



Overture

**The (almost) Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church ~
December 4th, 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 for all ages meets at 9 a.m. Please see the note below about it.

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:** Children in grades 1-5 will be dismissed to the Milligan House around 11:50 a.m.. Listen for dismissal announcement, usually around 10:50 am. See Mark Robertson for questions.

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!!

Parlor Fellowship

Next **Parlor Fellowship**. Sunday, December 11 after worship. Our hostesses are Betsy Roig and Kelli McKie. Please sign-up for food on the sheets circulating today!

Sunday School News

Sunday School for all ages through December 18 is to be announced. (Current class ends December 11.) **No Sunday School** Christmas Day and New Year's.

Adult Class on Discipleship in the Gospel of Mark with Hans and Susan Bayer. We will have coffee and snacks. Childcare for infants & toddlers provided. The class will finish up December 11th. See Margaret Killeen or Jonathan Shumate with any questions.

On the Calendar

Choir Meets: Thursdays at 7:15 pm. See Greg Roig. Will meet at Milligan House during the winter. Will meet December 8 and 15, then take a break for Christmas & New Year's.

English Conversations: Meets Fridays: 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Milligan House. See Hurvey & Dorothy Woodson or Mark & Valerie Powers. The class will take a break in December (dates to be announced).

Children's Coordinators' Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at Milligan House on Monday, December 12.

Mark Robertson's vacation: Friday, December 23 through December 29.

Youth Group

December 4 – Youth Group

Friday, December 9 – Guys' Night (video game night!!)

Saturday, December 10 – Girls' Night!!

December 11 – No Youth Group

December 18 – Youth Group

December 25 – Christmas Day!!

Reminders and Special Notes for the Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Day!

December 18 4th Sunday of Advent

Celebrating Messiah Jesus

Special Children's Worship. (Early Christmas worship oriented toward our children, since many families will be gone when Christmas arrives)

After worship will be the Kids Christmas Craft Sale (see other announcement)

December 25 Christmas Day.

Worship will be at **11:00 am**—not 10:15, our normal Sunday worship time!

Parents, **no nursery**. Worship service will be short, about an hour in length.

Kids Christmas Craft Sale

Kids--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 18. 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 from things in the woods, wax candles, cookies, breads, note holders, marbled note paper, fire starters, wrapping paper, ornaments—lots of great gift ideas.

Kids, see Mary Beth Glasgow if you plan to make gifts.

Everyone Else: Bring cash on December 18 and plan on buying a few last minute gifts!

Adopt a Family and More

We are providing gifts to families adopted through Webster-Rock Hill Ministries, children of prisoners served by Mission Gate, a prison ministry, and gifts to children/grandchildren of homeless women who are guests of the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter. These are represented by ornaments on our tree; please leave the second half of the ornament or the gold tag of the angels with your name in the brown envelope so we know who took the gifts.

We are also looking for **food items** for a Christmas dinner (and general non-perishables) and monetary contributions to add to our gift giving, including utility gifts for the families served by Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Suggested food items for the families:

For Christmas Dinner: Corn, green beans, cranberry sauce, Yams/sweet potatoes, canned fruit, instant gelatin, instant (or fresh) potatoes, stuffing mix, cake mix, cake frosting.

Additional non-perishable items to help stock the families' pantries. Remember, we have adopted: two families with children and two individuals. See below for brief description.

Families: One is a single mom with an 8 year old old daughter; the other family is a single mom with 4 children (ages 21, 19, 18 (these three are all students) and a 2 year old. We also adopted two other individuals: a senior who recently had a stroke, and a disabled adult.

We have some ornaments left on the tree!! Please take them today!!

Red Ornaments: Gifts for the children and grandchildren of homeless women served at the Grace & Peace Fellowship's Winter Shelter. These gifts are suggested to be in the \$5 to 10 range. We've added a few of these (as of this writing there will be at least 7 up on the tree).

1 Angel Gift

8 green & purple ornaments for the families.

Monetary donations welcomed to contribute to our gift giving, including possibly utility gifts to the families. Checks can be written to Old Orchard Church and designated "Adopt a Family."

Lessons & Carols

Saturday, December 10, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Greg & Cayce Zavaglia and Friday, December 16, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Richard and Jane Winter. Please sign up to attend one. Invite guests and sign your guests up too! See green Advent handout for more about the Lessons & Carols.

Neighborhood Caroling

Sunday, December 18, 6:00 p.m. Meet at Milligan House. Refreshments afterwards at Ed & Margaret Killeen's home. Invite friends!

Next House Church

House Church meets Wednesday, December 7, 6 p.m. pot-luck supper (bring a dish to share).

7 p.m. meeting. **Child care** offered at 7 p.m. Let Mark Robertson (314.707.6050) know if you need child care.

Men's Bible Studies: Fridays & Saturdays

Both meet at the Milligan House (639 Amelia 63119)

1st and 3rd Saturdays, 7:15 – 8:30 a.m., a study in Revelation. Hal Pendergrass leads. Meets next on Saturday December 17 at Milligan house. .

2nd and 4th Fridays from 6:00 – 7:15 a.m. a study in Joshua has started. Meets next on Friday, 12/9. No men's Bible study on December 23.

Women's Bible Study: Morning & Evening

Ladies Bible study meets on the book of Luke. Both studies will be using the same material and a similar discussion format. \$20 materials fee (confidential scholarships available). Both classes meet at Milligan House:

Friday mornings: 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Free child care.

Tuesday evenings: 7:00 p.m. No child care offered.

For questions, please contact Melissa Nelson or Jessie Swigart

Last Class for December for the morning class will be December 9 and the last class for the evening class for December will be December 13. Classes will resume Friday, January 13 & Tuesday, January 17.

Photos—Keep them coming!

Reminder: collecting photos through the end of the year!

Thank all of you who have submitted photos! We'd like to get more to put in a scrapbook. You still have a chance to find that old photo and give us a recent photo of your family! And don't forget the little "write-up" each household is asked to submit.

Please submit photos to Barb Winters or Durinda Hood.

****Please note: all photos submitted become the property of Old Orchard Church (unless you tell us you want it*

returned). We'd prefer photographic paper copies. Thank you so much!

OOO Directory

Please note in your directories: **Nancy Weir**

Her mailing address is located below her physical address (see print copy). Please use the PO Box address (see print copy) as the mailing address. **Items sent to (see print copy) get returned.** Thanks!

End of the Year Contributions

The last Sunday you can drop gifts in the collection plate and have them applied to the year 2011 for tax purposes is Sunday, December 25, 2011. Anything put in the collection plate after that will be counted as part of your giving in the year 2012, even if you back-date the check. IRS rules for tax deductions stipulate that gifts must be given by December 31—in the hands of the church by midnight, December 31, or postmarked in 2011 (if they are being mailed) though not received by the church until 2012.

New Overture Editor sought

We are looking for another editor for the *Overture* to take a turn once every two months starting after the January 1. Please e-mail the church office (office@oldorchardchurch.org) if you are interested or want more information.
--Durinda Hood

Staff Christmas Gift

It's our custom to take 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 an amount to a particular staff person you may do so. All gifts left unspecified will be divided equally among the staff.)

Our paid staff includes *Greg Roig*, music director; *Susan O'Neal*, custodian; *Lina Gentry*, accompanist (This is Lina's last year as our accompanist); *Durinda Hood*, administrative assistant; and *Mark Robertson*, Director of Ministry to Youth & Families; and *Ron Lutjens*, pastor.

December Birthdays

12/1 Brent Helton
12/1 Sophie Killeen
12/7 Matt Philip
12/7 Bill LeFort
12/7 Nicholas Skrainka
12/7 Amanda Tevebaugh
12/9 Nathaniel Gutierrez**
12/10 Ted Winters
12/11 Luca Zavaglia
12/12 Sarah Lowe
12/14 Currie Bishop
12/15 Will Barker
12/16 Csenge Futo**
12/18 Ben Kraft
12/18 Caileigh O'Neal
12/20 Ana Helton
12/21 Elizabeth Helton
12/21 Nicolas Rinn**
12/22 Thais Marques
12/22 Dan Petty
12/26 Hajnal Futo**
12/26 Debbie Pendergrass
12/26 Reneirio Quimbo Jr.**
12/26 Adele Raquepaw
12/27 Ben Killeen
12/30 Hannah Gear

**member of missionary/ministry family

Foreign Missions Prayer Requests for December 2011

- 1. Jon and Tanya Coody – St. Petersburg, Russia.** They may need to move out of their present housing in January. Pray for a place for them to stay. The rector of the university in St P (who is Jon's primary connection there) is leaving for a sabbatical in the US in July. Pray that the Coody's will be able to leave by March so that Jon will have time to work with this man. They are now at 60-65% of needed support.
- 2. Wilma Cross – Santiago, Chile.** Wilma was to return to Chile on Dec 1 after a month in the US. Pray for a quick readjustment to life in Chile and for plans for activities for Christmas. Pray for wisdom for Wilma in her counseling.
- 3. Rob and Tünde Futo – Budapest, Hungary.** Pray for three large outreach concerts that the choir will be giving (two on Dec 11 and one on Dec 16). Pray for calm for Tünde as she faces the inevitable crises! Pray also for the CD that has been released. Also, Ron has a book on marriage coming out this month. Pray that the lives of many Hungarians will be blessed through these things.
- 4. Gerry and Ruth Gutierrez – Huanta, Peru.** Gerry and Ruthie have asked us to pray that the Lord would give them another opportunity to participate in the Lord's harvest in Peru. Though the doctors have said that the cancer is not advancing, Ruthie is suffering a great deal and Gerry is caring for her and serving as housekeeper and cook.
- 5. L'Abri Fellowship – England and Switzerland.** As the term ends this month in both branches, pray for the students as they leave, that positive changes that have occurred in their lives will remain. Pray for staff during the break, for rest and spiritual renewal over Christmas. Pray for financial needs in Switzerland.
- 6. Dawn Miller – Madrid, Spain.** Pray for Dawn for wisdom as she juggles studies at Covenant Seminary and ministry at St. Louis University with Cru (Campus Crusade). Pray for individual students to whom Dawn has ministered. Pray for the ongoing spread of the Gospel among students in Madrid.
- 7. Joseph and Elfi Muutuki – Nairobi, Kenya.** Pray that the Lord will bring to pass potential steps forward in the work there: the possibility of an Indian pastor and also an American missionary couple through SIM (Sudan Interior Mission?) to work with them. Praise for financial encouragement.
- 8. Luciano and Luciene Pires – Goiania, Brazil.** They have gone through many difficulties in the last month: cancer surgery for Luciene's mother; the death of Luciene's uncle; helping her parents move; a temporary evacuation from their own new apartment due to a gas leak; financial concerns, etc. Praise that the surgery went well and finances have eased. Pray that Luciano's diabetes will get/stay under control.
- 9. Rene and Lani Quimbo – Mindanao, Philippines.** Pray for protection, wisdom and spiritual and physical strength for the Quimbos as they need to deal with many difficult situations in their widespread, fruitful ministries. Pray for fruitful Christmas celebrations in the various branches. Also pray for the Lord to meet their pressing financial needs.
- 10. Joel and Jessica Rinn – Verona, Italy.** Pray that the Lord will protect and encourage them as this month will be filled with many activities. Pray for their health; they have been suffering from the flu. Pray for new, solid contacts for the work in Verona. Pray that the church plant in Vicenza with American military personnel will go forward. Pray for financial needs.

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 18. Jim Lowe is editor. Deadline is next Sunday, December 11.

Old Orchard Church

Church Office/Milligan House: 314.962.3795

Church Building, 640 Amelia: 314.961.6932

(no answering device at this number)

OOO Web Site: www.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, **Office:** see print copy

Mark's E-Mail: mark.robertson@oldorchardchurch.org

Durinda Hood, Administrative Assistant;

E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org