



Orange Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Perspectives

July 2017

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Orange Presbyterian Church

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Hero Central

Vacation Bible School Update!



We have had a “super” team effort between Trinity United Methodist, Good Shepherd Lutheran, and Orange Presbyterian Churches! Lots of hard work from our team went into VBS over the past few months, and the results were many smiling children’s faces and a successful Rise Against Hunger event!

All students met all week at TUMC for our opening time. Rising elementary aged students stayed at TUMC for the Hero Central curriculum. Our middle school aged students walked to OPC each evening with Pastor Liz and Rev. Craig Newman of TUMC for a separate study designed by the pastors.

We started off on Sunday night with 18 students. We rose to 36 on Monday night! Tuesday night dropped a little to 29, with Wednesday night popping back to 36 students. On Thursday night, we paraded, with Town of Orange police escort, from TUMC to OPC with 34 students and 25 staff members for our community culminating Rise Against Hunger event. A total of 126 participants from at least four neighboring churches, Boy Scouts, family members, and friends packed 14,000 meals in approximately an hour and a half! We ended the evening with an ice cream social.

“Super” thanks to our “superhero” VBS helpers and ice cream toppings suppliers from OPC - Martha Clements, Pat Stewart, Joanna Davies, Liz Hulme Adam, Hannah Adam, Sandy McLeod, Mike and May Saxton, Anne Somerville, Cynthia Pedersen, Carole Sue Graves, Jennifer Ernst, Lavinia Phillips, Jennie Hill Robinson, Karen Ulan, Ellen and Robert Kendall, and Sharon Mohrmann.

Our hero verse of the week was *Do good! Seek peace and go after it!* Psalm 34:14b. Ask a young person or a staff member from VBS to show you the hand motions!

See pages 6 and 7 for some photographs from our amazing week!

From the Pastor

We make commitments when we join a team, get married, enroll in a class; we make commitments when we enlist in the military or, this fourth of July, become a citizen of the United States of America. Commitment is part and parcel of being in a community, whether that community is two people, a team, a group or a country. We make commitments because those commitments bind us in cause and solidarity with others who likewise make the same commitments.

Our church requires commitment. Commitment means showing up. Showing up means you are not on your spiritual journey alone; your showing up shows you need others, and they need you.

I was talking with friend who admitted the reluctance we feel sometimes on Sunday mornings - there's the pull to stay put, to catch up on what remains of housework, or reading; then there's the need many of us have to just do NOTHING when our lives are so busy and scheduled. We ministers get it. Sometimes, a pause is in order. Sometimes, our commitment to our own personal situations can supersede our commitment to worship on a Sunday. But let's be clear - if everyone stayed home on any given Sunday, worship would be an impoverished experience for your minister! The body of Christ needs your body! And your spiritual life need the rhythm and discipline of showing up.

We could liken showing up for worship to showing up to exercise. It may mean a degree of ef-

fort getting started, but once you get those endorphins firing, and feeling healthier, you get confirmation that the commitment matters. Exercise builds our physical muscle, worship builds our spiritual muscle. The essential difference between the two is that we can't worship alone like we can exercise alone. We need the fellowship and spiritual model of others. We also need the challenge and diversity of perspective others bring to our isolated perspectives. We need to know who has prayer concerns; we need to sing for others when they're not up for singing.

In two months I will have committed two years as your interim minister. The commitment has been specific and time-bound. Your next pastor will likewise make a commitment that will be specific to the vision you crafted during the Mission Study period. But just like in a marriage, both parties make commitments knowing there are imperfections, there are challenges, there are sensitivities that require the gentle touch of grace.

It is my prayer that your commitment to worship and advocacy, mission and meetings, will continue strong in the coming days and weeks such that your next minister will see a ripening and blooming at OPC. We need only look at the memorial garden for evidence that this is so!

Yours in Christ,

Liz

Memorial Garden

The memorial garden continues to get more beautiful each day! Note the changes over the last few months - these ladies have put a lot of hard work and time in. We hope you enjoy it on your way into church on Sundays!



July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 11:00 Worship <i>Communion</i>	3	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5 <i>Leslie Barnes</i> 	6 <i>Joanna Davies</i>  1:30 Blood Drive 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	7 <i>Sharon Mohrmann</i> 	8
9 11:00 Worship	10	11 2:00 W&M	12	13 <i>Sandy McLeod</i>  6:00 Finance	14 <i>Peggy Fitch</i> 	15 <i>Ellen Kendall Karen Ulan</i> 
16 11:00 Worship	17 <i>Phoebe Warmack</i> 	18	19	20	21 <i>Carol Couch</i> 	22
23 11:00 Worship	24	25	26	27 <i>Bill McClellan</i> 	28	29
30 <i>Jean Berckman</i>  11:00 Worship 5 Cents-a-Meal	31 <i>Caleb Tinsley</i> 	1	2	3 <i>Martha Clements Emily Frobom</i>  4:00 CC&C 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	4	Indicates Birthday 

Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery Helpers	Pray Station	Counters
2 The Rose Family	2 Zachary Ernst	2 Jim Reid Millie Tyner	2 Rachel Gibson	2 Dianne Haberland Connie Norberg
9 Millie Tyner	9 Matthew Gibson	9 Jennifer Ernst Melanie Rose	9 Martha Clements	9 Ralph Graves Cindy Reid
16 Robert & Ellen Kendall	16 Nathan Norberg	16 Ralph & Carole Sue Graves	16 Ellen Kendall	16 Louise Whitaker Ted Sherwin
23 Anne Somerville	23 Lyndsey Norberg	23 Robert & Ellen Kendall	23 Jennifer Ernst	23 Shirley Newman Cheryl Lewis
30 Buckshot & Margie Clements	30 Taylor Gibson	30 Lynn Clements Rachel Gibson	30 Karen Ulan	30 Buckshot Clements & Karen Ulan

Lectionary Readings for July

These readings are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) and are often the basis for the sermon and anthem. These readings are offered to help in your preparation for worship on Sunday.

While we don't often have four readings on Sunday, the lectionary provides an Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel reading to prepare for worship.

July 2

Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

July 9

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Psalm 45:10-17 OR

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 16

Genesis 25:19-34

Psalm 119:105-112

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



July 23

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 30

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b OR

Psalm 128

Romans 8:26-39

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Session Meeting Highlights

At its June meeting, the session, among other actions:

- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that the undesignated memorial money be put in a separate interest bearing account. If a designated gift is received, the Finance Committee refers it to the Session for review. This supersedes current policy.
- Heard recommendations from the Music Task Force for two pilot community outreach programs.
 - "Fun Band" concert and spaghetti dinner in July or September with free-will offering.
 - Bell choir concert and food in late fall with bell choirs from several churches and free will offering.
- Approved the Congregational Care Committee's recommendation that the Lobster Dinner be held on Sunday, August 27. Money will need to be collected in advance.
- Discussed concept of separate Stewardship Committee, which would technically be under the Finance Committee.
- Approved the Covenant Review Team's recommendation for a summer trial for our administrative assistant. She would continue to work 5 days a week but one of them would be from her home office. This supports a flexible workplace environment. It also lets OPC test the effectiveness of having an office open 4 days a week, which is in line with most other churches in the area.
- Heard a report from the Spiritual Formation Committee that we currently have three covenant groups up and running:
 - Healthy Living Covenant Group
 - Celebrating God's Creation Covenant Group
 - Church History Covenant Group



Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Graves, Clerk of Session

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$	19,352.55	Other Contributions:	
Income	\$	10,584.10	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 135.00
Expenses	\$	(8,517.44)		
Transfer from Lilies	\$	0.37		
Ending Balance	\$	21,419.58		

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, July 6, 1:30 to 7:00 pm

OPC Fellowship Hall

OPC is hosting the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, July 6, from 1:30 to 7:00 pm. Those who wish to donate should stay well hydrated that day and maintain a healthy level of iron in your diet in the weeks before your donation. You can call, visit the Web site, or use the app to make an appointment, or just walk in.



Holiday Bazaar

Our storage room in the Education Wing is ready and awaiting your gently used treasures for the Holiday Bazaar. You can drop items off at any time. Remember us while you're doing any cleaning!



Work is underway as we continue making plans and discussing things to come for the event. We would love to hear any ideas you have on different things we can do and offer at the bazaar. See Shirley Newman with these thoughts, any questions, or for more information.

Coffee Fellowship



Volunteers are needed to host the Coffee Fellowship on Sundays after worship. The sheet to sign up is posted on the bulletin board in the East Room behind the coffee pot.

Feel free to find someone to host with you and make it a group effort, such as a group of friends, your flock, or your committee. This is a way to show hospitality to members and visitors to our church.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers at the front of the sanctuary add beauty to our Sunday worship service. The floral arrangements are either delivered by one of the florists in town or some folks use their own flowers and creativity to make an arrangement for everyone to enjoy.



They are often provided in memory or in honor of a loved one. If you choose to provide flowers for this purpose, please alert the church office, and we will list the note in the announcement section of the bulletin. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Thank You

Dear Orange Presbyterian Church,



THANKS
FROM A
GRAD!

Thank you so much for your warm and cheerful graduate send-off gathering, and for your beautiful (and very good-smelling) parting gift. Thank you also for welcoming me into your congregation on Sunday mornings. I hope you all enjoy a wonderful summer.

Blessings,
Hannah Adam



"When I think of those who have influenced my life the most, I think not of the great but of the good."

John Knox

Preschool Corner

Enrollment in the preschool is going very well. The 4 year old class is almost full, and the 3 year old class is rounding out nicely as well. We look forward to an exciting year in 2017-2018! Enjoy your summer!



Mrs. Ski

Vacation Bible School and Rise Against Hunger







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Parking Lot Update

The parking lot changes have come along nicely! As you have seen on Sundays, the stump and curb were removed to allow access to the grass lot, and gravel has been put down in the driving areas. We now have sufficient parking available



Prayer Concerns

- Phil Graves - Surgery
- Andrew and Maddy - expecting a baby
- Millie's friend who lost her husband on July 2
- Joe Taylor



- Shirley Irving and the Rigsby family
- Mildred Butts at Dogwood Village
- Bill Taylor at Dogwood Village
- Bugs Gardner at Dogwood Village
- Harold McCauley