

OOC Tidbits...November 11, 2007

A publication of Old Orchard Church

Welcome to Old Orchard Church!

We welcome you to our worship. If you would like to find out more about Old Orchard & what we are about, please fill out one of our visitor forms. Also, we invite you to use our **child care services** for infants through children in kindergarten (see below).

Children's Ministries During Worship

Nursery is offered for infants & children through Kindergarten age. Our nurseries are in the church building's 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. For children grades 1-5. Dismissed at 10:50 a.m.

Parlor Fellowship

Please join us today after worship for food and fellowship. Our hosts are Lois Easterling and Janet Rau.

Members: Pastoral Evaluation Reminder

Please be working on your pastoral evaluation letters or e-mails. If you wish to meet with the ruling elders on Saturday, November 17 between 8:00 a.m. and noon, please contact the church office by Thursday, November 15. The ruling elders ask that your comments be submitted prior to November 18. See Jack Easterling & Hurvey Woodson if you have questions.

OOC Leaf Raking Day

Saturday, December 1 starting at 9 a.m.

We need a leaf-raking crew! The next day (December 2) is the House Tour so we want the grounds to be ready for our guests!

Volunteers Wanted for House Tour

As announced, Old Orchard Church will be participating in a House Tour on Sunday afternoon, December 2. We need 12 people to take turns (1 or 2 hours at a time) to show our building to people. Please let Ron Lutjens know if you'd like to help!

Sunday School News

Fall Classes for Adults & Children!

9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings

Adult Sunday School. "Used By God" class continues to meet in the living room of Milligan House. All invited.

Children's Sunday School. 9 a.m. in church basement and Milligan House. Sunday School is offered from three years through high school.

Teen Fellowship Schedule Notes

Growth Group: November 11, 6-8 p.m. (bring \$\$ if you want a snack)

Teen Leadership Team: Our next meeting will be on November 18th at 4:30 p.m.

Guys' Nite Out: Friday, November 16, 6 p.m. –

HOT TOPIX: November 18, 6-8 p.m. "Relationships"

****No Teen Fellowship on Sunday, November 25.****

See Mark Tucker if you have any questions.

Bring Food Any Sunday

The last food from our recent food drive was taken last Sunday by Deb Eisenbraun who spoke to us about the ministry of the Grace and Peace Food Pantry. We continue to invite you to bring food any Sunday and place it in the container in the foyer. Thank you for your participation in the food drive.

Next Sunday we will be putting up our tree for the "Adopt a Family" Christmas project which includes gifts for a couple of families as well as children of prisoners ministered to by Mission Gate. We may also have some surprise opportunities this year...watch for the tree next week!

—Thanks, Durinda Hood for the Mercy Ministry

Kids: Christmas Craft Sale Opportunity!

Christmas Craft Sale again! 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: **Sunday, December 16** after worship. If you plan to make things this year, please let Kelli McKie know at 636.230.5754 or e-mail Kelli.

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, some 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 on the 16th!

Preparation for Thanksgiving Day

You are invited to bring something Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 22), at 10:00 a.m., to decorate the communion table that will be brought up 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.

Thanksgiving Day Worship

Thursday, November 22, 10:00 a.m.
(church office closed)

English Conversations Class

Fridays: 4:30 p.m. Milligan House. No class Nov. 23.

Men's Bible Study

Sat., Nov. 17 at Milligan House, 7:15 a.m.
See Hal Pendergrass or Ben Kraft for questions.

Overture

You are invited to write for our newsletter, the *Overture*! We welcome submissions of articles, art, short essays, poetry, etc. All submissions need to be signed. You can send your submissions via e-mail to the church office (office@oldorchardchurch.org) **or** you can place your articles in the *Overture* box (in the coat closet). Electronic submissions welcomed, but not required. **Deadline today** for the next issue which will be out next week on November 18. We have a rotating crew of *Overture* editors; the next editor is Susan O'Neal.

Grace & Peace Winter Shelter

Grace & Peace Fellowship in St. Louis City operates a homeless shelter; here are some opportunities available to serve there. The Shelter was slated to open its 22nd consecutive winter of sheltering homeless women in Jesus' name on November 4, 2007, but was delayed due to needing additional staff coverage until November 7. The Shelter will remain open until March 17, 2008. When the Housing Resource Center was told that Grace & Peace was going to open, the Assistant Director was pleased to hear that because there were no open beds in the City.

The last news we received said, "We {at the Shelter} still have quite a few overnight volunteer needs for after Thanksgiving and after December 1. Please pray that those who can take these, will, and those who can't, will keep praying. Thank you!"

Meal Providers. Provide the evening meal for 20 people. Either sign-up on the sheet on the table in the parlor or call Tirzah Rhodes, 314.726.5572, Shelter Meals Coordinator. For more information you can also check with Durinda Hood in the OOC church office for a sheet explaining more about how the evening meals work.

Evening and Overnight Volunteers are also wanted.

Evening Volunteers: serve from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Overnight Volunteers: serve from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.

You can call Melody Burke, Shelter Team Leader, at 314-367-8959, or graceandpeace1@sbcglobal.net if you want to volunteer or have questions.

Moment for Missions. Melody Burke will be coming next Sunday, November 18 to share about the work of the Shelter.

Old Orchard Church Contact Info

Church Office (in Milligan House), 639 Amelia: 314.962.3795 (fax 314.962.8285)

Church Building, 640 Amelia: 314.961.6932

Ron Lutjens' (Home) Study: 314.962.6196

Mark Tucker's Office: 314.680.3670

Church Office E-mail: office@oldorchardchurch.org

Web Site: www.oldorchardchurch.org



Associate Pastor, Mark Tucker and our theme, Stepping Out of the Boat

"In his heart, a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." Proverbs 16:9

Alice and I are very blessed to be at Old Orchard Church. We, including Levi, Isaiah, and Abel, know that this is our church family as well as our community of worship. We feel appreciated and loved by you all. We often give praise to God for where he has positioned us in life. To work with and under Pastor Ron and the ruling elders has been a tremendous joy. I continue to be sharpened under their guidance and care. Under the Lord, I maintain my calling and commitment to focus on whatever the congregation and the Session believe is best for OOC as long as the He has me here. In that regard, it is my heart's desire to use the gifts and passions I have to inspire and encourage the church towards outreach. While I love the work of ministering to the youth and families at OOC, it is my hope to take a few steps in the direction of working and developing outreach and mercy ministry. I am excited about working with Ron and the Session in identifying core issues, developing a vision for what we want to look like in the future, and implementing a plan on how we might get there. In other words, helping mold our church as a whole, as the Lord would have it.

Of course, I believe that ministry to our youngest members is a KEY part of this. I do not desire to let go of this area completely for now. I do intend to still oversee our ministry to young people. At the same time, my intention is to ease over into ministry that focuses on preaching, teaching and training adults to engage in outreach ministry. Also, I am confident that our youth and family ministry is stable enough that volunteers and interns can oversee some of the routine and administrative activities. This would free me up to do what I long to do and what I believe would be helpful to OOC, namely developing our calling to be salt and light in the world. The details of how this might work out are still being determined. One thing that is key is finding people to step up and assume some of the duties of the youth and family ministries (teaching teen Sunday School, overseeing the Children's Good Friday meal, overseeing the Sunday Night Teen Fellowship, etc). Please be praying for the Session as we discuss this, and please bring us your thoughts, ideas, and concerns.

—Mark Tucker, Associate Pastor