



OVERTURE

The (Almost) Fortnightly Newsletter
Of Old Orchard Church
May 1, 2011

Welcome!

Guests, we welcome you and thank you for coming! 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. 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 on the chairs or in the hymnal rack.



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 at Milligan House. Listen for announcement to dismiss.

Sunday School News

Adult classes are continuing through May 22. No class on Sunday, May 29 for Memorial Day Weekend.

Next Parlor Fellowship

Sunday, May 8 hosted by Marci Robertson with the youth group. Please sign-up today. It will also be in honor of Covenant Seminary graduates—this year we have only one: Chris Schwartz!

Japan Relief Fund—Final Day!!

We will continue for a couple more Sundays to collect funds for relief from the earthquake in Japan. As of Sunday, April 17, we'd collected \$1000. Please write your check to Old Orchard Church and designate it "Japan Relief." Our collected gift will be given to Presbyterian Mission International (PMI).

Funds in Honor of our 30th Anniversary

30th Anniversary Fund. We have set up a fund people can give to in order to help defray the cost of the various things we are doing for our anniversary celebration: the festival on September 24 (includes catered food at a *great* price [roughly \$1200]; bringing *The Crossing* down here, the Celtic band from Chicago [\$1000]; and other smaller items/expenses for that event) as well as other smaller things along the way. The more we collect for this fund, the less we will have to set aside in our 2011-2012 budget and/or charge people for. This festival is something we hope will draw guests from outside our fellowship. *Payable to: Old Orchard Church* *Designate to: Anniversary Fund*

Love Gift. We're also setting up a fund to gather up a cash love gift, to be split between a far and a near-home missionary/ministry as a kind of thank-offering to the Lord for his mercies to us over these first 30 years. Recipients to be announced. Leviticus 22:29 describes "thank offerings" that individuals or families would offer up to the Lord not as something required but just as a way to express thanks to God. On this side of Christ and his cross and empty tomb we no longer offer grain to burnt on an altar but we collect cash that we can give as a love gift to someone in Jesus' name. *Payable to: Old Orchard Church* *Designate to: Anniversary Love Gift*



Copper cross. We're setting up a fund that folks can contribute to so that we can hire an artist/craftsman to build us a copper cross to go on top of the bell tower

at the church. We are in the process of talking with people to get an idea of the cost of this. *Payable to: Old Orchard Church Designate to: Copper Cross*

So as the Lord leads, we do encourage the fellowship to give to one or more or all of these funds but cheerfully, with thankful hearts, and *above and beyond what you are already giving to help support the work of Old Orchard Church.*

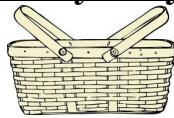
Warm thanks to you all,
Ron Lutjens,
on behalf of the Session and the 30th Anniversary Committee

Upcoming Activities

House Church

Wednesday, May 4
6:00 p.m. Supper – Bring a dish to share!
7:00 p.m. Meeting
See you there!

OOO 30th Anniversary—Picnic Time!!
“Numbering Our Days, Finding Our Wisdom”
Saturday, May 14



Kick-off Picnic at The Easterlings' Farm
(directions will be out next Sunday)

Time: 10 to 2 pm

and

Farewell to Nelson & Kathy Jennings

Bring your own meat to be barbecued and your own drinks.

and

Bring a side dish to share according to the first letter of your last name:

A-H: Dessert

I-P: Favorite Side Dish

Q-Z: Salad

Weekend of September 23-25: Please mark your fall calendar!
Anniversary Celebration on OOC grounds

Reminders For Leaders!

Leaders' Meeting: Tuesday, May 3 at 7 p.m. at Milligan House

Written Budget Reports Due: Sunday, May 15.

Pastor to be Away

Pastor Ron Lutjens will be away from midday on May 1 through Thursday, May 5. See a ruling elder if you have pastoral needs. Ron will be at the Leaders' Meeting on the evening of May 3.

Thank You Note

We are thankful for the baby shower organized by Old Orchard Church. Thank you for your love and kindness which enable us to see the love of Christ in a very special way.

--Andre & Thais Marques

Wedding Bells Are Ringing



All OOC women are invited to a bridal shower to honor Sandra Ribeiro. Sandra and Chuck Schulte will be married at Old Orchard Church 11 a.m. on June 4th.

WHERE: Milligan House

WHEN: Saturday, May 7 at 10:00 am

HOSTESSES: Lina Gentry and Thais Marques

Sandra is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond. If your budget is tight you can contribute to a group gift. Please give your contribution to Lina or Thais by Sunday, May 1. It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring something for the refreshment table. Please join your sisters in Christ in a time of prayer and celebration for Sandra.

Adult Choir

Meets Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. Please see Greg Roig, music director, for schedule & questions.



ZUMBA at OOC!!!

Sweep out your body's winter cobwebs while you HAVE FUN and exercise at the same time!! Tuesdays in April and May, 6-7 PM in the parlor. No charge. Bring your friends and neighbors, too! Contact Becca Skrainka with any questions (see print copy).

Mom's Group



Tuesday mornings, 10 am-noon, See Kathleen Shumate for location. Geared toward mothers with young children at home, but all are welcome! Come join us to fellowship and share our joys, burdens, and wisdom together in this grand ministry to which we have been called. Talk to Kathleen Shumate, (see print copy for contact info), for more information or to be put on the email list.

Men's Bible Study

Our next study will be Saturday, May 7 at 7:15 a.m. Newcomers welcome! We meet the first and third Saturdays of the month and are studying the book of Revelation. -- Hal Pendergrass

Youth Group

(Sunday evenings, 6-8 p.m., Milligan House basement except where noted)

May 1 - Serving at Creve Coeur Manor

May 8 - *High School Only!* Movie & Coffee, 6:00 p.m.

May 15 - Joint Youth Group with Grace & Peace, 4:30 p.m., @ Grace & Peace

May 22 - End of Year Cook-out

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, May 15; editor will be Prisca Rice (our telecommuter editor). Deadline for articles is next Sunday, May 8.

Lawn Mowing - Please sign-up!



We're at that season again—looking for people to mow the lawns at the church building/Milligan House and at the home of Willie Lee, disabled who lives in Rock Hill. **Bill Grady** coordinates lawn mowing at the church/Milligan House, and **Mark Robertson** is currently coordinating lawn mowing at Willie Lee's, but we are looking for a new coordinator for Willie's lawn mowing. Interested? See Mark Robertson. Sign up sheets are circulating today! For questions, please contact Bill Grady or Mark Robertson.

Tender Mercies Prayer

This is an opportunity to pray for our adult covenant children who are not walking with the Lord. Many of these young adults were baptized at OOC and we promised to pray for them. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, May 21 at the Milligan House for a time of sharing and prayer. We usually meet every other month. If you are interested, please join us. If you are interested and not able to make that date, contact Betsy Roig.

OOC Calendar

Sundays

Sunday School: 9 a.m. No Sunday School May 29
Worship: 10:15 to 10:50

Regular Meetings

Moms' Group: Tuesdays, 10-noon (location varies weekly)

Adult Choir: Thursdays, 7:15 p.m.

English Conversations: Fridays: 5 to 7 p.m. at Milligan House
(No class Friday, May 13; Will meet Thursday, May 19 instead of May 20)

Men's Bible Study: 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 7:15 a.m. at Milligan House

Fellowship



(Ladies) Bridal Shower for Sandra Ribiero.
Saturday, May 7, 10 - noon, Milligan House

Parlor Fellowship: May 8 after worship (also honor Covenant Seminary graduate)

Kick off Anniversary Picnic & Farewell to Nelson and Kathy Jennings
May 14, 10 to 2 at the Easterlings

Lunch at Milligan House: May 22 after worship at Milligan House

Other Meetings & Notes for May

Written Budget Reports Due: May 15, 2011

Tender Mercies Prayer. Saturday, May 21, 10 a.m.

Session Meeting. May 10, 6 p.m. at Milligan House.

Budget Construction Meeting (elders, deacon, deaconess, treasurer)
Tuesday, May 24, 7 p.m. at Milligan House



Office Closed: Monday, May 30.

Look Ahead

Congregational Meeting on Wednesday, June 15 at 6:45 p.m. Mark your calendar!

Children's Ministry coordinators meet Tuesday, June 7 at 6 p.m. See Mark Robertson

PCA General Assembly: June 7 – 10.



The Old Man

To wake up and realize you are the oldest man in the church can be depressing.

All of my life everyone has always been older than me – parents, teachers, sisters, professors, commanding officers, employers – everyone.

Statistics show that I have about five years to go! On the depressing side, I can't do much these days.

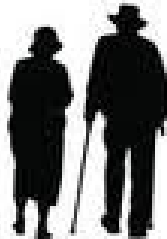
I have been married to my dear wife 62 years, lived in the same house 62 years, been blessed with four children, thirteen grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren – all of them healthy. I'm thankful for that.

What does the old goat have to be depressed about?

Writing this is helping!

One great thing in my life happened twenty-five years ago when we joined Old Orchard Church. Thank you, Ron!

Dan Petty



Note from the Pecks

Brothers and sisters, sons and daughters of Old Orchard Church,

It is going on 3 months since we have worshipped among you and we miss your familiar faces. But we have cherished your prayer for our well being. This is the greatest service that you can give us.

To Him who can do exceedingly above what we ask and think, and to you, our dear friends, love, Ken and Abby Peck (submitted by Abby Peck, 4/27/11)

Lost Puppy©

by Bryn McKie

I am a lost puppy
Looking for someone to lead me home:
I wonder if anyone out there loves me.
In my dream, I search for a master
Who I hear calling my name,
Who I see standing with arms open for me.
I run to him, but I never arrive;
I awake still on a quest to find this man
Only to realize I am alone,
A lost puppy.

When I am lonely I pretend I am in a house Warm and cozy beside a big fire: I feel the
heat flow over me
Like a blanket big and warm.
It touches me and keeps me safe
As my mind wonders if anyone worries about me.
I cry, hoping to be found
I wish, praying for a home,
A lost puppy.

I understand that I must find my way: I say to myself, 'I can do it.' I dream of the day I
arrive to a safe place, Struggling and fighting through hardships With a harbor, shining
and bright, in sight. I see a man -
Arms open and a smile on his face -
And I run. I run to him, this man,
Leaping into a warm embrace,
Better than any blanket,
As he says to me, 'Welcome my child,'
Inviting me inside, no longer
A lost puppy.

Foreign Missions Prayer Requests for May 2011

- 1. Wilma Cross – Santiago, Chile.** [We have not heard what decision Wilma made about having a Mercy School in April] Pray that the Lord would continue to use Wilma's life and testimony to minister to the many people who she teaches and counsels.
- 2. Rob and Tünde Futo – Budapest, Hungary.** Pray that in the coming weeks that new students would register for the fall Budapest Bible School. Pray with them as their first class graduates this June. Praise for the 200 students He has brought the past three years.
- 3. Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez – Huanta, Peru.** Ruthie has asked prayer that the news from the doctors the end of April about her condition would have been encouraging. That the broken thigh would be healing and the Lord would spare her life to continue to serve Him. Pray for God's will in her life. Pray for Gerry as he continues to record messages that go out over the Andes Mts. in Spanish and Quechua.
- 4. L'Abri Fellowship – England and Switzerland.** Pray for both branches as the spring/summer terms begin this month. Pray for a good interaction between students. Pray that the staff will see what lies behind many of the questions that are raised by the students and address their real spiritual needs.
- 5. Dawn Miller – Madrid, Spain.** Pray that the Lord will give spiritual fruit as Dawn ministers to the students. Since she must spend six months in the States starting in July (due to US/Spain treaties), pray for wisdom as to how the Lord would have her spend this time. Pray for others to join Dawn in her ministry, if this is God's will.
- 6. Joseph and Elfi Muutuki – Nairobi, Kenya.** Pray for Joe and Elfi as they carry on their various activities: Joe's teaching at Daystar University, the multi-racial church which is growing, various outreach activities to reach Hindus from India and refugees from the East Congo, a ministry to physically challenged people, etc. As they visit St Louis this month, pray for a possible visit to OOC.
- 7. Luciano and Luciene Pires – Goiania, Brazil.** Praise that the ministry activities through Colloquium are so well attended that they are limiting numbers in order to have more quality time to engage with individuals! Pray for them as they counsel many different people, including non Christians, in matters of life and faith.
- 8. Rene and Lani Quimbo – Mindanao, Philippines.** Pray for wisdom and spiritual and physical protection and strength for the Quimbo's as they have such numerous and varied ministries to care for. Pray for helpers in each of these ministries and pray for the Lord to meet their financial needs. Pray for the Lord's work in the hearts of the many people they contact.
- 9. Joel and Jessica Rinn – Verona, Italy.** Praise for the four young men who are committed to the Verona Bible Study. Pray for Joel as he disciples them in the faith. Pray for fruit from their many good contacts in the small town where they are living.
- 10. Jon and Tanya Coody – St. Petersburg, Russia.** Pray for Jon who will now be concentrating on raising funds and dealing with the many details in preparation for their return to Russia, hopefully in September. Pray that Tanya will get her US citizenship and that all of them will get visas.

The following is offered to the public by the Shepherd's Center, Webster/Kirkwood, Inc. Their phone number is 314-395-0988. The Shepherd's Center is an interfaith volunteer organization that provides programs and services for older adults. Periodically they offer classes on various topics available to the public. Here are classes coming up. I thought it might be of interest to someone in the congregation or someone you know. (Please note that they charge a small fee.)

--Submitted by Durinda Hood

Transitions:
Shepherding Concerns and Conversations
May 2011 Series

Classes will be held in the Christian Life Center,
1333 W. Lockwood

Cost is \$7.00 a session or \$21.00 for all 4 weeks

Please register by calling the Shepherd's Center, 395-0988

Aging is good; sometimes we just need a little more information...

Last year we began this series of evening classes and want to offer them again for 4 weeks on Monday evenings from 6 – 7:15 pm in May and August. These classes may be useful to you and/or your family members as you plan for your future independence. Sometimes it is helpful to call on the experts when faced with pending transitions in later life.

Join us at the Shepherd's Center for any of the following classes.

May 2. **Susan Rava, author of “Swimming Solo,”** a daughter's memoir of her parents, his parents and Alzheimer's disease will share her book which is filled with insight, hard-earned wisdom, love and keen-eyed observation. “Swimming Solo” is the story of a 14 year journey with Alzheimer's disease, which claimed both Susan's parents and her husband's parents. After the discussion, copies of the book will be available for purchase. For info. click www.susanrava.com or www.swimmingsolo.com

May 9. **Jaime Bodden from the Alzheimer's Association** will present the signs, symptoms and misconceptions of Alzheimer's disease and the resources and research available when you need it.

May 16. **Steven Hanson, a Veterans Services Officer** from the V. A. will be here to present information on veterans' non-service connected pension benefits for eligible veterans and surviving spouses.

May 23. **“Simplify your Life” Lila Shepley from Home Sweet Home** will present useful information on how to de-clutter and organize your home, including your paperwork, so that you remain safe in your “Home Sweet Home.”



May Birthdays

5/1.....Sharon Kern
5/3..Carine Barrs
5/6.....Liam Donovan
5/9.Gina Woodard
5/10..... Adeline Kuhn
5/10..... Emeline Rinn**
5/11..... Lina Gentry
5/11.....Zoe Robertson
5/11..... Elanor Shumate
5/12 Karissa Bartlett
5/13.....Greg Kern
5/16..... Matthew Maney
5/15.....Raphaella Zavaglia
5/20.....Drew Burdette
5/21.....Sandra Ribeiro
5/22.....Alex Bielefeldt
5/23.....Bridgette Clifton
5/24... ..Betsy Roig
5/25.....Elliot Storm
5/25.Ian Storm
5/29.....Adam Taussig
5/31..... John LeFort
5/31..... Matthias Muutuki**
5/31..... Oliver Storm

** member of missionary or ministry family we financially support

Old Orchard Church

Church Office/Milligan House: 314.962.3795

Church Building, 640 Amelia: 314.961.6932

(no answering device at this number)

OOC Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org

Church Office

Durinda Hood, Administrative Assistant

E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org

Pastor

Ron Lutjens' (Home Study): (see print copy)

Ron's E-mail: (see print copy)

Director of Ministry to Youth and Family

Mark Robertson, See print copy

Mark's E-Mail: see print copy.