

SEPTEMBER 2023

The Monthly Newsletter



Orchard Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
close to home

WORSHIP WITH US

Please join us **September 10, 2023, for Kick Off Sunday**. We welcome back the choir, children's Sunday school, Mind the Gap, adult education and more. Hope to see you there!

Date: **September 10, 2023**

Time: **10:00 a.m. Service, 11:00 a.m. Classes**

Location: **Sanctuary (Worship)**

Dates to Know

September 3

- Bring Back a Sack Starts
- Nominating Starts

September 4

- Church & Office Closed, Labor Day

September 10

- Kick Off Sunday
- Communion

September 13

- Supper & Study Series Starts, 6:00 p.m. (Lounge)

September 17

- Kindergarteners & Third Graders Receive Bibles
- Confirmation Class, 6:00 p.m. (Youth Rooms)

September 23

- Adult Bible Study, 11:00 a.m. (North Chapel)
- Confirmation, 6:00 p.m. (Youth Rooms)

KICK-OFF
SUNDAY

TAKING NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH OFFICERS



Date: **September 1 - 17, 2023**

Location: **Online & Sunday Morning**

(<https://orchardpark.org/nominate-leadership-at-oppc/>)

One responsibility of membership in the church is the election of lay members to serve as church officers who are ordained to fulfil particular functions within the congregation. The existence of these offices in no way diminishes the importance of the commitment of all members to the total ministry of the church. You can learn more about each of the church officer roles (deacons, elders) below. Please note that nominating an individual does not mean that they will automatically become a church officer. Rather, the Nominating Committee will include all submitted names in their discernment process as they go about selecting the final slate of nominees who will be presented for congregational approval.

Office of Deacon

Being a Deacon is a wonderful call to service. Deacons are the "servants" or "caregivers" of the congregation. The office of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of sympathy, witness, and service after the example of Jesus Christ. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, of exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, warm sympathies, sound judgement and have the desire and availability to serve should be chosen for this office.



It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith. They shall assume such other duties as may be delegated to them from time to time by the session, such as leading the people in worship through prayers of intercession, reading the Scriptures, presenting the gifts of the people and assisting with the Lord's Supper.

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgement should be chosen for this ministry. (The PC(USA) Book of Order)

Office of Elder

Ruling elders are called to ministry in partnership with teaching elders. Within this calling, ruling elders have responsibilities in several areas of the life of the church including exercise in leadership, governance, spiritual discernment, discipline, and have the desire and availability to serve should be chosen for this office.



The Book of Order states that ruling elders, together with teaching elders (pastors), exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. (The PC(USA) Book of Order) Individuals who undertake particular ministries including ruling elder, should be persons of strong faith, dedicated discipleship, and love of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel in the church and in the world. (The PC(USA) Book of Order)

WEDNESDAY SUPPER & STUDY

Date: September 13, 20, 27 and October 3

Time: Dinner: 6:00-6:30, Class: 6:30-8:00

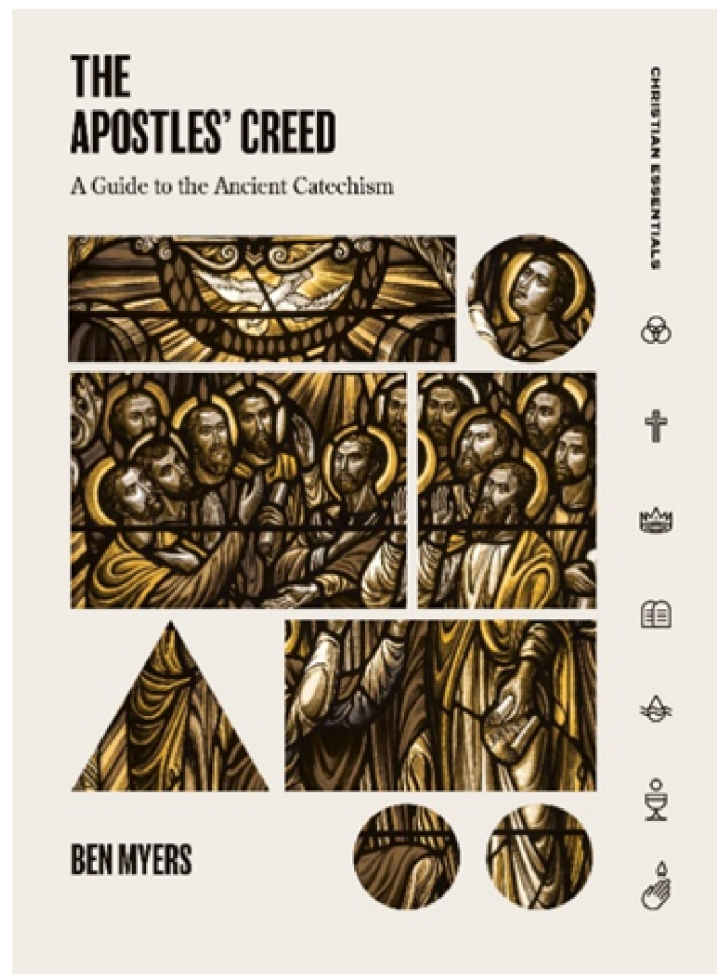
Location: Lounge

You recite it. But do you understand it?

The Apostles' Creed has become so familiar to us that we don't think about what we're saying. Christians from different times, places, and traditions have been united by its eternal truths. We believe them, we recite them, but do we build our lives on them?

The fact that so many in the early church died for their faith means they were caught up in something greater than themselves. What were those truths? How did they empower a revolution? How did early church pastors and theologians use the Apostles' Creed as the essential guide to the basics of the Christian life?

Ben Myers re-introduces that creed. He shows us what about the Christian faith is so counter-cultural, and what truths embedded in the Apostles' Creed we've come to assume, when really, they should amaze us and earn our allegiance unto death. RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 4 to shellywood@orchardpark.org to reserve your spot and order your book.



CHILDREN ACTIVITIES DURING SUPPER AND STUDY Room 118 & 119.

September 13: Psalm 139- We all are children of God Books:

September 20: Luke 10:25-38 Who is My Neighbor?

September 27: God's Paintbrush (feelings expressed through colors; wondering about God)

October 4: Psalm 23: I Am Not Afraid



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join Rev. Dr. Shelly Wood on Wednesdays for her weekly Wednesday Morning Bible Study.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: ZOOM

- Meeting ID: 860 6108 6452 | Pass-code: 191325



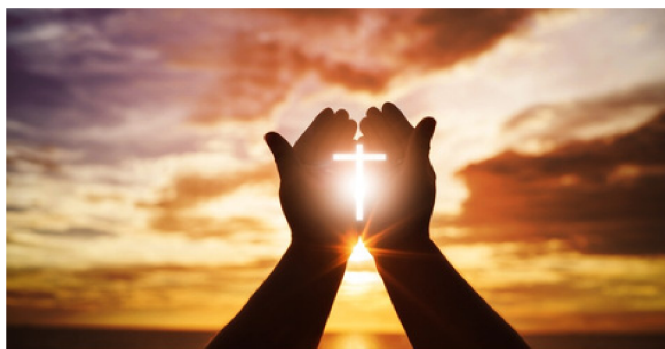
ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY WILL START ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 | 11:00 A.M. | NORTH CHAPEL | HOSTED BY TONY KUPINSKI.

Below is a list of lessons we will be teaching starting the 24th
(NOTE: the order of the lessons has not yet been decided:)
If you have questions, email oppc@orchardpark.org

Worship and the Old Testament
Deuteronomy
Roman's 8:1-17 (Part One)
The Time In Between
The Sepetuagint
Roman's 8:18-27 (Part Two)
How We Got Our Bible
Judah, Brother Of Joseph
The Parable Of The Man Born Blind



PARENTS IN PRAYER



Join us on Sunday Mornings after worship in room 205 to talk about the topics that pertain to the challenges and joys of parenting.... From resiliency, to social media, to friendships, to mental health, no topic is off the table and all conversations are safe and welcome. Join us! Bring your coffee and your wisdom!

MISSION

Bring - Back - a - Sack

Take home paper grocery bags with a list of needed items. Bags should be filled and returned to the church by Sunday September 17 so the items can be distributed at Harvest Christian Fellowship on the September 23rd.

If you would like to donate an appliance, new or used (in working condition), please contact Michael Pietranczyk (mpietranczyk@orchardpark.org) or call the church office to make sure we have space to hold the item and can transport it to Harvest Christian.



Harvest Christian Fellowship Annual Fall Festival

Date: September 23, 2023

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: HCF, 923 E 25th St. Indianapolis

Harvest Christian Fellowship will hold their annual Fall Festival. This event provides an opportunity for the community around Harvest Christian Fellowship to enjoy a day of fellowship, food, fun and worship. Part of the event is a free raffle for donated household appliances or electronics. There will be a giveaway of groceries and gently-used clothing. All are welcome to attend!

MINISTRIES FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

On Sunday mornings, our children follow the lectionary Bible story for the day (which is the same scripture preached on during worship). We are using the Whirl lectionary curriculum from Sparkhouse this year.

Our youngest children (those younger than kindergarten age) meet with Ms. Debbie in Room 127 for the Bible story, music and activities during the worship service. Following worship, our youngest children have fellowship and play with Ms. Debbie; they will remain in room 127 or visit the KidsZone or Pavilion. This preschool room is open from 9:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

Elementary age children meet with Pastor Trish after the Passing of the Peace for our Bible story and activities in Room 205. On communion Sundays, children return to worship to celebrate the sacrament of communion with the congregation.

Following worship, elementary age children participate in Sprout. At 11:10 a.m., music/choir begins with Mrs. Pietranczyk in room 206; then it is back to room 205 for art or yoga with Pastor Trish. Children will lead worship musically four to six times this school year. The Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 24 at 10 a.m.; rehearsals will begin in November. Children of all ages are invited and encouraged to participate!



Young Families Resumes Sunday September 17

Young Families (defined as any family with at least one child 5th grade or younger) are invited to join us on the first and third Sundays of the month from 4:00-5:30 p.m. for discussions for parents; mission projects or activities for the entire family. At 5:00 p.m., we share dinner together. Childcare is available for children, although it is typical that once a month, we engage in an activity together. On Sunday, September 17, Pastor Shelly will lead a conversation with parents about faith and parenting; children will be Pastor Trish. We'll all have dinner together at 5 p.m. in the Lounge. Hope you can join us!

BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

The Prayer Chapel Is Now Open!

The OPPC Strategic Planning Team (a committee of our Session) envisioned increasing spiritual energy within our congregation. As part of this goal, the Deacons have revitalized the Children's Chapel and created the Prayer Chapel, a space open to anyone. Upon entering this space (located at the end of Main Street, right beyond the Lounge), visitors are invited to utilize any of the items to guide and enrich your prayer time. The Prayer Chapel is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday- Thursday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on Fridays and 9 a.m. to noon on Sundays.

