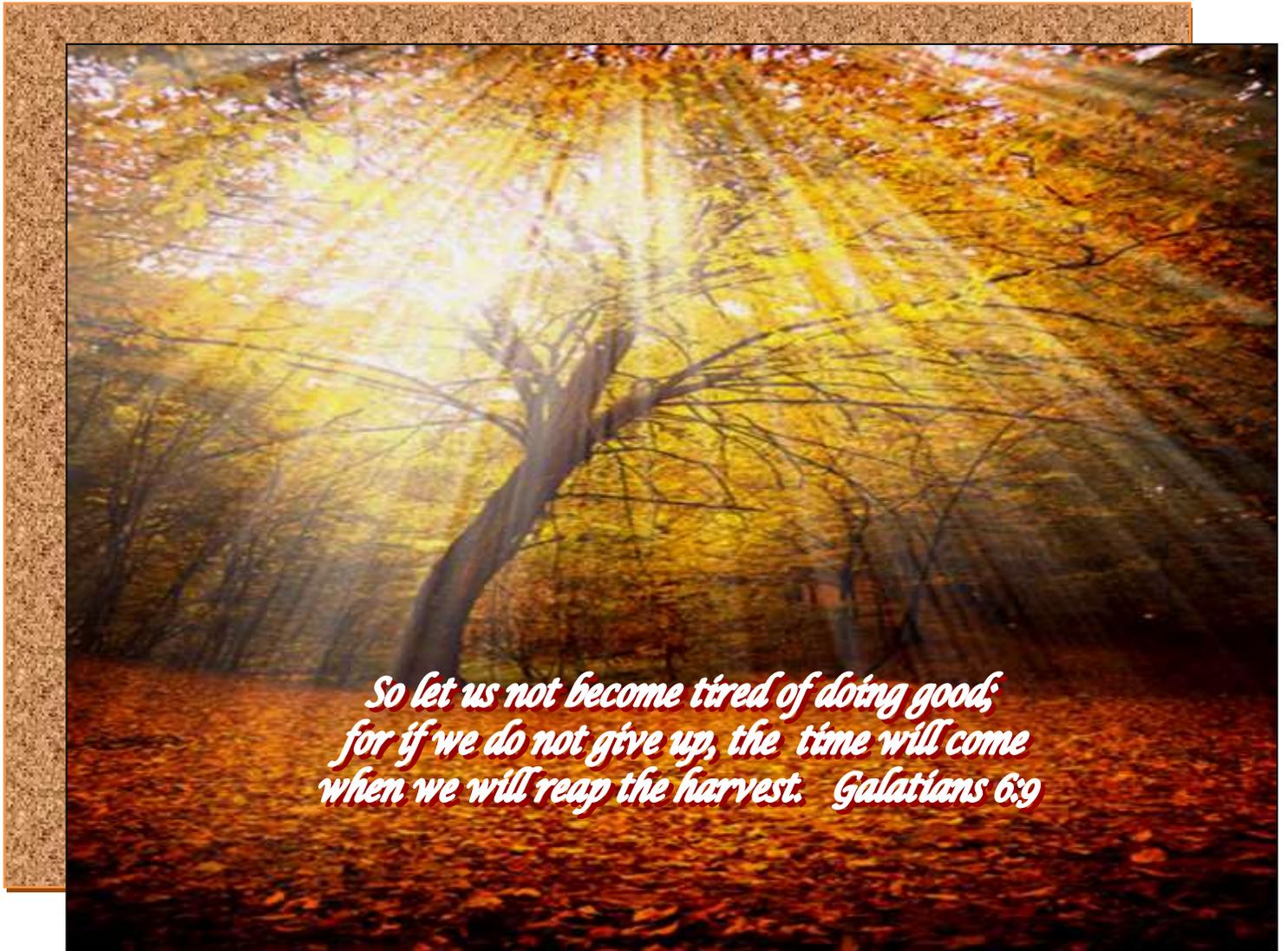


THE OAK LANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*So let us not become tired of doing good;
for if we do not give up, the time will come
when we will reap the harvest. Galatians 6:9*

THE AMBASSADOR SEPTEMBER 2015

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING....

OUR NEW PASTOR, REV. JUDITH BRACKETT

In case you haven't already heard, Rev. Judith Brackett will begin as the Stated Supply Pastor of our faith community on September 9. Rev. Brackett was one of seven candidates who applied for the position, and was one of three whose sermons the Search Committee heard in a neutral pulpit. The vote by both the Search Committee and the Session was unanimous that God was leading us to choose Rev. Brackett to be our next pastor. This reflects the enthusiasm of all who have met and interacted with her.

Rev. Brackett is a bright, caring and spiritual person who is experienced at meeting the needs of a wide range of people and describes herself "as an enthusiastic, thoughtful and creative extrovert." An elementary school teacher for many years and a seasoned church volunteer who has organized and led women's gatherings, Bible studies and adult education classes, she chose to go to seminary to prepare for a second career in the ministry.



Please come out to worship on Sunday, September 13, 2015, when we will be celebrating Holy Communion and welcoming Rev. Brackett with a Meet and Greet after worship. We will also be returning to the Sanctuary to worship following summer services downstairs in the Social Room.

OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR, JULIE MYERS

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Please join us in officially welcoming **Julie Myers** as our new Choir Director. We have known Julie for a number of years. We have experienced her numerous talents as a vocalist and musician. We now have the pleasure of giving her the opportunity for continued growth in her new position.

The Choir is looking forward to working with her in a more professional capacity. Julie has some fresh new ideas. She will also be polling the Congregation to assess your musical preferences. We ask that you give her your support. We ask that you keep her in prayer. Our Ministry was truly led by God and the Holy Spirit. We ask that you trust in that Divine intervention to guide Julie in this new endeavor.

It is a new day at Oak Lane with many changes. Let us all be open to what God has in store for us. Let us rejoice in a new beginning.

God bless Julie and Oak Lane.

Yours in Christ,

Joan Clerk and Terrine Datts,
Chairpersons, Worship and Music Ministry



WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE NEWS



The Worship & Music Committee's first meeting of the 2015-2016 Season will be Tuesday October 6th at 6:30 PM.

Greetings, All,

We are starting a new year with a new Choir Director. We welcome Julie Myers, officially, as our new Music Director. We are looking forward to an exciting and productive year.

Worship and Music will be meeting on first Tuesdays at 6:30 or 7:00 P.M. We are working on the time. Our first meeting will be on 10-6-15 at 6:30 P.M.

We will be worshipping back in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 13, 2015. There will be a cleaning day on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at 12:00 noon. Everyone is invited to join us to spruce up our Church.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, September 13th at 9:15 A.M. Anyone interested in joining us, please come.

In October, we will be instituting a suggestion box for your favorite music. More information will be forthcoming.

Thank you for your continued support, prayers and encouragement. Oak Lane is on the move. Let's stay positive and caring. Thank you and God bless!

*Yours in Christ!
Joan Clerk and Terrine Datts,
Co-Chairpersons, Worship and Music*



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEWS



The Christian Education Committee will host their **annual Sunday School Kick-Off and Breakfast on September 27th** starting at 9:45 AM. A Continental Breakfast will be served for those attending. Meet and Greet our Sunday School teachers and register for Sunday School which begins on October 4, 2015 at 9:45 AM. For more information, please contact Miriam Baker or Bernice Mims.

HARVEST PARTY 2015

The Christian Education Committee invites you to come and have lots and lots of fun at their Annual Harvest Party on Saturday October 31, 2015 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Candy donations will be appreciated. Please bring your candy donations to church no later than Saturday October 10, 2015. For more information, please contact Miriam Baker or Bernice Mims.



OLPC ADULT BIBLE STUDY

YOU'RE INVITED to Adult Bible Study, which meets every Sunday at 9:45 AM at the church. This fall we are studying Acts when the Church was going from a local, small movement to a worldwide faith community. It was a period of great joy, learning and salvation. Come catch the Spirit. See you on September 13. There's no cost except an hour of television.

Gerry Shambaugh

CHURCH & COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEWS

CHURCH & COMMUNITY UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome Back!

Summer is over and we are gearing up for the fall. Here are a few items to list on your must do list from Church & Community Committee.

September 8, 2015

OLASP Before/After School Program begins.

Note: We need your help to get the word out about our program so tell your family and friends that we have the best after-school program around because we emphasize academics as well as spiritual growth. It's a winner, so brag about the wonderful program we have here at OLPC!

September 12, 2015

YOGA CLASSES w/ Terrine Datts on Saturdays at 11am, \$5.00 per class.

September 19, 2015

OAK LANE DAY! Please sign up to sit at our table to welcome and introduce people in our community to our church.

October 1, 2015

NETWORK - Our guests will be arriving on Oct. 1, 2015 and will remain for the entire month. Please make time in your schedule to host, spend the night, prepare a meal, monitor the children, or to invite them to worship. Everyone can do something to help out. We look forward to seeing you around in October.

CRISIS & COMFORT COMMITTEE Ms. Jackie Williams is busy putting together the **2015-2016 Agenda** for workshops for the coming school year. If last year was any example, you can again expect the best from her and her committee. If you have topics that you wish discussed, please let her know. The committee will meet after summer

vacation to firm up the schedule. Look for it in the next Ambassador.

LINE DANCING CLASSES are every Monday at 7:30PM... This is the place to learn the latest steps... Then on the 4th Saturday of each month come out to our ***Line Dance Parties*** and join other line dance enthusiasts to perfect your skills. If you don't dance, come out and purchase lunch. Leisha Perry is in the kitchen making mouth-watering chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, sausages, etc. All funds raised go to help our budget...So, don't hang back... Come out and have some fun with your friends and church family while helping your church.

YOU ARE INVITED! The Church & Community Committee is open to all members. If you are concerned about our involvement and connection with the community and would like to serve to make our connection better, please join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM for our monthly meeting. We promise to be brief in our meeting times and effective in our impact on the community.

For any information regarding the above activities, see one of the committee members: Terrine Datts, Cathy Smith, Gerry Shambaugh, Jackie Williams, Jay DeShields, Allegra Mucha, or Harriett Atkerson.

Submitted by The Committee

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY NEWS

THANK YOU

The Stewardship Ministry would like to thank you for your contributions to the One Great Hour of Sharing. We received a total of \$639.50, which is almost 10% more than we received last year. Many people are helped through this work, and you are a part of it.

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.
 - Maintaining a fifteen-member care list that is updated monthly.
-

The Deacons did the following during the summer:

- The Deacons continued to be busy calling and visiting sick and shut-in members, delivering flowers, and sending get well, birthday and anniversary cards.
 - On several Sundays, connections were made to bring the worship service to shut-in members through the telephone ministry.
-

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETINGS

DEACONS

SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

SESSION

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

MEMBERSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

B O A R D S

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met three times over the summer for formal meetings although there was a great deal of communication and several gatherings related to the meetings. The following are highlights of the meetings:

- Selected Rev. Judith Brackett to be our Stated Supply beginning September 9. The contract is for a year.
- Hired Ms. Julie Myers to be Director of Music.
- Designated the Local Benevolences in the following manner: \$375 to each of Chester Eastside, Inc.; Germantown Ave. Crisis Ministry; Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network and Utilites Emergency Services Fund. Authorization was also given to pay out these contributions over the course of the year beginning in June to enable them to have access to the funds and to spread out the expenditures.
- Learned that the sidewalk and concrete have been repaired on the Marwood side of the Church and that this seems to have stopped the leak into the basement. Financial assistance is being requested from Presbytery.
- Learned that \$1,750 was earned from the celebration of Helen Hampton's birthday. It's hoped that similar success will be experienced through the other fund raising activities planned this summer.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

The following people have been selected to serve on the Nominating Committee: Jayminn DeShields, Willa Powell, Helen Hampton, Malik Jackson, John Houston, Jacqueline Williams and Harriett Atkerson. The first committee meeting was held on July 12, 2015 after worship.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Tiara Purnell	9/4	Linda Jefferson	9/21
Marliese Johnson	9/6	Leisha Perry	9/23
Aubrey Jones	9/7	Denise Tucker	9/27
Diana Stokes	9/7	Joseph Manson	9/28
John Gathers	9/9		
Lauren Haughton	9/11		
KeyShawn Ancrum	9/13		
Alecia Cook	9/14		
Constance Haynes	9/17		
Catherine Odom	9/17		
Joseph Atkerson	9/18		
Kyle Cephas	9/20		

Anniversaries

Roland & Priscilla Chandler	9/4
Alonzo & Marliese Johnson	9/6
Alexis & Martha Barron	9/10
Joseph & Harriett Atkerson	9/15
Bill & Gretchen Myers	9/16
Charles & Linda Jefferson	9/19
Terrine & Lee Datts	9/20

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.

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. There are presently many openings in September and October.



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!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS

Opening Fall Meeting

September 26, 2015

12:00 Noon

Please note the new date (the fourth Saturday instead of the third) and the new time (12:00 instead of 10:00).

We will set our agenda and select our missions for the year.

Please bring one item that will help you share some fantastic thing you experienced over the summer.



Clara's Annual Fish Fry



Volunteers need for our annual fish fry on Friday & Saturday, September 11th and 12th. For more information, please contact Helen Hampton.

SCOUTING NEWS

WELCOME BACK!

Boy Scout Troop 19 resumes their scheduled meetings on September 12th at 10:00 AM. Please contact Al Mitchell for more information or call the church office at 215-424-4446.



MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS, MARILYN!

Marilyn Gathers has been chosen as Moderator for Presbyterian Women in District One. Congratulations, Marilyn!

PRAYERS FOR A SAFE AND SUCCESSFUL TRIP

Please keep my daughter, Stacey, in prayer. She left for Choma, Zambia in August for three months. Stacey will be there to develop strategies to help reduce the maternal mortality rate.

Submitted by Shirley Smith, July 2015

NEW GRANDSON

Morris and Beverley Lucas-King announce the birth of their new grandson, Dean Creedyn King, to their son, Michael, and his wife, Victoria, on May 27, 2015. Dean weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. when he was born.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Thank you to the Christian Education Committee of OLPC for your recognition of my graduation from Bodine High School for International Affairs. The graduation ceremony occurred on Monday June 15, 2015, and I received the Arcadia University Distinguished Scholarship Award. I plan to begin my studies at Arcadia on August 28 and will major in science. My family and I would like to extend a special thank you to those who made Quilt Sunday memorable. Thank you also for your support, encouragement and commitment during my Sunday School years. The quilt is beautiful and will be a keepsake that I will treasure.

Sincerely, Fatir Woods

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Fundraising Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM. If you are interested in joining this very important and very exciting committee, please join us on the first Tuesday of each month or see one of the committee members listed below. The purpose of this committee is to raise funds for church expenses.

Our 2015 Calendar:

September

- **Clara's Fish Fry** September 11th & 12th 12:00 Noon - 6:00 PM
- **Line Dance Party** September 22nd 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM
(Admission \$5, Chicken Sandwiches \$7, Hot Dogs \$1, Sausages \$1.50, Sodas \$1, etc. on Sale)

October

- **Line Dance Party** October 24th 12 :00 Noon - 4:00 PM
(Admission \$5, Chicken Sandwiches \$7, Hot Dogs \$1, Sausages \$1.50, Sodas \$1, etc. on Sale)

November

- **Rolling of The Scrolls** November 5th 7 :00 PM
- **Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale** November 21st 10 AM - 4 PM
- **Line Dance Party** November 28th 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM
(Admission \$5, Chicken Sandwiches \$7, Hot Dogs \$1, Sausages \$1.50, Sodas \$1, etc. on Sale)

December

- No Line Dance Party

Submitted by the Committee:

Jackie Williams

Bernice Mims

Helen Hampton

Terrine Datts

Harriett Atkerson

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 October 2015 Ambassador is
Monday September 21, 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

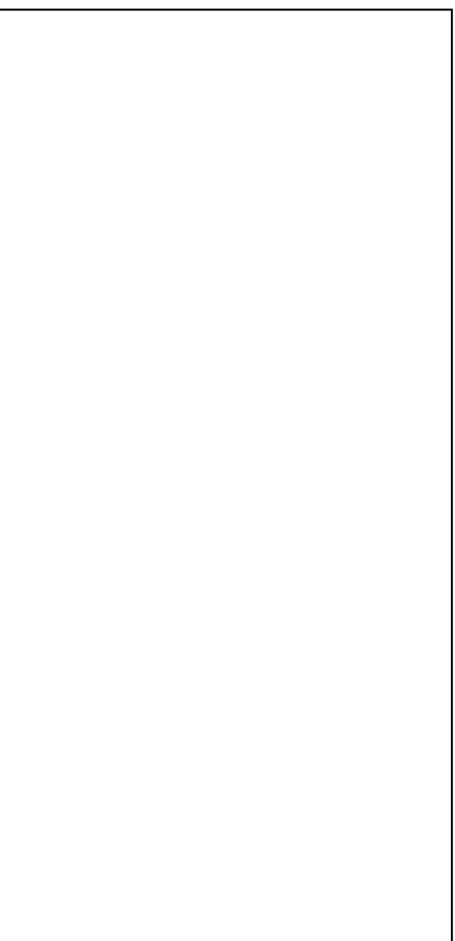
To access the OLPC Facebook page, search "Oak Lane Presbyterian Church" in Facebook or use the link on the new OLPC website (oaklanepresbyterian.org/).

COVENANT OF PRAYER

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN SEPTEMBER

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