



OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News from the Crossroads

April 2017

Overbrook Presbyterian Church is a welcoming and diverse Christian community that seeks actively to love and serve God, each other, and the world.

—Mission Statement

Overbrook Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Andrew H. Mann, Jr.

Interim Minister

Rev. David K. McMillan

Pastor Emeritus

Dennis Elwell

Minister of Music

Sharon Parker

Director of Christian Education

Margene Biedermann

Junior Choir Director

Lisa Faso

Office Manager

Earlene Ford

Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins

Church Custodian



Church Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

A Big Welcome



There are big things happening on the horizon here at "The Crossroads". On the weekend of March 11th the Pastor Nominating Committee announced their candidates for the next upcoming pastors of OPC. The congregation was introduced to Bruce and Carolyn Gillette during a friendly meet and greet luncheon. On March 12th, the Gillette's preached from the pulpit and immediately following worship a congregational meeting was held where Bruce and Carolyn Gillette were accepted into the call of co-pastors here at OPC.

The Gillette's come to us with twenty-two years experience as co-pastors in long-term pastorates. Bruce and Carolyn met at Princeton Theological Seminary and married in 1984 and have three children, John, Catherine and Sarah. They are prolific authors and co-authors of resources for pastoral ministry. They are passionate about preaching, mission, social justice and being Presbyterian.

Carolyn is a widely acclaimed writer of over 300 hymns sung by thousand of congregations and promote by many denominations and ecumenical groups. Her hymns are included in some 18 books, including our own current PCUSA hymnal, *Glory to God*. She also has made several mission trips to Honduras, Haiti and Kentucky. She has her BA, Religion, Lebanon Valley College and her MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Bruce has helped to start, organize and serve with several community groups; Habitat for Humanity, (Sussex County, NJ chapter); Family Promise in North-er New Castle County De, ministry with homeless families; Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence (current Vice-President); Delaware Interfaith Power and Light (against global warming) and Kairos Prison Ministry in Delaware. He also serves as the current President of the Board of Directors for the Interfaith Resources Center in Wilmington. Bruce has his BA, History & Political Science from Farleigh Dickinson University and his MDiv, Senior Concentration in Christian Education; Master of Theology in Systematic Theology from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Bruce and Carolyn will begin their role of co-pastors here at OPC on April 24th.

OPC is very excited to begin this new chapter and are looking forwarding to beginning this journey with Bruce and Carolyn Gillette.



Letter from the New Pastors

The second weekend in March was an answer to our prayers. As we met the wonderful people of Overbrook Church, as we preached and led worship on Sunday, March 12, and as we waited in the pastor's office during the congregational meeting that weekend, we did a lot of praying. Our prayers were answered when the congregation voted to call us as co-pastors. We look forward to beginning our service with you on April 24.

We encourage you to continue praying during this time of transition. Please offer a prayer of thanks for the dedicated work of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Please pray for Drew as he finishes his fine work as Interim Pastor in the next few weeks. Please pray for Sharon as she completes her wonderful service in the area of Christian Education, helps us to learn about the educational programs at the church, and enjoys a welcome retirement. We, as your new pastors, ask for your prayers as we say good-bye to friends in Delaware, sell a house, buy a house, and begin our work at the "Church at the Crossroads." Please pray for people who will be coming to the church for the first time during the Lenten and Easter seasons. There are many reasons to pray for our friends, our communities, our nation and our world.

Lent is a time when we are reminded how much we depend on God. We need God's love and care in our lives. We need God's gift of Jesus who brought us forgiveness and new life. We need God's Spirit to guide us in all that we do. Please join us in prayer in this special, holy and hope-filled season. God bless you and your loved ones in your journeys of faith.

Grace and Peace,
Bruce and Carolyn Gillette

Sundays in April

April 2, 2017
Communion
1st Sunday in Lent
Preaching: Dr. Mann
Lay Leader: Stephanie Kindt



April 9, 2017
2nd Sunday in Lent
Preaching: Dr. Mann
Lay Leader: Will Schick



April 16, 2017
3rd Sunday in Lent
Preaching: Dr. Mann
Lay Leader: Keedra Carroll



April 23, 2017
4th Sunday in Lent
Preaching: Dr. Mann
Lay Leader: Bob Harden, Jr.



April 30, 2017
4th Sunday in Lent
Preaching: Bruce and Carolyn Gillette
Lay Leader: Andrea Knight



April 9th- Palm Sunday

April 13th , 7:00 PM: Maundy Thursday Tenebrae
Service/ Communion

April 14th, 12:00PM Good Friday Worship

April 16th - Resurrection Day Worship

All are welcome to join us for the
Lenten Worship Services.

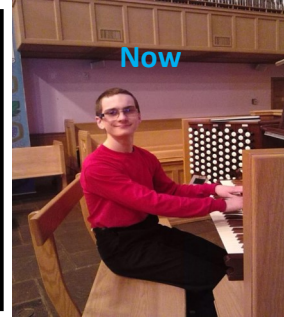
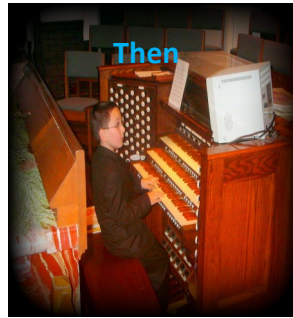
Worship & Music

Music Series, 2016-2017

On Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. the three adult singing choirs from Ardmore Presbyterian Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and Overbrook Presbyterian Church, will join together again with orchestra at Ardmore Presbyterian Church to present Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's, *Solemn Vespers*, and the *Requiem*, Opus 9, of Maurice Duruflé. Members, relatives, and friends of the three congregations are invited and welcomed to enjoy this free musical opportunity. A free-will offering will be received to support the Music Programs of each church. Parking is available directly across the street from Ardmore Presbyterian Church on Montgomery Avenue in Ardmore.

Sunday, April 30, 2017 – 3:00 p.m.

Organist, Aaron Patterson in Recital on
The Clarence H. Geist Memorial Moller Organ
In the Overbrook Church Sanctuary.



Many at Overbrook Church will remember when a small eight old young boy sat at the Clarence H Geist Memorial Moller Organ, and played a prelude before worship. Then off he would go to join other young people in the Overbrook Church Sunday School. That was nine years ago. And, from time to time he returned to play preludes here at Overbrook Church before he began his first professional organist position at another church, when he was twelve years old.

Aaron Patterson is seventeen years old now, and has continued studying organ with Dennis Elwell. Additionally, he has studied piano at Settlement Music School of Philadelphia, with Dolly Krasnopolsky, where he is the recipient of the Rose and Louis Kittner and Sounds of Philadelphia Scholarship. Aaron was the winner of the first prize in the 2016 West Chester International Organ Competition, the Philadelphia AGO Chapter 2015 Quimby Competition for Young Organists prize, and second prize in the high school division of 2015 Albert Schweitzer Competition in Connecticut. For the last three summers, he has been honored to be a recipient of the Samson Foundation Grant, which allowed him to attend the Philadelphia Young Artist Organ Camp at Macy's and Longwood Gardens. In 2014, Aaron was awarded the Vernon de Tar scholarship for summer organ study. From 2012 to 2014, he was the organist/choir director at All Saints Episcopal Church in Rhawnhurst, and is currently organist/choir director at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Lawncrest. Aaron has performed for the Academy of Music Anniversary Galas in 2013 and 2014, at the Philadelphia Festival of the Arts, and at Kimmel Organ Days in Verizon Hall in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. He has participated in master classes with Leon Bates and Marcantonio Barone on piano, and Michel Bouvard, as well as others on organ. He has also had organ lessons with Alan Morrison, Matthew Glandorf, Nathan Laube, Peter Richard Conte, David Higgs, and Christopher Gage. In his spare time, Aaron enjoys model railroading, hiking, and carpentry.

All are invited and welcomed to hear this future star of the organ professional in a free recital opportunity as he plays repertoire of Marcel Dupré, Walter Pelz, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Louis Vierne.

Opportunities for Volunteerism!

VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

A few good angels are needed! Please consider becoming a "Chancel Cherubim" or "Sanctuary Seraphim," and help to tidy the pews between weekly worship services. Willing workers will check pew racks, replace hymnals, and have the opportunity to discover great works of art left behind by our young, and sometimes older, worshipers. This would be a wonderful team effort...either immediately following worship, or during the quiet of a weekday morning. Please see Nickie Stokes; your assistance will be deeply appreciated.

Congregational Life

Coffee Hour

April 2 Lainie Blodgett, Leah Mayne, Judy Williamson
April 9 TBA
April 16 TBA
April 23 Congregational Life Committee
April 30 Gail Kaercher, Joan Moylan, Ginny Leagans



A Celebration of the
Interim Ministry of
Rev. Dr. Drew Mann

All are invited to a special luncheon reception in honor of Pastor Drew, on April 23, in the Wistar Morris Room. Please plan to stay following worship to share appreciation and well wishes. Helping hands are warmly welcome...to assist this luncheon, please contact Raelyn Harman, (raelynKay@aol.com).

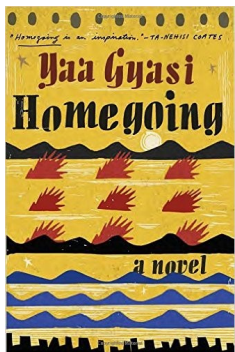


Everyone is welcome to attend the installation of Bruce and Carolyn Gillette as co-pastors of Overbrook Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 28th at 4:00pm. A light reception will follow.

OPC Book Club

April's Selection:

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi



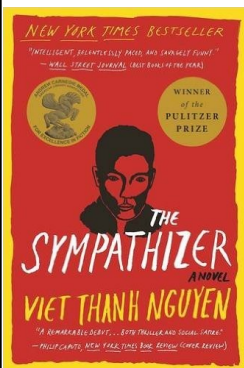
Starting in the mid-1700s and reaching to the present day, this story moves back and forth between descendants of two half-sisters born in Ghana: One is sold into slavery and sent to America, the other marries a British governor and stays behind. A novel of breathtaking sweep and emotional power that traces three hundred years in Ghana and along the way becomes a truly great American novel.

This month's book club will be held at Emily Amerman/Jim Vagnoni's House at 403 Kent Road, Bala Cynwyd at 7:30pm on Wednesday, April 19th. You can RSVP to Emily at (eala@comcast.net)

All are welcome to join us in reading and talking about this book.

Urban/Suburban Book Club

April's Selection: *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen



This month's book club will be held at Overbrook Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, April 18th at 7:30pm.

This is a book club of diverse membership involving members of several Presbyterian churches, including Overbrook. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Alyce Marsh at 215-472-7886. The Book Club does not meet in July or August

Christian Education

OPC Junior Youth Bowling:

April 2, 2:30-4:30 PM, Wynnewood Lanes

All OPC children in grades 1-5, and their parents, are invited to go bowling in April! Come and enjoy the fellowship, bowling, and pizza...\$5.00 per person. Sign-up in advance in the Wistar Morris Room following worship or by emailing sparker614@gmail.com.



During the month of April, Sunday School will be in session on April 9, 23, and 30. All are welcome in worship on April 2 and Easter Sunday, April 16.

April Adult Forum: "Extending a Warm Welcome: Preparing for Change in the Church"

Please join us in April as we celebrate a season of newness and welcome at Overbrook. Our Interim Pastor, Dr. Drew Mann will lead Adult Forum on April 2 and April 9, as we anticipate the arrival of our new clergy...and a new day at Overbrook. Dr. Mann will share his wealth of experience during times of pastoral transition and assist us as we prepare a wide and warm welcome to Pastors Bruce and Carolyn Gillette.

Adult Forum will not be in Session on Easter Sunday, April 16. Members of the Christian Education Committee will lead our concluding discussion of the month on April 23. Adult Forum meets in the Chapel, Sunday morning from 9:15-10:15. Coffee and morning snacks will be served.

It's time to start planning for Vacation Bible School!

Children, Pre-K through Grade 5, are invited to join the fun, fellowship, and Bible adventures...Sunday, July 30-Thursday, August 3, 5:30-7:30 PM. Friends and neighbors are warmly welcome!

With the announcement of VBS, also comes the recruiting of a team of very special adult leaders! If you have a calling to work with young learners, a great sense of humor, and a spirit of adventure, please consider joining this year's VBS Team! Volunteers may sign up in the Wistar Morris Room, or through Sign-Up Genius.



The Children's Easter Festival will be held April 16th, immediately following worship, on the lawn (weather permitting) following worship on Easter Sunday, April 16. Children from Pre-K through Grade 5 will receive "Alleluia" gift bags filled with Easter goodies and participate in special activities on the lawn. In the event of inclement weather, the festivities will take place in Fellowship Hall. All young visitors are welcome, as well.



All OPC Youth, Grades 6-12, are invited to participate in this year's OPC Youth Mission Trip. This summer's trip will take us on an urban ministry journey through the diverse neighborhoods of Philadelphia. Under the leadership of Center for Student Missions, our OPC Youth Team will serve in mission from Sunday afternoon, August 6 to Saturday morning, August 12. All are invited to preview the trip by visiting the CSM website. (www.csm.org)

The cost of the trip is \$68.00 per person, per night. The Christian Education Committee will contribute \$100.00 per student to help defray the participation cost. We hold the belief that every student wishing to participate, should be able to do so. To discuss further avenues of financial support please contact Sharon Parker, or Deacon Moderator, Mike Rottinger.

Help Wanted: Several study adults with clearances to chaperone for a week, or split the chaperoning time. Great memories are promised!

Mission & Outreach



SPECIAL OFFERINGS ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

“Overflowing Generosity” - One Great Hour of Sharing 2017

This year OPC Mission and Outreach Committee has chosen to focus our One Great Hour of Sharing on clean drinking water for people in Flint, Michigan and communities in Ghana, Africa. On April 22nd, OPC worked to “Feed My Starving Children”. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, we will provide water for thirsty children.

Through our “overflowing generosity” we can provide clean drinking water to a community in the following ways:

Garden Well (\$50 a share or \$1500) – provides water for drinking, washing, bathing and irrigation

Sand Dam (\$500) – provides safe drinking water for an entire community

Rainwater Catchment system (\$75) – provides usable water for washing and irrigation

Water filter (\$50) – Flint Michigan – provide families with safe drinking water and keep 300 bottles out of landfills

Jerry cans (\$20) – 10 cans provide a families with an easier method of transporting water to their homes

Look for more information about the people in need of clean water, and when the time comes, give with overflowing generosity.

The Women's Dining Circle is gearing up to FUN raise. Taking into account how generous the congregation has been to various church activities yet wanting to maintain our connections through WDC, our next event will be on April 7 to FUN raise. Instead of a financial contribution to one of our many worthy causes, we are asking that you bring an hors d'oeuvre or a bottle of wine to the home of Jane Rozmiarek, 6491 Drexel Road, Overbrook Farms. Festivities begin at 6:30.



Another show, another theatre season with NCT and ‘Once Upon A Mattress’, a musical comedy with an adult version of a fairy tale of the ‘Princess and a Pea’. This theatre concession run made over \$500.00 and we have to thank our following talented concessionaires: Jane and Carol Rozmariak, Judy and Dick Williamson, Edelene Carroll, Suchita Fiorillo, Nancy Gilhool, Sue Brastow, Laine Blodgett, Bob, Peggy and Gail Kaercher, Jill VanRawley, Kadie Whalen, Ginny Leagans, Maryanne Leagans, Sabrina Johnson and mother, Natalie, Sue and Bob DeCray, Nickie Stokes, Charlotte Carpenter, Susie Brandt, Jane Krumrine, Danielle Long and daughters, Kendi and Ayana, and Jim and Emily Vagnoni.

Also, thank you to everyone who bought tickets to the benefit showing of *Once Upon a Mattress*. The church grossed \$1,860 in ticket sales and another \$550 in concession sales. Let’s not forget everyone who helped with ticket sales, publicity set-up, food prep and clean-up. What a team we are!

Don’t worry if you did not have the chance to volunteer this show, we will be looking for concession staffers for the next NCT’s production of “Don’t Dress for Dinner” (comedy) to run from May 5-14th. Hope your schedule will be open to volunteer.

-With warm appreciation, Janet Bowker and Trudy Sheau

Mission & Outreach



It's almost time! By this time the next month you will still be in shock at what an amazing experience it was to volunteer your time, pray over the meals, donate your money to such a worthy cause, and spread the good word about the work of Feed My Starving Children. The volunteer sign-up is on the FMSC website. Visit it today at <https://goo.gl/syL7rJ> and get your team signed up to pack. If you need assistance in signing up please contact one of the FMSC's committee members or the church office.

Also, it's not too late to make a donation, either, and no amount is too small. Remember, 22 cents pays for one meal...

We are grateful for your ongoing support and are really excited for the MobilePack on April 22nd.

-Becky Lazo, Janet Bowker, & Jim Vagnoni

Interested in a Trip to Thailand?

Since our friends from the Overbrook Hospital in Thailand visited last year, there has been interest simmering within the congregation to make a trip to Thailand to pay a visit.

The next step is a video conference as an introduction and to start working on details. If you are interested in such a trip, please come participate in the conference call on Monday, April 10 in the McMillan Chapel at 8:00pm. We hope to connect with one of our contacts Rev. Sirarat Pusurinkham over Skype.

Rev. Sirarat Pusurinkham and her congregation has a strong history of work with Thai women and children. Rev. Pusurinkham has offered to connect us with opportunities to work with orphans of HIV victims, with women who are working as entrepreneurs, and with the hospital.

So if you have an interest in mission or have questions, feel free to stop by the Chapel on April 10th to learn more about this exciting opportunity.

Deacons



4/02-Benjamin Bryant	4/13-Artia Benjamin
Maya Stricker	4/16-Sue Brastow
4/03-Vimala D. Johnson	Ellen Burr
4/05-Jason Duckworth	Ariel Roger
Annabelle VanRawley	4/19-Kenneth Carroll
4/07-Alan Sigler	4/21-Marielle Young
Lucy Duckworth	Andrea Knight
4/09-Vince Gilhool	4/22-Lois Randall
Bethany Bryant	Richard Owens
4/10-Janine Miller	4/24-Amanda Duckworth
Hayford Baidoo	4/25-Victor Fiorillo
Maya Subramanian	4/27-Andy Kaercher
4/11-Sophie N'dow	4/30-Dante Gattone
Madison Harden	David McMillan
	Constance Moran

Prayer List

- Becky Lazo and family
- Mary Vandenberg's family
- Lavinia (Binnie) Savage's family
- Elizabeth Cosgriff's sister, Lisa

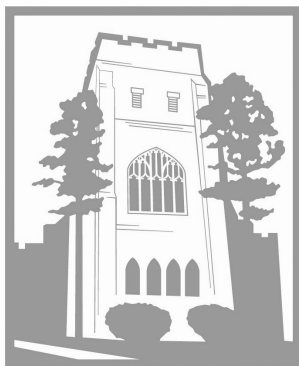
Please contact one of our Deacons to add names or concerns to this list. We can be reached by email from the church website, by leaving a message in the Church Office, or by speaking with one of the Deacons in person.



-“I cannot say thank you enough to everyone for the cards, calls, outreach and abundant prayers for my family. Though we will feel the loss for a long, long time, we are grateful that my dad is no longer suffering. And while my mom and I both knew that we had amazing church families, we are feeling extra blessed these days to know loved we are”. Thank you -Becky Lazo

-Mary Vandenberg's memorial service will be here on April 8th at 10:00am. David McMillan and Drew Mann will be officiating. A light reception will follow.

News from the Crossroads



Overbrook Presbyterian Church

6376 City Avenue ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-877-2744 ♦ office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

Community

OVERBROOK FARMS HOUSE TOUR & TEA - MAY 7

Tour Historic Homes Designed by Stellar Architects



**OVERBROOK
FARMS**

HOUSE TOUR & TEA

Philadelphia, PA, DATE — The Overbrook Farms Club invites you to attend its annual **House Tour & Tea on Sunday, May 7, from 1 p.m. – 5p.m.** Overbrook Farms is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and was founded in 1892 as the first planned community along the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The grand homes of Overbrook Farms were designed by leading architects of the time for some of the city's most successful industrialists and politicians.

Tickets are available now at www.overbrookfarmsclub.org. Early bird tickets are available for \$25 until April 1. After that, tickets purchased in advance are \$30 and are \$35 on the day of the tour. The tour ticket includes afternoon tea service. Participants can take a break from touring and enjoy tea at Ivy Hall, a splendid 1904 mansion designed by Charles Barton Keen that boasts an ornately appointed ballroom wing.

Each year, there are first-time featured homes, and others which may highlight the décor of new homeowners. There is also a category showcasing the renovation “works in progress.” This year, the tour begins at what was the model home next to the Overbrook train station.

Tour “regulars” are charmed by the neighborhood’s grand and varied architectural history, visible in the 413 structures that remain since the community’s founding. The homes of Overbrook Farms include a wide variety of styles. The eclectic designs of noted architects Charles Barton Keen, Westray Ladd, Walter H. Thomas, Walter F. Price, Horace Trumbauer, Chester Kirk, William L. Price, David Knickerbocker and Lawrence Visher Boyd, Joseph W. Houston, Angus Wade, Yarnell & Goforth, and others are apparent throughout the community. Overbrook Farms has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since March 21, 1985.