



# Orange Presbyterian Church

## *Presbyterian Perspectives*

April 2017

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## One Great Hour of Sharing

Jesus' ministry was among those who were most vulnerable. He preached good news to the poor and release to the captives. One Great Hour of Sharing helps us share this same good news to those same vulnerable people in our world today: those who are hungry, who are suffering from disaster, who are dealing with oppression in society.



Every gift made to this offering will meet the needs of people, and you will hear about just a few of these individuals over the coming weeks in bulletin inserts. These stories will help us to see the faces of those whose lives have been changed by our gifts, but they are only a few of the thousands and thousands of people served in this important ministry.

Some of the programs supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering follow. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters and receives 32% of funds raised. Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed and receives 36% of funds raised. Self-Development of People (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills, and receives 32% of funds raised.

***We will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter Sunday, April 16.***

## Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services

**Palm Sunday** - Sunday, April 9 at 11:00 am - Join us as we begin the procession of the palms followed by our worship service.



**Maundy Thursday** - Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 pm - Join us as we have our traditional Maundy Thursday service including the stripping of the church and communion by intinction.



**Easter Sunday** - Sunday, April 16 at 11:00 am - Join us Easter Sunday as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received. There will be a flowering of the cross during the Easter processional. Please bring spring flowers from your garden.



# The Long and Winding Road

## In the beginning

On Sunday, March 12, 2017, the Session and the Mission Study Team met with Carson Rhyne, General Presbyterian, Presbytery of the James. The purpose was to share with Rev. Rhyne the findings of the study team, and to discuss what's next in OPC's faith journey.

Recommendations from that meeting were taken to the Session meeting (see page 5), and the first steps to finding our next pastor were taken.

## Who are we looking for?

The Session voted to look for a designated term full-time pastor, recommending that he or she live in the community. A designated term pastor is identical to a called and installed pastor, with one exception. A called and installed pastor remains indefinitely, a designated term pastor has a set 2, 3, or 4 year term. After that time, the church and pastor mutually decide to renew for another 2-4 years, move to a called pastor position, or go their separate ways. We will be offering a 3-year term.

## What next?

The Session also voted to take the next step, which is formally requesting permission to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) from Presbytery. Since that meeting, we have received word from Presbytery that our request has been added to their Committee on Ministry's (COM) April agenda.

When we receive permission, the Session can then instruct the Nominating Committee to find members for the PNC (see page 3). You'll have an opportunity to vote on the makeup of the PNC in a congregational meeting.

## How do we do this?

We're not alone. Rev. Rhyne has promised to come out and address the congregation in an informal luncheon to outline OPC's responsibilities and to answer any questions about the process. Plus, he will be training the PNC for the work ahead of them. And the PNC won't be on their own. A member of the COM is always a member of a church's PNC to ensure procedures are followed.

## Are we there yet?

As May Saxton outlined on page 3, the PNC will have a big job ahead of it. They will sort through the applications, select a short list of promising candidates, and then keep narrowing the field until led to a single choice by the Holy Spirit.

It's important to note that, procedurally, a PNC does not keep its Session apprised of its day-to-day progress. This is to ensure confidentiality for the candidates and to keep the Session from exerting undue influence.

When the PNC has found a candidate, it then reports to the Session. The PNC's candidate will need to be approved by Session and approved and examined by the COM.

The very last step is for the congregation to vote to issue the call to the candidate.

## How long, O Lord?

Only God knows. The entire process might take 12 months or longer. As the PNC does its work, we can support them with prayer and patience. In God's own time, someone will hear the call.

Ralph Graves

## Bingo Night

Friday, April 28 at 6:30 pm

Join us for Bingo Night on Friday, April 28 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Each family should bring a wrapped or bagged gift under \$15 and a light snack to share. Everyone is welcome. We look forward to an evening filled with fun and fellowship!



## Spring Clean-Up Day

Please join the Property Committee on Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 am to work on our church property. There are plenty of jobs for everyone, from weeding and trimming bushes to sweeping walkways and many other odd jobs. Throw on your old work clothes, roll up your sleeves, and let's get to work!



## Our Next Big Step - Formation of a Pastor Nominating Committee

After we receive approval from Presbytery's Committee on Ministry to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), (see page 2), our Nominating Committee will go to work. They will be asking you to nominate individuals from our church family to be considered for service on the PNC. At a Congregational Meeting, the Nominating Committee will bring to the floor a slate of people who have agreed to be considered for election.

We, as a church family, must give careful and prayerful attention to the election of persons to serve in this extremely important role. When you nominate individuals to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee, prayerfully consider individuals who are:

- knowledgeable about the church and community, and about Presbyterian theology and government;
- spiritual leaders within the congregation and are active in the life and work of the congregation;
- able to make a significant commitment of their time (willing to meet once a week along with a great deal of work outside of meeting time), energy, and very best wisdom;
- willing to accept this as a task of spiritual discernment, not being easily influenced by personal desires or congregational politics, but rather listening for the voice of God;
- able to honor confidentiality.

Those asked to serve on the PNC will be asked to commit to a very important period of discernment with the awareness that:

- the search process may take 12-18 months, with the PNC meeting weekly most of that time.
- the work involves reviewing potentially over 100 Personal Information Forms to form a short list of viable candidates.
- the PNC will be interviewing candidates from the short list, hearing them preach, and checking references.
- there may be out-of-town travel on weekends to hear candidates preach.

As we begin the journey to find new pastoral leadership, the next few months will be exciting, tedious, joyful, spiritually fulfilling, frustrating, inspiring, lengthy, and purposeful. The process is one of discernment. It will challenge us to listen closely for the will of God for its mission and ministry in this new stage of the congregation's life. This new step of faith will bring us together around the common goal - identifying who God is calling to serve our congregation.



May Saxton

## Preschool Corner

March has been the longest month of the year – no holidays and only one snow day! We did do a lot of celebrating, though, with six birthdays!

Both classes found the pot of gold that the leprechaun left. We made shamrock necklaces and leprechaun faces. The older class has focused on name writing, nursery rhymes, and numbers in preparation for Kindergarten registration this month. St. Thomas' preschool joined us for a music workshop in the Fellowship Hall led by Mr. Bruce, Mrs. Julie's husband.

The younger children have done all things

“spring” – flowers, baby animals, and kites. Scarf dancing was a huge hit!



In response to some recent inquiries, I am including the preschool philosophy which is printed in our handbook. “The Presbyterian Weekday School is sponsored by the Orange Presbyterian Church. The Weekday School is a ministry of the church and represents the church through its work. It is hoped that this work of the church will foster faith.”

Happy Spring! Come visit us any time!

Mrs. Ski

# April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6:30 Rapidan Orchestra Concert
2 <i>Elinor Vasquez</i> <i>Liz Adam</i> 11:00 Worship 	3	4	5 12:15 Community Lenten Service  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	6 <i>Fedie McClung</i> <i>Theresa Torian</i>  4:00 CC&C 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property 	7	8 9:00 Church Clean-Up
9 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 11:00 Worship 12:15 Spiritual Formation Team	10	11 10:30 Morning Circle  2:00 W&M	12  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	13  7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	14	15
16 <i>Jonathan Stewart</i> <i>Easter Sunday</i> 11:00 Worship <i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</i> 	17	18	19 <i>Avery Warmack</i> <i>Jackson Warmack</i>  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir 	20  7:00 Session	21	22 <i>Nathan Gibson</i> 
23 11:00 Worship	24	25	26  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	27	28	29
30 11:00 Worship <i>5 Cents-a-Meal</i>	1	2 <i>Dean Sherwin</i> 	3  6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	4  4:00 CC&C 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	5	 <b>Indicates Birthday</b>

Greeters	Acolytes	Nursery Helpers	Pray Station	Counters
2 Cynthia Pedersen	2 Taylor Gibson	2 Jennifer Ernst Melanie Rose	2 Martha Clements	2 Connie Norberg Cindy Reid
9 Winnie Higgins	9 Lyndsey Norberg	9 Ralph and Carole Sue Graves	9 Ellen Kendall	9 Dianne Haberland Ralph Graves
16 Chris Wynkoop	16 Nathan Norberg	16 Robert and Ellen Kendall	16 Jennifer Ernst	16 Louise Whitaker Ted Sherwin
23 Dot Marks	23 Zachary Ernst	23 Rachel Gibson Lynn Clements	23 Karen Ulan	23 Cheryl Lewis Shirley Newman
30 The Ernst Family	30 Ryder Rose	30 Karen Ulan Martha Clements	30 May Saxton	30 Karen Ulan Buckshot Clements

# Session Meeting Highlights

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

- Approved the placement of cards in pews April 2 and 9 for individuals to write notes to our OPC students. Also approved was the collection of money for gift cards to be included with the notes.
- Approved recommendations for holding a Game Night August 25 at 5:30 pm and Bingo Night April 28 at 6:30 pm, both in the Fellowship Hall.
- Approved \$1,000 from the Memorial Fund to be used for the purchase of plants for the Memorial Garden.
- Approved communion by intinction for the Maundy Thursday worship service on Thursday, April 13. Since there will be no communion on Sunday, April 2, this will also serve as our monthly communion service.
- Approved a joint recommendation from the

Worship and Music Committee and Covenant Review Team to create a Music Ministry Task Force (see page 7 for details).

- Was informed that the Youth and Christian Education Committee has changed their name to the Spiritual Formation Team to better reflect their mission.
- Voted that OPC start the process to look for a full-time designated/term pastor with a 3-year call. The pastor would be expected to live in the Orange community. (see page 2 for details). To start the process, the Session voted to begin the process by requesting permission of Presbytery to form a Pastor Nominating Committee (see page 3 for details).

Respectfully submitted,  
 Ralph Graves  
 Clerk of Session

# Lectionary Readings for April

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 them to prepare.

	<u><b>April 9</b></u>		<u><b>April 23</b></u>
	<i><b>Palms</b></i>		Acts 2:14a, 22-32
<u><b>April 2</b></u>	Matthew 21:1-11	<u><b>April 16 - Easter</b></u>	Psalm 16
Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29	Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6	1 Peter 1:3-9
Psalm 130	<i><b>Passion</b></i>	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	John 20:19-31
Romans 8:6-11	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Colossians 3:1-4	<u><b>April 30</b></u>
John 11:1-45	Psalm 31:9-16	John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
	Philippians 2:5-11		Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
	Matthew 26:14- 27:66		1 Peter 1:17-23
			Luke 24:13-35

## Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$ 35,359.94	Other Contributions:	
Income	\$ 11,559.75	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 289.14
Expenses	\$ 11,147.05		
Transfer to Hamilton Fund	\$ 13,000.00		
Transfer to Benevolence Fund	\$ 7,000.00		
Ending Balance	\$ 15,772.64		

## Adult Retreat

**Let's Talk (& Listen): Biblical Hope for Today**  
**Thursday, April 27, 2017, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm**  
**Masanetta Springs Conference Center**

We live in anxious times. How can we be people who talk and listen to each other with mutual respect as we respond to the sources of our anxieties. In this retreat, we will explore how the Bible guides us to understand ways we can remain open and confident when so much changes around us. We will especially search for biblical wisdom on four of the chief sources of our anxieties: fear, anger, wealth, and poverty. What we find may surprise you. Registration forms are available in the church office.



## Hebrance Scholarship

The Hebrance Scholarship was established by the family in 1985 to provide financial assistance for deserving students in the church family who are continuing their education after high school. These awards are made directly to the scholarship winner's school.



If you are interested in applying, please submit a one-page essay which includes the following: 1) your future educational plans; 2) your activities in the community; and 3) how OPC and the church family influenced your life and goals. Send this to Ralph Graves, Clerk of Session, by May 15.

## Healthy Living Group

As a person with a deep desire to help everyone feel healthy and happy no matter where they are in life's journey, I come to you with a suggestion made by the Spiritual Formation Team to see if you would be interested in a Healthy Living with and for God (not the official name). My idea is to lead a group to find God and become more connected through physical activities like beginner's yoga, walking, maybe even a weekend hike; through healthy eating and cooking together to try new recipes and take care of our bodies so we can better serve; and by discussion on how healthy habits in our daily lives can be a part of our spiritual practice.



I am no expert, nor do we have a curriculum, so this is all just kind of through inspiration and a brainchild. We can be moved by the spirit in the activities and discussions we have throughout the group - I am more than willing to hear ideas you might have!

If you would be interested or have more questions, email me at martha17@vt.edu or give me a call at (540) 661-6512. We would meet during the week on Tuesdays at 7:00. I would love to hear from all who have a peaked interest!

## Lenten Service



Join us for the last Community Lenten Service on Wednesday, April 5 at 12:15 here at OPC. The Rev. Pam Edelman from the Orange Church of the Nazarene will give the sermon and a light lunch of soup, bread, and dessert will be served immediately after the service.

## 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. Feel free to find someone to host with you and make it a group effort. 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.



## Music Ministry Task Force Formed

And the clock is ticking. A new group, the Music Ministry Task Force has been tasked by Session to discover and report back with actionable recommendations for music ministry. And it has 90 days to do so— from April 1 through June 30. This 5-7 person task force sprang from a joint recommendation by the Worship and Music Committee and the Covenant Review Team.

The task force has some very specific goals:

1. Find ways to improve mission outreach and raise the profile of OPC in the community through music.
2. See how we can revitalize and increase congregational participation in music during worship.
3. Look at additional ways to supplement the music budget through creative funding ideas and activities.
4. Explore ways to increase the variety of music ministry options.
5. Keep these new initiatives revenue-neutral. That is, programs and events that cost money need to be funded from sources outside of the budget.

The Music Ministry Task Force can use your help, your prayers, and your ideas! And all by June 30.

## Photo Directory

We will be creating a new photo directory soon! You will be able to schedule your session soon - there will be a link on our Web site, we will be in the narthex, or you can call Melanie at the church office to set up appointments. Appointments will be available at 10 minute increments on:

**Thursday, May 4: 2:00 to 9:00 pm**

**Friday, May 5: 2:00 to 9:00 pm**

**Saturday, May 6: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

Each family will receive a free 8x10 print of your choice and a free church directory! Check out the insert in your bulletins for the next few weeks!

## Haiti Mission Trip in May

Engage more deeply with Cindy Corell and her work with farmers all across Haiti in sustainable agriculture and food security the week of May 4-11, 2017. The trip includes a visit and overnight to the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Matthew.

Cindy is our Presbyterian missionary sponsored by the Presbytery of the James. An application is online at the POJ website under the Haiti Purpose Group. With a significant subsidy from the presbytery, participants pay about \$500. For more information, contact the trip's leader, Bill Nix, at [bnixatc@aol.com](mailto:bnixatc@aol.com).

## Easter Lily Memorials

Plan now to honor or remember a loved one at Easter. The Worship and Music Committee will purchase lilies for \$10.00 for our Easter worship.

Please fill out the form below and attach your check or cash. You can drop it in the offering plate or bring it by the church office.

After worship on Easter Sunday, April 16, you can take a lily home. We will place a listing of all the Easter memorials in the bulletin on April 16.



I/We would like to place a lily *In Honor of* or *In Memory of*: (circle one)

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please turn in your form by Sunday, April 9.)*



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## Presbyterian Women

The April meeting of the Presbyterian Women will be in the East Room on Tuesday, April 11, at 10:30 am. Lavinia Phillips will lead the Bible study *Who Is Jesus? "According to the Other Abrahamic Faiths,"* and May Saxton will provide refreshments.

For more information, please contact Ellen Kendall at 540-672-3081. We welcome you all to join us!

## Holiday Bazaar



Items are already coming in for the white elephant sale at our Holiday Bazaar. Remember us if you are spring cleaning, downsizing, or moving, and have items you would like to donate. We have a new location for storing these items this year. Bring them any time to the classroom on the second floor of the Education Building, above the kitchen. There is a sign on the door. We will be sorting items throughout the year.

## Prayer Concerns

- Joe and Kit Taylor, Lynne Clements parents
- Debbie Campbell, Jennifer Ernst's cousin
- Noah
- Matthew Corner
- Ann, Dot's niece
- Jack and Denise Samuels



- Mildred Butts at Dogwood Village
- Bill Taylor at Dogwood Village
- Bugs Gardner at Dogwood Village
- Harold McCauley
- We extend our Christian sympathy to Martin Dodson upon the death of Cinde Dodson on Friday, March 24. A service was held at OPC on Saturday, April 1.