

THE OAK LANE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE AMBASSADOR
MAY 2015

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

PER CAPITA SUNDAY

On May 17, we will be collecting your contributions to Per Capita. Now many of you may be wondering what Per Capita is. Essentially, Per Capita is the opportunity for all members of the Presbyterian Church through the governing bodies to participate equally by sharing the cost of coordination and evaluation of mission; and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative and judicial functions that characterize a Reform Church while strengthening the sense of community among all Presbyterians.

It is a set amount of money per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (USA). Approximately 10% of the money goes to support the work of the Synod, 30% supports the national church and 60% aids the Presbytery of Philadelphia. Every Presbyterian benefits from those organizations, so everyone is asked to share the expenses of them.

Now you might ask, "How does Oak Lane benefit from the work of the Presbytery? This year has been a major example of this. Presbytery assigned a minister, Rev. Michael Evans, to moderate Session after Rev. Johnson left. Rev. Evans has not only moderated Session but he also has presided over a funeral and visited several members who were ill. He has been a source of help and guidance. Virtually all of the ministers who have served as Supply Pastors on Sundays have come from the list provided by Presbytery. Our primary method of advertising for our Stated Supply was the posting on the Presbytery's website. There have been several financial questions that have arisen, and Larry Davis of the Presbytery has been an invaluable help.

These are but a few of the examples of ways that we have benefitted. You have undoubtedly heard that Presbytery has been divided into regions. A significant portion of the money collected

through Per Capita will be funneled to the regions to help support their work. Each member is asked this year to contribute \$25.27 (about the cost of 2 pizzas) this year. Please give generously on **May 17**.

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS



As you might have heard, we have ended the Leadership Team Meetings with the March meeting. There was a feeling that it was duplicating a lot of the work of the Session ministries and time would be better used bolstering the Session ministries. There also seemed to be a diminished interest on the part of the congregation members to accept the offer to work on either the Session and Deacons. There was recognition given to the fact that the meetings had been very helpful in looking at our financial position and also keeping the church together following the departure of Rev. Johnson.

At the final meeting, there was concern raised about ending the meetings. There seemed to be a sense that there weren't ways to get input from congregants to Session and causing action. **In response, those present were reminded that there is a suggestion box available for input, that one can talk with any elder, that there are spaces on both boards that are vacant and available for interested people and that the various ministries of Session would very much welcome new members.** There was an agreement to take the issue to Session and to announce the above at the Congregational Meeting.

Session took these issues to heart. There was a general outline of having a series of workshops, each headed by a different ministries during which congregants could learn more about the work of the ministry and also have an opportunity to raise concerns that may pertain to that ministry.

PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

By the time that this Ambassador is printed, the committee will have neared the end of the candidates whose resumes the committee have received. Those who have been interviewed have all been quite interesting. The committee then will decide how many of them should be heard preaching in a neutral pulpit. After they have been heard, the committee will decide which if any should be recommended to Session to be our Stated Supply if a contract can be agreed upon. As always, the committee is very desirous of prayers by the congregation as the work proceeds.

MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

- **Thursday May 7, 2015** has been designated as the **National Day of Prayer**. On that day the Sanctuary will be open from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM for those wishing to come to the church and pray.
- On **Sunday May 17** after the worship service, the **Membership and Fellowship Ministry** will facilitate **Conversations** between members of the congregation and members of the **Christian Education** and **Worship & Music Ministries**, i.e., provide an opportunity for congregants to talk with Ministry members to learn about what the Ministries do and to ask questions and make suggestions.
- **The Membership and Fellowship Ministry's May meeting will be on Monday, May 11 at 6:00 PM.**

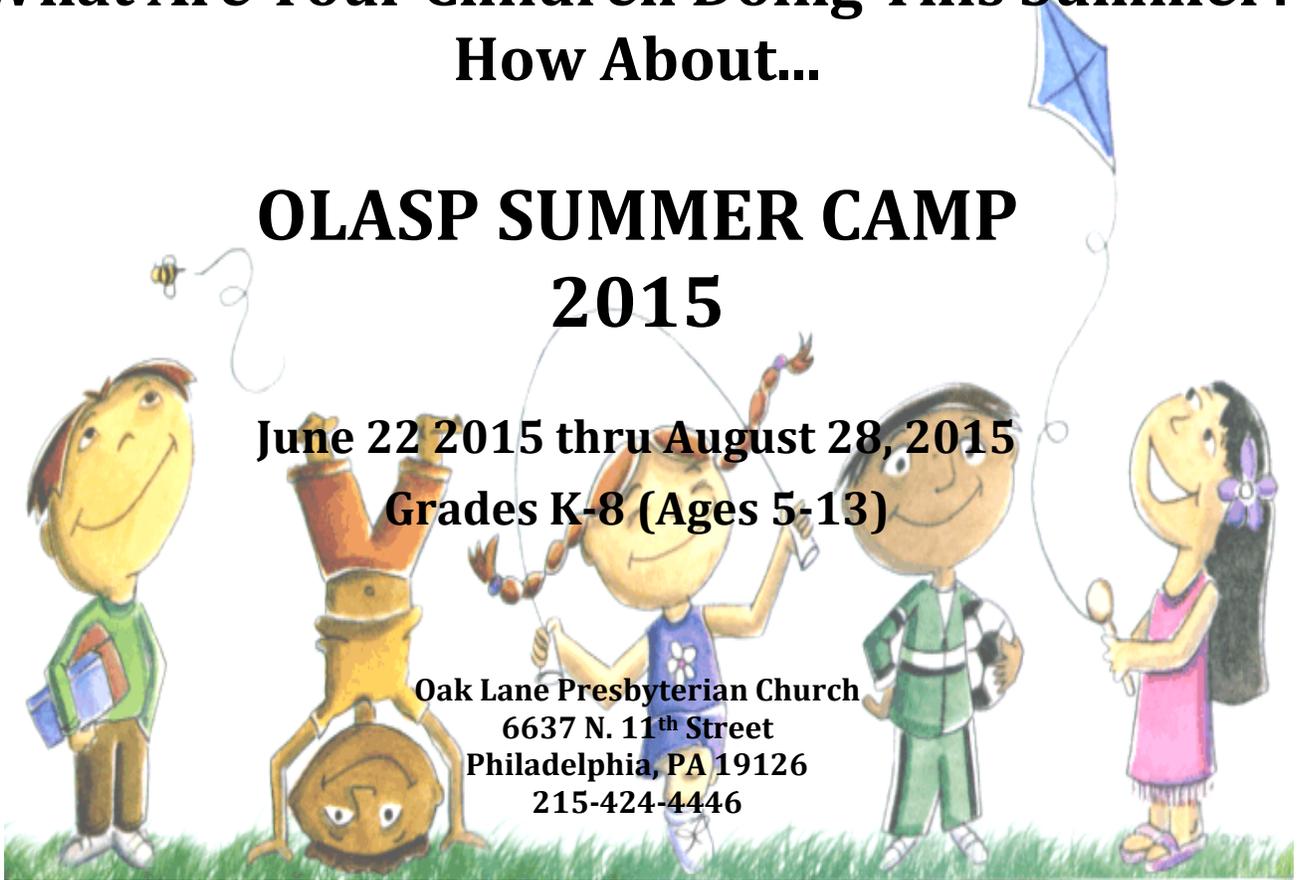
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

What Are Your Children Doing This Summer?
How About...

OLASP SUMMER CAMP 2015

June 22 2015 thru August 28, 2015
Grades K-8 (Ages 5-13)

Oak Lane Presbyterian Church
6637 N. 11th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19126
215-424-4446



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING SOON!

Vacation Bible School is fast approaching here at
OLPC.

Please join us for a week of fun and activities
centered around various biblical themes.

JUNE 22ND THROUGH JUNE 26TH



WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS

Greetings OLPC,

The Worship and Music Ministry has been meeting each month. We are in the process of interviewing candidates for Music Director. We have interviewed 3 candidates, to date. We have 1 more to do at this time. Please let us know about anyone that may be interested in the position. After we have completed the current interviews, we will decide if we need to broaden our search.

The choir sang for Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday, under the direction of Julie Myers. We also need donations for flowers along with the desired dedication. We had a wonderful response for the Easter Flower and Music dedications.

We are discussing some changes in our flower program. We will keep you posted.

Thank you for your continued support. God bless!

Joan Clerk and Terrine Datts, Co-Chairpersons

SCOUTING NEWS

BOY SCOUT COURT OF HONOR

The Boy Scouts will hold their Annual Court of Honor on Saturday **May 2, 2015 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM** at Oak Lane Presbyterian Church. Please contact Mr. Mitchell for more information.

There is still time to help our own Troop 19 earn their way to camp in 2015 by purchasing Camp Cards for \$5.00 each. If interested, see Seth Bunch, Elisha Bunch or Daraja DeShields to purchase Camp Cards.



CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE NEWS

MAY

- Yoga classes now on Saturdays at 11:00 AM
- Our next monthly **Line Dance Party** of 2015 will be on **Saturday May 23 , 2015** from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM. Come join us, bring your energy and dancing shoes and dance, dance, dance....
- Don't forget our Martial Arts classes every Monday, Friday and Saturday here at OLPC!

Please check OLPC's website [oaklanepresbyterian.org] for updates on all classes and activities and to access our Facebook page!

OAK LANE CULTURAL ARTS FITNESS PROGRAMS

Located at 6637 N. 11th Street, Philadelphia PA 19126 Phone # (215) 424-4446

**Line Dance*

Mondays at 7:30 PM

**Yoga Classes*

Saturdays at 11:00 AM

**Martial Arts Classes*

Black Belt Club - Mondays at 7:00 PM,
Fridays at 6:30 PM & Saturdays at 1:00 PM.

**Please contact Harriett Atkerson for more information.*



FLOWER DEDICATIONS NEEDED

If you would like to dedicate flowers in honor or in memory of your loved ones on Sunday, please contact Joan Clerk or Terrine Datts. There are presently many openings in April and May.



MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Shirley Smith	5/1
Alexandria Datts	5/3
Thembeke Mason	5/8
Mattie Chadwick	5/11
Jule Belton	5/11
Charity Alexander	5/15
Helen Hampton	5/16
Doris Forman	5/17
Nicole Freeman	5/22
Elizabeth Forsyth	5/22

Felicia Houston	5/24
Kimberly Bush	5/25
Caroline Freedman	5/26

Anniversaries

Stafford & Nicole Freeman	5/6
John & Nancy Madden	5/18
Anna & Frank Strahan	5/25
Melanie & Keith Lambert	5/28
Rick & Susanna Morrow	5/28



OLPC is Accessible: We serve the needs of people in wheelchairs by having a ramp, a chair lift, an accessible restroom and extra-wide doors.

Childcare is always available during Sunday worship services with Leisha Perry in the nursery.

OLPC PRAYER GROUP

The OLPC Prayer Group is still praying on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM. Come and bring your burden to the Lord and leave it there!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for Coffee Hour Service on Sundays. If you can volunteer, please see Bernice Mims after worship on Sunday or call her at 215-244-5256 (leave a message on the answering machine, if necessary).



OLPC BIBLE STUDY

Meets every Sunday at 10:00 AM.
For more information, please see Gerry Shambaugh.



WANTED!



Energetic College Students
to work with children ages 6-13
at O.L.A.S.P. Summer Camp
Oak Lane Presbyterian Church
6637 N. 11th Street
Phila. PA. 19126
215 424-4446 or 215 888-9018
June 22-August 28, 2015
Monday-Friday 8:30-3:00



Cost of clearances is the responsibility of the applicant.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



For OLASP Summer Day Camp

Would you be willing to assist with any of these activities?

Arts & Crafts

Drama

Music

Stage Production

Food Preparation

Sewing

If so, please contact Harriet A., Terrine D., Jackie W.
Helen H., or Joan C.

A C R O S S T H E

DEACONS DOINGS

The Deacons Doings every month are:

- Distributing flowers every Sunday to members of our congregation.
- Extending messages of hope and comfort to our sick and shut-ins through visits, phone calls or cards.
- Sending cards to members on their birthdays.
- Visiting and serving communion to Marwood residents every 1st Sunday.

The Deacons did the following in April:

- The Deacons continued to be busy in April calling and visiting sick and shut-in members, delivering flowers, and sending birthday and anniversary cards.
 - On two Sundays, connections were made to bring the worship service to shut-in members through the telephone ministry. Two church members were visited in the hospital in April.
 - A fifteen-member care list is maintained and updated monthly.
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NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

DEACONS	MAY 3, 2015
MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP	MAY 11, 2015
SESSION	MAY 17, 2015
STEWARDSHIP	MAY 21, 2015

BOARDS

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Tuesday, April 14, and the following are some highlights of the meeting:

- Voted to transfer the membership of Emma Smith to C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC.
- Decided that the Annual Church Outing would be on June 28 and that we would begin worshiping in the Social Room beginning on the same day.
- Learned that the new color copier should be arriving at the church any day now at a cost that is less than what the present copier is costing.
- Learned that the theme for the year for the Northwest Region of the Presbytery is Climate Change. There will be a worship service on that theme will be held on Thursday, April 30, at 6:30 PM at the Church on the Mall. **All are invited.**
- Was informed that \$1,100 was raised at the Multi-Cultural Festival.
- Decided that on May 17th, there will be an opportunity for all members to be able to talk with members of the Christian Education and Worship & Music Ministries to learn what they are doing and to have questions and suggestions.
- Decided to have an Evangelism Workshop in the fall of 2015.



OLPC welcomes back Rev. Nancy E. Muth to our congregation. Rev. Muth will be our guest minister this Sunday May 3rd. We also like to welcome for the first time Rev. Stanley Wherry to our congregation. He will be presiding in our May 10th worship service.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS

The Presbyterian Women of Oak Lane will hold their annual May Fair on Saturday May 9, 2015 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Lunch will be ready at 11:30 AM. Please contact Marilyn Gathers for more information. There will be no monthly meeting in lieu of this event.



STICKY BUNS ON SALE

In support of the May Fair on May 9th, I will begin taking orders for Sticky Buns on April 5th. The prices remain the same as last year:

- \$5.00 (1/2 dozen)
- \$10.00 (dozen)



Please see me after worship or call 215-663-1596. Your order will be delivered the following Sunday unless otherwise advised.

Thank you for your support.

-Anna Strahan

Mother's Day

By: easyday.snydle.com

You have given me life
and showed me the light.
Taught the strength to fight,
and difference of wrong from right.

When there are problems,
you always stay
and pick me up along the way.
Show your support come what may,
do everything to make it fade away.

May you have a happy mother's day!
I'll always be proud to say,
you are the best of the most,
and the top of the rest.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE'S ANNUAL

MAY FAIR



Saturday May 9, 2015

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Join us for lunch from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM:
Chicken wings, Hot Dogs, Turkey Burgers, Salads,
Chips, Sodas, and Water**

Plants (for the garden or gifts)

Baked Goods (for snacks or dessert)

Jewelry (retro and new)

Clothes (accessories or mainstay)

Art Auction (silent)

**Oak Lane Presbyterian Church
6637 North 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19126**

Annual Church Outing



On Sunday June 28, 2015 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM, OLPC will hold its annual outing at Mason's Mill Park, 3500 Mason's Mill Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA (Telephone: 215-659-3388).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

We hope you can come! Please bring some food to share and an appetite for good fun and fellowship.

Directions from the Church to the Park

1. **West** on Oak Lane to Old York Road.
2. **Turn Right** onto Old York Road/PA 611 North (Old York Road/PA 611 becomes York Road/PA 611 North).
3. **Continue** on York Road/PA 611 to Davisville Road in Willow Grove (just before the railroad tracks).
4. **Turn Right** onto Davisville Road.
5. **Continue** on Davisville Road to the 3rd traffic light (Byberry Road).
6. **Turn Right** onto Byberry Road.
7. **Continue** on Byberry Road to the 1st traffic light (Mason's Mill Road).
8. **Turn Right** onto Mason's Mill Road. (Mason's Mill Park is on the right ¼ mile after you make your turn onto Mason's Mill Road.)

NEW SESSION ORGANIZATION

Session met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 and chose new officers and chairs of its Ministries. They are as follows:

Clerk of Session	Gerry Shambaugh
Treasurer	Wrenton Wright
President of the Corporation	Wrenton Wright

Ministry Chairs

Christian Education	Miriam Baker
Church and Community	Harriett Atkerson Terrine Datts
Finance	Wrenton Wright
Fundraising	Harriett Atkerson
Membership and Fellowship	Marilyn Gathers
Outreach	Gerry Shambaugh
Property	<u>Co-Chairs:</u> Anna Strahan Wrenton Wright
Personnel	Gerry Shambaugh
Stewardship & Mission Interpretation	Gerry Shambaugh
Use of Church	Jacqueline Williams
Worship & Music	<u>Co-Chairs:</u> Terrine Datts Joan Clerk

Please pray for your officers that they will continue to lead our faith community in service to God.

MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES!

Congratulations to the following Graduates:

Elijah Mason (Son-in-law of John and Myra Houston; spouse of Noni) will graduate May 16th with a Master of Science degree in Information Assurance from The University of Maryland, College Park.



Felicia Houston will participate in Delaware State University Commencement Ceremony on 5/17/15. Felicia will graduate with a Baccalaureate Degree in Communication and a Minor in Marketing. She has been accepted at The University of Maryland, College Park to continue studies to obtain a Master Degree in Broadcast Journalism. Please keep Felicia in prayer as she starts a one year intense graduate program, June 1st.

-submitted by Myra Houston



Congratulations to Morgan Taylor Jones who will receive her Masters Degree from Widener University on May 15, 2015. Morgan is the daughter of Robin and Kevin Jones and the granddaughter of David A. Mims and the late Billie Joyce Mims.

-submitted by Bernice Mims

OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

HAVE YOU NOTICED?



That we have had 5 visiting families in 3 weeks of worship. This is the result of a postcard that incorporated a calendar and was sent out to every household within a mile of the church. Harvey Bunch with the assistance of Denise Tucker designed the postcard and arranged for the mailing. Several of the visitors indicated that they were going to come back. A follow-up letter has been sent to all of them. If you see them again, be sure to welcome them and get to know them, much as you do with any visitor. The Outreach Ministry will be discussing how else we might follow up with them.

OLCAA NEWS

REMINDER...

Remember, on May 20, 2015 the Oak Lane Community Action Association (OLCAA) is having its Annual General Meeting at the Oak Lane Presbyterian Church, 6637 N. 11th Street, at 7:00 P.M. I am asking all neighbors and friends who are committed to having a positive present and future outlook of our community to come out and support our Community Association. If you are interested in renewing or joining for the first time fill out the membership application that is in the East Oak Lane Paper and mail it to: OLCAA, P.O. Box 2926, Philadelphia, PA 19141.

Membership allows for the continued operation of EOL Town Watch, programs, the Newsletter, and web-site maintenance. The fifteen(15) member Board of Directors, all volunteers from throughout the four corners of the neighborhood, meet once a month to help sort through area issues, and promote positive maintenance and growth of East Oak Lane. OLCAA is always seeking great ideas and dynamic neighbors who wish to contribute their time, expertise, and energy towards improving the "Quality of Life" in East Oak Lane.

David Weston
President of OLCAA

COVENANT OF PRAYER

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN MAY

- 1..... Charrity Alexander & Aaron Weston & Family
- 2..... Kelvin Alston & Family
- 3..... Kenneth Alston & Family
- 4..... Candice Ancrum & Family
- 5..... Mattie Anderson & Family
- 6..... Thelma Applegate & Family
- 7..... Joseph & Harriett Atkerson & Family
- 8..... Louise Atterbury & Family
- 9..... Miriam Baker & Family
- 10..... Alexis & Martha Barron & Family
- 11..... Barbara & Stephen Bono & Family
- 12..... Allen & Grace Bradley & Family
- 13..... Harvey & Latricia Lewis-Bunch & Family
- 14..... Bernadette Bush & Family
- 15..... James Cephas & Family
- 16..... Stacey Smith & Family
- 17..... Mattie Chadwick & Family
- 18..... Roland & Priscilla Chandler & Family
- 19..... Joan Clerk & Family
- 20..... Evelyn Conway & Family
- 21..... Diane Cook & Family
- 22..... Terrine & Lee Datts & Family
- 23..... Jayminn Sanford & Gary DeShields & Family
- 24..... Daraja DeShields & Family
- 25..... Khalim Dickerson & Family
- 26..... Caroline Freedman & Family
- 27..... Stafford & Nicole Freeman & Family
- 28..... Veronica Gant & Family
- 29..... John & Marilyn Gathers & Family
- 30..... Helen Guy & Family
- 31..... Helen Hampton & Family

THE AMBASSADOR

Ambassador articles keep our church family informed of the many activities going on at Oak Lane Presbyterian Church. We need your help! If you have news to share, please send it to the church office by the stated deadline so it can be published in The Ambassador. If possible, please send it to our church administrative assistant, Valerie Berkley, via email at Olpc@verizon.net. If not, please drop off a copy of your article or information to Valerie at the church office. Thanks so much!

A REMINDER:

**The Deadline for the June 2015 Ambassador is
Monday May 18, 2015.**

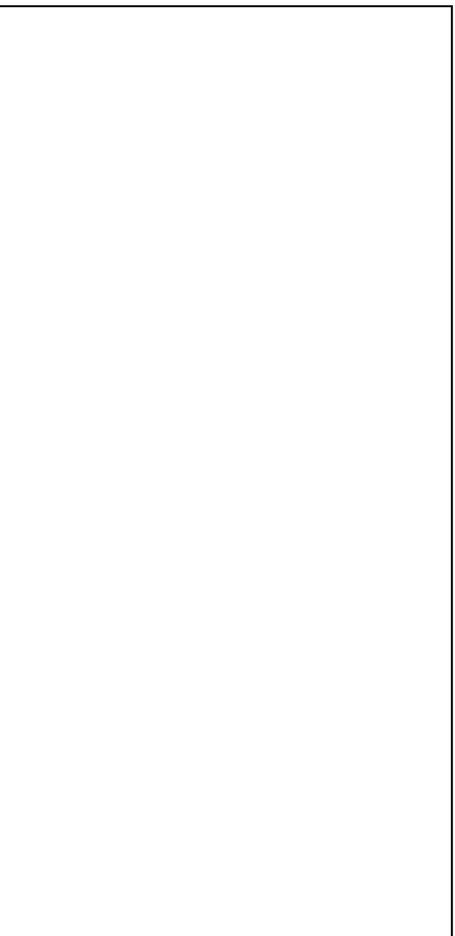
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Would you be interested in having your Ambassador delivered electronically via email rather than in hard copy? Consider it – it will save our congregation money and reach you more quickly! To get started, email Valerie Berkley at Olpc@verizon.net. Thank you.

WE ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK

To access the OLPC Facebook page, search "Oak Lane Presbyterian Church" in Facebook or use the link on the new OLPC website (oaklanepresbyterian.org/).

THE OAK LANE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
6637 North Eleventh Street
Philadelphia, PA 19126-3232



The Ambassador is a monthly newsletter for members and friends. You are invited to attend our Worship Service on Sunday at 11:00 AM. Sunday Church School for all ages begins at 9:45 AM. Office hours are 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

- Telephone: 215-424-4446
- E-mail: Olpc@verizon.net
- Web Address: oaklanepresbyterian.org