



Orange  
Presbyterian  
Church

162 West Main Street  
Orange, VA 22960  
540-672-4240  
opc@orangepc.org  
orangepc.org

Month 2020

### An Idea for Advent

In Matthew 25, verses 37-40, it says, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me.”

As we read this, and think about the coming of Advent, consider what you can do to help our OPC food ministry of the Blessing Box. The Advent calendar below is one way to help. You could take this on yourself, or with a friend.

The idea is to provide 1 food item per day, Dec. 1 through Dec. 24. Bring it all to OPC for the Blessing Box ministry. Following is what we suggest:

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Dec. 1—a box of cereal                | Dec. 13—chicken noodle soup                 |
| Dec. 2—jar of peanut butter           | Dec. 14—tomato soup                         |
| Dec. 3—jar of jelly                   | Dec. 15—box of crackers                     |
| Dec. 4—mac & cheese package           | Dec. 16—can of mixed vegetables             |
| Dec. 5—a can of fruit                 | Dec. 17—a dessert mix like jello or pudding |
| Dec. 6—can of tomatoes                | Dec. 18—can of corn                         |
| Dec. 7—can of tuna or chicken or ham  | Dec. 19—package of rice                     |
| Dec. 8—can of sweet potatoes          | Dec. 20—oatmeal                             |
| Dec. 9—can or bag of beans            | Dec. 21—can of pasta & sauce                |
| Dec. 10—jar of applesauce             | Dec. 22—can of green beans                  |
| Dec. 11—pasta                         | Dec. 23—bar of soap                         |
| Dec. 12—jar or can of spaghetti sauce | Dec. 24—box of instant potatoes             |

Questions? Or need more information? Need someone to pick up the food from you? Contact Carol Sue Graves or Cindy Reid

## Preschool Corner

OPWS spent the month of November learning all about giving thanks for our blessings and sharing those blessings with others. The children brought in donations for the OPC blessings box and we will continue to collect throughout the holiday season for those in our community who are in need. The shape we studied this month was a triangle and that was just perfect for the season. The children enjoyed the tee-pee we had set up in the room, made "triangle turkeys", popsicle stick tee-pees, and more. We enjoyed another visit from Pastor Rebekah, who told us a story about how to love your neighbor. Ms. Michelle from the Library also visited for Story Time and shared lots of books about Thanksgiving. The 4-year-old class made dog biscuits for the OPC Bazaar and the 3-year-olds will practice their counting while packaging them up for the sale. We ended our month with a Thanksgiving celebration for each class.

We are excited about December and all of the joy of the season. We will start the month with a special

chapel lesson from Pastor Rebekah about Advent. The preschool will have our own Advent wreath and we will "light" a candle each week in anticipation of Christmas. We will continue learning about the season through many more fun crafts and activities and will look forward to sharing about them in the New Year.

OPC has continued to be such a wonderful support to OPWS, and we are so grateful for your continued generosity. If you are interested in purchasing a Christmas gift for the preschool, visit our [Amazon Wishlist](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/YTBGH6759BDU?ref_=wl_share) (https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/YTBGH6759BDU?ref\_=wl\_share) to see what would be a blessing to the school.

Many blessings for a joyous Christmas season!

Ms. Caroline and all the OPWS students & teachers.

## Music Notes

Dear OPC,

It is unfortunate that COVID has made it unsafe to sing en masse. For this reason, I make the following announcement: the OPC choir will remain on sabbatical for the foreseeable future. However, I'd like to thank Erica Nelson, who will be offering up her voice to us this advent season. Erica and I are excited to be working together to breathe a little more musical life into our services.

As the pandemic trudges on, we feel it is important to make this special season a little extra cozy this year

with Christmas carols galore. You can expect to hear carols nestled in with preludes/postludes, and special music selections in December.

If you'd like to make a carol request, please send your suggestions my way. If you have any additional ideas or requests regarding music at OPC, please contact me at any time. Thank you for your patience & continued support,

Chelsea Holt

## Contact info for Nancy Crowder

1550 Pantops Mountain Place

(434) 244-0307

Apt. 110

Charlottesville, VA 22911

# December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			2	3 10:00 CC  5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	4 8a-6p Holiday Bazaar	5 8a-3p Holiday Bazaar
6 11:00 Worship	7 6:00 Spiritual Formation 7:00 History Group	8 5:00 Safety Team	9	10 4:00 Worship & Music	11	12
13 11:00 Congregational Meeting & Worship	14	15 7:00 Session	16	17	18	19
20 11:00 Worship	21	22	23	24 5:00 Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service  7:30 Candle light service	25	26
27 11:00 Worship <i>5 Cents-a-Meal</i>	28	29	30	31		



Grace Kendall 12/2

Reese Wynkoop 12/2

Colton Thomas 12/3

Carole Sue Graves 12/5

Billie Mill 12/8

Rod McLeod 12/16

Hannah Frobom 12/19

Margaret Thompson 12/21

Leah Roop 12/21

Gregory Wynkoop 12/22

Cameron Motley 12/24

Alice Parcell 12/31

## Prayer Concerns

- Levi, a friend of Melanie's, as he recovers from a bull-riding accident.
- Eva Graves
- Rebekah's grandmother and her family
- Meeting food needs in our community.
- Ed and Shirley Wendell and all the people trying to care for them.
- Johnny Stewart
- Racial inequalities and injustice in our country and around the world.
- Worshipping communities as they make difficult decisions.
- Our friends at Dogwood Village.



## Session Meeting Highlights

At its November 17th stated meeting, the Session, among other actions:

- Approved proposed changes to the terms of call. These will be presented to the congregation at the next congregational meeting for approval. The Finance Committee recommended that the pastor's continuing education allowance for 2021 be increased from \$1,250 to \$3,000 (this figure includes unused continuing education money from 2020). The Covenant Review Team recommended that the pastor's study leave increase from two weeks to three weeks in 2021. Both of these changes are in response to the pastor beginning her advanced degree program in 2021.
- With input from the Endowment chair and Finance Committee chair, the Session looked at policies regarding the use of endowment funds for various expenses currently paid for out of the general fund. The Session determined that it was within those policies that some budget line items – such as piano and organ maintenance – be covered by the appropriate building endowment fund. The benevolence fund will also be used for benevolences rather than using the general fund for those projects.
- Approved the Property Committee's recommendation that the Office on Youth Blood Drive in December be moved to Friday January 8, 2021.
- Approved the Covenant Review Team's recommendation to temporarily restructure the church administrator's position to allow for a minimum 3.5 hour work week with flexible office hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Graves, Clerk of Session

## Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2020

Beginning Balance	\$14,407.36	Other Contributions:	
Income	\$6,931.48	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$627.24
Expenses	\$9,932.81	Memorial Fund	\$18,543.39
Ending Balance	\$11,406.03	Mission Trip Fund	\$318.13
		Music Fund	\$5.42
		OPC Weekday School Fund	\$0
		Preschool Scholarship Fund	\$8,956.78

## Advent Devotional

We hope you'll follow along daily, be deepened in your faith, and prepare your heart to celebrate the birth of Christ. This year's devotional is written by alumnae/i of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. In addition to the printed format, you may also access the devotionals in these ways:

- Read and listen online. Visit [www.pts.edu/devotional](http://www.pts.edu/devotional).
- Receive daily e-mails. Go to [www.pts.edu/email](http://www.pts.edu/email), click "Signup for Seminary News," and "Devotionals (Advent and Lent)."

- Follow along on Facebook and Twitter.
- Download our free Android or Apple app. Visit the store and search for "Devotions - Advent & Lent."

You may also download additional Advent resources by visiting [www.pts.edu/devotional](http://www.pts.edu/devotional).

## Congregational Meeting

Friends,

On Dec 13 at 11:00 am, we will be having a Congregational meeting. This meeting is to elect the class of 2023 session members, the 2021 nominating committee, and approve the 2021 pastor's terms of call.

Out of an abundance of caution, and to follow the safety protocols of our Safety Team, this meeting is structured somewhat differently.

Depending on your health and your comfort level, you can choose any of the following options. You can sit in the sanctuary, socially distanced. (a maximum of 25 people can be safely seated) You can sit in relative isolation in the East Room and listen through the East Room's speaker (a maximum of 10 people can be safely seated) You can stand just outside the door and listen through the Narthex's speaker. You can remain in your car.

A ruling elder will be in the East room and another will be outside to facilitate questions and votes. Both will have wireless microphones so that anyone outside of the sanctuary can address the meeting.

(Note, this meeting will be taking place immediately *before* the Sunday worship service.)

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to Pastor Rebekah or Clerk of Session Ralph Graves.

### Trustee nominees

Carole Sue Graves

### Session, class of 2023 nominees

Dianne Haberland

Ellen Kendall

Sandy McLeod

### Session, class of 2022, amended

Jennie Hill Robinson

### Nominating class 2021 nominees

Rachel Gibson

### Pastor's terms of call 2021

Cash salary - \$25,600

Housing, utilities & furnishings allowance - \$21,000

Subtotal - \$46,600

Pension/Medical - \$17,242

Self-employment Tax - \$3,565

Auto/travel expenses - \$1,000

Con Ed/Books - \$3,000 (a portion of this is rollover from 2020)

Continuing Education time - 3 weeks (increased from 2 weeks in 2020)

Vacation time - 4 weeks

Total - \$71,407

