Newsletter

Women's Ministry

OTCC WOMEN'S MINISTRY
SISTERS IN CHRIST. GROWING TOGETHER

• NOVEMBER EDITION • SISTERHOOD • GOOD NEWS

Holiday Anticipation (Optimistic or Anxious)?
by Carrie Hayner

Our family circled around my vegetarian cousin's vegetarian boyfriend to watch his much-celebrated turkey carving technique. We were drawn to the kitchen island by curiosity. A vegetarian was going to cut our Thanksgiving turkey. A vegetarian who was not intimidated by the time-honored tradition of being the chosen one to carve the turkey. And, since Thanksgiving turkey carving and Thanksgiving meal preparation in general can make the average host or hostess quake in their moccasins, I think we were all hoping to learn a thing or two to up our game! The elevated status we give this holiday meal has triggered its share of anxiety in my own life on more than one Thanksgiving!

Bless this dear, confident and courageous boyfriend; he was meticulously s-l-o-w. Members of the family started wandering off to go back to watch football or play games or eat more appetizers. And the older men, who were accustomed to be the head electric knife-wielding Thanksgiving Day carvers, started to show their impatience. The turkey was getting cold at the hands of a man who would not be eating it. He would be eating something called tofu turkey!
I'm confident most of us have our humorous family holiday stories. We also have our not-so- humorous holiday stories. As followers of Jesus, we don't want to quake in our moccasins or boots over our anticipated family gatherings. We are called to make room for God's work.

With optimism! Yes, even with our Aunt Hedvigs, who will tell you your daughters are nice but prefer boys. Or with our Uncle Franks, who will bellow that the dinner plate is not hot!

As OTCC's Sunday Bible Studies were going through "Seven Realities for Experiencing God," one of the lessons was entitled, "Making Room For God's Work".

> Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.
> Isaiah 54:2

He's given us our families. Or if you don't have an extended family like I do, he's given you your friends and neighbors as your area of influence. During this upcoming holiday season, I'm asking the Holy Spirit to help me to enlarge the place of my tent (and my heart). And I'm asking him to remind me not to hold back. For me, that means to allow God's image to reflect in me and to see his image in my family. For you it might mean stretching your home wide and inviting friends and neighbors in for the holidays. We can expect our holidays to be richer and fuller when we watch for God's activity and follow his lead!

Now, who would like the honors of carving the turkey?



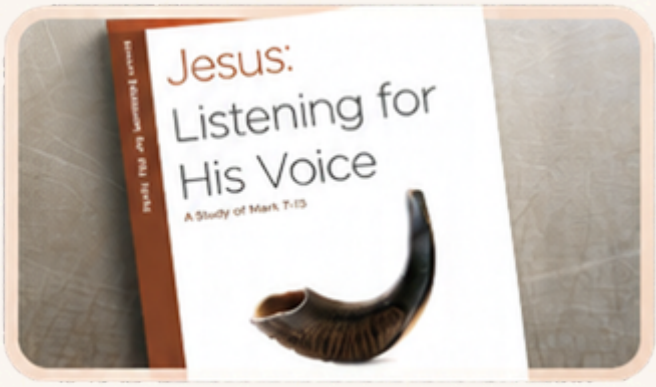
Bible Study News

Our New Bible Study: Jesus: Listening for His Voice: A Study of Mark 7-13 has begun. Join us on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. NO PREP needed.

Location: **The Common Room** (212) or virtually for this wonderful study.

Virtually on Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2728312612?omn=85862029594





Let's continue to lift one another up before the Lord. Please continue to pray for: Pam Bakel (stem cell transplant recovery and her husband Allen), Bonnie, Ginette (God's guidance and wisdom), Cindy (God knows), Komal (family and father), Unspoken prayers (Romans 8:26 "The Spirit helps us in our weakness when we do not know what to pray". Matthew 6:8 "Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him". Psalm 139:4 "Before a word is on our tongue, God knows it completely". 1 Samuel 1:13 "Hannah prayed silently, but God knew the depths of her heart".) Prayer for others: Nanette's health (sister of Ginette).

If you have a prayer request, please do not hesitate to ask to be added to the list.

Upcoming Events



Fireside with Friends



Thank you, Melanie and Jody, for hosting this gathering for our ladies on November 7th.

Stay tuned for upcoming dates in the New Year and Spring.

Cozy Vibes



Women's Ministry Coffee Meet-Ups

Brewing Fellowship at OTCC

Join us every third Friday of each Month!

This is a great opportunity to chat and encourage each other over a cup of coffee or tea.

All are welcome! Bring a friend! We'd love to see you there.

Meeting Dates this Fall:

November 20th

December 18th

Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Tatte Bakery and Cafe on King Street



Please RSVP at: oldtown.cc/events

To subscribe to our mailing list email: office@oldtown.cc