

ORRICK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 5 TO JANUARY 11, 2026



MORNING TIME ON THE PORCH

1/12 - Matthew 12:22-23
"Miracle

Monday: Healing of the Demon-Possessed Blind & Mute Man." Read Luke 11:14-26.

1/13 - Romans 12:1 "A Living Sacrifice." Read II Peter 1 and Romans 8:28.

1/14 - Romans 12:2 "Transformation Starting With Our Heart." Read Genesis 6:22, 7:1, and 5:32.

1/15 - Romans 12:3-5 "Body of Christ as Family." Read John 19:26-27.

1/16 - Romans 12:9-13 "Walking As a Christ Follower."

SERMON SUMMARY

Gifts of the Magi, Matthew 2:1-12; Starting at verses 1-6.

Phil Boude continued Pastor Art's sermon series by focusing on "Gifts of the Magi", Matthew 2:1-6.

Luke 2:32 recounts Simeon's words—known as the Song of Simeon—declaring Jesus as a light of revelation to the Gentiles.

The magi's identity raises interesting questions: though their number is unknown, they were renowned figures across the world. Their audience with King Herod was significant; at the time, Rome and Persia were neighboring powers, and magi had long been present in this region—particularly in areas like Ur of the Chaldeans, home to Abraham and Job. Biblical accounts (Exodus 7:11-14) depict magicians working in Egypt, and in Babylon (Daniel 2), the magi interpreted dreams and acted as kingmakers—powerful astrologers, magicians, and priests who played an essential role in crowning Babylonian kings. As Gentiles, they believed in one God and used fire in sacrifices, paralleling some Levitical practices.

Daniel's story is especially relevant: in Daniel 2:13, he saves the magi, and later (verse 48), he is appointed chief over them. Through studying Jeremiah and other prophets (Daniel 9:3-25), Daniel likely taught the magi about God and messianic prophecies, ensuring that their knowledge endured. When the magi came before Herod—showing no deference—they asked where the King of the Jews was. This unsettled Herod and prompted him to consult others, who referenced Micah's prophecy.

Why did the star lead the magi to Jerusalem? Their journey spanned 1,000 to 1,200 miles—a testament to their faith. Jesus, probably about one or two years old by then, was likely living in Nazareth. After leaving Herod, the star guided the magi to Jesus, whose life was endangered by Herod's

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

1. If you are interested in serving on any of the church teams listed in our bulletin, please contact us at this email address and we will be glad to put you in touch with the team leader or contact them directly.
2. Catpacks is a weekend hunger relief program for Orrick school children and it is sponsored by OCC. We encourage you to donate child-friendly food items. Currently, we are serving 52 children.
3. "Bible on the Hill" men's fellowship event will be hosted by Bob Phillips on Saturday, Jan 24 at 6:00 am. Bob is hosting in his home at 12403 Hwy O, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Read Psalms 96:8

intentions. The moving light provided by God brought immense joy to the magi. They brought three gifts to Jesus:

- Gold symbolized kingship,
- Frankincense indicated his role as High Priest,
- Myrrh was associated with burial practices.

These gifts were remarkably appropriate and given with great happiness. Jesus is the light to the nations, and the story affirms the value of Gentiles to God and His plans for everyone. The ascension of Christ marked the birth of the church age, intended to grow and establish the church (Matthew 16:18: "the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it").

Reflect: Would you travel 1,000 miles to attend church and worship God? What about your commitment on other days? We're called to set aside personal desires as offerings—presenting ourselves as living sacrifices. True sacrifice involves loving sincerely and wholeheartedly (Deuteronomy 6:4-5), acting with kindness and humility (Micah 6:8), and delighting in mercy and understanding of God (Hosea 6:6). Romans 12:1 urges presenting our bodies as living sacrifices, embodying submission and selflessness, following Christ's ultimate sacrifice for eternal life.

God revealed Jesus to the magi for a purpose, inviting us to respond with pure-hearted love and faith. Pray daily for God to examine your heart.

**NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER**



A PRAYER FROM THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER TASK FORCE ON MOVEMENT THROUGH SERVING GOD

"Father God, we acknowledge that every true movement begins with Your Spirit. We do not rely on our own strength, wisdom, or plans. In this season of seeking, we ask You to freshly fill us with Your Holy Spirit. Lead us, empower us, and guide us as Your people, that we would move only at Your direction and for Your glory. Help us make this Season of Seeking, a time of true repentance and rededication, that we as YOUR PEOPLE, would HUMBLE ourselves, SEEK Your face, and TURN from our wicked ways ... than You promise to HEAR, FORGIVE, and HEAL. Your Word promises that if we SEEK YOU, we will FIND YOU. We embrace this challenge and promise by faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

What does Movement Mean When Serving God?

Monday, January 19th, as we observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we are reminded that the Civil Rights Movement was exactly that—a *movement*. **It didn't stand still. It kept moving forward with conviction, courage, and faith, even when the cost was great.** Scripture shows us the same pattern again and again: God calls His people to seek Him, and then to go and do what He asks. Seeking God leads to obedience, and obedience produces movement. In this next season, we can't afford to grow weary or complacent. We must keep moving forward, **anchored in prayer and set in motion by faith.**

January is also National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, a sobering reminder that the fight for freedom against slavery is not over. Seeking real freedom requires more than words, it requires action. As we seek the Lord, He shapes our hearts to care about what breaks His heart, and then He sends us out to act and be His light in dark places. Freedom, both spiritual and physical, is obtained when God's people seek Him earnestly and walk in obedience to His leading.

GLOBAL CELEBRATION OF PRAYER



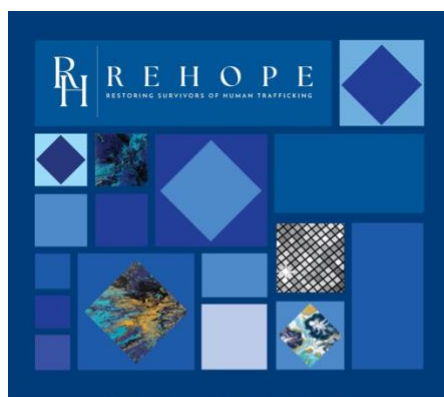
Every year, Moms in Prayer International hosts a Global Celebration of Prayer. This year that event occurs January 18-24. This year the theme is "God is Victor." Groups in more than 150 countries will be praying using the "God is Victor" prayer guide. If you would like to know more about this prayer opportunity, please reach out to Barbara Britt, Prayer Team leader, at this email or by phone/text (816) 826-8832. Prayer guide for this event is attached.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Fifteen men attended "Bible, Breakfast & Bull" men's fellowship event hosted by JC Claypool. "Bible on the Hill" men's fellowship event will be hosted by Bob Phillips on Saturday, Jan 24 at 6:00 am. Bob is hosting in his home at 12403 Hwy O, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.

REHOPE GALA



Each year ReHope has a huge fundraising gala. This year the theme is "Dressed in Hope, Shining with Purpose." They are inviting you to join them in celebrating another year of restoring survivors of human trafficking. This event is held in Overland Park, KS at the Fiorella's Event Center. Tickets are \$150 each. The event is scheduled for Saturday, January 24. For more information contact Deanne Townsend (816) 260-2403.

SAVE THE DATE

Dressed in Hope, Shining with Purpose

2026 ReHope Gala

January 24, 2026 | 5pm - 9pm

Fiorella's Event Space | Overland Park, KS

Join us to celebrate another year of Restoring Survivors of Human Trafficking. www.ReHope.org/gala

BUILDING THE KINGDOM ONGOING FUNDRAISERS



Cathie Holman, folk artist, is donating a painting of the church to the "Building the Kingdom" fundraising campaign. It is a gorgeous autumn original painting. Here's the description: In the quaint farming town of Orrick, there's a charming country church directly across the street from the train tracks. Every year they have an old fashioned tent revival where dinner is served, hymns fill the evening air, and baptisms are done in a large trough. They pray for people in need and build strong relationships with God, family, and friends. They're Bible believing, faithful followers of Christ working to make Heaven crowded. She is also selling prints located in the Build the Kingdom sales racks. Prints cost \$25 for an 8x10 and \$40 for an 11x14. All funds from the sale of the prints go to the "Build the Kingdom" fundraiser.

In the foyer of the church, we have OCC Recipe Books with lots of great recipes for the bargain price of \$25. For the coffee aficionados in your family, we have three flavors of OCC Kingdom builder coffee in either whole bean or ground bags (\$20 each). Need an insulated coffee container? Check out the OCC insulated mug for \$25. Maybe grab a t-shirt or hat, too. T-shirts are \$15 and hats are \$20. There's nothing like shopping for a cause.

	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHES TO BEAUTY WOMEN'S ENCOUNTER WEEKEND</p> <p>Ashes to Beauty weekend is designed for every woman 18 years and older. It is about encountering Jesus at the Cross in a new and personal as well as intimate way. There are 12 sessions that relate to a woman's life. Each session will include praise and worship, personal testimonies, teachings from God's perspective, and a time of reflection. The first weekend encounter in 2026 is February 20-22. Contact Laura O'Dell (816) 868-3875 if you are interested in attending. She will assist you with making arrangements.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">ACM INTERNATIONAL (DEVELOPING KIDS GHANA)</p> <p>"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. (Proverbs 22:9). There is much wisdom in this verse. Generosity shows that a person is genuine; a person looks at others with the desire to help those in need. Through your generosity, you have demonstrated your compassionate and sincere hearts for others and have allowed God to work through your generosity to improve the lives of many around the world.</p> <p>On behalf of our members, I'd like to thank you for your love, support, and generosity that you demonstrated in 2025 in helping us fulfill our vision of being: Teams of Jesus' followers, forming Kingdom churches, building global community. Your participation through giving, serving, worshiping, and discipling makes all the difference as we strive to Answer God's call, Cultivate Relationships, Make Disciples, and Influence the World.</p> <p>In 2025, you were instrumental in helping us share the gospel and meet the needs of people and children on three continents and five countries and hopefully you know that many lives have been transformed through the power and grace of Jesus Christ. Many children were clothed and fed; other children were reunified with family after living on the streets, and unreached people heard the gospel of Christ. 2026 promises to see ministry grow and expand through new partnerships and ministries. Our prayer is that you will again be a part of the work of sharing Jesus to a world so desperately in need of salvation through Him.</p> <p>Thank you again for sharing in the life-changing work of disciple making. "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">2026 PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY</p> <p>Coming soon! For the next 3 to 4 weeks we will be taking pictures at the church before and after Sunday morning worship. Thanks to Samantha Griffin's mad computer skills, we currently have 66% of our church family with photos. We would really like that to be much higher. Presently, you can access the church directory for free on your smart phones, tablets and personal laptops. But for those of you who want a print directory, it will probably cost between \$35 and \$50 each; however, we continue to search for a cheaper solution. A sign up sheet will be circulated soon during Sunday worship to let us know how many copies to print. If you are interested in obtaining a copy but failed to sign up, let Terry Ealey know.</p>



ANSWERED PRAYER

Rick Holman reports that Tammy Reeves' hip surgery was successful and that she is now recovering at home. Praising God for answered prayer. Ashley S has gone through two breast surgeries to combat her breast cancer. She is holding her own at this point. She so appreciates all the prayers. Please continue to lift the individuals on our prayer list and send updates. Your prayers do make a difference!

COMING IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Jan 18-24 - Global Celebration of Prayer
Jan 23-25 - Men's Encounter
Jan 24 - ReHope 2026 Gala
Feb 15 - Sweetheart Dinner Youth Fundraiser
Feb 20-22 - Ashes to Beauty Encounter
Feb 21 - Jesus, Java and Jabbers
Feb 26 - National Collegiate Day of Prayer

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

- Monday, Jan 19 - 6:00 am - "Morning Time on the Porch with Pastor Art" via facebook.
- Tuesday, Jan 20 - 6:00 am - Morning devotion with Pastor Art on facebook.
- Tuesday, Jan 20 - 7:00 pm - **Pray for Ray County** meets in the courthouse rotunda in Richmond. This prayer time is open to all.
- Wednesday, Jan 21 - 6:00 am - "Morning Time on the Porch with Pastor Art" via facebook.
- Wednesday, Jan 21 - 6:00 pm - Men's Bible Study at church with Tim O'Dell.
- Wednesday, Jan 21 - 6:00 pm - Women's Bible Study at church with Deanne Townsend.
- Thursday, Jan 22 - 6:00 am - Morning devotion with Pastor Art on facebook.
- Thursday, Jan 22 - 7:00 pm - Celebrate Recovery Lexington Group, First Baptist Church, 525 S Business 13, Lexington, MO. Contact Tamara Lane (660) 570-3761 for more information.
- Friday, Jan 23 - 6:00 am - "Morning Time on the Porch with Pastor Art" via facebook.
- Friday, Jan 23 - 1:00 pm - depart from church parking lot for Men's Encounter
- Saturday, Jan 24 - 6:00 am - "Bible on the Hill" hosted by Bob Phillips, 12403 Hwy O, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- Saturday, Jan 24 - 5:00-9:00 pm - ReHope 2026 Gala, Fiorella's Event Space, Overland Park, KS.
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 8:15 am - Traditional worship service. Nursery available (birth to 5).
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 10:45 am - Contemporary worship service. Nursery available (birth to 5).
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 2:00-4:00 pm - Evangelism class taught by Pat Jones in the fellowship hall.
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 5:00-7:00 pm - Romans Bible Study class taught by Phil Boude.
- Sunday, Jan 25 - 5:00-7:00 pm - Youth groups at church.
- Sunday, Jan 25 - Men return from Men's Encounter

<https://www.orrickchristianchurch.com>