



# OVERTURE

The (Almost) Fortnightly Newsletter  
Of Old Orchard Church  
September 18, 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 on a summer schedule. Please see below.

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 they are dismissed at 10:50.
- **Children's Worship** begins again today! Grades 1-5 will be dismissed to the Milligan House around 10:50. See Mark Robertson with questions.

## Sunday School News

**\* Adult Class:** Please join us for Sunday School starting today! We will begin a 9 week look into the idols of our hearts by reading and discussing Tim Keller's book *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters*. In *Counterfeit Gods*, Tim Keller helps the reader understand what happens to us when we turn good things into ultimate things, things that become functional gods in our lives. Dr. Keller looks at the most common of these functional gods in our culture and challenges us to search the affections of our own hearts. You can watch a video of Tim Keller introducing the book at [www.amazon.com/gp/mpd/permalink/m3HGKONIM8II2M/ref=entfbblink](http://www.amazon.com/gp/mpd/permalink/m3HGKONIM8II2M/ref=entfbblink)

**When?** We will meet each Sunday morning at **9 a.m.** in the Milligan house for the next **nine weeks** (9/18/2011-12/13/2011).

**Childcare?** Childcare **will be provided** this Sunday and each person who signs up for the class will be asked to volunteer for one week during the Sunday School hour to care for the children.

**Why?** Personal growth. Fellowship with fellow Old Orchardians. Food and coffee!

Please contact Margaret Killeen (21margaret@sbcglobal.net) or Jonathan Shumate (jonathan.shumate@gmail.com) with any questions.

**\* Children's Classes:** fall classes begin today

## OOO Youth Calendar

Youth Group meets on Sunday Nights from 6 to 8 pm. at the Milligan House

### September

- Sept. 18 – **no youth group**
- Sept. 22-24 – **THURSDAY TO SUNDAY:** OOC Anniversary Weekend! The Youth are large and in charge. Of the Hot Dog and Nacho Stand, that is, which will run from 2:30 to 7:30 on Saturday. Please sign up for a shift!



- Oct. 2 – youth group
- Oct. 7-9 -- **Youth Retreat at Eaglehurst Ranch** (\$35 per person; Emily Roig will lead us in worship for the weekend)
- Sixth Graders are officially invited to all Youth Group Events after January

## Van Needed for Weekend Youth Retreat!!



The youth of Old Orchard are joining three other youth groups the weekend of October 7-9 for our annual youth retreat at Eaglehurst Ranch. We have some drivers, but could use a van to help transport our kids and some guests that they will be bringing. If you have a van you would be able to loan us for the weekend, please contact me at [see print copy for contact info] as soon as possible.

*--Submitted by Mark Robertson, Director of Ministry to Youth and Families*

## You're Invited to: Why We Do What We Do! A St. Louis Area Young Life Fundraiser!

Find out what Young Life is all about, featuring Webster Groves area leader Shelley Milligan. Anyone who would like to come is welcome. The event is October 11 @ 7:30 pm @ the UniGroup Headquarters, 1 Premier Drive, Fenton, MO 63026. RSVP by Monday October 3 to Erin Vonder; [see print copy for contact]. Young Life began in 1941 with the idea of reaching out to disinterested high school students with the message of Jesus. Young Life is in every state, working with urban, suburban, and rural kids. It has ministries in 60 countries outside the United States. Annually Young Life leaders impact the lives of over one million kids.

*--Submitted by Mark Robertson, Director of Ministry to Youth and Families*



## Women's Bible Study: Morning & Evening Morning class has begun!

\*\*\*All ladies are invited to attend either the morning or evening Bible study on the book of Luke. Both studies will be using the same material and a similar discussion format in order for there to be continuity between the evening and morning studies. Please contact Melissa Nelson (see print copy) or Jessie Swigart (see print copy) with questions.\*\*\*

**What:** The Gospel of Luke (with a parallel study of Luke for the children in the nursery)  
**When:** **SEPTEMBER 16, 2011 thru APRIL 27, 2012**  
Friday mornings, 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Milligan House living room  
**Led by:** Betty McCracken  
**Childcare:** available and free  
**Cost:** \$20 materials fee due at first class (confidential scholarships available)

## Evening Bible Study

**What:** The Gospel of Luke  
**When:** **SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 thru APRIL 27, 2012**  
Tuesday nights, 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Milligan House living room  
**Led by:** Jessie Swigart  
**Childcare:** **no childcare for the night class**  
**Cost:** \$20 one-time materials fee (confidential scholarships available if needed)  
due at first class

*--Melissa Nelson*

## Men's Retreat

It's time to connect with one another while relaxing (fishing, hiking, or canoeing) at Camp Trinity in New Haven, MO (about one hour and fifteen minutes drive from St. Louis), so please join us for "Friendship with God and Men: reflections from our own men and time to enjoy one another." There are two lodging options: a dorm-style cabin and a campgrounds. \$35 covers three meals and the dorm-style cabin; \$20 covers meals for those camping on the grounds. Pick up a registration form today. Cabin space is limited.

*--See Ed Killeen for more information*

## Tender Mercies Prayer in October

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 9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 8 at the Milligan House for a time of sharing and prayer. If you are interested, please join us. If you are interested and not able to make that date, contact Betsy Roig.



## Our Library

Please browse our selection of books in the vestibule by the kitchenette. More books are in our library rooms, located in the Milligan House on the first floor by the kitchen and bathroom. Enjoy!!



## **OOO Anniversary Dates**

### **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend Celebration:**

September 23-25, 2011

Art Show: Friday, 9/23 – 6 to 9 p.m.

Outdoor Festival: Sat., 9/24 – 2:30 – 7:30 p.m.

✓ Petting zoo & pony rides: 3- 5 p.m.

✓ Community Sing along 5 p.m.

✓ The Crossing performing at 5:30 p.m.

Anniversary Worship: Sun., 9/25 at 10:15 a.m.

**Attention! Parking alert!** We have obtained permission to use parking lots of two nearby churches (Webster Groves Baptist Church & First United Methodist Church) and the State Farm Insurance Building (where the Radio Station is housed). We ask that OOC folks use those places to park on Saturday afternoon (2 to 8 p.m.) and let our guests park closer to the church. Maps will be available.

### **Photo Albums – Your Help Is Sought!**

Let's fill the wall!!

Each household attending OOC is invited to contribute two photos: one of your household around the time that you first came to OOC and a second photo of your family now, in 2011. (Please write on a separate paper the date of photo and your names.) You may include grown children even if they do not attend OOC. The third item is to answer two questions: (1) When and how did the Lord bring you to Old Orchard Church? and (2) How has the Lord used Old Orchard Church in your lives? These are meant to be brief of course! See samples on the wall in the vestibule. And watch for more photographs on the wall!! Thanks for your help!!

Other photos from various years are also wanted.

**Please submit photos to Barb Winters or Durinda Hood. Envelopes are in the parlor for you to use.**

\*\*\* Please note: all photos submitted become the property of Old Orchard Church. We'd prefer photographic paper copies. Thank you so much!

### **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, October 2; Alyssa Catlin is the editor. Deadline for articles is Sunday, September 25.

### **Another Editor Is Sought!**

New Editor Wanted! If you can take a turn once every couple months editing the Overture, please let Durinda Hood know. The new editor would enter the rotation in January 2012.

### **OOO Work Day in October!**

Please mark your calendar for a Work Day at Old Orchard Church. **Saturday, October 15.** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come morning or afternoon. Lunch hosts sought. Let Matt Philip know if you can host lunch. Sign up sheets circulating after the Anniversary weekend.

### **Mini-Work Day**

Old Orchard Church is seeking to partner with Webster-Rock Hill Ministries to bring Jesus' kingdom into our community. Three widows (in their 70's) need some very necessary routine maintenance done to their homes (painting awnings, shutters, kitchen cabinets; miscellaneous yard work; etc.). These are not difficult tasks, and they can be accomplished in half a day; we hope Saturday, October 1. If you would like to be a part of this experience, please contact Brent Helton.

*—Brent Helton for OOC Mercy Ministry*

### **Collecting Relief Items for Joplin Families**

Salvation Army in St. Louis delivers relief supplies to Joplin each week and Old Orchard is taking up a collection to help! See the list below for items wanted. We are also inviting our neighbors to participate as well to bring items on the 24th to our celebration. Bring items Saturday, September 24 at our festival and thru September 25!

*—Durinda Hood for the Mercy Ministry*

#### **Supplies for Joplin Tornado Victims**

- |                            |               |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| •Non-perishable food items | •Bars of Soap |
| •Salt & Pepper             | •Shampoo      |
| •Shaving cream             | •Razors       |
| •Toilet Paper              | •Deodorant    |
| •Toothbrushes              | •Toothpaste   |

\*\*\*All these supplies will be trucked to Joplin by the Salvation Army and distributed at relief sites to FEMA-confirmed tornado victims. They will be picked up at OOC on Monday, September 26, so don't miss the deadline!



### **Bethany Christian Services' Trivia Night**

Looking for something fun to do with a group of good friends? Bethany Christian Services is hosting a Trivia Night on Saturday, October 15th, at 7:00 pm to benefit Safe Families for Children. SFFC is a ministry that seeks to serve families in crisis by offering struggling parents the option of temporarily placing their children with volunteer Safe Families until they can get back on their feet. The event will be held at St. Charles First Assembly of God and the cost to play is \$15 a person or \$100 for a team of 8. Please sign up by Oct. 10th and feel free to call 314-781-6363 or email Kristina at [kduce@bethany.org](mailto:kduce@bethany.org) with any questions you may have. See you there!

### **Volunteers Sought**

FirstLight, a Christian organization that ministers to the sexually broken, is currently looking for volunteer group leaders for its Men's Sexual Addiction groups and for its Spouses of Men with Sexual Addiction groups. If you have a heart for one of these areas and would be interested in serving in this way, please contact Director Sean Maney. Each group meets for two hours weekly, and the commitment for a group leader is one year. For more information on who we are or what we do, please see our website at [www.firstlightstlouis.org](http://www.firstlightstlouis.org).

We are also looking for a volunteer to help us with our website. We need someone with some knowledge of web design and Word Press, who would be able to do small projects on our website from time to time. If interested, please contact Sean at the above email address.

### **WEBSTER- ROCK HILL MINISTRIES INVITES TUTORS!!!!**

**What:** To volunteer as a tutor in the William Yandell Tutoring Program

**Where:** Rock Hill Baptist Church-The Rock Church, 9125 Manchester Road, Brentwood, MO 63144

**When:** Volunteer orientation will be held on Tuesday, 9/20 from 6:30 to 7:00 P.M. Tutoring will begin on Tuesday, 9/27.

**How:** You will be matched with a student to tutor each week. Support, supplies and snacks are provided. Substitutes are available. Tutoring takes place on Tuesdays from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.

**Who:** Any academically strong high school or college students and adults are eligible to tutor. Students may have a flexible schedule around school activities with advance notice.

**Why:** You can provide a needed service to children in our community. This program is supported by many community churches.

Please contact Janet Stobart or Elizabeth Cawthon (see print copy for contact #s)

*--submitted by Durinda Hood for the Mercy Ministry*

### **Open Letters to the Congregation**

Dear Family at Old Orchard:

We have wanted to write an open letter to you all for a long time. We feel deeply compelled to thank you for your love and care and to “make known His deeds among the people”. (Psalm 105:1)

Many of you know that Ron was laid off from his job as a project manager in November 2008. Since then he has looked diligently for work – ANY kind of work – and doing handyman work in the interim to try to make ends meet. The interim has become interminable and we are desperately weary. We have asked God, “Why?!” and have had to continue to go back to our chief purpose which is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever. And so we write this letter with great joy to say that we are, as Paul says in 2 Corinthians 6:10, “sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;...having nothing and yet possessing everything.”

You, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, have, for the sake of Love, helped us bear our burdens. You have encouraged us by asking how we are doing. You have extended dignity and your trust to Ron by hiring him to do work for you. You have passed along job leads and networking contacts. You have brought us armfuls of groceries when our fridge was completely empty. When you have given us boxes of household supplies that we need but cannot afford, you have enabled me to have the tools I need to make a home for my family. I always took this for granted before, but now my heart is so full of gratitude for toilet paper and dish soap. : ) You have given us hand-me-downs, taken us out to lunch or for a beer, brought us meals, sponsored us so we could join you on retreats, given to OOC faithfully in your tithes (part of which supports Webster Rock Hill Ministries where we’ve been able to get food when we need it and gifts at Christmastime). Our community group has prayed for us, cried with us, laughed with us and been an anchor in the storm. Our elders have met with us, advised us and prayed over us. You have sent, by the Holy Spirit’s leading, anonymous money in the mail,



written us checks large and small. You have laid your hands on us to pray and have continually brought us before the Lord in your own prayers. Through your hands, Jesus has shepherded us with such love. Thank you. We are astonished, humbled, and indescribably grateful and we are changed.

Before God entrusted us with this season of suffering, we, I don't think, relied on Him daily. I think we gave God a cursory nod as we went about our days. Saying grace over meals was perfunctory (Make it short! We're hungry!) We would pray sometimes but we were always distracted. We would say, "I'll pray for you" but rarely did. We were selfish with our money, rarely thinking of others and their needs. God's Word was not the lifeline it is now. But God is rich in mercy and wants our hearts. As Hans Bayer said at the retreat last fall, "The Hound of Heaven pursues us, and presses down **HARD**, not to destroy us, but to meet us." We have been pursued, smooshed, and met. And the God who has met us is faithful, is our Provider, our Father who wants to be in relationship with us and wants all of our hearts. We Nelsons are hard-headed, but we are learning.

We do not know what the future holds. We don't know how long we will have to wait to find jobs (we are both looking), and we may even lose our home, but we know God is Good, **all the time** and we know we want to serve Him and you with the gifts we ***do*** have. And we pray with the Psalmist:

*Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.  
Relent, O LORD! How long will it be?  
Have compassion on your servants.  
Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,  
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.  
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
for as many years as we have seen trouble.  
May your deeds be shown to your servants,  
your splendor to their children.  
May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us;  
establish the work of our hands for us—  
yes, establish the work of our hands. (Psalm 90:12-17)*

-- Melissa Nelson

*What life have you if you have not life together?  
There is no life that is not in community,  
And no community not lived in praise of God.  
T.S. Eliot – “Choruses from the Rock*

Nearly three years ago I was laid off just as the economy went into a tailspin. At the time I was certain that another opportunity lay just around the corner. I had only been in that position for six months and, to be honest, it wasn't a very good fit anyway so I was able to look at being laid off as an opportunity. Little did I suspect that three years later I would still be searching for employment.

But I'm not writing this in complaint or sorrow – in fact I'm writing in great humility, praise, and thankfulness. Throughout the past three years I have been able to experience God's goodness, grace and provision in ways that I don't think would have been possible otherwise. Our marriage is strong, our family intact and thriving in spite of severe financial stress and more than anything else we have been the recipients of overwhelming love and support from the body of believers, our family, at Old Orchard Church.

I have sat down any number of times over the past several months and tried to find the words to say 'thank you' to all of you. The words always fail me because they seem so incredibly inadequate. You all have truly been the body of Christ to us: the arms, hands and feet as God works to accomplish his purposes in our lives. You have blessed us financially with unlooked for money that has shown up in our mail and through the generosity of our deacons and elders. You have blessed us with groceries and household supplies that aren't covered by food stamps. Many of you have hired me to work around your homes. But possibly most significantly, you have loved us by laughing with us, crying with us, listening to us, and praying for us.

These are things we can never repay and have certainly not earned. They are, in a very real way, an outpouring of grace. By being Christ to us, you have given Melissa and me a glimpse of the extravagant, overpowering, awesome grace of God. To say thank you seems so inadequate, but with all of my heart I do want to say – thank you. We love you all more than we can say.

-- Ron Nelson

### **Brinson's Surgery**

We thank all of you for praying for us as Brinson approaches his kidney surgery this Thursday, September 22. Using a laparoscope, the surgeon plans to remove a 2 cm mass from one of his kidneys. As of this writing we do not know the time, but it will be at Des Peres Hospital. We expect him to remain in the hospital for 2 days, possibly 3. Recovery time will take up to 6 weeks during which activities will be limited. --Durinda Hood

## **Jim Lowe Named Bogliasco Fellow**

Congratulations to our own Jim Lowe for winning the prestigious *Bogliasco Fellowship* connected to John Burroughs School where Jim teaches the classics! Read about it below. Well done, brother! --Ron Lutjens

A friendship, a love of Burroughs and a commitment to education have resulted in an interesting partnership between Burroughs and the Bogliasco Foundation.

Jim Harrison '53 and George "Jerry" Bitting '53 proposed the Burroughs Bogliasco Fellowship as a tribute to the teachers and the school that shaped their lives. The fellowship provides a JBS faculty member with the gift of one month of uninterrupted time, space and creative freedom to pursue a scholarly or artistic work at the Liguria Study Center for the Arts and Humanities in Bogliasco, Italy.

"We agreed that the memories of our years at Burroughs were much more positive than any other educational experiences we had," says Harrison. "In my case, that included Harvard, both undergraduate and graduate degrees, and later on, study at the École Normale de Musique de Paris. But with all that, nothing matched Burroughs. ... I most certainly learned much more at Burroughs than I learned at Harvard. Not just knowledge—that part is easy. But rather how to think and actually use the knowledge acquired."

In 1991, Harrison, then a professor of music at City University of New York—along with his wife, Marina, and several other artists and academics from Italy, Switzerland and the U.S.—founded the Bogliasco Foundation, whose sole purpose is the support of the Liguria Study Center (at left), a residential facility located between Genoa and Portofino on the Ligurian Coast. Since the study center opened its doors in 1996, more than 600 fellows from 40 countries have been in residence.

With a capacity for 16 individuals at a time, the center provides an intimate setting for creative and scholarly work in archaeology, architecture/landscape architecture, classics, dance, film/video, history, literature, music, philosophy, theater and the visual arts. Approved projects lead to the completion of an artistic, musical, literary or scholarly work, followed by publication, performance, exhibition or other public presentation.

Dr. Jim Lowe (Classics), the first recipient of the Burroughs Bogliasco Fellowship, will take up a 30- to 35-day residency at the Liguria Study Center in the spring of 2012. In his proposal for the fellowship, Lowe, a former college professor who joined the Burroughs faculty in 1989, explained that his research interests in the last decade have centered on the way the ancient world has been received by later cultures. During his residency, Lowe will examine the intersection of classical tragedy and "classical" Hollywood through an analysis of Edmund Goulding's 1947 film noir *Nightmare Alley* and Sophocles' iconic tragedy *Oedipus Tyrannos*. Of the opportunity to devote himself

entirely to this work, Lowe says, "Research demands reserves of time, energy and intense focus that are in short supply during the academic year, when I am juggling four classes and a dozen or more college advisees; what's needed is a place removed from the hustle and bustle of daily life. I cannot think of an atmosphere more congenial to scholarly devotion than the Liguria Study Center, where I can spend all day, every day, immersed in study and contemplation, where the vista of the sea and the crash of surf will be a deep inducement to pursue the life of the mind."

### **Calendar Notes**

#### **Sundays**

- Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday School. See notes about exceptions!
  - Fall Sunday School classes for all ages begin Sunday, September 18
- Worship: 10:15 to 10:50 a.m.
- Youth Group: 6-8 p.m. (see Youth Calendar for more details)

#### **Church Office Closed**

- September 22-23

#### **Anniversary**

- September 23-25. See announcement.

#### **Movie Night**

- Friday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m.

#### **English Conversations**

- Fridays: 4:30-6 p.m. at Milligan House

#### **Meetings**

- Session Meeting: September 20, 6:30 p.m.
- House Church: Wednesday, October 5. Dinner 6 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.
- Tender Mercies: Saturday, October 8 from 9-11 a.m.

#### **Fellowship**

- Next Parlor Fellowship will be on Sunday, October 9.
- Next lunch at Milligan House will be on Sunday, October 23.

#### **Women's Ministry**

- Women's Morning Bible Study began September 16 at 9:15 a.m. and meets each week at Milligan House
- Women Evening Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, September 20 at 7 p.m. at Milligan House

## **Men's Bible Study**

- Men's Bible Study will meet on Saturday, October 1 at 7:15 a.m. at Milligan House

## **Pastor Ron's vacation**

- September 26 to October 2.

## **OOC Directory Changes**

If you are new and want to be added to the Directory, please e-mail the church office for a directory form, or fill out one of the forms on the table and put it in Durinda Hood's mailbox.

Mike & Annie Kuhn have moved!  
See print copy for address.  
Phone numbers are the same.

Isaac & Tanya Whitt  
See print copy for info

### **Old Orchard Church**

**Church Office/Milligan House:** 314.962.3795

**Church Building, 640 Amelia:** 314.961.6932

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

#### *Church Office*

Durinda Hood, Administrative Assistant

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

#### *Pastor*

**Ron Lutjens' (Home Study):** See print copy

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

#### *Director of Ministry to Youth and Families*

**Mark Robertson,** see print copy

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