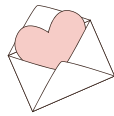


# OPC MAY 2021

## highlights

### Thank you to our letter writers!



In this unbelievably challenging year there are still bright spots. Since March 30, 2020, dedicated writers have written weekly notes to OPC church members who live alone or in nursing homes. As we enter the second year of the coronavirus, this project is formally ending.

SPECIAL THANKS go to our letter writers: Nancy Crowder, Rachel Gibson, Cheryl Lewis, Ellen Kendall, Cindy Reid, Melanie Rose, May Saxton, and Pat Stewart. Special thanks to May and Cheryl for setting up the writing schedules.

*"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28*

### Offering Counters



Please consider helping out our congregation by counting the offering after church one Sunday a month. No experience is required! Training is easy, and you will usually count with the same person on the same Sunday each month. It is easy to social distance in the church office while counting. If you are willing to help, contact:

Dianne Haberland  
NewWedlitz@aol.com or 661-1024

Thank you!

### Treasurer's Report For April 2021

Beginning balance: 15,661.96

Income: 11,754.95

Expense: 9,162.13

Ending balance: 18,254.78

### Fund Reports

5 Cents a Meal: 583.28

Memorial: 519.07

Music: 135.42

Scholarship: 9,706.78





# A letter from Pastor Rebekah



Friends,

In years past, it has been the norm that summer is a time of dormancy for the life of the church. Sunday School is over for the year, families travel, so worship attendance is down, services tend to be more casual. If this were a 'normal' year, that is what would be in our immediate future. But, as we all know, we are in the midst of getting to know our new normal. After over a year of erring on the side of caution, social distancing, and not meeting in person for worship, it seems that we are now at a time we feel comfortable revving back up.

I have loved worshipping together over the past month. I understand and respect everyone's decisions, to come or to stay home. We are doing our best to meet all of these needs. It is far from perfect, but my hope is that whether you come in person, or join in worshipping virtually, you feel the presence of the Holy Spirit and the love of the community.

At this time we feel like we can continue to worship in person on Sunday mornings, and we will continue to offer online options. We will also be doing a book study over the summer. The book is called, "Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the United States." It is written by Rev. Lenny Duncan, who is ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. The purpose of studying this book is to help us, as a majority white congregation, see worship from a different perspective. This aids in our goal as a Matthew 25 congregation to work towards racial justice.

If you are interested in participating in this book study, please let me know and I will order the book for you. We will meet three times over the summer, Wednesday June 2, Wednesday June 23, and Wednesday July 14 at 7pm. Please prayerfully consider joining.

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now."

Grace and peace be with you,

Pastor Rebekah





# Session Highlights



At its April 27th stated meeting, the Session, among other actions:

Approved a request for the pastor to officiate the funeral of Avla Amlser, a former member of OPC on April 29, 2021.

Approved the following requests from Spirit Moving Committee:

- Hold casual discussion groups after worship on Sundays, beginning during the summer session (end of June, beginning of July).
- Hold book study for session, and open to members of the congregation. The book is “Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US” by Lenny Duncan. The study will take place Wednesday evenings, June 2, June 23, and July 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Graves  
Clerk of Session



## Join Our Email List



Did you know we send out a weekly email on Tuesdays? It's a great way to share announcements with each other and to stay up-to-date on the goings-on throughout the week. If you'd like to receive the Tuesday Memo, please email Chelsea Holt at [chelsea@getvie.com](mailto:chelsea@getvie.com) to be placed on the email list.

## Email and Newsletter Submissions

Did you know you can contribute to the Tuesday Memo and the Monthly Highlights? For time-sensitive announcements you can submit a request to be featured in the Tuesday Memo. For general announcements you can submit your request to be featured in the Monthly Highlights page.

Please send your contributions to Chelsea Holt at [chelsea@getvie.com](mailto:chelsea@getvie.com)  
The deadline for a Tuesday Memo submission is the Monday prior at 5:30pm.  
The deadline for a June Highlights submission is Monday, May 24th and 5:30pm.

