

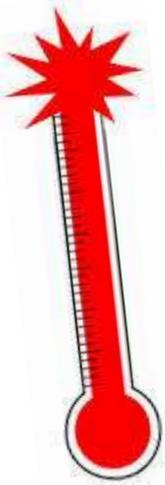
THE OAK LANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE AMBASSADOR
APRIL 2015

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

REACHING THE GOAL!



Have you noticed the bulletin board in the auditorium? If not, take a look! The thermometer indicates the pledges that were made during the Estimates of Giving period that tell us what the OLPC monetary intake will be for 2014-2015.

Our pledges look great! Our goal is \$100,000.00 and we are almost there. Hopefully, the \$95,000.00 pledge is a realistic claim for our financial future. KEEP IT UP OLPC!

The financial future of the Stewardship Ministry includes the One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent, the Per Capita donation in May and the Christmas Joy Giving in December.

All of these programs are the responsibility of the Stewardship Ministry as our church continues to move forward in the future.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING 2015

The One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that is collected by Presbyterian churches during the season of Lent, and is donated on Easter Sunday. Funds collected are divided equally among three programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self Development of People, and Presbyterian Hunger Programs. You will receive information explaining these programs further during the coming weeks, and your contribution to this mission will be collected on Easter Sunday.



-Sonia Woods

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.

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS



The Committee has continued its intensive work with the development of the position description. The greatest challenge has been tailoring the description to a part-time position, so that not too much is expected of the person filling that position. To help verify our assessment, the description is being sent to several pastors for their input. A list of several possible candidates from the Presbytery has been received. We will be verifying their interest in the position and obtaining information from them. Information from one interested candidate has been received. We will be setting up an interview with that candidate. We have also gained a sense of what other churches are offering in their compensation package to ministers who are seeking similar positions. Please remember to keep this hard-working committee in your prayers as we continue with our work.



JOIN US ON OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

- *Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015***
- *Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2015***
- *Good Friday, April 3, 2015***
- *Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015***

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS

EASTER EGG HUNT



Our Annual Continental Breakfast will be on Easter Sunday, April 5th, at 9:30 AM followed by the Easter Egg Hunt at 10:00 AM. For more information, or if you would like to help with candy and supplies, contact Joan Clerk after the worship service.

EASTER CANDY DONATIONS: The Christian Education Committee needs donations of Easter candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please drop off your donation in the church office.

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. Each Camp Card entitles you to discounts at the following places: Papa Johns, The Pretzel Factory, Modell's Sporting Goods, Applebee's, Rita's Water Ice, The Adventure Aquarium and Camden River Sharks games. Camp Cards are good for unlimited use at the above-listed establishments through 12/31/15. In addition, with each \$5.00 Camp Card you receive a one-time bonus of \$5.00 off a Shop Rite purchase of \$50.00. If interested, see Seth Bunch, Elisha Bunch or Daraja DeShields to purchase Camp Cards.



*Oak Lane Presbyterian Church
6637 N. Eleventh Street, Philadelphia, PA 19126
Phone: 215-424-4446/7*

Christian Education Committee's

**Annual
Continental Breakfast
&
Easter Egg Hunt**

**Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015
Continental Breakfast 9:30 AM
Easter Egg Hunt 10:00 AM**

**Then join us for the celebration of
Our Lord's Resurrection
Worship 11:00 A.M.**

**Bring your little ones
and join in the fun!**

CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE NEWS

APRIL

- Yoga classes resume on Saturday April 4, 2015
- Our next monthly **Line Dance Party** of 2015 will be on **Saturday April 25, 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.



APRIL 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		



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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS

Our next regular monthly meeting will be:



**Saturday April 18th
10:00 AM**

Discussion of Breakfast and planning for May

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



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 March:

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

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

DEACONS	APRIL 12, 2015
MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP	APRIL 13, 2015
STEWARDSHIP	APRIL 16, 2015
SESSION	APRIL 19, 2015

BOARDS

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Tuesday, March 10, and the following are highlights:

- Approved the Annual Statistical Report that is sent into PCUSA. It documented that the congregation is getting older and less diverse.
- Decided that we would have a Tennebrae Service on Maundy Thursday and celebrate Holy Communion on Easter Sunday
- Approved the replacement of the sidewalk on the Marwood side of the church because it has a large hole in it. It may possibly be the source of the water which has been coming into the basement.
- Due to feedback arising from the ending of the Leadership meetings, we decided to have a series of workshops hosted by the various ministries of Session during which congregants could express concerns in that area.
- Learned that OLASP is going to be working on meeting the requirements of the new Child Abuse Prevention Act and is going to have a series of in-service training to prepare for not only meeting State requirements but to also improve the program.
- Learned that the Worship and Music Ministry had been interviewing candidates for the Director of Music position. In doing so, there was a concern that we couldn't begin to hire a quality person at the proposed salary. Session decided to increase it to \$15,000.

Welcome

OLPC welcomes back Rev. Herbert Valentine and Rev. Nancy E. Muth to our congregation. Rev. Valentine will be our guest minister on **Palm Sunday** and Rev. Muth will be our guest minister on **Maundy Thursday** and **Easter Sunday**.

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.

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.

MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

The Membership and Fellowship Committee's April meeting will be on Monday, April 13th at 6:00 PM.

JOIN OUR PANEL

Dear partner in ministry,

Presbyterian Research Services is inviting you and your congregation to join a list of potential Presbyterian Panelists! Since 1973, church leaders have turned to the Presbyterian Panel to learn more about the beliefs and practices of Presbyterians. By joining this list, you will be added to a group of people who are willing to fill out occasional surveys that help Presbyterian entities, congregations, and others make informed decisions and reach their goals. All surveys will be available in English, Spanish, and Korean. **Leaders - please share this message with your congregation's participants/members. They are invited too!**



It is important that the group of panelists we select represents Presbyterians as a whole. **We would especially like to make sure that African, African American, and Black Presbyterians are represented in our Panel.** If you are interested in serving on the Presbyterian Panel, please answer the following demographic questions to help Research Services select a representative sample of Presbyterians:

<http://eepurl.com/bfUulb>

If you are selected to become a Presbyterian Panelist, we will send you a welcome letter with further details. If you are not selected right away, we'll keep you on our list of potential Panelists for the future. You can unsubscribe from this list at any time.

If you have any questions, please contact Research Services at (800) 728-7228 ext. 2040, or email us at panel@pcusa.org.

Blessings,
Joelle

Joelle Kopacz

Research Associate, Research Services

direct: 502-569-5126 | toll-free: 800-728-7228 ext 5126

Joelle.Kopacz@pcusa.org



RESEARCH
SERVICES



PRESBYTERIAN
MISSION
AGENCY

DINING OUT FOR LIFE 2015



Dine Out. Fight AIDS

Dine out, fight AIDS! Mark your calendars now as a reminder to participate in the **25th Anniversary of Dining out for Life Philadelphia** on **Thursday, April 30, 2015**. Eat at a participating Philadelphia area



restaurant on that Thursday, and **33%** of the cost of your meal will be donated to area agencies fighting HIV and AIDS. For a list of the more than 200 participating area restaurants and information on beneficiaries, how to volunteer, and how to make donations if you can't dine out that night, go to the Action AIDS-sponsored **Dining Out for Life** website: <http://www.diningoutforlife.com/Philadelphia>.

There is another way diners can show support, and get something back! On the night of **Dining Out for Life**, any diner who donates \$25 or more will receive the benefits of **20% Off Tuesdays**, where the diner can get 20% off their restaurant bill on any Tuesday for the rest of the year. For a listing of restaurants that are also participating in **20% Off Tuesdays**, go to <http://www.diningoutforlife.com/philadelphia/20-off-tuesdays>

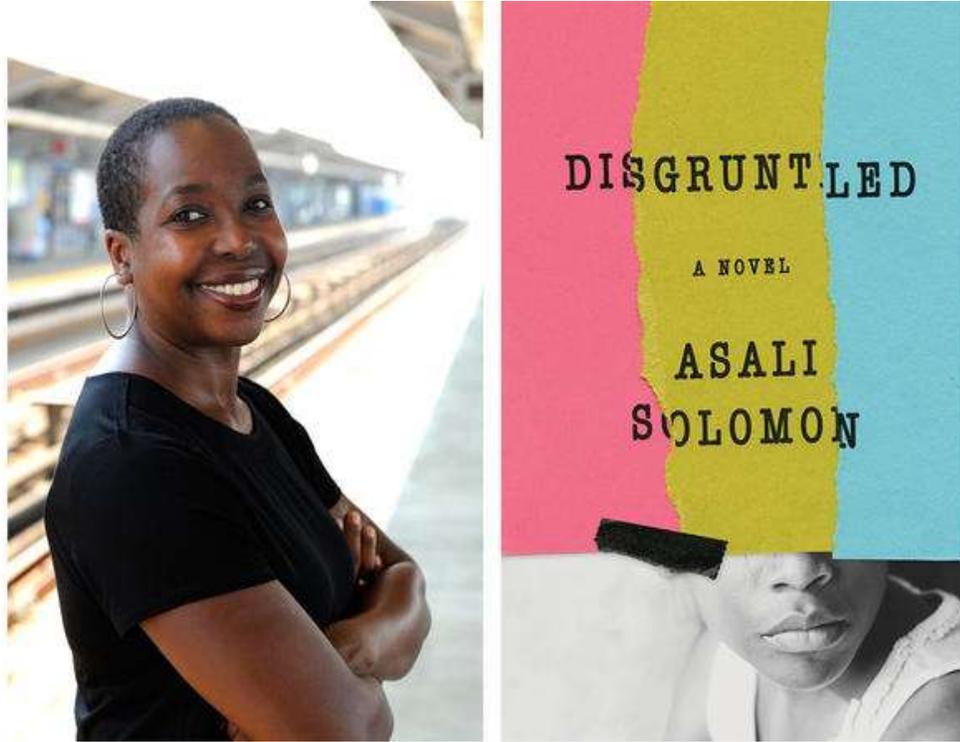
OLCAA NEWS

Oak Lane Community Action Association (OLCAA) meetings in April will be held at OLPC on:

- **Board Meeting** Wednesday, April 8th at 7:00 PM
- **Crime & Safety Meeting** Tuesday, April 14th at 7:00 PM

- *Join us for an evening with local author*

● **Asali Solomon**



- *As we celebrate the publication of her new*
- *novel set in West Philadelphia, **DISGRUNTLED.***
 - *Join Asali for a reading, book sale and autographing!*
- ***Wednesday, April 1, 2015 - 6:30-8 p.m.***
 - 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*



Free Trees for Philly Yards!

Pre-register now for up to two **free** trees to plant in a yard on private property! Choose between a variety of species – including **fruit trees** – and select one of three pick-up events (details below). Walk-in participants will be accepted at the end of each event while supplies last.

Refer a Friend Raffle! Previous and current participants can refer a friend or neighbor for a chance to win a \$100 gift card to the Apple store! See treephilly.org for details.

Bridesburg Rec. Center
4625 Richmond St, 19137
Saturday, April 11
10:00am-12:00pm

Eastwick Regional Park
80th St & Mars Place, 19153
Saturday, April 11
2:00pm-4:00pm

Pennypack Enviro. Center
8600 Verree Rd, 19115
Saturday, April 18
10:00am-2:00pm

**Register from March 2–April 1, 2015
at treephilly.org or by calling (215) 683-0217.**



PHILADELPHIA
PARKS &
RECREATION



COVENANT OF PRAYER

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN MARCH

- 1..... Edmund Plummer & Family
- 2..... Jacqueline Powell & Family
- 3..... Willa Powell & Family
- 4..... Marion Price & Family
- 5..... Theresa & Anthony Purnell & Family
- 6..... Deborah Robinson & Family
- 7..... Deidre Robinson & Family
- 8..... Jean Schlegel & Family
- 9..... Gerald Shambaugh & Family
- 10..... Dawn & Larry Shellenberger & Family
- 11..... Gertrude Simmons & Family
- 12..... Catherine & William Smith & Family
- 13..... Emma Smith & Family
- 14..... Ola Smith & Family
- 15..... Shirley Smith & Family
- 16..... Stacey Smith & Family
- 17..... Diana Stokes & Family
- 18..... Franklin & Anna Strahan & Family
- 19..... Aaron Thornton & Family
- 20..... Gale Thornton & Family
- 21..... Lynette Townsend & Family
- 22..... Denise & Joseph Tucker & Family
- 23..... Ronald Washington & Family
- 24..... Aaron & Charrity Weston & Family
- 25..... Thomas & Dianne Whitehead & Family
- 26..... Jacqueline Williams & Family
- 27..... Mable Windham & Family
- 28..... Beverly Woods & Family
- 29..... Mark Woods & Family
- 30..... Sonia Woods & Family
- 31..... Dameon & Melody Wright & 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 May 2015 Ambassador is
Monday April 13, 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