

THE OAK LANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE AMBASSADOR
MAY 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

May 2016

Dear Oak Lane Family,

This year, Pentecost falls on Sunday, May 15th, and the day we wear red as a visual commemoration of the fiery and energizing gift of the Holy Spirit.

On Pentecost Sunday, we will have a pre-worship breakfast to celebrate what the Spirit is birthing in our midst. We will gather in deep trust and bold confidence that the Spirit fills the empty places and uses her people to continue the ongoing work of creation.

The morning will include a festive “showering” of gifts - items new and gently used to outfit the manse kitchen, making it ready for meals and meetings that extend and enrich our ministry here at Oak Lane.

The Spirit blows where it pleases, inciting both fear and excitement. Assembled together over breakfast and in worship, we will welcome the fierce and purifying power of the Spirit that has been entrusted to us.

On Pentecost and in the weeks and months ahead, we will attentively listen and watch for possibilities born of the Spirit, as we are willingly swept up into God’s good and holy purposes.

All are invited! Contact Helen Hampton to coordinate what you would like to contribute, though gifts are not necessary to attend.

Coffee will be brewed beginning at 8 o’clock. See you on Pentecost Sunday!

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).

SCHEDULED EVENTS

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

- Saturday May 7th - **May Fair** - 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- Sunday May 15th - Manse Shower - 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
- Sunday May 15th - Session Meeting - After Worship
- Saturday May 28th - **Line Dance Party** - 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM

LOOKING AHEAD---

- Sunday June 26th - **Annual Church Outing** - After Worship
- Monday June 27th - 30th - **Vacation Bible School** - 6:30 - 8:30 PM

**Beginning Monday May 2nd, new office hours are:*



Monday	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Wednesday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

*Please remember to **submit all** items for the bulletin by
Wednesday at 11:00 AM.*

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

125TH ANNIVERSARY

Did you know that OLPC was founded 125 years ago? If you have some ideas of a way that we could celebrate this anniversary, please let Jackie Williams, Theresa Purnell, Cathy Smith or Gerry Shambaugh know

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS

Join Us for our
Next Meeting on
May 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM

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

AWWWWWW...IT'S A MANSE!



We are having a shower and breakfast at the manse on **Sunday, May 15 from 8-10:00AM**. The manse needs some new or gently used items to help her look her best and function efficiently as a gathering place. Contact Helen Hampton 267 686-2738 if you would like to make a donation.

We need kitchen essentials like:

**assorted mugs, *clear glassware, *serving platters and serving bowls
*non-plastic pitchers, *serving utensils, *crock pot, *toaster oven, etc.*

MEMBERS NEWS

A Note of Thanks

Dear Oak Lane Presbyterian Family:

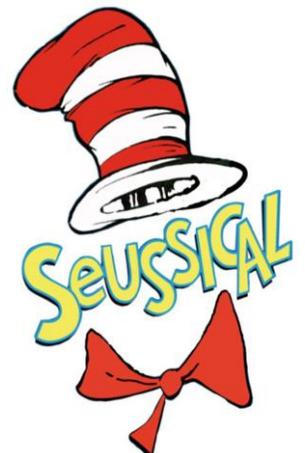
Thank you so very much for your hospital visits, calls, cards, well wishes and prayers during my recent illness and hospital stay. I am not yet myself, but I truly believe that with God's care and your prayers, I will be, very soon.



Love,
Bernice Mims

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





IN SEARCH OF BLACK HISTORY

This summer, the OLASP board of directors is implementing a black studies program for the children in our community. In doing so, they are attempting to fill the gaps that our school system often fails to provide in their curriculum. The history of the Africans in America is a topic historically overlooked, scanned over without providing the substance that reflect the many contributions that blacks gave, willingly and unwillingly, to this country's wealth.

There is power in knowing ones history and it is a sacred duty of all to teach, direct, and empower our children with this valuable gift. For centuries, Africans used the spoken word to relate their histories and legends to their children to tell their precious descendants of their heroes, tales, and legends. In many tribes, special training and status was given to the historian responsible for teaching tribal history to the next generation. The tradition of oral histories was and still is an effective tool of transferring one's history in a meaningful and efficient way. For Africans living in America, that formal tradition was interrupted by enslavement. Under the oppressive government laws and practices in America and all slave holding countries, the mention of black history, black relevance, or black intellect was forbidden. Today, our schools have not met the challenge of offering comprehensive programs that encourage and support the telling of the black man's movement through the pages of American history. Despite that fact, we as their elders continue to hold the responsibility of providing our children with the complete story of the African and his continued contributions to American life.

The OLASP board and staff will join with the Oak Lane Library and ASALH (Association for the Study of African-American Life and History) to fill this gap this summer. It is our wish that you join us in this very

important service to our community's children. When we complain that our children do not know who Martin Luther King was or who the Tuskegee Airmen were... That is our fault because it is our responsibility.

The curriculum for the summer program will include Enslavement, the Civil War, the Exodusters, the Buffalo Soldiers, the Civil Rights Movement of the 60's, and the Election of Barack H. Obama. During the movement through each period we hope to envelope the children in a blanket of history through dress, music, dance, and song. We will need help in the classroom, serving refreshments, making costumes, reading stories, supervising play periods, making props for plays, talent shows, and weekly decorative displays. You can sign-up during coffee hour after worship service. Your input and donation of time and talents will be the greatest gift you can give a child. Knowing one's history is a powerful tool to stand on for children seeking self-worth and success in their future... You can help them get there.

By H. Victoria Hargro Atkerson

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE NEWS



ALL THAT JAZZ is coming to OLPC on Friday June 17, 7-10:30PM. Jazz concert with Arlene Hilton as vocalist. Light refreshments included. Tickets are \$25.00. Sponsored by the Fund Raising Committee. Contact Helen Hampton or Bernice Mims for more information.

THE FUND RAISING COMMITTEE would like to thank all of those who attended, contributed to, or helped out at our lovely **Spring Tea**. Special thanks to Leisha Perry Sr., Latricia Bunch, Steven Datts, Earlene Mitchell, David White, Sonia Woods, Elisha and Seth Bunch, and Alexandra Datts. **We raised \$ 870.00!** The money we raise at our events, goes directly to the OLPC General Fund to help pay for the little things like heat, electricity, and needed repairs. Hope to see you at the tea next year!

Committee Members:

Harriett Atkerson, Terrine Datts, Helen Hampton, Bernice Mims, Jackie Williams.

Thank you to all the **OLASP Staff** for your continued hard work and devotion to the children. –OLASP Board of Directors

Happy Birthday to our **Great Grandson, Alexander Atkerson!**
 –From Harriett & Joseph Atkerson 🎂

Happy Mother's Day to my mother, Jayminn Deshield and my Grandmother, Adelaide Sanford! 🌹 From: Daraja

🌹 **Happy Mother's Day** to all OLPC mothers!

Happy Mother's Day to my mother, Latricia Bunch!
 From: Jaret, Elijah, Seth. & From your loving husband, Harvey... Happy Mother's!

PATRON LIST

1. Jackie Williams
2. Bernice Mims
3. Helen Hampton

🌹 Happy Mother's Day to Sonia Woods from Beverly and Quinn

🌹 Happy Mother's Day to Bernice Mims from Robin, Kevin, Morgan, Jordan, David, Pearcie, Brandon, Breahna, & Brittany

🌹 Happy Mother's Day to Helen Hampton from Zackary Hampton

🌹 Happy Mother's, Rev. Judith Brackett! From the Congregation & the Church Officers!

🌹 Happy Mother's Day Joan Clerk. We love you, Joseph, Nazarey, & Naylaya

To my Grandmother, Helen Guy. I love you! Happy Mother's Day. From your granddaughter, Nina Guy 🌹

🌹 To Barbara Bono-Happy Mother's Day from Claudette, Theresa, Gail, Aaron, Lyndette, Toni, Tiara & the great grands!

Happy Mother's Day, Miriam Baker, from Leisha, Cassie, Leisha II, and 🌹 baby

🌹 Happy Mother's Day to a wonderful wife & mother, Myra Houston. From John, Felicia, Noni,

To: Diane Cook, the world's best Mother, Happy Mother's Day, from: Lara, Anita, & Gloria 🌹

To: Nicole Freeman, We love you, Happy Mother's Day, from: Stafford, Joel, Joshua, & Jordyn. 🌹

Happy Mother's Day to my beautiful wife, Donna Wright. To Mable Windham and in memory of my mother Anne Wright, Happy Mother's Day! From Wrenton & Wrenton II 🌹

To the best mother and grandmother ever, Jackie William! Happy Mother's Day! From Sharon, Picard & Family 🌹

Happy Mother's Day, Debbie Robinson, from Deidre, Amaya and family! 🌹

To Theresa Purnell, Happy Mother's Day! We love you! From Tony, Tony II, and Tiara. 🌹

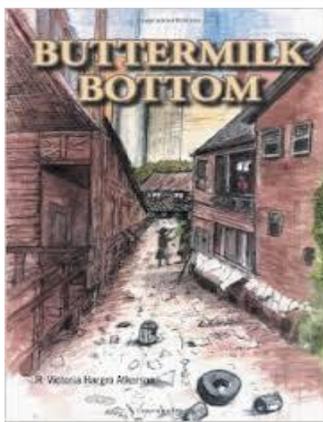
Happy Mother's Day to amazing wife, Jaymin & my wonderful mother-in-law, Adelaide Sanford! From: Gary DeShields 🌹

Happy Mother's Day to beautiful wife, Terrine Datts from Lee Datts. Happy Mother's Day- Lee A. Datts & Alexandria 🌹

Happy Mother's Day to beautiful wife, Terrine Datts from Lee Datts. Happy Mother's Day- Lee A. Datts & Alexandria 🌹

To the best mother in the world, Willa Powell, from Jacqueline Powell 🌹

This space is Available



Greetings OLPC Family,
 It has been some time since I published a novel due to family illnesses, which caused serious delays in my writing schedule. The good news is that I will be releasing two books this year on slavery. Part one will be available this summer. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your fabulous support! Here is a preview of my next book. I hope you will be moved by it as much as I was when doing the research and in writing it. It was a tough subject and at times, emotionally draining. It is my hope that I captured the attitudes, conditions, and the frustrations of those trapped in America's black holocaust.
 - H. Victoria Hargro Atkerson

Coming in Soon!

ENSLAVED

By H. Victoria Hargro Atkerson

Follow the joys and sorrows inflicted on an African princess, who falls victim to slavers who refused to acknowledge her humanity. Devastated by personal losses, the loss of her tribe, and her homeland, she is entrapped in a system of extreme cruelty and dehumanization that immediately spirals out of her control. Read Part One of this two-part saga of self-pride and self-determination in the face of extreme pain, unrelenting human suffering that pay homage to the resilient human spirit. This prolific novel will place you on a slave ship and into the bowels of hatred and prejudice that rocked mankind for centuries. While witnessing crippling affects and tragedies all around her, the African princess keeps the ideas and principles she was taught back home by her parents and her tribe. Don't miss this true-to-life adventure that faces the horrors of human slave trafficking, the deepest craving of passion, and the magical instincts of man's innate desire to survive and to be free. "Enslaved" will be available this summer!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Sunday, April 17, and the following are highlights of the meeting:

- Discussed about the Ambassador being every other month to make better use of staff time
- Decided to explore the possibility of hiring a sexton
- Agreed to reduce the number of hours that the Administrative Assistant to 10 hours per week
- Supported hosting the Network in November instead of October This was at the request of the Network
- Learned that \$879.50 was raised by the Multicultural Festival and around \$600 by the Tea.
- Wrenton Wright agreed to serve as Vice Chair of the Nominating Ministry
- Formed a task force to arrange a celebration of OLPC's 125 Anniversary

DEACONS DOINGS

IN MAY & JUNE

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.

DANCE, DANCE, DANCE



Come and work out a sweat at our **Line Dance Parties** here at OLPC *featuring DJ Lucy Lu*, every fourth Saturday of the month. The fun begins 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM. Refreshments will be sold at our snack bar. our next Line Party will be **May 28, 2016**.

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.



MAY 8, 2016



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.

MAY/JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

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

Birthdays

Charles Jefferson	6/2	Sidney Wright	6/16
Steven W. Parr, Sr.	6/2	Jean Parker	6/19
Stacey Bush	6/7	Ali Gathers	6/19
Bernadette Bush	6/8	Gretchen Myers	6/25
William Howard	6/9	Elisha Bunch	6/28
Aaron Thornton	6/12	Harvey Bunch	6/30
Jasmine Johnson	6/12		
Chris Belton	6/13		
Beth Hill	6/15		
Melanie Lambert	6/16		

Anniversaries

Dawn & Larry Shellenberger	6/21
Morris & Beverley Lucas-King	6/24
Theresa & Anthony Purnell	6/27
Tom & Diane Whitehead	6/29



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 June 2016 Ambassador is
Monday May 16, 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 MAY

- 1..... Dawn & Larry Shellenberger & Family
- 2..... Gertrude Simmons & Family
- 3..... Catherine William Smith & Family
- 4..... Ola Smith & Family
- 5..... Shirley Smith & Family
- 6..... Diana Stokes & Family
- 7..... Franklin & Anna Strahan & Family
- 8..... Etta Swift & Family
- 9..... Aaron Thornton & Family
- 10..... Gale Thornton & Family
- 11..... Lynette Townsend & Family
- 12..... Denise & Joseph Tucker & Family
- 13..... Ronald Washington & Family
- 14..... Thomas Whitehead & Family
- 15..... Jacqueline Williams & Family
- 16..... Sonia Woods & Family
- 17..... Dameon & Melody Wright & Family
- 18..... Wrenton & Donna Wright & Family
- 19..... Kelvin Alston & Family
- 20..... Kenneth Alston & Family
- 21..... Candice Ancrum & Family
- 22..... Mattie Anderson & Family
- 23..... Thelma Applegate & Family
- 24..... Joseph & Harriet Atkerson & Family
- 25..... Louise Atterbury & Family
- 26..... Miriam Baker & Family
- 27..... Alexis * Martha Barron & Family
- 28..... Allen & Grace Bradley & Family
- 29..... Elisha Bunch & Family
- 30..... James Cephas & Family
- 31..... Mattie Chadwick & 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