



Orange Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Perspectives

November 2017

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Orange Presbyterian Church

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College Care Collection

Sundays, November 5 and 12, 2017

As our college and boarding school students approach exam time and the holidays, we like to send them gift cards to let them know we're thinking about them. Representatives of the Congregational Care Committee will collect donations after worship on November 5 and 12. Thank you!



Stewardship Sunday!

172nd Anniversary Celebration:

Heritage and Hope

November 12, 2017



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 12, we will celebrate the 172nd Anniversary of the organization of our church, **and** receive stewardship commitments for 2018. Our stewardship theme this year is *Heritage and Hope*. We have such a rich heritage to celebrate. In between the lines of recorded facts and figures run the faith and life of a people who valued worship, nurture, and service. We, as a church family, are on the threshold of a very hopeful future as we continue that legacy and search for a new pastor. Please join us as we celebrate *Heritage and Hope*, and be ready to turn in your stewardship packet on November 12!

Harvest Dinner

**Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 6:00 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Join us on Saturday, November 18 at 6:00 pm for a delicious meal and great fellowship in the Fellowship Hall as we show our gratitude for our blessings. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to bring something for our traditional Thanksgiving dinner, and another to tell us how many will attend.



**Harvest
DINNER**

From the Pastor

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. More often than not, we Presbyterians call ourselves “Protestants.” We don’t call ourselves “reformers” with the same frequency, although many of us are quick to emphasize our “Reformed, Always Reforming” identity. Our *Heritage and Hope* theme for Stewardship season sounds a similar message - we look back, we carry with us a history, and we keep going, keep finding ways to remain hopeful not for ourselves alone but also for those who post-date us!

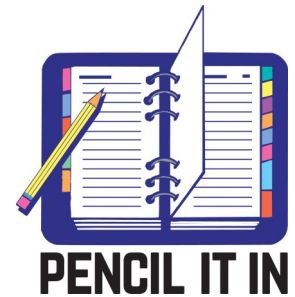
The “protest” part of our identity can’t stand alone; it must be accompanied by “reform.” Protesting can get tiring when that remains the only focus. We would grow weary, only protesting what is wrong, or what needs correction. The reformed part of our background speaks to the continuing and relentless need among Presbyterians to know more, be more, as we grow into our discipleship. We don’t have it right yet. We can get stale and insular, we can get set in our ways. When we say we need continual reformation, we are saying God is not through with us or with the church. The church must change and grow in new ways to meet the challenges of a changing world. We don’t abandon our heritage, but we also don’t idealize it. The past has passed. We take from it what feeds us spiritually - the creeds are an example - and we trust that the past helps us enter the future with a sturdy respect for lessons-learned and challenges-overcome. Our inventory of

experiences and trials inform how we meet new demands and new challenges.

We share *many* of the same spiritual needs as our ancestors in faith. But we also have new spiritual needs. We live in a time when people can spend more time with screens than they do with people. We also live in a time when spiritual priorities can get elbowed out by busy schedules. My son Silas will often have a soccer game at 10 a.m. on a Sunday morning! I don’t want him growing up thinking that his dribbling skills have more priority than his need for prayer, fellowship and Communion. Meanwhile, our children see division at every turn - divisions among Americans, divisions between countries, and a growing ease with crass and mean-spirited discourse. When we prioritize our spiritual health, we take time for Scripture, for listening to others, for worship. Coming to worship is a radical decision - it is a decision not to worship anything else! Feeding our spirit in these ways prepares us to meet division and coarse discourse with Christ on our mind and in our hearts. I emphasize the need for a spiritual practice (currently Psalm 23!) because habits reflect what matters to us; when our relationship to God matters, we feed it!

Yours in Christ,

Liz



Preschool Corner

October in preschool means that we have finally settled into our routine and everyone is relatively happy. Halloween is a major disturbance but luckily not until the end of the month!

Both classes had a wonderful day at Sarah’s Pumpkin Patch. The weather was extraordinary. We then carved our big pumpkin and roasted the seeds. All of the children wore their costumes for our holiday parties.





Teacher comments went out for both groups at the end of the month.

Happy Fall!

Mrs. Ski



November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Indicates Birthday			1 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	2 2:00 W&M 4:00 CC&C 5:00 M&O 6:00 Property	3	4  Rachel Gibson Anne Clements
5  Sara Warmack Toby Warmack 11:00 Worship Communion 12:15 Spiritual Formation Team	6  Alec Kendall	7 Election Day 6:00 Theology Basics (last meeting)	8  Courtney Crowder 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	9 1:30 Blood Drive	10	11 9:00 Church Clean-Up 6:00 Rapidan Orchestra Concert
12 11:00 Worship Stewardship Sunday	13  M.B. Southard	14 10:30 Morning Circle 6:30 Finance	15 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	16  Jacob Barragan	17	18 6:00 Harvest Dinner
19 11:00 Worship 12:15 Cookie Workshop	20	21	22 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	23 Thanksgiving Office Closed	24 Office Closed	25  Jeff Norberg
26 11:00 Worship 5 Cents-a-Meal	27	28	29 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	30  Cynthia Pedersen	1 8:00 - 8:00 Holiday Bazaar	2  Grace Kendall Reese Wynkoop 8:00 - 3:00 Holiday Bazaar

Greeters

5 Ted & Suzanne Sherwin
12 Jack & Margaret Thompson
19 Mike & May Saxton
26 Cheryl Lewis

Acolytes

5 Anne Clements
12 Ryder Rose
19 Taylor Gibson
26 Zachary Ernst

Nursery Helpers

5 Lynn Clements Rachel Gibson
12 Martha Clements Karen Ulan
19 Alice Parcell Melanie Rose
26 Jim Reid Millie Tyner

Pray Station

5 Ellen Kendall
12 Rachel Gibson
19 Martha Clements
26 Melanie Rose

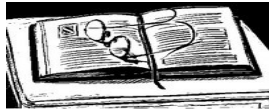
Counters

5 Connie Norberg Cindy Reid
12 Dianne Haberland Ralph Graves
19 Louise Whitaker Ted Sherwin
26 Shirley Newman Cheryl Lewis

Lectionary Readings for November

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 for worship.

November 5

Joshua 3:7-17
 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
 Matthew 23:1-12

November 12

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
 Psalm 78:1-7
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 Matthew 25:1-13

November 19

Judges 4:1-7
 Psalm 123
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
 Matthew 25:14-30

November 26

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
 Psalm 100
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Matthew 25:31-46

Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2017

Beginning Balance	\$	19,636.08	Other Contributions:	
Income	\$	10,308.92	5 Cents-a-Meal	\$ 152.00
Expenses	\$	(11,436.03)	Memorial Fund	\$ 518.44
Entry correction	\$	199.00	Music Fund	\$ 1,881.03
Ending Balance	\$	18,707.97	Lobster Dinner	\$ 449.46

Pastor Nominating Committee Update

Good news! The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has completed the Ministry Information Form (MIF)! This thirteen-page document has been approved by the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) and our Session. Our MIF has been uploaded online to the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) of the PC(USA) in Louisville. We will soon begin receiving Pastor Information Forms (PIFs), which are applications from interested candidates who have been matched to our MIF. A copy of our MIF is in the office and available for members of our congregation to read.

There are several items which we think you should be aware of as we enter into this search process.

1. On the MIF, we indicated that we are interested in a pastor who has a minimum of two years or less of experience. This means that we are interested in any amount of experience; from someone just coming out of seminary to someone who brings a great deal of experience to the table.
2. Also on the MIF, we indicated that we are looking for a pastor who is willing to serve for a designated term of three years. After three years, the term could be renewed, terminated, or the individual could become our installed pastor. During our search process, if it is determined that we need to broaden our search, we could change our MIF to reflect that we are searching for a different position; possibly a solo pastor, who would be installed for an indefinite period of time.
3. The PNC met with the Finance Committee in September to share facts and figures. Understandably so, our Finance Committee needs to continue to be fiscally responsible. At present, the maximum salary that we can offer a potential candidate is very close to the minimum salary recommended by the Presbytery of the James. This will be a limitation on the number of candidates that we will attract. Please keep this in mind as you prayerfully consider your stewardship pledge for 2018.

While the MIF has been completed and uploaded to the CLC website, our main work lies ahead. Once again, we ask for your patience and prayers in finding a pastor who is right for OPC and for whom OPC is right. Please contact any member of the PNC with any questions, concerns, and/or suggestions:

Lynn Clements, Rachel Gibson, Cindy Reid, May Saxton, Louise Whitaker.

Session Meeting Highlights



Normally, the newsletter features highlights for Session activity for one month. This issue includes both September and October highlights. Read it carefully, and you'll see just how active and responsive to change our Session can be.

In September, the Session took the following actions:

- Approved a Congregational Care and Commitment Committee recommendation that profits from the Lobster Fest (approximately \$500) go to the Music Fund.
- Approved a Covenant Review Team recommendation that Session and Rev. Liz Hulme Adam agree to enter into a covenant agreement beginning January 1 through February 28, 2018 pending Committee on Ministry approval.
- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that OPC offer \$68,000 as a minimum salary for a new minister and add \$1 to that for the maximum salary for 2018.
- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that up to \$3,000 be allocated for Pastor Nominating Committee travel.
- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that up to \$3,000 be allocated to the purchase and installation of the new AV equipment for the East Room. This assumes no additional monthly Wi-Fi fees are required. This will be funded from the Memorial Fund and the American Century Fund.
- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that a new Mission Trip Fund be established and the \$3,000 currently in the Benevolence Endowment Fund "available to spend" be moved there.
- Heard a Mission and Outreach Committee report that OPC has partnered with First Presbyterian Church in Orange, Texas to provide them with \$3,070 financial aid to rebuild in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.
- Received a Pastor Nominating Committee report. The committee will have the Ministry Information Form (MIF) completed and ready for Session approval at the next stated meeting in October.

In October, the Session took the following actions:

- Received approval from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry for the interim covenant agreement for Rev. Adam, running from January 1 through February 28, 2018.
- Received and reviewed the MIF drafted by the Pastor Nominating Committee. The MIF has been approved by the Presbytery Committee on Ministry. The Session approved the MIF for posting on the PC (USA) job site.
- Approved a Congregational Care and Commitment Committee recommendation that Session allow the committee to collect money on November 5 and 12, 2017. These funds will be used to purchase McDonald's gift cards to send to OPC college students.
- Approved a Finance Committee recommendation that the remaining bill for the sound system (\$2,498.00) be paid from Capital Improvements.
- Approved a Worship and Music recommendation that the proceeds from the Lobster Fest go to Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana – Aguada in Puerto Rico to help in the wake of Hurricane Maria and that the congregation be invited to add to that sum if they'd like.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Graves, Clerk of Session

OPC Covenant Groups

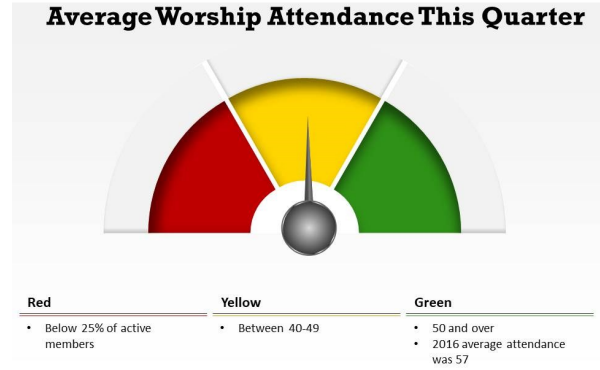
If you haven't joined an OPC covenant group or enjoyed an event sponsored by one of the groups, you are missing out! Please let any member of the Spiritual Formation Team know of ideas and suggestions for improving the current covenant groups as well as those you would like see formed in the future.

- **OPC History** - Sharing 172 years of rich history of our church! We are making an inventory of resources, conducting oral history interviews, collecting and scanning pictures and slides in preparation for the 175th anniversary celebration in 2020! It's a great, enthusiastic group! The next meeting is January 8 at 7:00 pm. In the meantime, we are celebrating our 172nd anniversary on Sunday, November 12 in conjunction with Stewardship/Commitment Sunday!!
- **Healthy Living** - We recently enjoyed a hike to White Oak Canyon in the Shenandoah National Park followed by a visit to DuCard Vineyard. Be on the lookout for future events!
- **God's Bounty/God's Creation** - We enjoyed a wonderful tour of the beautiful gardens and workshop at the home of Alice and Lloyd Parcell on October 15. The next event is in the planning stages.
- **Lectionary/Sermon Discussion** - Scheduled to start on December 3! Watch the bulletin for details!
- **Music Appreciation**—coming soon!

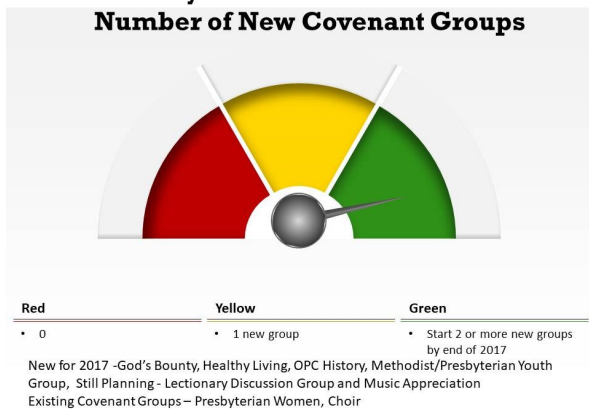
A Failure to Plan, is a Plan to Fail

Starting this year, the Covenant Review Team in collaboration with Session, has facilitated the development of OPC goals. These will be refined/revised annually. They will be used to evaluate all of our roles – pastor, session and members – in order to continuously improve our ministries together. Goals will also help ensure that we celebrate successes and deal more quickly with unresolved issues that can sometimes fester over time. While the list of goals is fairly extensive, we also wanted to provide a simple, high level view of key healthy church indicator measures that quickly communicate how we are doing overall. Our new dashboard was developed from this effort. When viewed in color, it ranges from red to yellow to green where the location of the dashboard needle tells you quickly whether the goal is in serious trouble (red – stop and deal with this emergency), there is some concern about the goal (yellow caution light), or we are meeting our goal (green – keep on going). The exact dashboard measures will evolve over time to reflect our evolving priorities. Our plan is to update this quarterly. Included is the dashboard for this past quarter. Let's plan to succeed together!

**OPC Healthy Church Dashboard – Oct 2017
Average Worship Attendance This Quarter**



**OPC Healthy Church Dashboard – Oct 2017
Number of New Covenant Groups**



**OPC Healthy Church Dashboard – Oct 2017
Income/Expense Ratio Year-to-Date Through August**



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, November 9, 1:30 to 7:00 pm

OPC Fellowship Hall



American Red Cross

OPC is hosting the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, November 9, 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. Everyone is welcome!

Change Your Clocks

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 5.

Remember to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 4!



Volunteers Needed



COFFEE HOUR

Please consider signing up to host a Coffee Fellowship. Join up with some friends, your covenant group, or your flock, and make it a fun experience working together!

The sign-up sheet for October through December is in the East Room with plenty of open dates!

Bazaar, Bazaar, Bazaar!

It's just a month away and so much left to do. Here are ways you can help!

- Bring in your White Elephant items.
- Plan to attend the Greenery Workshop on November 30 and make an arrangement we can sell.
- Provide fresh greenery to make arrangements: pine, boxwood, and other fresh greenery. Contact Cynthia Pedersen.
- Offer to make a bakery item to sell at the bazaar.
- Join us for great fun at the Cookie Workshop after church on November 19.
- Let us know if we can schedule you to help out at the Bazaar for collecting payments, helping in the kitchen, working in the White Elephant area, keeping tables organized, etc.
- Bring in the craft items you have made or start making something now. There is still time and we know we have many talented church members who have great craft ideas. WE NEED CRAFT ITEMS!



Most important: Be sure to attend the bazaar on December 1 and 2 to support us and the organizations that will benefit from this project.

Thanksgiving Baskets for Habitat

Many thanks to those who have signed up to bring items for the Thanksgiving Baskets for Orange County Habitat for Humanity families. There are still a few items needed and still time for you to place your name on the list in the narthex.

All donated items need to be brought in by Sunday, November 12 in the narthex or placed in the church refrigerator or freezer if they need to remain cold. Baskets will be picked up on Saturday, November 18. Thank you for helping us make this a special Thanksgiving meal for another family.



Pray Station Update!

On the second Sunday of each month, the Pray Station guide will be leading a lesson and discussion in the East Room using the curriculum *Heifer Faith Lessons*.



These lessons follow the same theme as Heifer International, of working together to help others. In the next few weeks, we are planning to have a 60 inch flat screen television installed in the East Room! We are looking forward to using this resource to greatly enrich our lessons with film clips, music, and other multimedia resources!

Cookie Workshop

Sunday, November 19, immediately following worship

Join us after worship to bake cookies for the Holiday Bazaar on Sunday, November 19, immediately following worship. Some will be sold with soup to eat while at the Bazaar and others will be sold in our homemade items section. Come join us for the fun!



Alternative Gifts at the Holiday Bazaar!

You are getting a sneak preview of the shopping list for Alternative Gifts that will be available at the 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.

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS SHOPPING LIST

ORGANIZATION	GIFT	Price	# GIFTS	AMOUNT
CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY COUNCIL	Gasoline purchase to transport patient to medical appointment	\$10		
	Groceries to assist family in need of food	\$20		
	Prescription for medication for someone with no insurance	\$30		
	Emergency heating or electricity assistance	\$50		
	Rental assistance for family to avoid eviction	\$100		
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	8' 2x4 lumber to build a sturdy frame	\$5		
	Box of nails to hold things together	\$10		
	Porch light to welcome a family home	\$20		
	Gallon of paint to brighten walls	\$25		
	Box of vinyl siding to protect those living within	\$50		
	Window through which to see God's world	\$100		
			TOTAL	
		Paid		

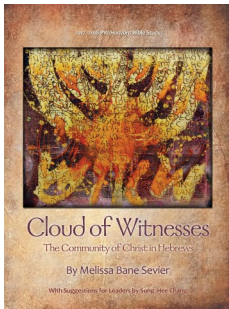
Make checks payable to "OPC" with "Gift Fair" on the memo line. All donations are tax deductible and will go directly to the organization you have selected above. Thank you for your support! Together we are making the world a better place!

If you would like to beat the rush and make your purchases before the Bazaar, please see or contact May Saxton at saxton-family@comcast.net.



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Presbyterian Women



The Morning Circle meets on Tuesday, November 14 at 10:30 am in the East Room. Everyone is welcome! The 2017-2018 Presbyterian Women Bible study is *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews*. Winnie Higgins will lead the lesson "In Community with the Living World," and Louise Whitaker will provide refreshments. For more information contact Ellen Kendall at 672-3081.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Thank Offering. Due to your generosity, we received \$300!

Prayer Concerns

- The family of Emily Cummings (Lavinia's grandson's grandmother)
- Sydney St. Clair
- Joe Taylor
- Dwight Calhoun
- Lori Holmes and family



- Mildred Butts at Dogwood Village
- Elizabeth Goodwin at Dogwood Village
- Bill Taylor at Dogwood Village
- Harold McCauley
- We extend our Christian sympathy to the Clements and Barnes families upon the death of Lynne's mother, Kit Taylor, on Thursday, October 12. A service was held at Yorkminster Presbyterian Church.