

Dear Parents,

I want to welcome all of you to a new year at OCCS. It is a privilege and honor to have your covenant children enrolled in our Christian School. Along with this privilege comes the pleasure and responsibility of being a Monica member. The purpose of Monica is to "unite parents together in support of the schools, students, and staff both through prayer and financial support." Each parent automatically becomes a member and is responsible for various tasks throughout the year.

"Monica" was organized in 1921 and the name "Monica" was chosen because she was the godly mother who prayed for her noted son St. Augustine. So, too, the mothers and friends of Orange City Christian School have worked and prayed faithfully for the cause of Christian Education in Orange City.

If you are a new parent at OCCS, this booklet will provide valuable information about the different Monica projects throughout the year. Board members, committee chairs or a mentor parent will be able to answer any questions that you may have regarding Monica responsibilities. Each family is appointed to a particular work group. The new work groups will go into effect in October, 2017 and will be in effect until September, 2018. A work group list will be on the OCCS website, along with other important Monica information. The Home Bulletin will list upcoming Monica responsibilities. The Home Bulletin comes out every Tuesday and is an important reference for you. Either check the Web or your emails for the Home Bulletin.

The Monica Society is governed by a nine member Executive Board, which is selected in the spring for a two-year term with the terms beginning after the Fall Social. The board meets two times a year, and the meetings will be announced in the Home Bulletin.

God has richly blessed our school, and has given us a great staff, along with wonderful children and parents. Monica gives us the opportunity to build relationships with others in the school as we work with one another to keep tuition affordable for all families. I hope you are as excited as I am to begin another year. I look forward to working together on all our different projects. Together we can serve the Lord and each other.

My prayer is that serving in Monica will be a blessing to you. Enjoy the year and feel free to call myself or another board member if you have questions!

In His Service,

Amy Van Roekel
Monica President

Monica's Purposed, Mission, Goals, Focus, and Vision

The purpose of Monica is to unite parents, to gather in prayer for our school, students and staff, provide a place for parents to meet each other, socialize and work together toward common goals, and to sponsor fundraisers for the financial support of our school.

Keeping our focus on God, Monica's mission is to benefit the Christian education of our covenant children through prayer and financial support, while giving parents the opportunity to meet each other and work together for Him, trusting God to provide.

Monica's goals:

- 1) Prayer support for OCCS, its staff, and students
- 2) Parent support through social interaction and working together
- 3) Financial support - keep the cost of tuition down so it is affordable for all families

Monica's focus is on God, the provider of all we need for our school. We put our trust in Him to guide us as we support Christian education, giving Him the thanks for all of His goodness to us.

Monica's vision is to provide prayer, parental, and financial support for our school because of our commitment to Christian education, the joy of working together, and our faith in God to bless the school through His people.

Monica Project Report for 2016-2017

Monica Projects	Funds Generated
Can Redemption	\$ 3,493.35
Apparel Sales	\$ 1,027.97
Box Tops/Labels	\$ 1,527.90
Cookie Walk	\$ 10,505.25
Soup Supper	\$ 5,524.91
Tulip Festival	\$ 22,876.77
School Supplies	\$ 200.47
Cookbooks	\$ 920.00
Other income	\$ 101.06*
Misc.Expense	\$ (620.65)
Chapel Shirt	\$(2,353.00)
Total	<u>\$43,204.03</u>

*Inc. Int./coin banks/window clings

Contribution to OCCS for 2016-2017 \$45,000.00

Monica Society Fall 2017 - Fall 2018

Monica Officers and Board Members

Amy Van Roekel – President ('19)
Lauri Poppema – Vice President ('20)
Brittany Foreman – Treasurer ('18)
Larissa Van Dyke- Co-treasurer ('19)
Tanya Rowenhorst – Secretary ('18)
Kyndara Woudstra – At Large ('19)
Nancy Kroeze – At Large ('18)
Deb Oolman – At Large ('18)
Melanie Van Grouw – Mentor/At Large ('18)

The Monica Board meets several times each school year. The date and time of each meeting will be published in the OCCS weekly Home Bulletin. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Monica Committee Chairpersons and Co-Chairpersons

Our committees are chaired by volunteers. We need everyone to take a few turns being a chairperson. A typical term is 2 years (co-chair 1st year, chairperson the 2nd year). You may serve an additional 2 years. Four consecutive years is the most you can serve on one committee. This way it gives everyone the opportunity to be involved and learn different work groups. The Monica board selects new committee co-chairs at their spring meeting. Thank you for servant hearts and using your gifts!

Cookie Walk - December 2017 - *All parents are needed to bake cookies and two groups to work.*

Chairpersons: Rebecca Huizenga, Janeen Klompien, Diane Vollink

Co-Chairs: Mary Beth Breen, Sarah Bonnema, Maria Noteboom

Mentor: Shirley Beltman

Soup Supper - Winter 2018 - *All work groups are asked to bring food and 2 groups to serve.*

Chairpersons: Miranda King, Patty Timmermans

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Elgersma, Marie Hofmeyer

Mentor: Heather Hofmeyer

Tulip Festival - May 2018 - *All work groups needed to work and bring 3 pies*

Tent Chairpersons: Tami De Jong, Melissa Dykstra, Angela Huisman, Diane Krommendyk, Teresa Ter Haar, Kristin Van Maanen

Co-chairs: Tamera Breen, Erica DeWeerd, Lori Wassenaar, Bethany Schuller, Sheila Zevenbergen and Shawn Zwart

Mentors: Stacie Dykstra, Pam Harskamp

Pigs Chairpersons: Vicki Schrock, Shelly Vande Voort

Co-Chairs: Mikyla Dittman, Amanda Dykstra

Mentor: Jenny Vogel

Soup Chairpersons: Beth Noordewier, Amy Vande Vegte

Co-Chairs: Bonnie Heikens, Julie Vis

Mentor: Liza Schouten

Straatmarkt Chairpersons: Teri Poppema, Becky Scholten, Jennifer Whitman

Co-Chairs: Lorinda Breems, Kim Phillipsen, Aimee Hulstein

Mentor: Sarah Vande Voort

Fall Social - Aug - Sept. 2017 - *The Monica Board is in charge of the program, meeting, and desserts.*

Apparel: - *Chairs rotate late spring/early summer*

Chairperson: Delicia Ruschmann, **Co-Chair:** Melissa Brummel **Mentor:** Roni De Groot

Kitchen:

Chairperson: Kristin Mellema **Co-Chair:** Jill Muilenberg **Mentor:** Heather Moreau

Labels/Box Tops:

Chairperson: Stacia Campbell **Co-Chair:** Amy Nonhof **Mentor:** Jen Wielenga

School Supplies:

Chairperson: Leslie Huizenga **Co-Chair:** Jennifer Noteboom **Mentor:** Kim Hoogland

Grade Level Coordinator Administrator

Chair: Michelle Alons **Co-Chair:** Kara Smit **Mentor:** Sarah Kuiper

What are my Monica responsibilities?

- 1. August or September - Attend Dessert Social**
- 2. December - All members bake cookies for Cookie Walk**
- 3. February - Soup Supper - Watch the Home Bulletin for your assignment. If you are not on a work group you will be asked to bring soup or tavern.**
- 4. April - Help make Pig-in-the-Blankets for Tulip Festival on 1 of 2 designated nights. Watch Home Bulletin for these nights.**
- 5. May - Tulip Festival - Call in to work a shift at the Monica Tent and bring 3 pies on the day of your shift.**
- 6. Fulfill the responsibility for the Work Group you are assigned to.**

Monica Work Groups run from October 2017 - Dessert Social 2018

Please check the work group list so you know which group you are assigned to. Trade with someone in another work group if your work group will not work for you.

Monica Events

All Monica events have volunteer chairpersons and co-chairpersons. The work groups referred throughout are put together by the Monica Board. Look for more information regarding these events as they take place in the weekly **Tuesday Home Bulletin**.

Monica Fall Social

This is the first activity of each new school year. It is a fun evening of food and fellowship where we welcome new parents to OCCS. This is the only time Monica meets together in a large group. The president leads an informal business meeting, the treasurer gives the yearly report and information is given on upcoming fundraisers. Officers are announced for the new term that begins in October.

Cookie Walk

We will be having a Cookie Walk on the first Saturday of December in the basement of Iowa State Bank. Each family will have the opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit and provide delectable holiday cookies and treats for our Cookie Walk, which is open to the public. The sights, sounds, and smells of Christmas will welcome patrons to those festive event. Tables are filled with a colorful variety of holiday cookies. Your taste buds will be tempted as you can walk along and pick up exactly the treats you want! This event is a great time for festive fun and fabulous fellowship as we begin the Christmas season.

Soup Supper

The annual Monica Soup Supper is held in late January or early February. This event is an opportunity to enjoy food and fellowship with friends, family, neighbors and the community. The meal consists of several kinds of soup, hot dogs, tavern, pies, and desserts. Three work groups are asked to work and all Monica Members are asked to bring soup or tavern. Recipes for soup and tavern are provided. Either your work group chairperson will contact you or detailed information will be in the Home Bulletin.

Pig-in-the-Blankets

In the spring Monica members are asked to make thousands of pig-in-the-blankets. These are used for the two Monica Tulip Festival stands. This is a unique item that draws many people to our Festival stands. The Pig-In-the-Blanket committee is in charge of organizing this event along with finding workers to bake the pigs at the Tulip Festival and deliver them to each stand throughout each day. All Monica members participate one of the two nights of making pig-in-the-blankets. Pigs left over after Tulip Festival are kept frozen and can be purchased throughout the year by contracting a committee member.

Tulip Festival

The Monica Society tent at the Tulip Festival is the biggest fundraiser for the school and takes the full cooperation from each member. The tent is located on the Iowa State Bank parking lot. We have two serving lines: ala carte with soups, tavern, hot dogs, pig-in-the-blankets, pies, and Pizza Ranch Chicken/mashed potatoes/coleslaw. Each Monica member works a shift of a few hours some time during the Festival (either parent can take this shift). Some of the jobs available are cashier, serving, dishwashing, cutting pies, serving drinks, and waitressing. Members are also asked to bring pies to the Festival stand. Monica also sponsors a stand in the Straatmarkt. It serves almond bars and pig-in-the-blankets. It is chaired by

Monica members, but the workers are generally associate members or friends of the school.

Year Round Monica Projects

Apparel/Promotional Sales

The Apparel/Promotional Sales committee market stylish shirts to help promote OCCS in the community as well as generate pride and support for our school and its students. Currently the committee is selling T-shirts, metal water bottles, and cookbooks. They are available while supplies last. The committee chooses the clothing item and style to be made available for the school year as well as what design to be screen printed on the shirts. They will then advertise the clothing, take orders and distribute the items to those ordering them. Clothing items can be viewed in the school office.

Labels For Learning and Box Tops for Education

Labels for Learning is a fundraiser that encourages all parents, grandparents and friends of OCCS to collect the needed labels for which money or equipment is given. These labels are redeemed for free product merchandise or cash directly to our school. Two main projects are Campbell's labels and General Mills Box Tops. Parents and friends of OCCS can clip the labels and send them along to school with their children or bring them into the school office. The Labels for Learning committee has a contest each semester as to which class can turn in the most labels and box tops. The Home Bulletins will contain updated lists of items that need to be saved.

Grade Level Coordinator Administrator (GLC)

The GLC Committee will organize a grade level coordinator (GLC) for each classroom at fall registration and provide ongoing support for GLC's throughout the school year. They will update a profile folder for each teacher for the GLC's to use as a reference, provide information regarding Duty Free Lunches (DFL) and information on use of classroom funds for gifts for teachers.

Kitchen Committee

The kitchen committee annually cleans coffee pots and roasters, organizes and keeps inventory in the Monica Building twice a year, coordinates with OCCS head cook for use of OCCS supplies and equipment, and manages the use of Monica equipment by outside groups (i.e. church use of coffee pots, etc.)