



# Orange Presbyterian Church

## *Presbyterian Perspectives*

September 2017

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## Pray Station Additions Are Coming in September!



On the second Sunday of each month, Pray Station will meet in the East Room after Children's Time for a lesson, discussion, and snacks. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, September 10. The Spiritual Formation Team has chosen Heifer Faith Lessons as our fall curriculum. These faith lessons, through Bible study and discussion, reflect the mission of Heifer International to inspire young people to help build a better world. On the remaining Sundays of the month, Pray Station will continue to meet in the back of the sanctuary following Children's Time.

Many thanks to our Pray Station Guides, who serve on a rotating basis - Melanie Rose, Jennifer Ernst, Karen Ulan, May Saxton, Rachel Gibson, Martha Clements, and Ellen Kendall. We welcome additional guides at any time! Please contact Karen Ulan or May Saxton if you are interested or if you have any questions!



## Lectionary/Sermon Discussions This Fall!

A number of you indicated last spring, on a survey distributed by the Spiritual Formation Team, that you would be interested in participating in a Lectionary/Sermon Discussion Covenant Group. This group would meet after Worship, share reflections on the lectionary scripture reading of the day and the Sermon, and would conclude before or at 1:00. We would, at this point, plan to launch this covenant group in October. Please indicate your interest on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex along with your willingness to share the responsibility of facilitating the discussions!

## Coming Up This Fall...

- Book Group - Starts Wednesday, September 13 at 1:30 pm
- Theology Basics Class - Starts Tuesday, October 3 at 6:00 pm
- Middle School Youth Group - Starts Monday, September 11 at 6:00 pm

See page 2 and your bulletins for more information. We hope you can join us for one of these groups!

## From the Pastor

I have three priorities before my time is up. One is a focus on our middle-schoolers having a space and a place to explore Scripture and enjoy fellowship. The second is to offer time for fellowship with members and visitors alike as we consider what it means to be Presbyterian and why it matters. Third, and most urgently, I invite all of us to do the hard work of examining our own history with and relationship to race in the United States. I am offering a nine-week book group to wrestle with Debby Irving's book **Waking Up White: And Finding Myself in the Story of Race**.

What happened in Charlottesville on August 11 and 12 surprised many people in my sphere of influence and among my dearest friends and family. But what happened in Charlottesville surprised none of my black friends. Those of us who were surprised and outraged need to do more than remain surprised and outraged. We must attend to our own complicity in systems that limit, harm, marginalize or alienate others. Our tradition takes seriously the need for self-examination and repentance. The time is now to do some self-reflection. This book is a start.

Here's a quote from the book: *"I didn't yet understand that not talking about race was a privilege available only to white people."*

In his message to Union Presbyterian Seminary after August 12, President Rev. Dr. Brian Blount wrote this:

*"We can hope that the continuing spirit to resist the type of evil that marched in Charlottesville last weekend is indeed magnified in each of us as we talk together, pray together, and seek together the vision that Martin Luther King, Jr. so often called the beloved community. We must raise our voices even when we think we have little to say. We must move our political representatives even when they seem reluctant to move. We must stand when it comes our turn to stand."*

In his letter from the Birmingham Jail, Dr. King

took to task the moderate ministers who were cautioning him to ease up, to moderate his message; in calling him radical they were revealing their own reticence to deal squarely with the reality of racial divides.

In his Book, **Why We Can't Wait**, Dr. King writes this: *"Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection."* King insisted that the white church needed to take a principled stand or risk being *"dismissed as an irrelevant social club."*

Join me in the safety and love of our faith community to listen to Debby Irving's story, and listen to each other as we swap our own. In listening, and being heard, the Spirit is at work, refining us for the work of building the kingdom on earth.

Our book group will begin **Wednesday, September 13 at 1:30 pm** in the East Room, and meet subsequent Wednesdays, ending on November 8. Find your copy on Amazon in paperback, new or used, for less than \$20. Read the first 26 pages by the first class. Sign up with Melanie in the front office.

Our **Theology Basics** class will begin on Tuesday evenings starting **October 3**. We'll have dinner together at 6:00 pm; class should end by 8:00 pm. This will be a five week course for both newcomers and seasoned members! Sign up with Melanie.

Our **Middle School Youth Group** will meet two Mondays a month starting September 11 at 6:00 pm (dinner provided). A summary and schedule will be sent to all parents.

Special thanks to Al and Lee Packard for traversing the highways and byways to bring us fresh lobster on August 27. What a gift!

Peace be with you, and with the Pastor Nominating Committee, as they serve with their time, discernment and commitment to the future.

Yours in Christ,

*Liz*

## Preschool Corner

I've learned my lesson this summer - preparing a bit all summer is making all the difference in getting ready for the fall. September 11 will be our first day for the preschool. At the moment, we are sprucing up for our Open House for everyone on Wednesday, August 30. Full enrollment in both classes is an unusual occurrence in August, but I am grateful!

In addition to our teachers, Jennifer Ernst and Genesis Williams, a past parent, Jennifer Welborn, will be cleaning the preschool twice a week this year. Say hello if you see her! There will be no afternoon program this year, so things should be more orderly.

As always, stop by and see us any time!

Mrs. Ski



# September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>Indicates Birthday</b>					1	2  Margie Clements
3 11:00 Worship Communion 12:15 Spiritual Formation Team	4  Nathan Norberg Labor Day Office Closed	5	6  Caroline Parcell  7:30 Adult Choir	7 1:30 Blood Drive  4:00 CC&C 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	8	9  Cheryl Lewis
10  Kim Szydlowski 11:00 Worship	11  6:00 Middle School Youth Group	12  Donald Davies 10:30 Morning Circle	13 1:30 Book Group	14  6:30 Finance	15  Dot Marks David Woolfrey, Jr.	16  Normie Sanford
17  Jack Thompson Charles Campbell 11:00 Worship	18	19  Amy McClung	20  Margaret Somerville 1:30 Book Group	21  7:00 Session	22	23
24 11:00 Worship 5 Cents-a-Meal	25	26	27  Lulu Sherman 1:30 Book Group  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	28	29	30

Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery Helpers	Pray Station	Counters
3 Cynthia Pedersen	3 Zachary Ernst	3 Ralph & Carole Sue Graves	3 Jennifer Ernst	3 Connie Norberg Cindy Reid
10 Winnie Higgins	10 Nathan Norberg	10 Robert & Ellen Kendall	10 Karen Ulan	10 Dianne Haberland Ralph Graves
17 Chris Wynkoop	17 Matthew Gibson	17 Lynn Clements Rachel Gibson	17 Ellen Kendall	17 Louise Whitaker Ted Sherwin
24 Dot Marks	24 Anne Clements	24 Martha Clements Karen Ulan	24 Rachel Gibson	24 Shirley Newman Cheryl Lewis

# Lectionary Readings for September

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 necessarily have four readings on Sunday, the lectionary provides an Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel reading to prepare for worship on Sunday.



## September 3

Exodus 3:1-16  
 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b  
 Romans 12:9-21  
 Matthew 16:21-28

## September 10

Exodus 12:1-14  
 Psalm 149  
 Romans 13:8-14  
 Matthew 18:15-20

## September 17

Exodus 14:19-31  
 Psalm 114 or  
 Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21  
 Romans 14:1-12  
 Matthew 18:21-35

## September 24

Exodus 16:2-15  
 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45  
 Philippians 1:21-30  
 Matthew 20:1-16

## Session Meeting

In August, the Session took the following actions:

- Approved a recommendation from Mission and Outreach that a potluck luncheon with a mission speaker be held on October 29.
- Approved a recommendation that the blood drives held at our church be adopted as a church mission with volunteer staff from our congregation.
- Approved a recommendation from the Property Committee for an extensive overhaul of the sanctuary's sound system. The project will include monitor speakers in the East Room and narthex, and a training session for volunteers. The \$11,000 needed for the project will come from Memorial Funds and the Bailey Fund.
- Approved a request from the Property Committee that \$1,000 be allocated to trim and fertilize the Deodor cedar tree, work to be completed by Grelen Nursery. Money to come from Property Committee budget.
- The Nominating Committee reported that they have a candidate to serve as trustee. A congregational meeting will be called to vote on their nomination.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ralph Graves, Clerk of Session

## Stop Hunger Now

We received an email saying that the meals we packed in June were shipped to Madagascar.

Rise Against Hunger (RAH - formally known as Stop Hunger Now) in collaboration with ADRA International and Islamic Relief are spearheading a 3-year school-feeding initiative in the Southern African countries of Mozambique, Malawi, Madagascar, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe. While these countries have made considerable advancements toward achieving stronger food security, the most powerful El Nino on the record has stretched the livelihoods and safety nets of many households in the region. Seeing the existing need in Southern Africa, RAH with its implementing partners is responding with life-saving aid through region-wide school-feeding programs.

Overall, for the 2017 school year the project is expected to support more than 46,000 school-age children by delivering more than 14,200,000 RAH meals to more than 220 schools in the 5 Southern African countries. In Madagascar, RAH will be delivering 4,561,920 meals to support one lunch meal for 20,800 children attending 142 primary schools across the country.

## Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$	19,700.65	Other Contributions:	
Income	\$	11,597.00	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 210.00
Expenses	\$	(11,013.85)	Music Fund	\$ 1,046.35
Ending Balance	\$	20,283.80		

# Pastor Nominating Committee



The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) met on August 2 with Rev. Carson Rhyne, General Presbyter, and Rev. Wayne Bernardo, pastor of Culpeper Presbyterian Church. Rev. Bernadino will serve as liaison from the Presbytery Committee on Ministry and will meet with us on a regular basis to guide and advise. The committee was instructed on procedure and responsibilities.

On August 23, the PNC had a lengthy meeting with the OPC Mission Study Team to discuss in depth the “priorities, challenges, opportunities and pastoral needs” of our church. PNC officers were chosen. May Saxton and Lynn Clements are Co-Moderators, Cindy Reid is the PNC Clerk, Rachel Gibson is the PIF Clerk and the Computer Clerk, and Louise Whitaker is the Education Clerk.

We will meet again on September 13 to begin work on the Ministry Information Form (MIF). The MIF describes our church, our vision and mission goals, and what we are seeking in a minister. This has to be approved by Session and Presbytery. Once approved, we will begin receiving Personal Information Forms (PIFs) from potential ministers.

If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact any member of the committee. This is a lengthy process so please be patient with us.

## God’s Bounty/God’s Creation

**Tree Identification Classes**  
**Fridays, August 25 - September 15**  
**9:30 am to 12:30 pm**  
**Montpelier**

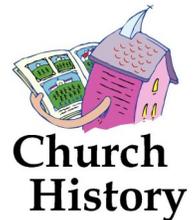
Virginia Cooperative Extension and James Madison’s Montpelier will host tree identification classes every Friday from August 25 - September 15 at Montpelier. The class will run from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm each day and will include training on identification techniques, which will allow participants to identify trees throughout the Northern Piedmont. For more information or to register, contact the Culpeper Extension Office at (540) 727-3435 or email [ashawn6@vt.edu](mailto:ashawn6@vt.edu).



Participants can attend each week or just a few of the four sessions offered. Please contact Mike and May Saxton if you decide to attend so we can go as a group if others want to attend at the same time at [saxton-family@comcast.net](mailto:saxton-family@comcast.net)!

## Looking for OPC Memories!

Do you have pictures or other items in your attic, dresser drawer, photo albums, or elsewhere that relate to the history of Orange Presbyterian Church? Our OPC History Covenant Group would love to see and scan any and all pictures or items! Maybe you have a bulletin that you stuck away that signified an important event, or maybe you have wedding pictures that were taken in the old or new sanctuary!



In preparation for the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church on November 8, 2020, our covenant group is enthusiastically cataloging what we have in regards to our rich church history, researching for information elsewhere, preparing to conduct oral interviews with some of you who know so much about this church, etc.! If you have pictures or anything else that you would like to share, please contact any member of our covenant group - Carol Couch, Nancy Crowder, Dianne Haberland, Winnie Higgins, Shirley Newman, Jim Reid, Jennie Hill Robinson, May Saxton, Mike Saxton, or Anne Somerville.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 9 at 7:00 pm in the Leland Lord Library. We would love to have you join us to share your memories!

# Holiday Bazaar

## Alternative Gift Fair at the Holiday Bazaar!

The Mission and Outreach Committee has added the idea of an Alternative Gift Fair to the 2017 Holiday Bazaar. This is a different kind of shopping experience! Gifts are purchased in honor of family, friends, and others. You will have the opportunity to support two local non-profit organizations, *Orange County Habitat for Humanity* and the *Christian Emergency Council*. Upon choosing a “gift”, you will receive a holiday card to present to your family, friends, and others describing the gift you made in their name.

Be on the lookout in upcoming newsletters and bulletins for more information!

## How You Can Help Now:

- Make a craft item
- Donate green tomatoes and/or peppers for Presbyterian relish
- Bring in your white elephant items
- Coordinate a workshop
- Provide items for a themed gift basket
- Return the Bazaar sign up sheet from the bulletin and newsletter

We know you will be able to help us make this a great bazaar this year. Funds will go to the *Christian Emergency Council*, *Orange County Habitat for Humanity* and our church. Let any member of the Mission and Outreach Committee know how we can assist you. Thanks so much for your thoughts and ideas.

## Blood Drives



Our Session has recently approved the Orange Community Red Cross Blood Drive as a mission of our church. These drives occur in our Fellowship Hall 6 times a year. In order to facilitate them, we would like to form a Blood Drive Team. There are already 3 people working on them, but 3 or 4 more people are needed to help.

Following are the ways in which folks can help:

- Posting flyers around the community a few weeks before each drive.
- Set-up of the room with chairs and approximately 12 tables.
- Take down of the tables and chairs at the end of the drive.
- Reception of donors and giving out snacks. This takes 7-8 hours, but can be done in shorter shifts.

This is a great way to contribute if you are unable to give blood.

If you are interested in helping either regularly or on an occasional basis, please call Melanie or email Joanna Davies at [nursedavies@yahoo.com](mailto:nursedavies@yahoo.com).

The next blood drive is on Thursday, September 7 from 1:30 to 7:00 pm. We hope you can donate and/or volunteer!

## Backpack Collection

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to the school supply mission. It was exciting to see the pile of supplies and book bags continue to grow each Sunday in August. Your thoughtfulness will bring delight to so many children as they begin their school year. The supplies will be sent to Madison County and Orange County schools.

Our committee appreciates your continued support of our mission projects!



## Final Lobster Fest

A blow-out crowd was in attendance for lobster, clams, and all the trimmings this year! Thanks to Al Packard for his heroic efforts in making this event so special for so many years! Thanks as well, to the many assistants who were on hand to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up.



# What's Happening at OPC?

## Sanctuary Improvements

Special thanks to the Property Committee for utilizing the summer months to improve our facility, inside and out. We have improved lighting in the East Room and more lighting in the sanctuary. We also have a newly installed sound system in the sanctuary that we hope will alleviate all of the issue we've had in past months!



## Memorial Stone and Garden Dedication

The stone for the memorial garden was delivered on Monday and Taylor, Andrew, and Joe Gibson placed it. On the following Sunday, we included a dedication of the garden in our Sunday service, led by Pastor Liz.



Thanks to the committee and especially to Anne Somerville and Jennie Hill Robinson for all their work in planting and caring for the garden.



## Lemonade Fellowship

Thank you to everyone who hosted Lemonade Fellowships this summer. We enjoyed some outdoor time with friends as the weather permitted, as well as the light snacks provided. Only a few more weeks until cooler weather sends us inside!



## Middle School End of Summer Party

We had nine children join us for our party. We had pizza and some great conversations and games. Participants expressed a desire to continue meeting. Pastors Liz and Craig will be in touch with details.





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## Presbyterian Women

Fall at OPC welcomes a new year of meetings of the Orange Presbyterian Women. If you are female, and part of OPC, you are a Presbyterian Woman! Why not make this the year you join the Morning Circle for Bible study, or kick start an evening circle, or spearhead a new mission initiative?

The 2017-2018 Presbyterian Women Bible study is *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. Each month from September through May we will explore 9 different lessons, concentrating on the book of Hebrews and exploring major themes, relating these themes to different parts of our faith tradition, and discussing community in its various forms.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am in the East Room for fellowship with a purpose, Bible study, and light refreshments. In December and May we enjoy a potluck luncheon. Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, suggestions, or interest in an evening circle for this year please contact me, Ellen Kendall (672-3081).

Let's begin again in Christ!

## Prayer Concerns

- Joe Taylor (Lynne Clements' father)
- Dwight Calhoun (Sandy McLeod's father)
- Pat Stewart
- Evelyn Scott
- Dale Dewenter (Denise Samuels' sister)



- Those affected by Hurricane Harvey
- New and returning college students and parents
- Family and friends of Heather Heyer
- Family and friends of VA State Troopers Jay Cullen and Berke Bayes
- Mildred Butts at Dogwood Village
- Bill Taylor at Dogwood Village
- Harold McCauley