's Response."* It will be in the Fellowship Hall at Central from 9 am to 3 pm and lunch will be included. **Rev. Steve Kelley** - An Egyptian Arab who came to Christ in his 20's and **Jamal Ladwali**, a Lebanese Muslim Background Believer [MBB], will be our guest speakers. Both with United Family International, a group of MBB's who minister in the Arab world to Muslims. They know their stuff and it should be a great day and very informative. The cost will be \$10 per person to cover some of the expenses and lunch. We are limited to 200 persons. --*Randy Mayfield*, Central Missions & Outreach, Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO; Excerpts from 11/1/10 e-mail.

**L'Abri Retreat – Winter 2011**

L'Abri Fellowship & the Francis Schaeffer Institute will be holding a two-week L'Abri Retreat at the Kramer Farm, La Chaumier in the foothills of the Ozarks, January 7-14 & Jan. 14-21. You are invited to participate for one or two weeks in a typical L'Abri

experience of reflection, discussion, personal studies and community living. For more information and registration form, see brochures available in the parlor.

## STORIES AND SUNDRIES

October 2010

To: Old Orchard Church

I could hear the voice on the phone go soft as the woman asked, "How much will this cost me?" A moment before, she had explained how she had been in a secret lesbian relationship for several months. As a part-time lay pastor to women in her church, she knew what the Bible said about homosexuality. She herself had taught that it was sin many times, but in her loneliness after her divorce she had found herself pulled into the grips of a relationship with another woman which had become sexual. After becoming exhausted from living a double life and worrying daily that her congregation would find out, she responded to the Holy Spirit's prompting and called FirstLight. After hearing that there were people ready to come alongside her, the sound of hope came through her scared tone. And when her tone dropped off and she asked, "How much?" I answered this lady in her time of need, "FirstLight has been blessed by the generosity of many people who give support to us. Although we hope that as we become a blessing in your life you will want to support us as you are able, we don't require any fee for services. The important thing right now is that you come and find help." I was overcome with a feeling of deep gratitude to all of our supporters. She paused, and then said sincerely, "You are a blessing from God."

This woman is right. FirstLight is a blessing from God. And as a FirstLight partner, you would be a huge part of that blessing. *Thank you so much for your 2010 third quarter support of \$462.25.* Because of your generosity, people like the lady above can come out of the loneliness and fear of their sexual struggles and find help. And as God keeps blessing us with support, FirstLight is becoming more and more a blessing to hurting people. In this last quarter, we launched our third sexual addictions group and our men's same-sex attraction group continues to flourish. We have since launched two groups for wives of men with sexual addictions. None of this is possible without the support we receive.

I hope you will continue to pray and support FirstLight as we continue to grow. I also would ask you to support us by sharing with others the work FirstLight is doing. Please consider telling a friend or pastor about what we do, and ask them to consider becoming a FirstLight ministry partner themselves. There is a lot of need in our sexually broken culture and much work to be done.

One of the things I enjoy most about directing FirstLight is getting to know the supporters of the ministry. I'm always eager to talk with you to learn what got you interested in FirstLight and to share with you how God is working through it. Always feel free to call with questions, or just to let us know you are praying for us. I'd love to hear from you.

God Bless,  
Rev. Sean Maney  
FirstLight Director