



OVERTURE

The (Almost) Fortnightly Newsletter
Of Old Orchard Church
November 18, 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. Meets across the street at the Milligan House. Listen for dismissal announcement, usually around 10:50 am. See Jessie Swigart or Mark Robertson for questions.
- **Make Use of the Children's Activity Bags in Worship!** Parents, each week

there is a new activity sheet for children in the colored bags that you can find in a box alongside the windows in the hallway. These sheets are a way to help children engage in worship; if they are not yet reading, perhaps you can assist them after the service with some of the questions, though there are also graphics and games for all to enjoy according to that week's theme. Let me know if you have suggestions, as we seek to help the whole family worship well on Sunday morning!

Mark Robertson

Sunday School News



Sunday School Meets at 9:00 a.m. for both adults and children. No classes on November 25th, the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

❖ Adults

From November 4th until Christmas, Will Barker will lead the adult Sunday School. We will explore the Westminster Confession of Faith and ask ourselves what significance a 400-year-old confession has in the life of a Christian today. We will talk about how it was formed in its historical context, and why we view the Bible as a series of Covenants between God and people. We will explore the undergirding truths of Scripture that shape our understanding of life such as predestination, assurance of salvation, Christian freedom, freedom of conscience, and the grace of the sacraments and prayer. This is a class for everyone, as it will enrich and deepen your understanding of Scripture. Great coffee and childcare is provided for those children younger than preschool (all the other children, see below!) Please contact Margaret Killeen with any questions.

❖ Children

Our classroom locations for children's Sunday School are listed below.

- Ages 3-5 - preschool nursery room in the church basement
- K-2nd grade - basement of the church, in the common area
- 3rd - 5th grade - upstairs in the Milligan House, in the children's worship area
- Middle School – youth room in Milligan House basement
- High School - downstairs Milligan House in high school area

—Mark Robertson

Men's Ministries



Bible Study

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

Next meeting is November 19th, when we will view and discuss Tim Keller's DVD series *The Prodigal God*. (there is no book to buy or pre-reading required from week to week). As an added bonus, awesome refreshments will be served. For further information, please contact Gary Glasgow, Currie Bishop, or a Greg (Kern or Roig)

Weekly on Friday mornings from 6:30-7:30 am, at the Milligan house. Currently studying the book of Proverbs.

First and third Saturday mornings at 7:15 am, led by Hal Pendergrass. We are studying Colossians and the next meeting is December 1st.

Men's Social

1st Friday of the month, 5-6:15 pm at Llywelyn's Pub, 17 Moody, WG, 63119. Next social: Friday, December 7th. *For questions about the men's ministries, please see Ed Killeen.*



Women's Ministries



THE WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY USUALLY MEETS AS STATED BELOW, BUT WILL NOT MEET ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH OR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD.

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
(no class November 23rd)

Tuesday Evening, 7pm-8:30pm. Begins 9/18. (no class November 20th)

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 --



- ❖ **Choir:** Meets at 7:15 p.m. on Thursdays. See Greg Roig, Music Director, with questions.
- ❖ **English Conversations** meets Fridays, 4:30 p.m. at Milligan House. See Hurvey & Dorothy Woodson or Valerie Powers for more information.
- ❖ **Stated Session meeting:** Tuesday, November 27th, 5:30 p.m. at Milligan House, second floor.
- ❖ **Lunches.** No Lunches at Milligan House scheduled in November and December due to Thanksgiving and Christmas schedules.
- ❖ **Christmas Party With Concert:** Save the date! On Sunday, December 16th at 6 p.m. we will hear a brief concert by our choir, then enjoy fellowship and food together! Details to follow soon...
- ❖ **Ladies 2013 Retreat:** The OOC women's retreat will be at Toddhall Retreat Center near Columbia, Illinois on from Friday, February 15th at 6 pm until Saturday, February 16th at 5 pm. The theme for this year is "Back to the Basics: Recovering the Joy in Hospitality." Stay tuned for more details!
- ❖ **Mark Robertson** will be on vacation: November 20 through November 23.
- ❖ The **Church Office** will be closed Thursday, November 22.



Thanksgiving Day Worship

Thursday, November 22, 2012 10:00 a.m. Please join us!

You are invited to bring something to decorate the communion table on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 22), at 10:00 a.m. (during the first hymn). What to bring? Fruit, vegetables, colorful leaves, berries, pumpkins, squash, flowers, pine cones, etc., or anything you think reflects the beauty of creation. Parents, this is a great opportunity to take a walk with your children and gather treasures to bring.

Kids Christmas Craft Sale

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 16. 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. Plan on buying a few last minute gifts! Our coordinator is Mary Beth Glasgow. Please see her, kids, if you plan to make gifts.



Congregational Meeting

Briefly, the results of our meeting on November 14, 2012 are:

- Ben Dodd was elected a deacon.
- Mark Robertson was elected associate pastor and will be ordained on December 2, 2012
- The proposal to change the quorum to one half for when we elect church officers did not pass. It required a 3/4 majority of those present.

Durinda Hood

Nursery schedules for December-February are ready to be picked up. Please pick yours up, and contact Margaret Wilke with any questions or issues.

Margaret Wilke

My Very Own Bible

Receiving gifts is a joyful experience for a child. We see strong evidence of that truth at birthdays and at Christmas, and in particular, receiving gifts that reinforce already strong personal bonds are extra-special! Unfortunately, we've moved past the days of the old family Bible in the home, the big 80 pounder that kids could hardly open. But there are now affordable, great Bibles for kids that can serve as excellent gifts. This is a gift they can cherish for many years, a personal, tactile, and spiritual way of passing on God's Word to your children. Your children will be excited to bring their Bibles to Sunday School and church, and later reminisce about little notes in the margins or pictures of rainbows that they scribbled three years ago. I hope you will consider the gift of the Bible for your children and I hope that you encourage your children to bring their Bibles to church and to their Sunday School classes. I (Mark) also have several children's Bibles to give away for those who are interested.

Mark Robertson, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
Deanna Ford, Sunday School Coordinator

Adopt a Family for Christmas & More



As of this writing, we hope to have our annual gift giving tree up today for you to begin to select gifts or contributions for our gift giving for Christmas. Look each week to see what ornaments have gone up that need to be taken. You take one half of the ornament and get your gift, then leave the other half of the ornament with your name on it with us to tell us who has taken that gift or gift card. We have not yet been assigned the two families we're adopting through Webster Rock Hill Ministries (providing gifts and food and as able utility gifts). We are also giving small gifts (\$5 to \$10) to the children/grandchildren of the women who stay in the Grace & Peace Winter Shelter, and are providing 10 gifts for Mission Gate (\$25 range) through their outreach to the children of parents in prison. Children in the fellowship are encouraged to take a gift for a child/grandchild of the women at the Shelter. We are also providing small gifts to the women served by the Winter Shelter to which you may make a contribution. Funds are welcomed to help with the gift giving! Please follow instructions! **Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 9.**

Also, we are looking for donations of non-perishable food for a Christmas dinner, and also additional items to stock the families' pantry for the two families we hope to adopt through Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Durinda Hood for the Mercy Ministry

A Book Release Event

For **THE EXACT PLACE** by Margie Haack (a memoir), November 24th from 6-9 pm and November 25th from 12-3 pm Kingsbury Gallery, Grace & Peace Fellowship (each time will have its own reception). Our own Jacob Mohler will introduce the author. See post cards in parlor for more information.



Post

Dear Friends,

As I was walking home from work last Thursday night on the road in front of the [name removed] office in Switzerland, I was hit by a car. I was walking on the sidewalk when one car hit another car which hit me. I was taken to hospital and had x-rays and scans done of my spine and pelvis. Miraculously, nothing is broken, but I have a lot of muscle and joint pain in my neck, back, shoulders and hips. I am so grateful it is not worse. It is quite a miracle that the car did not drive over me. It pushed me three meters and then was stopped by a pole. When the car came to a stop my feet were under it.

I was supposed to travel to [country removed] for a three week field trip last Saturday and had been working hard to prepare to be gone. I was going to join and speak at the annual team conference amongst other things. For the time being my trip has been cancelled. What I also find quite frustrating is that I had just finished physiotherapy for a hip injury one week before and was finally getting back to normal exercise.

In my prayer and devotion time this week I have felt the Lord really encouraging me not to place too much importance in my plans and to accept when I don't have control of situations, and to remember to be content in any and every situation. I was reminded that I should put my energy into trusting Him and enjoying His presence and not let my well-being depend on my circumstances. I was convicted about the fact that my decisions should not be about pleasing myself or others, but rather pleasing Him. This is all easier said than done. Please continue to pray that I will heal well from this accident. My doctor has prescribed more medicine, rest and physiotherapy. I am not very good at resting.

Please pray that the Lord will bless this time and that I will find other things to inspire me in the midst of this cancelled field trip. Please also pray for the [name removed] Team Conference that there would be a special sense of unity in the group and pray also for the ones who need to fill in and lead the sessions which I was going to do.

Warm Greetings
Anne

[This is Anne [last name removed] who spent years in [country removed] and then is almost killed in Switzerland of all places!]

Submitted by Dorothy Woodson

[Online Editor: Please see print copy for details removed.]

Old Orchard ladies,

Thank you for your many generous prayers and gifts at the baby shower. We are so grateful for the many ways you "showered" us with love. We look forward to introducing our little ones to you very soon!

Blessings,
Hannah Gear, Shelly Schmalhofer, and Lily Ji



OOO Directory

If you are new and not in the OOC Directory, please fill out a form. You can either fill out a form at the church's website www.oldorchardchurch.org at the bottom of the "About Us" page, or get one from Durinda Hood. Please turn in a physical form to Durinda Hood's mailbox.



If you are not receiving **OOO Talk** on your e-mail and you would like to, please e-mail the church office and we will have an invitation to OOC Talk sent to you. [For OOC attenders only]

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, December 2nd. Deadline is today. Editor: Marci Robertson (before she goes on maternity leave).

Speaking of maternity leave, would you be interested in putting the Overture together once every two months? If we get two new editors, that's how often it would be. We publish two times a month. (first and third Sundays). If you have an interest, want to try it out, or if you just want to be an occasional substitute please contact Durinda Hood at the church office.



Old Orchard Church

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OOO Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org

Church Office: Durinda Hood, Administrative Assistant

Church Office E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org

Pastor: **Ron Lutjens** Home Study: [see print copy]

Ron's E-mail: [see print copy]

Associate Pastor-elect, Youth and Family Ministry: **Mark Robertson**, [see print copy]

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