



Overture

The (almost) Fortnightly Newsletter of Old Orchard Church ~
February 19th, 2012

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. (except during some holidays). Please see note below for more.

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. Listen for dismissal announcement, usually around 10:50 am. See Jessie Swigart or 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!!

OOO Evaluation/Questionnaires

Paper copies of the questionnaire are being made available today for those who prefer paper! For those who have e-mail, you should have received a link to the questionnaire that you can fill out online. If you did not receive it, please let Nate McKie (or Durinda Hood) know.

Reminder of the schedule:

Wednesday, February 22	Community group discussion on the pastoral relationship with Ron and OOC
Sunday, February 12 – Sunday, February 26	Congregation fills out Parts 1 and 2 of the evaluation survey
Wednesday, March 21	Open and informal conversation in the parlor on church concerns raised through the evaluation process
Wednesday, April 11	Congregational Meeting to review and discuss results of evaluation and to respond to the Session's recommendation regarding retaining Ron Lutjens for four more years

Sunday School News

Sunday School. Adults, Today is week 3 of a 4 week class on "Exploring the Hidden Power of Shame" led by Dr. Richard Winter. Childcare provided. Here's Richard's description:

Shame is a complex emotion that lies beneath many of our other feelings and thought patterns and contributes to depression, anxiety, perfectionism and many relationship problems. We are often unaware of it and have a hard time naming it. It is important to distinguish between shame and guilt because the remedy is different for each. Some cultures are much more shame based than ours. We will look at the psychology and theology of shame and at the profound remedy that is given to us through Scripture.

More Sunday School News

On March 4th, for adults, we will be having a conversation with Mark Robertson about a question that arose during our look at Proverbs. We will talk about character formation: particularly practical ideas for helping kids develop contentment in an indulgent age. This is obviously a large topic and we can certainly have adult classes on parenting issues if there is a desire, but for now we are going to devote this hour to introducing this theme.

Due to different Spring Breaks we will not be having adult Sunday School resume until April. We encourage those who have been attending Sunday School to come, make a cup of tea at the Milligan House, share conversation, and get to know someone new. --Margaret Killeen

Nominations for Deaconess, Deacon or Elder

Please see the posted instructions for how to make a nomination. Nominations received through the end of February. Please pray for the Lord to add elders, deacons, and deaconesses.

Next Lunch @ Milligan House

Please plan on eating lunch together at Milligan House next week, Sunday, February 26. Betsy Tevebaugh will host (if you want to assist, please contact Betsy). Sign-up sheets circulating. Barrs Community Group will assist with set-up and clean-up.

OOC Directory Update!!

If you are new and want to be added to the Old Orchard Church Directory, please fill out a form at the church's website www.oldorchardchurch.org (it comes to the office) **or** fill out a form posted on the bulletin board and return it to the office. Questions? See Durinda Hood or e-mail oordirectory@oldorchardchurch.org.

Congregational Meeting

Congregational Meeting. Wednesday, **February 29, 6:45 p.m.** The Session has called this meeting for the re-election of **Hurvey Woodson** to a 3-year term for the office of elder, and **Denny Reinheimer** to the office of deacon, also a 3-year term. Child care provided. (Let Mark Robertson know you need child care or sign up on sheets circulating.) Mark your calendar!

Men's Monthly Social

1st Fridays, 5-6:15 pm at Llywelyn's Pub, 17 Moody, Webster Groves 63119; meets next on Friday, March 2! For questions about the Men's Ministry, see Ed Killeen.

Women's Bible Study: Morning & Evening

- All ladies are invited to attend either the morning or evening Bible study on the book of Luke. The morning study meets 9:15 a.m. Fridays, & the evening study meets Tuesdays, 7 p.m. For questions, please contact Melissa Nelson or Jessie Swigart. No classes on Friday, March 2 and March 6.

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 on Revelation. Hal Pendergrass leads. Meets March 2.
- Weekly, Fridays from 6:30 – 7:30 a.m., a study on Joshua.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets (most) Sunday Nights from 6 to 8 p.m.

February 19 – Demolition Ball

February 26 – Youth Group

On the Calendar

Choir: Meets Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. at Miligan House. See Greg Roig.

English Conversations: Meets Fridays, 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Milligan House.

Session Meeting on Tuesday, February 28.

Children's Sunday School teachers meet after worship on Sunday, March 4

Talent Show!

Mark Your Calendar! Sunday, April 29, 5:00 p.m. See Mark Robertson if you want to share an act.

Announcing Manor Grove's 5th Annual Soup's On!

Each February, Manor Grove presents Soup's On! an afternoon of friendly, soup-tasting competition that the entire community is invited to attend. Favorite local restaurants battle it out to win the title of best soup sipped, savored, and slurped. Awards are handed out by an esteemed panel of judges and by you – the public [everyone gets to vote]! New this year will be an exciting dessert competition, taste some of our local eateries' best sweets and vote for your favorite!

Manor Grove's 5th Annual Soup's On! Soup Cook-Off

(The sponsor, **Manor Grove** offers "long-term nursing care with dignity" and is located in Kirkwood)

Featuring an all-new Dessert Competition

Sunday, February 26th, 2012 -- 11 a.m- 3 p.m.

Kirkwood Community Center, 11 South Geyer

Discount tickets are available at Manor Grove, 711 South Kirkwood Road or at manorgrove.com

Tickets on Sale Now!

Get "Souper" Savings by purchasing your tickets in advance online:

Advance Ticket Pricing Adults: \$8.00; Children: \$4.00

Day-Of-the-Event Ticket Pricing

Adults: \$10.00; Children: \$5.00

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, March 4. Deadline next Sunday, February 26. Liz Romines, editor.

We are still looking for **another editor** for the *Overture* to take a turn once every two months. Contact Durinda Hood if you want to give it a try! (or serve occasionally....) **We will especially need another person to help beginning in June when Alyssa is expecting their first child!**

Share the Warmth

As winter envelops us, let's remember to "share the warmth" with our senior neighbors. If you make a pot of soup, share it with someone who would totally enjoy it! Think of the neighbors who need Meals on Wheels... there are no meals served on the weekend. So Saturday and Sunday are perfect days to share! Call Gayle at the Shepherd's Center, 314-395-0988, if you would like us to connect you with a senior neighbor.

—Submitted by Gayle McHenry of the Shepherd's Center

If you volunteer, please let Durinda Hood know. We'd like to support you!

Meal Hosts Wanted

Last year we scheduled the meals on Maundy Thursday instead of Good Friday, and we are doing so again this year. We will also have a joint service with Cornerstone at their location (in Webster) on Good Friday.

We are looking for Hosts for Maundy Thursday meals in homes! Thursday, April 5. The menu is simple: Hearty Soup and Bread. You determine how many guests you can accommodate in addition to your own family. If at all interested in hosting, or you want to explore this opportunity, please let us know by putting your name on the sign up list, or e-mailing the church office. A brief description of the format of the meals is below. We need these hosts to be signed up by March 11. Thanks! --Durinda Hood

- Reciting Meal: During these meals we read the highlights of the story of our redemption in Christ. A Bible goes around the table, verses assigned for each person to read. As we hear of the movement back and forth throughout history—from Genesis onward—between God's grace and our sin, a center candle is alternately lit and extinguished.
- Sharing Meal: During these meals we focus on certain passages of Scripture, or songs, or meditations on the suffering of the Lord and then there is some time for focused, individual sharing on how the work of Christ has affected our own lives personally.

Bethany for a Lifetime – Invitation to a Celebration Dinner March 30, 2012

Featured Speaker: Gayle Breukelman Opp

Gayle describes herself as "a mom, a wife, a sister, a daughter, a friend, and a child of God!" She is each of these and so much more. Gayle depicts the theme of Bethany... for a Lifetime. At the age of 17 she gave birth to a beautiful baby boy that she made the heart-wrenching decision to entrust to another family because she wanted so much more for him than she could provide at the time in her life. God is redemptive in so many ways later providing Gayle with a loving husband and three additional children that she raises for the Lord. But as God would have it, their family wasn't complete and through Bethany Christian Services, the Opps adopted Gracie and Selah—two children of Chinese Heritage, but with stories so vast and incredibly full of God's heavenly touches. Gayle and her family are the very essence of Bethany...for a lifetime. You will be touched and changed by her story.

Come and see what God is doing in the lives of children and families through Bethany. You are invited to come to this special event.

Friday, March 30, 2012

Hilton St. Louis Frontenac
1335 South Lindbergh Blvd, St. Louis

Reception will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner will begin at 7:20 p.m.

Because seating will be limited, reservations are required. No ticket cost.

Adults only, please.

An opportunity for a financial faith promise investment will be provided.

R.S.V.P. online at www.bethany.org/stlouis/events, or
with Lynn

— Donna Nicholson, Branch Director serving Missouri and Central/Southern Illinois
Bethany Christian Services, 7520 Big Bend Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63119

Invitation to WRHM's fundraiser—March 2-Free OOC seats!

This is a reminder that Webster Rock Hill Ministries is having their annual Webster Rock Hill Ministries Trivia Night on Friday, March 2, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at the Richmond Height Recreation Center "The Heights." A donation on behalf of Old Orchard Church was made for a table of 8 so there are **free seats** available! If we don't get 8 people to attend, you will probably sit with another group. Please let Durinda Hood know if you want

to take one of the free seats.

This is one of the Ministries main fundraisers of the year and during these tough economic times, the need food, clothing, utility assistance, etc. is greater than ever. Please sign up to have some fun and do your part to help those in need in your community.

Thank you for your support!

Letter to the Church

Dear Church,

Thank you so much for the kind gifts this Christmas for the Robertson family. We appreciate your support; Zoe has been dancing around the living room like a wild animal since then, and I can't tell if there is any direct correlation, but I know she is very grateful too! We also appreciate your prayers and your phone calls for Marci since the loss of our second child. Your care has been a great buoy to her during this difficult time. Our heartfelt thanks to you all!

– The Robertson Family

FirstLight Annual Banquet – March 1

FirstLight's annual Banquet is coming up! It will be Thursday, March 1, 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Twin Oaks Church. **We are in need of volunteers to help serve at the Banquet.** If you are interested, please email info@firstlightstlouis.org. Volunteer commitment is from 5:30-9:30. Delicious dinner provided.

If you would like to attend the Banquet, please let us know! You can RSVP by emailing info@firstlightstlouis.org **by Monday, February 20**. Our speaker will be Melissa Haas, author of the L.I.F.E. Guide for Spouses. Melissa works with women whose husbands have sexual addictions, and she will be speaking about her own personal story of redemption in this area.

– Submitted by Christy Gambrell, FirstLight

Pastor Ron's E-Mail & Study Number Changes

New e-mail: see print copy

New Study Number: see print copys

My Friend Ken

About 35 years ago my wife Ellen's Aunt Lois Bohn—a missionary in Chile—would come home on furlough. She would stay at our house and a man and his wife would come to our house to visit her.

That is how we came to know Ken and his wife, Abby. They belonged to a little church in Old Orchard called Old Orchard Bible Church. (I was impressed that such a small church could sponsor a missionary.) Being a lover of plants, I soon learned that Ken was a master of the plant world and worked at the Botanical Gardens.

In 1982 I built a greenhouse on the rear of my house and Ken's advice was appreciated.

In about 1986 our four children were grown and we were in search of a new church. Ken and Abby came to mind. If they went there, it had to be a good church.

We are still here and we will miss you, Ken. See you soon!

--Dan Petty

Ken Peck

Here is the piece I quoted at the beginning of the sharing time on Sunday, February 5, a couple of days after Ken Peck went to be with the Lord. Ken was an elder emeritus here at Old Orchard, having served as an active elder for some 14 years in two segments of time. Ken was a botanist by training, and worked for many years at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Ken wrote this piece on fatherhood during a sermon series on the life of David; it had prompted him to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of his own work as a father. Ken had much experience "fathering" over the years, having had to take on the responsibility of helping his mother raise him and his two younger brothers when Ken's dad died young (Ken was only 15). And then, of course, Ken raised three daughters (one of whom is our own Sylvia Mitchell) and two sons with his wife, Abby.

I promised to reprint this little essay, so here it is. I would encourage young fathers, especially, to read it and measure their own fathering by the practical wisdom in it. Just a reminder, too, that Abby has asked those who would like to give a gift in memory of and appreciation for Ken do so by making a contribution to the Ken Peck Memorial Fund at Old Orchard Church. Checks should be so designated on the memo line, *but should be made payable to Old Orchard Church*.

--Ron Lutjens

Reflections on Fatherhood

By Ken Peck Sr.

Elder emeritus at Old Orchard Church (PCA)
(written October 2004)

Ron's sermon series on David and his involvement with Saul and Jonathan, Saul's son, raised some thoughts in my mind as a father of five children. Having been a father for a long time, I am often at odds with my performance in that role. In retrospect (with the clarity of the Monday morning quarterback), I am in awe of the challenge and responsibility of being a father. Our children have been out of the "nest" for about 15 to 20 years. All five of them now live in the St. Louis area. I love them all dearly, and the eight grandchildren whom the Lord gave to them.

The earliest concerns about raising our children were how to raise them and lead them to the Lord. That we would love them was never a question, but after they started school, the processes of channeling and directing their energies quickly became a real test for us. With five children entering into public schools we were faced with circumstances that we did not anticipate and had never faced before. It didn't take long to figure out that there would be 12 to 20 years of resisting the permissions of our children's peers' parents. "But Johnny's mom (dad) lets him do so & so....." Reply: "I'm not Johnny's dad.. I'm your dad, and I say I really don't want you to do so & so." It's odd how you sometimes instinctively knew that the thing they wanted to do was not right, but you didn't always know why, or didn't have a convincing reply.

Ron frequently tells us that "iron sharpens iron," (Pr 27:17). If this is true, I think we operated a foundry in which we hammered out life's mores at the dinner table, in the living room, in the yard, and in many other places where some "sharpening" was necessary. Most encounters were one-on-one and sometimes lasted a whole evening. The dinner table was one of the toughest arenas and was one area where I felt that I was too strong in opposing something that represented a test of wills. In addition to the contests around the dinner table was the insistence that each of our children was required to be present for dinner. There were, of course, excusable exceptions to this. In complete contrast to these tempests were the times when we would sit with one or more of the children and have wonderful discussions on a wide range of topics.

One of the toughest situations was in discussions in which you as the father or mother would spell out the unfavorable consequences of some course of action they had chosen, and the reply would be, "I don't care", in very certain terms. I have Francis Schaeffer to thank for the reply that he laid on my heart: "You'd better care. You're made in the image of God." This proved to be a difficult assertion to refute. In fact, I would suggest to parents that they remind their children of their special creation. Being made in the image of God, *imago Dei*, tells them that they are the persons they are, and not drones or happenstances of nature.

I had the outlook on disciplining children that would have pleased an Army master sergeant: "Shape up or ship out – and no one's shipping out." The one obvious choice was to do it my way. But it can be said our children knew the "limits" that were set out for them, even though they did step out of those limits from time to time. I repeat that I was often too strict, but it is my view today that many children are not disciplined or trained to know the limits that they should observe. They have short attention spans (conditioned by TV commercials?), disobedient to simple requests or instruction, and lacking in manners – saying "please" or "thank you."

Having said all these things, one of the greatest blessings I have today is fellowshiping with our adult children who have all had to deal with the vagaries of life and have had their faith tested. I further am blessed that the grandchildren are being instructed in the Faith and the knowledge of the Bible.

I think that the dangers of the present era to children and their parents, is their very rapid acceptance of electronics: cell-phones, computers, TV remotes, games and the internet. Other dangers include tampering with our minds with psychoactive drugs, genetic engineers attempting to clone humans, and computer engineers developing artificial information, all things that are dehumanizing. I think these things should be scrutinized and understood. The things that Abby and I worried about over 45 years ago with our children were not as ominous as the foregoing examples, but were real concerns nonetheless:

- Clothing choice (fishnet stockings, granny dresses, cut-offs, and other dress code atrocities),
- smoking (tobacco, marijuana),

- drugs (beyond marijuana)
- Curfews, friends and their destinations (who will you be with and where are you going tonight?)
- Pierced ears (a rage among early teens – and older – in the 60's and 70's), repugnant to us at the time
- Doing chores on Saturday mornings before they went out of the house, and a number of other things

Children are a blessing from God, but they are 24 hour a day responsibility and that's one good reason to assign them curfews and other limits that are deemed necessary for their growth and well-being.. And they are always your children. Ever heard of the Mom & Pop Savings and Loan and Rooming House?

What I have written has been mostly from a father's point of view, but I consider it both necessary and honorable to highlight Abby's involvement in the raising of our children. Her priceless efforts cannot be over-stated. If husband and wife are truly one flesh, then I must acknowledge her tender but firm and loving hand in raising our children. She was the one at home all day with the children while I was at work. She was the one who changed and washed their diapers (this before disposable diapers were reasonable and widely used), nursed and fed them, wiped their noses and tears, washed their clothing (mine, too), prepared meals for them (& me, too), and spoke to them about the Lord.

Whenever I start to review my tour of "fatherhood," I think of Hebrews 12: 9 & 10:

"Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; Shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live! For they disciplined for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness."

I would also want to include Ecclesiastes 12: 1 – 7. It requires some interpretation but tells them- early-on that, while they are young now, they will some day grow old and should not regret having failed to seek God's will for their lives. These verses are, indeed, a comfort to me.

ADDENDUM: My father died on December 24, 1946 at age 46. I was 15 at the time. I remember my father as a quiet man who took life seriously and loved his family that consisted of my mother and 3 adopted sons. I am the oldest of the three. My mother, age 40, had no use for winter and moved us to Fort Lauderdale, Florida the following June. With my father gone, there was no income for the family, so my mother and I started a baby-sitting business that did quite well. My father's death, for better or for worse, left me as the "man of the house." One of my "duties", on occasion, was the unpleasant task of disciplining my younger, 12-year-old brother, a task that I performed with a great deal of reservation. Unfortunately, this and a number of other things alienated my brother from my mother and me. Fortunately, we have subsequently reconciled. My youngest brother – 12 years my junior – also needed some firm guidance. I had to convince him to enlist in the US Navy, which he did with amazing compliance. The youngest brother is, along with his wife and children, a Christian and attends D. James Kennedy's church in Florida. My older brother is involved in a church in New York State, but I'm not certain where he stands spiritually. Beyond and beneath all the struggles of years ago, there has emerged a good feeling of brotherly love. The Lord works in wonderful ways. Thanks be to God.

Old Orchard Church

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Church Building, 640 Amelia: 314.961.6932

(no answering device at this number)

OOC Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org

Pastor, Ron Lutjens Home Study: 314.656.6196

Ron's E-mail: see print copy

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