This coming Sunday, I will wrap up our Easter season worship series at Old Mission. The final message of “Third Day Living” is “Beyond Graduation Day” from Matthew 28:16-20. Last weekend several Old Mission members walked across the stage at Universities and Graduate Schools scattered across the nation to receive college degrees and graduate degrees. Similar experiences will occur this week for our High School seniors.

Most of those graduating have been going through some kind of “graduation day” every four years or so since “graduating” from Preschool to Kindergarten! First it was graduating from Preschool, then from Lower School to Upper School, or Elementary School to Middle School, and Middle School to High School, and so it goes.

My wife is a Dr. Seuss fan, which is the nom de plume of Theodore S. Geisel. She can quote whole Seuss books from memory, as all our children and grandchildren know. I used to not be a fan. However I have become inevitably familiar with his works. Along the way, I have become grateful for the wisdom buried beneath his whimsical books and poetry. And one of my favorites is “On Beyond Zebra.”

On Beyond Zebra is about all the letters that we ignore - the ones that come after Z. It follows the journey of Conrad Cornelius O'Donald O'Dell who discovers all the weird creatures that begin with letters such as Yuzz, Wumbus, and Glikk. The surface message is pretty simple - the familiar alphabet confines us to boring old “reality.” But deeper consideration reveals a more profound message. There is life to be discovered beyond any endings or transitions, even Graduation Day.

“So, on beyond Z! It’s high time you were shown. That you really don’t know all there is to be known!” There is always more to learn, see, and do. Always. For all of us! I’m going to preach about that good news on Sunday! See you in Church!
COME WORSHIP WITH US
May 17, 2015
Traditional Services
8:30 and 11:00 am
Contemporary Service
9:45 am
“Beyond Graduation Day”
Philippians 3:10-15
Dr. Michael Gardner

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS NEWS
All of our adult Sunday School classes welcome visitors and new members. All classes begin at 9:35 am unless otherwise specified.
The Spirit Creates One Body—Yankie/First Raitters (Room 119)
The Realities and Myths of Aging at Old Mission, Mary Dettmer—Parables (Bingham Chapel)
DVD series: The Gates of Jerusalem—Pathfinders (Hanson Hall)
Presentation Scott Bingham—Genesis Class (Room 121)

IN MEMORIAM
Long time member, Mary Peter died May 6, 2015. Our most sincere sympathies go to her family.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES
Katie Gallagher, University of Arkansas
Aaron Harrington, St. Luke’s School of Nursing
Josh Strasser, Simpson College
Heather Long, University of St. Mary
Anatoliy Murray, Shawnee Mission South High School
Zach Polson, Vanderbilt University
Claire Ross, Kansas State University

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY HEALTH SURVEY
The Parish Health committee is exploring interests the congregation may have regarding health information, education and references to resources. Survey forms will be available in Adult Sunday School classes, on the Web site or in the office. Thank you for assistance in completing a survey.

LUNCH BUNCH
The next lunch bunch meeting will take place Thursday, May 21, 12:30 pm, at Brio Tuscan Grille, 500 Nichols Road, Kansas City, MO. All women of the church are welcomed. Please call Ruth Chiga, 913-432-1574 for reservations.

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE
Help needed to prepare mailing for "Case Against Hunger" on Tuesday, June 2, 10 am. This is a 1-2 hour commitment depending on the number of volunteers. Please contact Connie Walsh if you can help. 913-649-9168, cwalsh@everestkc.net.

LOST KEYS
If anyone has found a set of keys in the church please return them to the office or call 913.262.1040. Thank you!

CIVIL RIGHTS JUSTICE TOUR
June 11-15, 2015 Cost: $500.00 per person
Have you seen the movie, “Selma”? Join us as we walk across the Edmond Pettus Bridge. That is just one of the many stops we take on the Justice Tour as we attempt to walk the same paths as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and others in the late 50s and 60s during turbulent times in our country as they fought for equal rights for all. It is a powerful history lesson listening to the stories of that day from many first-hand witnesses as we visit Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church, the Civil Rights Memorial, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Kelly Ingram Park, the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church (which was bombed in September of 1963, resulting in the death of 4 young girls), attend services at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church and more. For more information or to sign up contact Rev. Karen Nyhart at karen@oldmission.org.
**BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP**

Any parent of a child who has sustained a brain injury after birth regardless of type is encouraged to attend the Brain Injury Support Group meeting in room 121, **May 21 from 6:30-7:30 pm.** This group will meet the third Thursday of every month.

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**DO SOMETHING KC, VBS 2015**

Vacation Bible School is a four day summer camp where we minister to children ages 3 through 6th grade. Dates for VBS are June 15th-18th from 6-8:15pm. From sports to music, art to local foods, there are lots of things to do and love, but also lots of people who need love. We’ll be teaching kids about making a difference by loving God and loving people. "Right here. Right now. It's time for us to do something!" Won't you join us? Registration is now available on Old Mission’s website: www.oldmission.org. Contact Karen Eisele for more info at karene@oldmission.org.

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**A NEW OPPORTUNITY AT ROESLAND ELEMENTARY: READING TUTORS**

Beginning in the Fall of 2015, Roesland Elementary will implement a reading program to help students who are at high risk for reading failure(first graders). Volunteers will be trained to use the Barton Reading and Spelling System. Lesson plans are fully outlined and scripted. You do not need teaching experience, just a love for children, and a concern about education. Volunteers will meet with the student for 45-60 minutes twice weekly from 7:30-8:15 or 3:00-3:45. Materials may be kept by tutors following completion of a level. Contact: Audrey Wiegmann at 913-302-2015 (can text), or audrey.wiegmann@sbcglobal.net.

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**COLLECTION FOR UGANDA**

Kay Johnston will be returning to Africa May 21st. This time it’s Gulu, Uganda. This time it’s a 'teaching trip' and there will be nursing students from Research and JCCC along to learn and teach w/nursing students at the hospital in Gulu (this is the same hospital where they do their mission work). The orphanage there - St. Jude's - is in need of gently used clothing for children from birth to 6th grade. Halo House is a home for teenage girls - and they are in need of dresses or skirts. NO JEANS PLEASE. All the children there are somewhat small for their size. They are also in need of gently used twin bed sheets and children’s DVD’s for the children’s ward at the hospital in Gulu. Please put your offerings into the bin under the Africa map next to the Ark stairs. Thanks for your generosity!

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**HEARTLAND HABITAT BUILDING ON FAITH**

Heartland Habitat Building On Faith is a community service opportunity where individuals can help build homes for deserving families in the Kansas City area. All are welcome - prior construction experience is not necessary (there is a job for everyone). The "Building on Faith" Day is Saturday June 20th from 8 am - 3 pm. Interested individuals can contact Alyssa Meyer at 913.653.2330, or alyssacmeyer@gmail.com.

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**THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone who participated in Blanket the World with Love for Mother’s Day. Church World Service will be able to send 67 blankets to those living through a natural disaster. Your donations of $335.00 helped a lot of people in need.

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**PRAYER SHawl MINISTRY**

Did you know that since 2005, Old Mission has had a small but very vital prayer shawl ministry? A small group of knitters and crocheters (less than ten), faithfully knit and crochet prayer shawls for both adults and children. As the shawls and blankets are made, prayers are said. Prior to being given to the recipient, they are prayed over again. Love, time, and prayers are put into each of these shawls and blankets. It's an act of love. If you can knit or crochet and would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Michele Bowen at michele@oldmission.org or 913.262.1040.

To date, more than 770 prayer shawls have been given out.
## Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday May 17</th>
<th>Monday May 18</th>
<th>Tuesday May 19</th>
<th>Wednesday May 20</th>
<th>Thursday May 21</th>
<th>Friday May 22</th>
<th>Saturday May 23</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR SUNDAY</td>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am Staff Meeting</td>
<td>9:00 am Newsletter Mailing</td>
<td>9-11:30 am Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>6:00 pm EEC Kindergarten graduation/ picnic rain date</td>
<td>10:00 am Bulletin Folding</td>
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<td>8:00–1:00 pm</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Boy Scouts</td>
<td>5:30 pm Preschool Graduation</td>
<td>5:00 pm Girl Scouts</td>
<td>7:00 pm DBSA Support Group Meeting</td>
<td>8:00 am Prayer Group</td>
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<td>Blood Drive</td>
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<td>6:00 pm EEC picnic rain site</td>
<td>6:00 pm Worship Band</td>
<td>6:30 pm Spirit Bells</td>
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<td>9:35 am</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
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<td>6:00 pm Further Along The Road Less Traveled Bible Study</td>
<td>6:00 pm Spirit Band</td>
<td>7:30 pm Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>Sunday School for all ages</td>
<td>Reception for Graduates</td>
<td>6:00 pm Scout Committee</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>6th Grade Transition Meeting</td>
<td>9-11:30 am</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Adult Study, Youth Sunday School, Children’s Church</td>
<td>4:00 pm Youth Band</td>
<td>Women’s Bible Study</td>
<td>EEC Kindergarten graduation/ picnic rain date</td>
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<td>12:00 noon</td>
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