

THE OAK LANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE AMBASSADOR
SPRING 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Oak Lane Family,

April 2016

At last month's Session meeting, church leaders re-affirmed our commitment to supporting and maintaining the Oak Lane Afterschool Program (OLASP), which provides childcare both before and after school. We understand that our outreach to neighborhood families with school age children is integral to our missional witness.

This is no small statement that yes, we indeed care about the children we serve. We do care.... and tend, and advocate, and discipline, and love. Because caring for children at OLPC is indeed a matter of demonstrating love that was first made known to us in Christ Jesus.

As your pastor, I understand my role and responsibility to include being pastorally present with the children and their families in our care. I enjoy my time "downstairs", checking in with staff, reading a picture book, helping with homework, building with Legos, or tying a shoelace.

My time with OLASP has increased these last few weeks, as OLPC ruling elder Theresa Purnell and I are volunteering as interim co-directors. A search is already underway to find a permanent OLASP Director.

This week, when the children arrived with typical release of pent up energy kept under wraps during the school day, they noticed some changes in the physical space. Tables with activities were prepared in advance of their arrival and a quiet classroom has been established for those who have homework. We removed a few tables to allow space for inside games. Though these changes are an improvement, the most important work is teaching and modeling expectations of how we treat one another.

We are *for* one another. We are generous. We speak words that help. We build one another up. And summed up in the affirmation - WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME TEAM.

Easy to say, difficult to live, as feelings get ruffled, emotions become tangled, and actions precede thought. These expectations set a high standard, yet anything less would betray our Christian understanding that we belong to one another in covenantal relationship. Children, adults, neighbors, strangers, -- we are entrusted to one another. There is no other that is excluded and left behind.

Our theologically informed ways of being together affirm the love made known to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ Jesus. The love made visible “downstairs” is the same love we worship on Sunday morning, the love we seek in prayer, and the love we share in our work and witness.

May all our relationships reflect the glory of the risen Lord who inspires our efforts and informs the way we belong to one another.

Happy Eastertide,
Judith

Rev. Judith Brackett can be reached by calling or emailing the church office, or by calling (610 747-0366) or emailing (revjudithbrackett@gmail.com).
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STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The Stewardship Committee will meet on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 12:30pm. Our Annual Stewardship Dinner will be held on Sunday, April 24, 2016 after church services. During the dinner we will meet representatives from **Philadelphia Hospitality Network**, and the **Utilities Emergency Fund**. All are invited. **Please note that these are two of the organizations that the congregation supports during the year.*

SCHEDULED EVENTS

**The following are events scheduled to occur this month:*

- Saturday April 9th - **Spring Tea** - 1:00 - 3:00 PM
- Sunday April 17th - **Session Meeting** - After Worship
- Sunday April 24th - **Mission Luncheon**

LOOKING AHEAD---

- Saturday May 7th - **May Fair** - 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Sunday June 26th - **Annual Church Outing** - After Worship
- Monday June 27th - 30th - **Vacation Bible School** - 6:30 - 8:30 PM

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS



**Join Us for our
Next Meeting on**

May 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM

Please join us for our
Annual

MAY FAIR



featuring
Café O'akLane
For a hardy lunch
and baked homemade goodies
surrounded by
lovely jewelry
gently used clothes

Mother's Day bouquets and garden plants

All available for purchase

Saturday May 7th from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM



MEMBERS NEWS

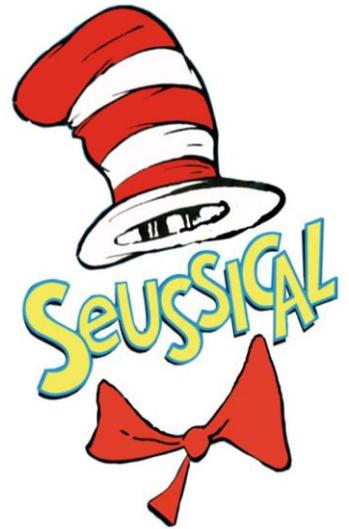
Mrs. Eddie Mae Jackson

SUNRISE: 11/19/1932; SUNSET: 2/22/2016

Our OLPC family extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Eddie Mae Jackson. Eddie Mae, after a long illness, went home to be with Our Lord on February 22, 2016.

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL

The Central High School Music Department is proud to present SEUSSICAL the Musical. OLPC member Daraja DeShields is very active in the music department at CHS in orchestra, concert orchestra, band, jazz band, choir and concert choir. He will be playing in the pit orchestra for Seussical. Any church member who would like to attend the **2:00 performance on Sunday April 10** is welcome to attend as our guest. The performance is in the auditorium at Central High School. ***We will need to have your name by the end of church on 4/10 to leave at the door.*** There will also be a **Spring Concert on Thursday May 26 at 7:00** which features each of the ensembles in CHS Music Department.



THE CULTURAL ARTS FITNESS PROGRAMS HERE AT OLPC!

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



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Saturday, March 5th, for a meeting a very productive retreat. The following are highlights:

- Learned that Elder Sonia Woods is assuming the chairmanship of the Stewardship and Mission Interpretation Ministry.
- Decided to retain the Manse and to explore creative uses of it while finding ways to support its expenses
- Reaffirmed the commitment to OLASP. A director needs to be hired in order to meet State regulations. Rev. Brackett and Elder Theresa Purnell agreed to serve as Co-Directors until a director can be hired.

DEACONS DOINGS IN MARCH & APRIL

Our next meeting will be on May 1, 2016 and after the meeting we will be taking Mother's Day cards to Marwood to distribute them to the residents.

In February:

- we hosted the repast for the family of Eddie Mae Jackson

In March and April:

- we visited the sick and home bound members of OLPC
- Received and responded to cards and well wishes...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

WANTED

Energetic High School & 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



June 27-August 26, 2016

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

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 Rev. Brackett, Theresa P., Harriet A.,
Terrine D., Jackie W., Helen H., or Joan C.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEWS

STICKY BUNS ON SALE!!!!



In support of the May Fair on May 7th, I will begin taking orders for sticky buns on Easter Sunday, March 27th. the prices are still \$5.00 (½ dozen) and \$10.00 (dozen). Please see me after church or call me at 215-663-1596. Your order will be delivered the following Sunday unless otherwise advised.

Thank you for your support.
Anna Strahan

The Fundraising Committee is now taking personal and business ads for our newsletter, **The Ambassador**. Please contact a member of the Fundraising Committee to place your ad for next month.

Committee members are Jackie Williams, Helen Hampton, Bernice Mims, Terrine Datts, and Harriett Atkerson.

Thank you!

One page	\$100.00
Half page	\$50.00
Quarter Page	\$25.00
One Line (100 Characters)	\$10.00
Greetings (50 Characters)	\$5.00
Patron list	\$1.00

SPRING is here...

Ready to be REFRESHED and RENEWED?

Come to our **SPRING TEA**



Saturday April 9th, 2016 from 1-3:00 PM

Oak Lane Presbyterian Church Rev. Judith Brackett, Pastor
6637 N. 11th Street Phila. PA. 19126 215 424-4446

R.S.V.P. to Helen at 267-686-2738 by April 2nd

Cost-\$20.00 Please make checks payable to "O.L.P.C."

Hats and Gloves Preferred



BON VOYAGE

TIRED OF THE COLD? SAIL AWAY...WITH CARNIVAL

BAHAMAS-May 27-30,2016-sails from Miami, Fl.

\$100.00 Deposit due-Jan. 28 Final Payment Due-March 28, 2016

Inside Cabin-\$464.00* Outside Cabin-499.00*

*Plus \$89.00 per person for taxes and port charges

WESTERN CARIBBEAN-July 10-16, 2016 sails from Miami,Fl.

\$250.00 Deposit due-Feb. 11 Final Payment Due-April 26, 2016

Inside Cabin-\$819.00* Outside Cabin-\$919.00*

*Plus \$159.00 per person for taxes and port charges

EASTERN CARIBBEAN-August 13-20, 2016

\$250.00 Deposit due-March 10 Final Payment Due-May 25, 2016

Inside Cabin-\$859.00* Outside Cabin with Balcony \$1,199.00*

*Plus \$159.00 per person for taxes and port charges

Sails from Fort Lauderdale, Florida

**** AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED ****

Make all checks payable to OLPC.

For more information, contact: Harriett Atkerson

Sponsored by The Fund Raising Committee.

National Poetry Month presents
Philadelphia's Poet Laureate
Yolanda Wisner



Wednesday, April 13, 2016 – 7-8 p.m.
Reading from her works and signing copies
for purchase of her latest poetry collection

“Monk Eats an Afro.”

www.yolandawisher.com

Oak Lane Branch, Free Library of Philadelphia
6614 N. 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19126 (215-685-2848)



Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lane Library

APRIL/MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Angela Millwood	4/1	Melody Wright	4/21
Lee Datts, Sr.	4/2	Stafford E. Freeman, III	4/22
Allen Bradley	4/8	Aja Roberts	4/23
Dawn Shellenberger	4/10	Taylor N. Lambert	4/23
Etta Swift	4/11	Myra Houston	4/29
Walter Jackson	4/14		
Cassandra Perry	4/14		

Birthdays

Shirley Smith	5/1	Felicia Houston	5/24
Alexandria Datts	5/3	Kimberly Bush	5/25
Thembeke Mason	5/8	Caroline Freedman	5/26
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		

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



Please note that OLPC is equipped with a wheelchair ramp, chair lift, accessible restrooms and extra-wide doors.

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!



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. If possible, please send your electronic contribution 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 May 2016 Ambassador is
Monday April 25, 2016.
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 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/).

COVENANT OF PRAYER

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN APRIL

- 1..... William Howard & Family
- 2..... Andrew & Constance Hutter & Family
- 3..... Malik Jackson & Family
- 4..... Walter Jackson & Family
- 5..... Meredith King & Family
- 6..... Morris & Beverley Lucas-King & Family
- 7..... Melanie & Keith Lambert & Family
- 8..... John Madden & Family
- 9..... John & Lorraine Magill & Family
- 10..... Joseph Manson & Family
- 11..... Doris Merz & Family
- 12..... Barbara Mims & Family
- 13..... Bernice Mims & Family
- 14..... Lenora Mitchell & Family
- 15..... Richard & Susanne Morrow & Family
- 16..... Allegra Mucha & Family
- 17..... Lora Neal & Family
- 18..... Catherine Odom & Family
- 19..... Jean Parker & Family
- 20..... Steven Parr & Family
- 21..... Cassandra & Leisha Perry & Family
- 22..... Edmund Plummer & Family
- 23..... Jacqueline Powell & Family
- 24..... Willa Powell & Family
- 25..... Marion Price & Family
- 26..... Theresa Purnell & Family
- 27..... Deborah Robinson & Family
- 28..... Deidre Robinson & Family
- 29..... Timothy Robinson & Family
- 30..... Jean Schlegel & Family
- 31..... Gerald Shambaugh & Family

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.

Rev. Judith Brackett, Pastor

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