



# OVERTURE

The (Almost) Fortnightly Newsletter  
Of Old Orchard Church  
September 16, 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 usually meets at 9 a.m. (except the summer and 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 they are dismissed at 10:50.
- **Children's Worship** For children in grades 1-5 meeting at Milligan House. Listen for dismissal announcement, usually around 10:50 am. See Jessie Swigart or Mark Robertson for questions.

## Sunday School News

**Sunday School:** Sunday school for children and adults begins this Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### ❖ Adults

Please join us as we begin a new series for adults (began this morning, September 16<sup>th</sup>) at 9 am in the Milligan House. This semester Ed Killeen will lead us in teaching and conversation for six weeks on the topic: "Real Life Together: Anger and Forgiveness." We should have plenty of time to listen, search our own hearts, share in community and prayerfully offer ourselves to the Lord who can and does heal and transform us. We will begin each week with a time for coffee and getting to know each other a little better in a smaller context. There is childcare for nursery age children and a wonderful Sunday School program for children from elementary through high school. Please contact Margaret Killeen with any questions.

### ❖ Children

Our classroom locations for children's Sunday School are listed below. We meet at 9 a.m. Sunday mornings.

- Ages 3-5 - preschool nursery room in the church basement
- K-2nd grade - basement of the church, in the common area
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade - upstairs in the Milligan House, in the children's worship area
- Middle School - Mark's office [upstairs Milligan House]
- High School - downstairs Milligan House in high school area

*--Mark Robertson*



- ❖ **OOO Anniversary Picnic:** TODAY, Sunday, September 16 after worship.
- ❖ **Congregational meeting:** Sunday, September 23, after worship (see infra for details)
- ❖ **Old Orchard Church-Wide Retreat:** September 28-29
- ❖ **Choir:** Meets Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. See Greg Roig for more
- ❖ **Hospitality Ministry's Committee Leaders Meeting:** Saturday, September 22, 2 p.m. in the Milligan House. See Katie Mohler or Nancy Snyder if you're unable to attend
- ❖ **Stated Session meeting:** Tuesday, September 18, 5:30 p.m. at Milligan House, second floor.

## Renovation Loan

We all appreciate the renovations that were done several years ago that have given us a beautiful space to worship in while retaining the history and look of Old Orchard Church. Due to God's blessing and the generosity of those who support our congregation, we are getting close to being able to pay off the rest of the money we borrowed to accomplish this renovation. We refinanced the loan a couple of years ago to get a better rate, but small organizations don't get the kind of rates that individuals do (due to increased risk), and we are looking at the current rate of 6.9% and feeling we could do better while still paying off the loan in the next few years.

The Session has decided to take a different approach and ask willing members of our congregation to take on the debt at a lower rate that would still give them a better return on their money than a savings account or certificate of deposit.

Here is the situation and the Session's proposal:

- We currently have ~\$62,000 left to pay on our loan, and we are currently being asked for a monthly payment of \$1,450 at an interest rate of 6.9%.
- We do not have enough money in the renovation fund to continue making these payments past November.
- We have calculated that if our loan were converted to a 4% interest rate with a 4-year term, and considering annual gifts that have been guaranteed to us to help pay off principal, our monthly payment would only need to be \$731.
- We are asking for personal loans to pay off our current loan with the bank, and we would then ask for the congregation to renew their support for the renovation with pledges to help us make these monthly payments, which would then be sent to those who loaned us the money.

The Session will provide more information at Sunday's congregational meeting, but we wanted to communicate the overall plan to you so you understand why we think a change is needed.

*-- Nate McKie, for the Session*

## Youth Group Calendar

"I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy of praise." Psalm 18:3

All events on Sunday nights @ 6 unless otherwise noted

- September 16: Church Anniversary Picnic after worship
- September 23: Youth Group
- September 30: Church-wide Retreat

**Send Mark Your Schedule!** Mark Robertson would love to come to your kid's extracurricular activities this Fall; send information for sports, plays, art showings, etc. to Mark and he will promise not to embarrass you in front of all your friends!

## Men's Ministries



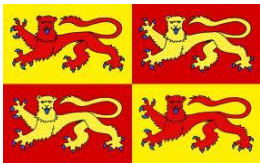
### Bible Study

Monday evenings from 8:30 – 10 pm (Milligan House)

Next meeting September 24, when we will view and discuss Tim Keller's DVD series *The Prodigal God*. As an added bonus, awesome refreshments will be served. For further information, please contact Gary Glasgow, Currie Bishop, or a Greg (Kern or Roig)

Friday mornings from 6:30-7:30 am, at the Milligan house, study of Proverbs

First and third Saturday mornings at 7:15 am, led by Hal Pendergrass. Next meeting is September 22<sup>nd</sup>.



### Men's Social

1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, 5-6:15 pm at Llywelyn's Pub, 17 Moody, WG, 63119. Next social: Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. *For questions about the men's ministries, please see Ed Killeen.*

## Women's Ministries



### Bible Study

Women's Bible Study: Book of Hebrews

I hope you can join us as we study Hebrews! My prayer is that through studying the Word, together would learn more deeply how to "...approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:16)

**When:** We have two studies. Choose the one at the time that works best for your schedule!

Friday mornings, 9:15 am-11:30 am, Began 9/14 and ends in March 2013

Tuesday Evening, 7pm-8:30pm. Begins 9/18.

**Cost:** one-time fee of \$30 to cover the cost of materials & supplies. Scholarships may be available if needed. May pay in two installments of \$15 each time.

**Where:** Both will be at Milligan House (just across street from church)

**Leaders:** Betty McCracken on Friday mornings  
Melissa Nelson on Tuesday evenings

### **Childcare**

--Friday Mornings. We have 3 wonderful ladies hired to lovingly care for the children in the nursery. (Nursing moms welcome to have babies in class.)

--Tuesday Evenings: No childcare available.

--Contact Melissa Nelson with any questions



### **Book Club for Ladies**

Quite a few of you responded about wanting to start a women's book group at OOC, so here we go! We are only going to meet *every other month* (in November, January, March, May), so hopefully many of you can make it on a regular basis. Kelli McKie is hosting the first book group get together at her house and will be providing drinks and treats on **Saturday, November 10 from 9-11am**. The book is *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo. (There are many editions of this book, so for consistency sake we are suggesting the abridged version, trans. by Charles E. Wilbur and intro. by James K. Robinson. It is sold on Amazon for around \$6). A new movie version, based on the musical, is coming out in December. We would also love to have a movie outing and discussion afterwards. More info about this at the November meeting. Also, for those of you who love the theater, the musical (highly recommended) is coming to the Fox in October!! Please feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to the book group. We will be asking for a head count closer to the meeting date so we can accordingly prepare. The group as a whole will be deciding on future reads. Hope to see you at the McKies in November!

-- Kelli McKie and Katie Mohler

## Happy 31st Anniversary, Old Orchard Church!

On August 2, 1981, Old Orchard Church held its first worship service. We hold our anniversary worship and picnic in late September to avoid the traditionally steamy St. Louis August, so everyone (guests, too) please join us at Larson Park today, after worship, for our celebration picnic.

### Directions to Larson Park

- ❖ Going west on Amelia turn right on to Fairlawn to Newport.
- ❖ Turn left onto Newport Avenue
- ❖ Turn Left onto E. Kirkham Avenue
- ❖ Pass Larson Park on left
- ❖ Turn left on to Denver Place and drive until the dead end, which is the parking lot for the park

### Church Wide Retreat

The Old Orchard Retreat is September 28 – 29 at Eaglehurst, near Steeleville, Missouri. Our theme for the retreat is “Back to the Basics.” Come and study God's Word, enjoy great meals, and explore the outdoors. You can choose to camp or to stay in a hotel room attached to the conference center where our meetings will take place. The registration deadline is **TODAY**, September 16, 2012. Registrations forms are in the parlor. See Mark Robertson for questions.

### “Two Nights Together”

This fall, instead of meeting on three consecutive Wednesdays for our annual “Three Nights Together,” we will meet on Sundays—and, because of a busy fall schedule as a church, *we will meet two Sundays in a row rather than three, on October 7th and 14th.*

This annual, fall get-together is designed to give us a forum to think and talk together—about issues and questions that matter, and to draw friends, neighbors, acquaintances and co-workers into our conversation. This year we will watch an hour-long (roughly!) film each of the two nights, and then have a conversation about it afterwards.

**On Sunday evening, October 7, at 6 pm,** we will watch “*Michelangelo Revealed*,” a provocative documentary about the life, art and faith of the great Renaissance painter, sculptor, poet and architect, Michelangelo(1475-1564). First aired in 2009, this is a show directed by award-winning Italian documentary film director, Fabrizio Ruggirello, and is an episode in the PBS series, *Secrets of the Dead*. Some of us got together to watch this film in June but many of you did not see it that night, so you'll have another opportunity to see it as part of our “Two Nights Together” this fall.

The film's fascinating and provocative claim is that there are subtle hints in Michelangelo's art and in his private letters to his faith in Jesus Christ at a time when the medieval Catholic Church was being challenged by the Protestant Reformation to reform itself by returning to the Bible.

The film traces out the work of Italian art historian, Antonio Forcellino, who was commissioned to clean Michelangelo's famous marble statue of Moses—and found himself stunned by what he discovered about the statue upon closer examination. That sets him on a quest to learn more about Michelangelo, and to try to solve several inconsistencies in the historical record ignored by some historians but puzzled over by others for centuries. For sure, this film will set you thinking, wondering and wanting to read more.

**Bring a friend** and join us for an intriguing evening that will take us back five centuries in time! We will meet at 6 pm on Sunday, October 7 at the church building, and light refreshments will be served. Childcare will be provided, *but you must sign up for it with Mark Robertson.*

The second film, to be shown at the same time on October 14, will be announced shortly!

-- Ron Lutjens

## Food, Diapers & More Fall Collection

Sponsored by OOC Mercy Ministry Team

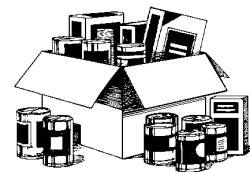
**You Are Invited to Bring Items:** September 16 – October 7, 2012.

Please leave in the “Mercy” wooden box in the foyer. \*\*

### **What Food to Bring:**

Bring nonperishable items as listed below.

Individual or family sizes.



**Food will be given to families & individuals served by:**

- ◆ **Sunshine Ministries** (work of mercy in St. Louis City. Its food pantry is part of an outreach program in North Louis City)

Items wanted:

- ✓ canned goods (especially fruit, veggies and soup)
- ✓ canned meals (chili, mini-ravioli, tuna, etc.)
- ✓ boxed items (such as potatoes, hamburger helper, pasta)

- ◆ **Webster-Rock Hill Ministries** (multi-church ministry of mercy in Webster & Rock Hill)

Items wanted: cold and hot cereal

**Diapers, Clothing & Baby Wipes** will be given to:

- ◆ **Bethany Christian Services:** Bethany gives items to those they work with: either to birth moms who decide to parent or struggling families who participate in the Safe Families for Children program. Let's shower these birth moms and families with helpful supplies!

Items wanted:

- ✓ Baby soap
- ✓ Baby lotion
- ✓ Newborn clothes, especially boys
- ✓ Newborn diapers
- ✓ Baby wipes
- ✓ Size 3 diapers
- ✓ Basic outfits--just a couple per size, 2T, 3-6
- ✓ Socks and underwear sizes 2T, 3-6.

**\*\*Please Note:** Checks may also be given instead of donating items—payable to Old Orchard Church and mark it for “**Fall MM Collection.**” Please put it in the collection plate. Questions? See Durinda Hood or a member of the Mercy Ministry

And do not forget to do good and to share with others,  
for with such sacrifices God is pleased. --*Hebrews 13:16*

### **Lawn Mowing**

Thanks to all who have been signing up! Still looking for people to mow the lawns at the church building & Milligan House and at the home of Willie Lee, a disabled man we help out who lives in Rock Hill. We welcome people to help and take a turn. Sign up sheets are circulating today. Please contact **Bill Grady** for the Church's lawns and **Ben Dodd** for Mr. Lee's.

### **Help to rebuild Joplin**

You're invited to join the OOC team to help rebuilding efforts in partnership with MNA & Christ the King PCA in Joplin, Missouri. We are currently considering October 18 – 21. (Thursday-Sunday) All ages may apply. We will sleep at a local church; shower facilities and meals are available for as low as \$20/day. We have been advised that there will likely be opportunities for “lighter duty” work in Joplin, such as insulating, helping with wiring and plumbing, job site clean-up, etc. If there are those who cannot do any physical labor, assistance is also needed taking pictures, assisting with creating the weekly disaster relief bulletin board, and other administrative-type tasks. They also have an active Adopt A Neighborhood program that could provide a host of opportunities. Let Mark Robertson know if you want to join the team or want more info. [mark.robertson@oldorchardchurch.org](mailto:mark.robertson@oldorchardchurch.org).

-- *Mark Robertson*



## St. Louis L'Abri Fellowship Day

Conference on Creation will be on Sat., October 6 from 8:30-5p.m. at Westminster Christian Academy's new campus in Town & Country. Speakers include Jerram Barrs, Dick Keyes, Jack Collins, Mark Ryan, and others. Brochures are on the information table in the parlor, or email [Rochester@labri.org](mailto:Rochester@labri.org) for more.

-- *Katie Mohler*

## Tutoring Opportunities

### Firm Foundation/New City Fellowship

You're invited to spread the gospel to the urban poor through tutoring a student in grades K-12 once a week for 1-1/2 hours. Firm Foundation Tutoring's North City program meets on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 4:15-5:45 for elementary students and from 6:00-7:30 on Tuesday and Thursday for middle school and high school students. The South City program is from 5:00-6:30 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Tutors choose which day of the week, time, and location works best for them. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Laurie Jones at:  [\(314\)726-2302 ext. 233](tel:(314)726-2302). Firm Foundation is a member of New City Fellowship (PCA) and Restore St. Louis, 1142 Hodiament Ave., St. Louis, MO 63112.

--*Submitted by Laurie Jones*

### William Yandell Tutoring Program (Webster-Rock Hill Ministries)

Tutoring takes place on Tuesdays, from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. You will be matched with a student to tutor each week. Support, supplies & snacks are provided. The sessions take place at Rock Hill Baptist Church, 9125 Manchester Road, Brentwood. MO 63144. Tutoring will begin on Tues., Oct. 9. Volunteer orientation will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012 from 5:30 - 6:00 pm. Academically strong high school (11, 12 grades), college students and adults are eligible to tutor. If interested, please contact: Janet Stobart OR Elizabeth Cawthon. [see print copy for contact numbers]



**Post**

We are writing to let the church know that our family's last day at OOC will be the last Sunday in September (9/30). As many of you are aware, we are raising support to go to

Nairobi, Kenya with World Harvest Mission ([www.whm.org](http://www.whm.org)) for a 6 month internship and are hoping to leave in October. After we leave St. Louis, we will be staying with friends in Lawrence, Kansas until we raise our remaining support. We are currently at 17% and feel encouraged that God will send us to Kenya. Thank you all for loving us so well and welcoming us into your fellowship. This has been a wonderful place for us to begin our life together as a family. The glory of Christ is in this church, and we will miss you dearly.

*--Jen, James & Nathan Schaefer*

To Our Old Orchard Family,

As we prepare to leave for Jefferson City, I could not do so without first telling you all thank you for your kind friendship, your love and encouragement, your help when we needed it, and the way you let us into the family 2 ½ years ago.

I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to serve as an intern under Ron, from whom I have learned much, namely in what being a godly husband, father, man, and pastor looks like.

Ron has been preaching recently on Ephesians and he has often noted how far the church seems from the picture in that letter. I can say, however, that, having been in the world among groups of people in the work place and at school, Old Orchard is a shining example of the magnitude of God's grace and love. We fall short, far short, of all that we will one day be in, by and through Jesus Christ, nonetheless the love, grace, and holiness I have seen and experienced here at OOC, could never have been except that the church truly is all that Paul says it is in Ephesians.

We have tasted, savored, and enjoyed the salty fellowship of grace, love, and holiness for too brief a season here at OOC, but we rejoice that whether we worship together again or not, we will certainly see you again in glory.

God's Grace be with you all,

*--Jonathan and Kathleen and Elanor Shumate*

Dear Friends,

This is just to give you a heads up about the dates for next year's Rochester L'Abri Conference - so you can reserve that weekend if you are interested in coming. We will meet, as usual, at the Kahler Grand Hotel in downtown Rochester, MN, over the weekend of February 8 & 9, 2013. The theme will be "Every Tribe & Nation...Crossing Divides with the Gospel of Reconciliation." This follows somewhat logically from this year's theme of Creation, where reaffirmation of our common origins 'in Adam' and our creation in the Image of God provides a basis for the equal dignity of all peoples. This is

of course reinforced by the eschatological vision of Rev 5&7, where 'every tribe and tongue and people and nation' gather before the throne. I want to follow loosely the flow of Galatians 3:28 for the Plenary addresses and hope to cover some of the major dividing lines that plague us, looking at them through the lens of the Gospel of reconciliation.

As usual, we have an excellent line-up of speakers and a terrific assortment of workshops to choose from. All the details will be available in our brochure which should be out in the mail by October.

I do hope we will see many of you there again next year.

*-- Jock McGregor, Rochester L'Abri*



## **Musings**

### **It is the gift of God**

"But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions.... For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God..." (Ephesians 2:4-8)

We've heard that our salvation is a gift from God so often, I think we need to reconsider what God's gift is really like. First, let me describe what it is not like. It is not like a gift we may receive for Christmas or our birthday. A gift may be hoped for, or expected, or even hinted about. A gift may be a treat, something extra, a bonus or luxury. It may be helpful or even a timely resource. We may see it as payback for gifts we have given; an obligatory exchange. In our wealth and comfort we sometimes receive gifts we don't even want or need. But we don't usually think of a gift as something necessary for our lives.

We don't think of a life preserver thrown to a drowning man as a "gift" from the lifeguard. We don't consider CPR on a heart attack victim to be a "gift" from a compassionate by-stander. Being pulled from a burning car wreck by another motorist is not spoken of a "gift." But that is closer to the kind of gift God has given us. Before He gave us faith and salvation, we were dead. Dead people can do nothing for themselves. God's gift is truly the resuscitation of our lifeless souls. We are saved by God's grace through faith; but even that faith is a gift from God. He is the rescuer and reviver of dead people.

He is like the good shepherd who goes after the lost sheep that would surely die alone in the wilderness. He is like the poor woman who lights her costly oil lamp in her dark house, sweeps the dirt floor and searches on her knees until she finds her very valuable lost coin. He is like the astonishingly humble father who runs out to his exhausted, famished son who is limping home from a distant land, restoring him in love to full sonship. But even more to the point, God's gift to us is life. By His Word, we are brought out of death: "Talitha Koum! Arise little girl!", "Young man, I say to you, get up!" and "Lazarus, come out!" Jesus brings life to dead people. It isn't owed to us. It isn't expected. It isn't a nice surprise or a pleasant custom. No payment is needed, or even possible. It is grace-- undeserved, unearned, free, and complete. It is a gift beyond all others. This gift is our rescue: from death to life with our Lord. What a gift! What a Savior!

--Submitted by Kevin Raquepaw



Need a good book? Check out our library! Please browse our selection of books in the hallway 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!!

#### **A Library Notice...**

If you checked out the following library book; SLAVERY TO SERVANTHOOD, by John H. White, can you please return it to the library? [We don't know who checked it out.] Thank you for your time.

--Jan Rau for the Library



#### **OOO Directory**

If you are new and not in the OOO Directory, please fill out a form. You can either fill out a form at the church's website [www.oldorchardchurch.org](http://www.oldorchardchurch.org) at the bottom of the "About Us" page, or get one from Durinda Hood. Corrections:

## **Corrections:**

Peter Barrs' e-mail address is incorrect in the present directory: [ ]. Be sure to get that "s" in there!

## **New Address but same phone numbers:**

Drew & Jessica Burdette  
[see print copy]

## **New to Old Orchard:**

Kenny & Amy Gerlach  
Benjamin, Jenna, Grant  
[see print copy]

Mike and Deanna Ford  
Luke  
[see print copy]

## **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 (put in subject line: *Overture*). The next issue will be out Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Deadline is September 30<sup>th</sup>.



## **Old Orchard Church**

**Church Office/Milligan House:** 314.962.3795

**Church Building, 640 Amelia:** 314.961.6932

**OOO 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 Family:* Mark Robertson, [see print copy]

Mark's E-Mail: [see print copy]