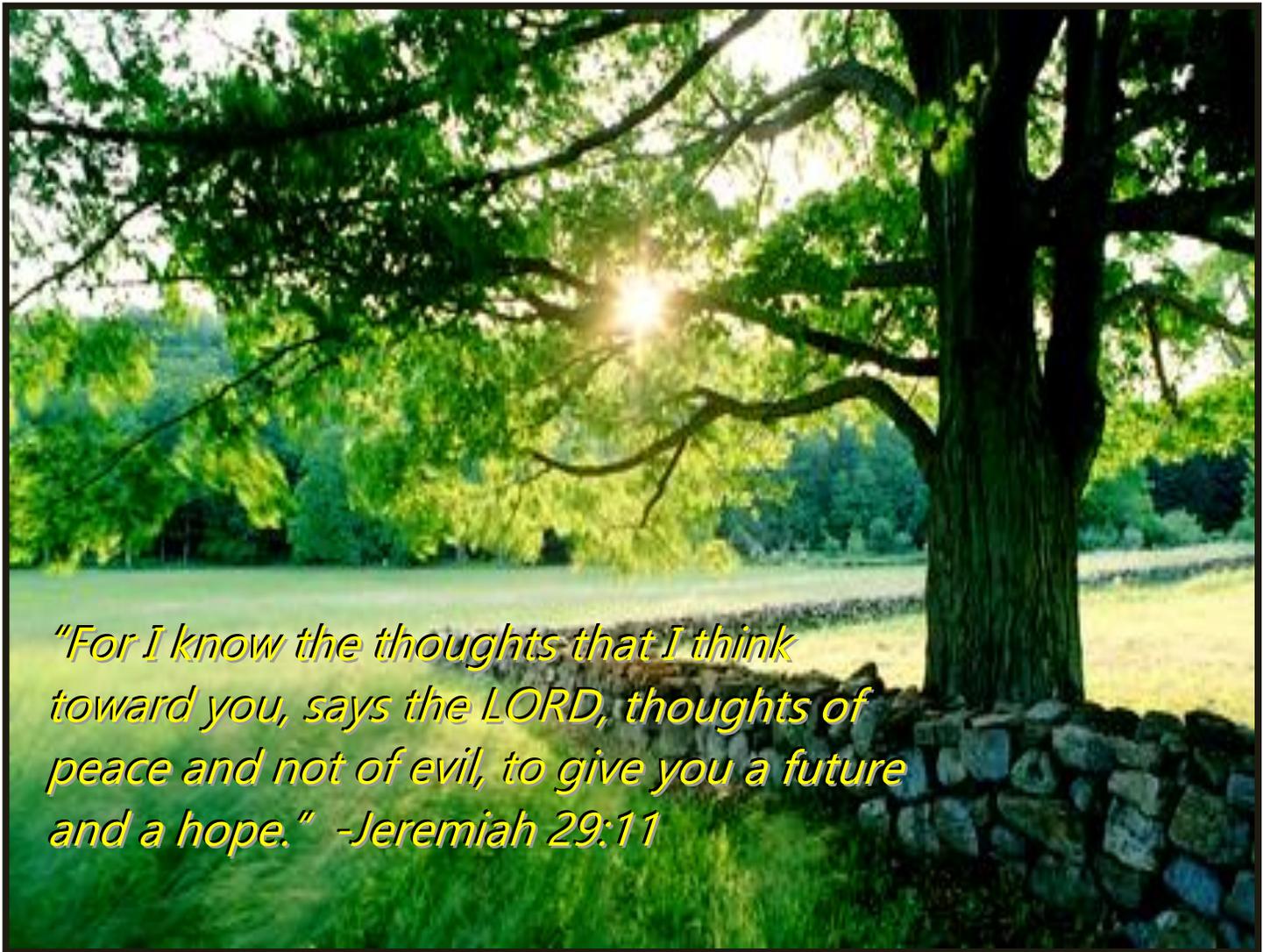


THE OAK LANE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." -Jeremiah 29:11

THE AMBASSADOR
SUMMER 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Oak Lane Family,

June 2016

The higher temperatures are setting us into summertime motion; worshipping in the air-conditioned Campbell Room, beginning worship at 10 A.M. to evade the afternoon heat, and suspending some meetings to allow time away.

In June, I will be attending the The Engle Preaching Institute at Princeton Theological Seminary, followed by a week in Portland, Oregon for the PC(USA) General Assembly. I'll end the month with a week's vacation with my family in the Pacific Northwest.

July offers some new opportunities for learning and fellowship. Each Sunday following worship, all those interested are invited to brunch and a discussion about the national landscape of the Presbyterian church, religious trends, and thought-filled implications for the future. Each stand alone gathering will include a timely article to give us a conversational jumping off point.

I'll accompany Elisha, Daraja, and Seth to Indiana for the PC(USA) Youth Triennium in late July. Traveling by overnight coach bus, sleeping in a college dorm, and participating in the 4000+ youth gathering, I'm ironically expecting to be rejuvenated by this experience!

In August, I'll return to The Collegeville Institute in Collegeville Minnesota, for a week of writing and writing instruction. I'm confident time there will provide a time of rest and renewal.

The summer of 2016 at Oak Lane Presbyterian Church will lead us to a time of celebration of our 125th Anniversary in the fall months. Look for more information as plans develop and ideas bloom.

Wherever your summer travels take you; to the shore, to a family reunion, to your own backyard shade, know that the One who created the world and pronounced it good, also savored time to rest. May your summer be filled with awareness of God's goodness, and may restful rhythms attend your summer days.

-Judith Brackett

SCHEDULED EVENTS

- Sunday June 12th - Session Meeting - After Worship
- Saturday June 25th - **Line Dance Party** - 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM
- Sunday June 26th - **Annual Church Outing** - After Worship
- Monday June 27th - 30th - **Vacation Bible School** - 6:30 - 8:30 PM

*Please note: **OLPC 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.***

SUMMER SUNDAY'S IN JULY

Each Sunday following worship, all those interested are invited to brunch and a discussion. Using a current article or book excerpt, we will consider the national landscape of the Presbyterian church, religious trends, and thought-filled implications for the future. Begins on July 3rd. 11:15-12:30. Come to one or come every Sunday!

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS IN JULY!

A full menu of ways to gather in the kitchen and around the table. Come spend the afternoon [from 3:00 - 5:30](#), preparing summer soups and salads in the manse kitchen. Please share let Pastor Judith know if you have a recipe suggestion or would like to contribute ingredients. Gather [at 5:30](#) for a light dinner, prayer, and reading and discussion of scripture. The evening will conclude by 7:15. Stay all afternoon and evening or come and go as your time allows. Bring along your friends and neighbors. [July 6th](#), 13th, and 27th.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF OAK LANE NEWS

Join us for our next meeting:
Saturday June 18, 2016
@ 10:00 AM

*Presbyterian Women of Oak Lane
will serve dinner at Ronald McDonald House
at 100 East Erie Avenue on
Wednesday June 22nd at 6:00 PM.*



We will meet there and preparation will begin at 4:00 PM. We are asked to bring salad, main entrée, side dishes of starch and vegetables for up to forty (40) people. Casseroles are acceptable. Beverages and condiments are provided. If you are willing to participate, please let Bernice or Marilyn know what you will contribute so that we can provide a balanced meal. We will meet at the Erie House at 4:00. If, however, you would like a ride, please meet at the church at 3:00. **If you have been saving aluminum tabs, this is the time to bring them.**

There is one very important caution. If you, someone in your household, or someone you have been in close contact with, as much as ten days prior to the 22nd, has or had flu-like symptoms or a stomach virus at or during that time period, please excuse yourself from serving this year.

**Ronald McDonald House is one of the Missions of Presbyterian Women of Oak Lane.*

RISE UP!!!

A Unique Day Camp Experience Empowering Children By...

**Exploring Their African American Heritage*

**Cultivating Their Voice*

**Celebration Their Lives Through Art, Dance, Music,
Drama and Trips*

June 27, 2016 - August 26, 2016

Children Ages 5 - 13

8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

\$135.00 per week (includes before and after care)

***CCIS accepted**

Discount: \$125.00 if you register by June 1, 2016

For more information call

Harriett Atkerson 215-888-9018 after 2:00 PM

Oak Lane Presbyterian Church

6637 N. Eleventh Street

Philadelphia, PA 19126

Rev. Judith Brackett, Pastor

**OLPC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
wants you to join us this summer for...**



**STORYTELLING ARTS & CRAFTS
MUSIC BIBLE STORIES SNACKS**

**June 27, 2016 - July 1, 2016
Time: 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Ages: 3 - 13**

**Oak Lane Presbyterian Church
6637 North Eleventh Street
Philadelphia, PA 19126
215-424-4446**

Annual Church Outing



On Sunday June 26, 2016 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.)

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session met on Sunday, May 15, and the following are highlights of the discussion:

- Decided to move worship to 10 AM for the summer beginning on July 3.
- Heard a presentation on the new financial report format and how to use it by Rev. Shawn Hyska who has been doing wonderful work helping to clarify our financial accounting system. The format combines the former profit and loss statement with the Treasurer's Report
- Decided to move the July celebration of Holy Communion to July 10 and September celebration to September 11 to avoid having them on holiday weekends.
- Designated Sunday, May 29, as Education Recognition Sunday to recognize/honor people who have reached some educational milestone this Spring
- Passed a motion to call a Congregational Meeting on June 5 to consider the use of funds remaining in the Raise the Roof Campaign.
- Began exploring a communication system to replace Phone Tree so that the system can be programmed remotely. Presently the Phone Tree system is not working..
- After much discussion, Session chose the date of Friday, June 10th to consider summer camp enrollment and financial feasibility. Several suggestions were made to further advertise and spread the word to better ensure enrollees.

DEACONS DOINGS

JUNE

The Deacon's will be taking Father's Day cards to Marwood on 6-12-16 for all the residents who are fathers at Marwood. The Deacons will next meet on Saturday September 10th for a full envisioning retreat.

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. As of the end of May **we raised \$930.00!** 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!

Up Coming events:

- **Parlour Jazz concert series-Wednesdays** - July 13th , August 10th & September 14th ***Cost** : \$15.00
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM, Open Mike 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM
- **Ice Cream Sundae Sunday**-August 14-after church-Cost \$4.00

-The Fundraising Committee

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION NEWS

A task force has formed to plan the 125th Anniversary Celebration of OLPC. You are welcome to participate in developing these plans. Contact Cathy Smith or Gerry Shambaugh. Tentatively mark your calendar for the weekend of October 15 for some celebrations. Also, if you have any pictures of church activities or historical material please consider contributing them for possible inclusion in a display that we hope to develop.

BOY SCOUT NEWS



Boy Scout Troop 19 has had an eventful year here at OLPC. The last meeting before summer break will be **June 17th**. Our **summer camp** will be from **June 26th to July 2nd**. We will **resume meeting** on Saturdays in fall on **September 17th**.

SUMMER LINE DANCE PARTIES

Come and work out a sweat this summer 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 scheduled Line Dance parties will be on June 25th , July 23rd and August 27th



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



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!



MEMBERS NEWS

OLPC CELEBRATES MEMBERS EDUCATIONAL MILESTONES

Leia Carey and Quinn Bowie, grandchildren of Sonia woods, are starting new adventures this summer.

May 28th was Leia's graduation from Bard College, where Leia earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology. Interested in Public Health, Leia's senior project focused on obesity. Her project facilitated scientifically increasing the weight of her subject (a goldfish) to observe changes in its behavior.

Leia will spend the next few months preparing for graduate school.

In June Quinn will travel on a mission to Cuzco, Peru for three weeks. His mornings will be spent volunteering at Clinica San Juan de Dios with handicapped children whose parents are not able to care for them. His afternoons will be spent learning Spanish. The last 4 days will feature a fun but arduous hike of the Incan Trail to Machu Picchu.

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Mable Windham	7/1	Jayminn DeShields	7/23
Bill Myers	7/4	Gerald Shambaugh	7/24
Edmund Plummer	7/9	Deborah Robinson	7/25
Dillon Roberts	7/9	Justin Haughton	7/28
Malaya J. Walls	7/10	Miriam Baker	7/29
Satchel Bacon	7/12		
Martha Barron	7/17	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
Noni Houston	7/18	Dameon & Melody Wright	7/22
Barbara Mims	7/19		

Birthdays

Alana Atterbury	8/2	Lee Datts, Jr.	8/22
Aaron Weston	8/2	Nina Guy	8/24
Morris King, Jr.	8/4	Thomas Whitehead	8/26
Lenora Mitchell	8/5	Brian Mims	8/27
Kara Cephas	8/13	Morris King	8/27
John Magill	8/13	Andrea Gathers	8/27
Theresa Purnell	8/14	Dameon Wright	8/28
Adam Morrow	8/15	Beverley Lucas-King	8/30
Jay Morrow	8/15	Anniversaries	
Marilyn Gathers	8/18	Harvey & Latricia Bunch	8/7

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	<u>Anniversaries</u>	
KeyShawn Ancrum	9/13	Roland & Priscilla Chandler	9/4
Alecia Cook	9/14	Alonzo & Marliese Johnson	9/6
Constance (Haynes) Hutter	9/17	Alexis & Martha Barron	9/10
Catherine Odom	9/17	Joseph & Harriett Atkerson	9/15
Joseph Atkerson	9/18	Bill & Gretchen Myers	9/16
Kyle Cephas	9/20	Charles & Linda Jefferson	9/19
		Terrine & Lee Datts	9/20

THE AMBASSADOR

Ambassador articles keep our church family informed of the many activities going on at Oak Lane Presbyterian Church. 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 September 2016 Ambassador is
Monday August 15, 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/).

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

COVENANT OF PRAYER

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE FAMILIES IN JUNE/JULY/AUGUST

- 1.....Roland & Priscilla Chandler & Family
- 2..... Joan Clerk & Family
- 3..... Diane Cook & Family
- 4..... Terrine & Lee Datts & Family
- 5..... Jayminn Sanford- & Gary DeShields & Family
- 6..... Daraja DeShields & Family
- 7..... Klalim Dickerson & Family
- 8..... Linda Ellerson & Richard Wayns & Family
- 9..... Caroline Freedman & Family
- 10..... Stafford & Nicole Freeman & Family
- 11..... Lynette Townsend & Family
- 12..... Veronica Gant & Family
- 13..... John Marilyn Gathers & Family
- 14..... Helen Guy & Family
- 15..... Stacey Smith & Omar Hales & Family
- 16..... Helen Hampton & Family
- 17..... Lindette & Bashir Hassan & Family
- 18..... Lauren Haughton & Family
- 19..... John & Myra Houston & Family
- 20..... William Howard & Family
- 21..... Andrew & Constance Hutter & Family
- 22..... Malik Jackson & Family
- 23..... Walter Jackson & Family
- 24..... Meredith King & Family
- 25..... Beverley Lucas- & Morris King & Family
- 26..... Melanie & Keith Lambert & Family
- 27..... John Madden & Family
- 28..... John & Lorraine Magill & Family
- 29..... Joseph Manson & Family
- 30..... Doris Merz & Family
- 31..... Barbara Mims & 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