

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News from the Crossroads

July 2019

Letter from our Pastor

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

Adam Hearlson
Designated Pastor

Rev. David K. McMillan
Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Christopher Gage
Director of Music

Sharon Parker
*Director of Christian Education
& Administration*

Lisa Faso
Office Manager

Carol Rozmiarek
Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins
Church Custodian

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Fridays thru Labor Day
9:00AM to 12:00 PM

Inside This Issue:

- Worship/Music 2
- Christian Education 3
- Congregational Life 3
- Property Committee.....4
- Mission & Outreach5
- Stewardship.....6
- Deacons 7
- Calendar Back Cover

Last week, our partners at the Philadelphia Food Trust held a Night Market event in our Overbrook neighborhood. Night Market is an outdoor street food festival. Hundreds of our West Philadelphia neighbors turned out and (across from the taco truck and next to the Beer tent) OPC handed out cookies and offered everyone mediocre church coffee. Members of OPC shook hands, shared stories, and offered food to our neighbors. We were the only church who showed up to the event. I was proud to be there representing this community.

Three days later, an almost entirely different group of people joined our Jewish neighbors at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El for their “Hava Nagrilla” kosher barbecue event. Together among our orthodox, conservative and reformed Jewish neighbors we ate smoked brisket, shook hands, shared stories, and were offered food from our neighbors. I even saw a church member take a ride on the mechanical bull. It was beautiful.

When I think about the work of the church in the 21st century, I am increasingly convinced that it involves faithful partnerships. Gone are the days when a church could exist independent of its neighbors. Today, given the acute needs of our neighborhood and the distressing realities of our world, we need each other. We need our neighbors at Lancaster and 61st and we need our neighbors at the temple at Lancaster and Remington. Christ’s instruction to love our neighbors is not only for our neighbors sake, it is also for our sake. Loving our neighbors clarifies our mission. Spending time among friends-- caring for them, supporting them and loving them-- gives shape to the call God has placed in our community. By loving our neighbors we learn where God is calling us in the world.

Not surprisingly, these burgeoning partnerships started over food. Turns out the world likes food as much as OPC. I pray that our future holds many more meals with our friends.

Adam



Upcoming Worship Services

July 7, 2019

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary: -2Kings 5:1-14

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Sharon Parker

July 21, 2019

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary: Luke 10:38-42

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Kevin Davis

July 14, 2019

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary: Luke 10:25-37

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Lainie Blodgett

July 28, 2019

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary: Luke 11:1-13

Preaching: Megan LeCluyse

Lay Leader: Margene Biedermann



Session News

It has been a few months since the last report on the Session, but since we will not be meeting in July, this seemed an appropriate time to bring things up to date.

We went through yet another transition, saying farewell to our Bridge Pastor, the Rev. Raymond Bonwell, and welcoming our Designated Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson. Adam has shared with us an overview of his personal, Session and Church goals for the rest of this year and for next year, and we are very excited. There are plans for Christian Education, plans for Worship, and plans for a new web site—stay tuned as the details are filled in and things begin to happen. Adam is also working to foster relations with the Jewish community in our area. Adam was formally installed in a wonderful service held during morning worship on June 2.

Our 2019 finances got off to a slow start, but in April, thanks to Palm Sunday, Easter, and the payment of several significant pledges, the situation improved and we are now in a better position. However, anticipated work on the building, including probable replacement of leaky roofs on the Education building and office area, may require use of Endowment funds. On the positive side, the City Avenue door has at long last been replaced and is in use. Our renewed contract with the Narberth Community Theatre has been approved by Session and has gone to Presbytery for its approval.

The Time & Talent Fair, held in April by the Stewardship Committee, was a success, and the results are still being evaluated. The 2019 Nominating Committee, chaired by Raelyn Harman, with Larry McGhee as vice-chair, is beginning its work, and all the other committees of Session are making plans for the remainder of the year.

Session will be back to work in August, looking forward to a productive year to come.

Sara Davis, Clerk of Session

From the Director of Music

The official choir season may be over, but music is still going strong here at Overbrook! This summer, we will enjoy the gifts of our three section leaders: Iris Fairfax, Toffer Mihalka, and Matthew Lulofs. But that's not all that we have in store! Have you ever wanted to sing in the choir but have never actually tried it out? Or perhaps you can't make rehearsals all year round but you're free on a Sunday morning in the summer. I'm happy to announce that the **Summer Pickup Choir** will sing in worship on **Sunday, July 28** and **August 25**. No prior rehearsal or experience necessary—just come to the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. We will learn some easy but excellent music to sing during the service. You might remember the success of this event last year; let's make it even better this time around!

Christopher Gage, Director of Music

Christian Education



OPC's 2019 Vacation Bible School will be held from July 28-August 1, from 5:30-7:30 each evening. This year's theme is *Bible Super Heroes*. We'll become caped crusaders as we plunge into the Bible to learn

stories of great adventure and meet courageous people. Our program will include Bible lessons, arts and crafts, science activities, and music. Vacation Bible School is a ministry of the Christian Education Committee...there is no charge to participate. The program is designed for children in Pre-school through Grade 5. All are welcome. (Volunteers are needed. Come join the team...a cape is waiting for you!)

OPC Youth in Mission and Ministry



During worship on July 7, we will celebrate the commissioning of 10 youth who will be representing OPC in mission and ministry. This year's Mission Team includes Everett Whalen, Nora Whalen, Jeremy Sheau, Hannah Lazo, Liam Clifford, Aria Fiorillo, and Zubin Fiorillo. Adult leaders include: Jason Sheau, Trudy

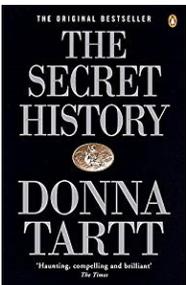
Sheau, Suchita Fiorillo and Deb Rottinger. Following the commissioning service, Mission Team members will leave for a week of service in western Pennsylvania. While serving rural communities on Blue Knob Mountain, our youth will be staying at Penn State's Altoona campus. Photos of our youth in action will be posted daily on the OPC community Facebook page. Please follow their adventures in mission and remember our team in prayer.

On July 16, three of our older youth, Zack Wong, Tarah Paul, and Kayla Davis, will represent OPC as members of the Philadelphia Presbytery's delegation to the PC-USA Triennium at Purdue University in Indiana. There they will join thousands of youth from throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Mexico in worship, fellowship, shared learning, and visioning. This event is designed to inspire the next generation of church leaders. Photos of the Philadelphia Presbytery delegation will be posted on the Presbytery's website.

These enriching adventures for our youth have been made possible through the generosity of the members of Overbrook. Gratitude is particularly extended to the Christian Education and Mission and Outreach Committees, the Women's Dining Circle, private donors, and to all who supported the Prayer Breakfast and Car Wash fundraising efforts. All are remembered in prayers of thanksgiving.

Congregational Life/Fellowship

Book Club at OPC



The OPC book club will meet Monday, July 1 at 7:30 p.m. at Jill Van Rawley's house, 212 Henley Rd., Wynnewood, starting at 7:30 pm. We will discuss *The Secret History*, by Donna Tartt.

Getting to know Pastor Adam

Come join us for informal table conversation on Thursday, July 18 at 6pm with Pastor Adam. Along with engaging conversation, there will be barbecue selections offered by the great (outdoor) chefs of Overbrook. As of this time, we don't know exactly who those chefs will be. If you would like to contribute your culinary talents(..and some burgers or hot dogs), please contact Sharon by July 12. Sign-ups will begin in the Wistar Morris Room on July 7.



Summer Coffee Hour Ministry



During the summer months we still carry on the OPC tradition of Coffee Hour but we change to Ice Tea/Lemonade Hour during the warmer weather. We are still in need of Coffee Hour Hosts for the following **Sundays: July 7 and August 4, 11, 18 and 25**. A sign up genius has been created please look for it on the community Facebook page and also in the weekly E-News.

Are you wondering which ministry you can get involved with at OPC that can fit into your schedule? Volunteering to host a coffee hour after worship is an ideal activity. Instructions for this easily accomplished ministry are available on the OPC web site. **All ages** can participate. Remember to **keep it simple**. There are always folks present to lend a hand. Coffee hour is a cherished tradition at OPC and hosts are heaped with gratitude by this congregation. For more information please contact Peggy Kaercher at 610-642-2906 or Pat Ogundele at 610-668-1309. Thank you.

Property Committee

STORMWATER ABATEMENT PROJECT

On July 8, Overbrook Presbyterian Church will begin a massive and exciting construction project to help the environment by rerouting stormwater runoff. Grant money has been obtained from Philadelphia Water Department for this project. After postponing the project last fall, we are finally ready to go.

The reason for this project is that in our section of Philadelphia, all the water that runs off parking lots and building roofs goes into the same sewers as what goes down the toilet and sink. When there is more than a little rain, the water can overflow the sewers into local streams that then flow into the rivers. This pollution, multiplied over thousands of properties, is an obvious environmental problem.

So, a big hole will be dug, lots of special rocks and drainage installed, and finally, paved back over, with some new manholes the only visible sign of the project.

OPC currently has to pay about \$600 per month for stormwater runoff. At least half of that charge will be mitigated by completion of this project.

We plan to install a Rain Garden in the front yard to man-

age additional stormwater. One requirement of the Philadelphia Water Department contract is that we will need to maintain the rain garden and the retention basin for the next 45 years. Instructions will be provided, and contractors can be hired if the work is too much for volunteers. Rachel Carnahan will begin this project, and live in faith that others will follow when she is no longer able.

Rachel and the Property Committee have been working to secure the grant and the contractor for this stormwater project for several years. We thank them for all their work. More information will be coming each week, including transportation details. If you have questions, email Rachel at: carnahanrachel@gmail.com

PARKING DURING JULY CONSTRUCTION

Most of the Lancaster Avenue parking lot will be closed during the Storm Water Abatement construction in July. Please do not let this prevent you from coming to church. We still will be worshipping.

You are urged to carpool with others from your neighborhood--see the sign up board in the Wistar Morris room--or park at the Overbrook train station and ride Shuttle Cars to the church, or just walk across the bridge. You can also park on nearby streets. You must leave extra time for parking: don't forget to leave home earlier than usual!

Spaces in the City Avenue Parking lot will be reserved for the handicapped and elderly. Please leave these spaces for those who truly need them. If you need a spot, and do not have a handicapped tag or license plate, please let Rachel Carnahan know, and our traffic monitors will not bother you!

If you are able to drive one of the Shuttle Cars either before or after church, please let Rachel Carnahan know: carnahanrachel@gmail.com



Life Center of Delaware County

The next Life Center meal will be served on **Tuesday, July 30, 2019** and we are proud to announce that it will be served with Earth-friendly plates and packaging. We will be using sturdy compostable plates to serve the meal. Gone are the single use plastic bags for the cookies, replaced by wax paper bags. We will also move from heavy plastic trash bags to compostable trash bags. We are working to reduce our impact on our planet. Thank you to Nancy Gilhool, for bringing this to our attention and identifying a solution.

If you would like to help prepare the Life Center meal, contact Nancy Gilhool. If you would like to help serve the meal, contact Janet Bowker.



Rebuilding Together

It was a beautiful day in the neighborhood, the weekend of June 8. Here are some of the highlights :

- ♦ There was **150** volunteers for both days!
- ♦ Homeowner **Ms. Vanessa Wallace-Tervalon** welcomed everyone in attendance and served as a spokesperson for the for the Robinson and Horton Street residents.
- ♦ **Vincent Hughes, Councilman Curtis Jones, State Representative Morgan Cephas** and other public officials shared their appreciation and met the homeowners that were helped.
- ♦ Volunteers completely installed a new kitchen ceiling for a homeowner!
- ♦ RTP's very own **Black Belt, Tony Gonzalez**, guided Saturday's volunteers through a brief warm up to get pumped up for the day – you had to be there!

Women's Dining Circle

On June 7th, a lovely Friday evening, over 30 women gathered at the home of Raelyn and Gopal Subramanian to enjoy a delicious meal together and to support OPC's Youth Mission trip and Women's Dining Circle. After hearing from Sharon Parker and Karen Wong about the upcoming trip to Blue Knob, Pa. the guests enjoyed the WDC special "salad" meal: poached salmon, grilled chicken, and Greek, potato, broccoli and quinoa salads with a trio of delicious desserts. The dinner raised \$1433 which will be matched by the Mission and Outreach committee, a hefty slice of the trip's budget. Many thanks to all who gave so generously and special kudos to the WDC committee (Jane and Carol Rozmiarek, Karen Wong, Liz Shah, Rachel Carnahan, Aimerie Scherluebbe, Sharon Parker) who make each and every WDC event a special one. We are on hiatus until the fall but will return in September ready to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Women's Dining Circle- Janet Bowker



By now, the memories of hairnets and scooping ingredients with 379 new friends may be fading in your memory, but the impact is still to come. On April 29, 379 gathered together in faith and kindness to pack 469 boxes containing 101,304 meals. Isn't that outstanding?? Between the Overbrook and Bonner communities, and some FMSC devotees, we raised almost \$22,000. Thank you. Once we find out where these meals are delivered, we will share that information with you. Until then, continue to pray for the children around the world without food (and don't be afraid to set aside a quarter a day to save for next year!). Many, many thanks to all of you. -The Care at the Crossroads Planning Team



TheVillage – Back to School Backpacks
We are collecting school supplies for theVillage (formerly the Presbyterian Children's Village). Children in foster care start behind their peers and we want them to be ready for the start of the school year. We have the backpacks and we need

your help to fill them. Pick up a backpack, during coffee hour and a list of school supplies to go in it. If you prefer, we will also take your cash donations and we will do the shopping for you. Look for the table, during coffee hour, starting Sunday, July 14 through August 4.

Please feel free to join us on **Sunday, July 28, 2019 at 12:00** in the Chapel for our next Mission and Outreach Committee meeting.

Aimerie Scherluebbe
Mission & Outreach



Stewardship



Save the Date! The Taste of Overbrook returns Saturday, October 19. The OPC community will gather once again to share special dishes from around the world and participate in the auction to raise money for the church programming. Please consider volunteering to help. Over the summer we will start lining up and collecting auction items. If you can donate or will help collect donations, send Will Schick a text at 301-928-8244. Let's make this another great Taste!"

Your Stewardship Committee



Communications



Visit OPC on Facebook! Friend us. Like us. Be sure to join the *Overbrook Presbyterian Church Community Facebook Page*. Tell your FB friends that you like us and invite them to visit and like us as well.

Hats Off to the Graduates:

—CLASS OF—
2019

- ♦ Mariana Lee Momboisse, Jan Lovely's granddaughter, graduated from Parsons School of Design with a BFA in Photography.
- ♦ Will Schick, Jr. graduated from Randolph-Macon College with a BA degree, Major-English.
- ♦ Kayla Davis graduated from Central High School.
- ♦ Dan Biedermann graduated from Harriton High School and will be attending Tyler School of Art at Temple University in the fall.
- ♦ Maya Mendoza graduated from Haverford High school and will be attending Marymount University in Arlington, VA in the fall.
- ♦ Adam Shah graduated from Lower Merion High School and will be attending Emory University in the fall.
- ♦ Spencer Shah graduated from Lower Merion High School and will be attending Rice University in the fall.
- ♦ Anna Taussig-Lux graduated from Penncrest High School and will be attending Lebanon Valley College in the fall.
- ♦ Pearl Stricker graduated from Lower Merion High School and will be attending Penn State in the fall.
- ♦ Austin Kaercher graduated from Haverford High School is attending Widener University honors program for Business Management with a minor in Sports Management in the fall.
- ♦ Bethany Atterbury Bryant graduated from Muhlenberg College with a B.A. in Theatre and English and is pursuing a career in theatre.
- ♦ Everett Whalen graduated from 8th grade at Bala Cynwyd Middle School. He will be going to Lower Merion High School in September.

Deacons

Happy July Birthdays

7/1	Bob Bevan	7/19	Nathalie May
	Jean Baker		Dornell Guthrie
7/4	Chuck Bryant	7/20	Pam Deas
	John Mason	7/21	Jerome Henry
	Wendy Wall		Calvin Marshall
7/6	Cita Revell		Peju Adebajo
7/7	Eric Marshall	7/22	Pam Smith
	Tom Tulba	7/23	Tom Wilson
	Madeline Cosgriff	7/24	Julianna Johnson
7/8	Phil Sheau	7/25	Holly Brigham
7/9	Peggy Boatwright		Ginny Duerr
	Paul Stricker		Winnie Carver
7/10	Gloria Justin	7/26	Carol Rozmiarek
	Stephanie Marshall	7/27	Jeff Swartz
	Theresa Carter		Kim Parris
7/12	Alexa Benjamin	7/29	Rodney Gundrum
7/13	Leah Mayne	7/30	Lynda Johnson
	Charita Young		Patrice Pompa
7/14	Mary Scott	7/31	Carol Tulba
7/16	Tarah Paul		Buck Scott
7/17	Kristin Jacobson		Nickie Stokes
7/18	Aria Fiorillo		

Prayer List.

- ◆ Sharon Parker will soon be undergoing spinal surgery.
- ◆ Prayers for the family and friends following the passing of Bette Ann Johnston. Family held a private burial.
- ◆ Estalene Ferrillo is recovering from a fall with the help of her daughter, Virginia Russell.
- ◆ Bruce Gillette has been diagnosed with acute leukemia.
- ◆ Sabrina Johnson's stepfather has suffered a stroke; it was caught early on, and he is now recovering.
- ◆ Ed Harvey is doing better but still is experiencing health concerns.
- ◆ Don Carver is continuing to recover at home, and Winnie has back pain. Winnie and Don appreciate visitors.
- ◆ Dornell Guthrie's little nephew Nathaniel is experiencing multiple health issues.
- ◆ Artia Benjamin's cousin, Dolores Harrison, continues to recover from a stroke.
- ◆ John Nathaniel continues to recover from a stroke.
- ◆ Ellen Burr is experiencing ongoing medical concerns.

*Please contact Mike Rottinger to add names or concerns to this list.
Mike can be reached by email, mike.rottinger@comcast.net.*

Congregational Picnic – Hooray and Thanks!

Good food, good company, good music and fun times! Thank you to picnic leaders Terri Hunter and Sabrina Johnson, all of the deacons who pitched in with food and muscle, all of our musicians, all of the friends who brought desserts and everyone else who was drafted to help. Our pastor contributed his strength and his singing!

Red Cross Blood Drive

An early reminder!

Take good care of your blood until Friday September 6th – this year's date for Overbrook's Red Cross Blood Drive! Signups will begin during the summer.

In Other News....

Where's Sharon

Dear Friends in Christ,

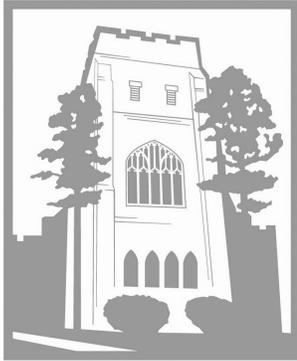
As you know, I love an exciting adventure...and I'm about to embark on one. As you may have heard, I will soon be undergoing spinal surgery, a procedure that will keep me from our fellowship for a considerable period time. That time may well be measured in months, rather than weeks. The surgery is scheduled for July 16. Between now and July 12, I hope to serve Overbrook, either from my home or in the office.

During my absence I will miss our fellowship, good spirit, and shared worship. As I keep Overbrook in my prayers, I invite you to keep me and my family in yours, as well. God has blessed me with sturdiness. When I am able to return, I hope to be walking independently, confidently...and with a spring in my step. That will be a lovely day indeed!

Blessings to all,

Sharon

News from the Crossroads



«AddressBlock»

Overbrook Presbyterian Church

6376 City Avenue ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-877-2744 ♦ office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

July 2019 - OPC Church Events

Tuesday, July 2

1:00 pm-Worship Committee

7:00 pm-Finance Committee

Saturday, July 6

8:00 am -Mens' Group

Sunday, July 14

12:00 pm- Deacons Meeting

12:00 pm-Personnel Meeting

Wednesday, July 17

5:00 pm-Property Committee

Thursday, July 18

6:00 pm-Picnic with the Pastor

Sunday, July 28

12:00 pm.-Mission and Outreach Committee

5:30 pm-Vacation Bible School Begins

Weekday Happenings:

- ❖ Every Sunday - 9:15 am-Adult Christian Education
10:30 am-Worship
11:30 am-Coffee Hour
- ❖ Every Wednesday -10:00 am -Adult Bible Study
- ❖ Every Saturday - 9:00-1:00 pm -Farmers Market-OPC
Parking Lot

Community Support Group Meetings @ OPC

- ❖ Every Sunday beginning at 8:00 pm—AA (Wistar Morris Room) and Al-Anon (Chapel)
- ❖ Every Monday beginning at 8:00 pm—Overeaters Anonymous (Chapel)
- ❖ Every Tuesday beginning at 7:30 pm-Nar-Anon
- ❖ Every Wednesday beginning 8:00 pm AA-Chapel

Please note a change in office hours
through Labor Day.

Monday-Thursday - 9:00-3:00 pm

Fridays-9:00-12:00 pm