

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News from the Crossroads

March 2019

Letter from The Reverend Dr. Adam Hearlson

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. Raymond Bonwell
Bridge 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 - Friday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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Dear Friends,

In the Old Testament, Moses goes up a mountain to meet God. When he comes down the mountain, his face shines. Having experienced the divine, scripture says that Moses glows. In my own small way, I left our time together also glowing. In worship, in community, in conversation, and in shared food I felt a palpable sense of the divine. God was among us on Sunday. I am grateful for that presence. Thank you for your wonderful hospitality, for your attention, and for taking serious the discernment that comes with calling a new minister.

Right now, I return to the task of finishing my time at Wayne Presbyterian Church. In my position at WPC, I am working diligently to leave this work better than I found it. I'd like to pay this congregation the respect and love of finishing strong. For that reason, I will be around the periphery of OPC but not taking on a central role until my official start date on March 26th. I will then be in worship on March 31st. In the meantime, I expect to meet with the staff of the church so that I can get to know them. They are the beating heart of this ministry and I am eager to encourage them in their work. Additionally, I will be meeting with session in March as they continue their leadership. If you'd like to meet for coffee or lunch following the 26th, please email me and we can begin to set up times to get to know each other. I ask for your patience while I answer these emails—the learning curve in any new ministry is always steep.

Finally, you remain in my prayers and I ask that I might remain in yours. Please pray that this transition would be a time that we see God, discern purpose and grow in love and compassion. Pray also for Wayne Presbyterian Church for their impending transition.

With the future before us, I am overjoyed and privileged to be your minister. Thank you for walking this journey with me.

Still glowing,
Adam



Letter from our Pastor

Friends,

From early times, seven has been a sacred number.

For me, these past seven months have been sacred (that is, holy) as I have had the privilege to serve as your Bridge Pastor.

It is indeed with joy that the Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson has been called as the next pastor at Overbrook. He will begin in residence on Tuesday, March 26, and his first Sunday preaching will be March 31.

Our four weeks together will be full. We will continue to gather on Sunday morning, for education and worship. I'll continue to lead Adult Christian Education on March 3, 10, 17, 24. We will start on March 3 by wrapping up on the "Lord's Prayer" and determine our final three week topic.

I look forward to preaching on March 3, 17, and 24. On March 10, there will be another guest preacher as Overbrook concludes her service as a "neutral pulpit."

Our Evening Lenten program will begin on Wednesday, March 6. This will also be the time for Adult Bible Study for Lent. This is an opportunity for a simple supper, service, and study. Our topic will be the Trinity (perhaps with an emphasis on the Holy Spirit). I will begin this program, and Rev. Dr. Hearlson will take over on March 27.

It continues to be a joy and delight to model and mirror Jesus Christ with the community.

Keep the Faith,
Raymond

Worship and Music

Lent at Overbrook



On March 6, Overbrook will mark the beginning of the Lenten season with the Ash Wednesday service of worship and imposition of ashes at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. On the subsequent five Wednesdays in Lent, informal soup suppers, followed by devotional services, will be held at 6:00 PM. During Holy Week, worship services will be held at 7:00 PM on both Maundy Thursday (4/18), and Good Friday (4/19).

This season, each Overbrook household will receive a Lenten bag. These bags will contain elements to promote spiritual reflection, and will offer opportunities for discussion, prayer and Bible study. The distribution of Lenten bags will begin at the Ash Wednesday service and continue on the following Sunday. The bags are being lovingly prepared by members of Overbrook on Tuesday, March 5. If you would like to assist with this special Lenten project, please contact Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org).

Upcoming Worship Service

March 3, 2019

Communion Sunday/Transfiguration Sunday

Lectionary: Exodus 34:29-35,
2 Cor 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36

Preaching: The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

Lay Leader: Stephanie Kindt

March 17, 2019

2nd Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18;
Luke 13:31-35

Preaching: The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

Lay Leader: Lynn Pompa

March 31, 2019

4th Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: To Be Determined

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Keedra Carroll

March 10, 2019

1st Sunday in Lent

Lectionary: Isaiah 6:1-8, Luke 5:1-11

Preaching: To be Determined

Lay Leader: Eileen Wiggins

March 24, 2019

3rd Sunday in Lent

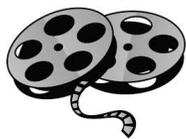
Lectionary: Isaiah 55:1-9; Luke 13:1-9

Preaching: The Rev. Raymond Bonwell

Lay Leader: Jason Duckworth

Upcoming Music Events

Sunday, April 7, 4:00 p.m.: The Overbrook Choir will combine with the choirs of Ardmore Presbyterian Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ardmore, to present excerpts from Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. We have been blessed with fruitful collaborations among our three choirs, and we are happy to continue this tradition.



Friday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.: Join us for a unique experience at Overbrook! Concert organist David Baskeyfield will accompany a silent movie—while the film is projected to us, he will improvise a complete musical score. He has gained critical international acclaim for his organ playing, having recently won the Canadian International Organ Competition in Montréal, and his concert here is sure to be spectacular.

The music program here provides diverse, fulfilling programs year-round, and I am grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

-Chris Gage

Greeters Ministry

GREETINGS!



A new ministry is starting soon, and we would like your help. To provide hospitality and welcome to members and visitors, GREETERS will soon be at every door as you make your way into the church on Sunday. We hope to have individuals, couples, or families to serve as the first face of our congregation to those who visit, assist with directions, help with little kids or older folks.

You are not an usher. You are not a bouncer! Training and support will be provided as you get started. Greeters should be able to stand for at least 15 minutes, and can sit inside the doors if the weather is bad. Times will be arranged to cover the hours between 9:15 (start of Sunday School) to about 10:45 am on Sunday morning, but you need not commit to the entire time.

Please sign up in coffee hour, or contact Sharon Parker, Eileen Wiggins or Rachel Carnahan. We hope to talk to you more about this and answer your questions. Thank you!

Hello
my name is

As we prepare for the arrival of The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson, now is the time to make sure that everyone starts wearing their nametags to help Rev. Hearslnon become familiar with each one of us. Please check the name tag board outside of the chapel to confirm that your name tag is there, if you should need a new one please let Lisa in the office know and she will make up a new name tag.

Adult Bible Study

During Lent, the opportunity for Bible study and shared devotions will move from Wednesday mornings to Wednesday evenings. Come join the faithful fellowship on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM for soup suppers and shared prayer and devotions. Reverend Raymond Bonwell will lead us in worship and study on March 13, and 20. Reverend Adam Hearlson will lead worship and study on March 27.

Christian Education Summer Date-Savers

- July 7-13: Youth Mission Trip, Blue Knob, PA
- July 17-21: PC-USA Youth Triennium, Purdue University
- July 28-August 1: Vacation Bible School, "Bible Super Heroes" 5:00-7:00 PM



OPC Youth: The "March" is on!

THE MARCH IS ON.

The OPC Youth March calendar includes the following special opportunities for youth in grades 6-12:

March 3: OPC Youth will attend a pre-Lenten jazz worship service at St. Thomas African Episcopal Church. We'll be leaving Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM, and walking to St. Thomas for worship. Following the service, OPC and St. Thomas youth will have lunch at Italian Village Restaurant on 63rd Street. (Note: There will be no Sunday School for students in grades 5-12 on March 3. In lieu of class, all students are encouraged to participate in the trip to St. Thomas.)

March 30: Summer Mission Trip fundraising opportunity! The 2019 "Philly Contraption Contest" is being held in the Wistar Morris Room and we have the opportunity to staff the concession stand. All proceeds from food sales will go to defray the cost of this year's mission trip to Blue Knob, PA.

...and don't forget Sunday Class, each Sunday morning (with the exception of March 3) at 9:15 AM! We look forward to seeing you at these March events.

CHILDREN OF EDEN March 10: Theater Road Trip! Following worship, middle and high school students will have lunch together at OPC and then head off to Archbishop Bonner/Prendergast High School in Upper Darby to see the musical *Children of Eden*. *Children of Eden* is based on the Book of Genesis and features the stories of Adam, Eve, Cain, Abel and Noah. (OPC Youth, Kendi Long is a cast member!) Cost: \$5.00 per person; friends welcome.

Blessings to all, Sharon Parker



Women's Retreat



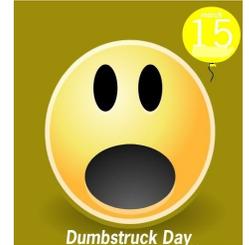
Attention, ladies! The OPC Women's Retreat will be on Saturday, March 23. The theme for this year's retreat is "Made Well" and will focus on Jesus's message to us that "your faith has made you well." Join us for a day of fellowship, faith formation, and reflection at the IHM Conference Center in Bryn Mawr. Doors open at 8am, breakfast & lunch will be served, and Rev. Laura Colee from Broad Street Ministry will lead us in worship and study. Tickets are \$40 and will be on sale Sundays until March 10. We hope you can join us!

Congregational Life/Fellowship

R.P. M. Cafe: March 15, 11:30-1:00 PM, in the Chapel

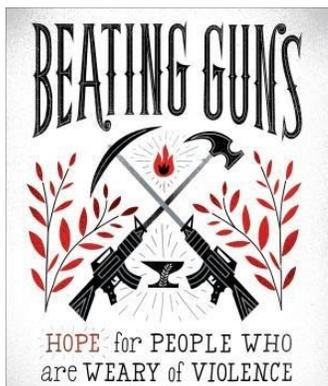
The R.P. M. Cafe will be open for business on March 15, and our business is shared learning, fellowship, a fine meal...and high-spirited humor. Originally launched as the Retired Persons Ministry, The RPM Cafe now welcomes all people of a certain age, and you get to determine that certain age. All are welcome. The Cafe will be serving a choice of homemade soups (Chicken Pastina Bisque; and Pasta E Fagioli with beef), desserts, and a selection of beverages. BYO salad or sandwich.

March 15 is "National Dumbstruck Day," and we're going to amaze ourselves with fresh perspectives! Our program will examine the impact of music on physical, mental and spiritual well-being, and will be accented by a special instrumental performance. Elizabeth Mendoza and Lynn Pompa will share their musical gifts with us.



Please join us at the Cafe on March 15. Friends are welcome. The RPM Cafe is a ministry of the Congregational Life Committee; there is no charge to participate. Reservations are encouraged...RSVP to sharon@overbrookpresb.org, or sign-up in the Wistar Morris Room following worship.

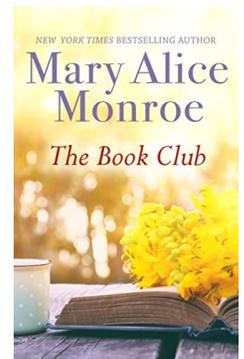
Broad Street Ministry
In collaboration with
RAWTools and Red Letter Christian presents
An evening with
Shane Claiborne, Activist
& **Michael Martin, Blacksmith**
Friday March 8, 2019
5:30-7:30 pm
Broad Street Ministry
315 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA



This is a FREE event but advance tickets are required. Visit bit.ly/beatingguns to reserve your space. If you have questions about this event, or would like to car-pool, please call Deb Rottinger at 610-896-7201 or email rottinger@woodlynde.org

Our book for March is:
"The Book Club" by Mary Alice Monroe

The meeting will be Tuesday
March 19, 2019,
12 noon at Bryn Mawr
Presbyterian Church
Please remember to bring your
lunch.



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.

Coffee Hour Ministry

Coffee Hour - We would like to thank Peggy Kaercher and Pat Ogundele, who graciously volunteered to be the contact people for coffee hour. We are still in need of hosts for the upcoming months. Let's keep this beloved ministry going for 2019. Signups for coffee hour are available on the OPC web site and in the church kitchen (on the door). For more information, please contact Peggy Kaercher at 610-642-2906 or Pat Ogundele at 610-668-1309. Thank you!

Mission and Outreach

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Hootenanny for Hunger! We had a wonderful time sharing laughs on the dance floor, as our caller lead us through the steps. There was a delicious selection of food to keep us going through the evening. A big thank you to all of the chefs!



Registration will open soon for the Care at the Crossroads Feed My Starving Children MobilePack. In the meantime, please set aside a few hours that day and invite your friends to join you. In just 2 hours you can make an extraordinary difference in the lives of starving people around the world, and have a great time doing so. If you feel so moved, you can make a donation now at <https://www.give.fmssc.org/crossroads>. Stay tuned for more information about the event and how you can contribute!

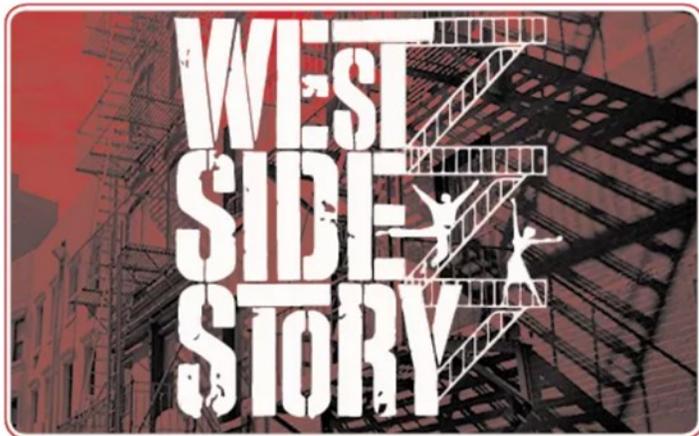
Typically at this time of year, we are gearing up for One Great Hour of Sharing. Mission & Outreach decided we would move the collection to September.

On March 20, we will be sharing a meal with the students who are part of the **Christian Association at the University of Pennsylvania**. Megan LeCluyse introduced us to this group during an adult forum and we agreed to prepare a meal to share with them.

Mark your calendar to volunteer with **Rebuilding Together** on June 7-8. Get your gardening and construction tools ready and watch for more information on this event.

Please feel free to join us and share your ideas and energy.
Aimerie Scherluebbe
Mission & Outreach

Help us Prepare 100,000 meals



Overbrook has a number of tickets for NCT's Production of West Side Story. The play starts Friday, March 1 and runs thru Saturday, March, 16. The entire price of these tickets (\$20) goes to our Mobile Pack where we will prepare over 100,000 meals to be distributed through Feed My Starving Children.

You can purchase these tickets through during coffee hour or Jeff Bowker (215-837-2426)/ email bowkerjeffrey@gmail.com.

West Side Story is one of the most memorable musicals and greatest love stories of all time. Arthur Laurents' book remains as powerful, poignant and timely as ever. The score by Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim is widely regarded as one of the best ever written.

Deacons

Happy March Birthdays

3/1	Dennis Elwell	3/22	Khaman Parker
3/2	Radine Goodall		Laura Toy
3/3	Angie Goodall	3/23	Austin Kaercher
3/5	Deja Nicole Stokes	3/29	Phyllis Watson
3/6	Sophie Shah	3/30	Sue Schick
	Maya Walker		Audrey Sigler
3/7	Abigail Swartz		Eileen Wiggins
	Geneva Van Rawley		
3/11	Sara Davis		
3/13	Karen Wong		
3/14	Elizabeth Mendoza		
3/15	Stephanie Morris		
3/17	Kevin Davis		
3/18	Elliott Hearlson		
3/19	Elizabeth McMillan		



Prayer List

- ♦Nyani O'Leary became ill while visiting her family in Ghana and is in a hospital there.
- ♦Eric and Ashley Marshall and son Jack welcomed newborn Grace Katheryn Marshall in February.
- ♦Joe Duckworth, father of Jason Duckworth, is currently hospitalized.
- ♦Eric Long's father, Bill Long, had his cancer removed.
- ♦Judy Kelly Johnson, Danielle Long's mother, is having a partial hip replacement.
- ♦Lynda Johnson is scheduled for ambulatory surgery to improve circulation in her veins.
- ♦Gwen Harden continues to recover from gallstone surgery.
- ♦Dick Williamson is undergoing medical testing.
- ♦Wayne Gage, Chris Gage's father, has received new treatment for his heart condition.
- ♦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.*



Drivers and Cooks ?!

Are you willing to occasionally drive someone to/from church or an appointment?

How about occasionally preparing a meal for someone dealing with a major life event?



Call or email Mike Rottinger

Communications

Want to keep up with all the happenings here at OPC?
Don't be left in the dark!



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.

Do you receive OPC's
The Weekly eNews Weekly E-News? If not please contact Lisa or Carol in the office to ensure that we have your email address in our online database. This E-News is published every Friday with all the events for the upcoming week at OPC and is delivered right to your email.

Session News

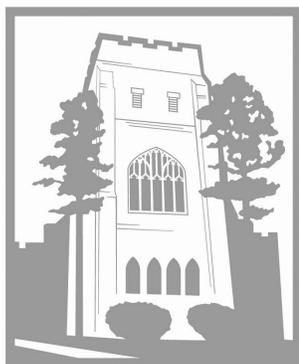
Session of Overbrook invites you to Coffee and Conversation after worship this Sunday, March 3.

Come with your questions, ideas, comments, celebrations. This is an exciting time, and we want to keep communication flowing. We'll meet in the Chapel at noon.

Hope to see you there.



News from the Crossroads



Overbrook Presbyterian Church

6376 City Avenue ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-877-2744 ♦ office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

March 2019 - OPC Church Events

Saturday, March 2

8:00 am-Men's Group

10:00 am-Sunday School Teachers' Meeting

Sunday, March 3

9:30 am-OPC Youth Worship at St. Thomas

12:00 pm-Coffee and Conversation with Session

12:00 pm-New Member Committee

Tuesday, March 5

1:00 pm-Worship Committee

7:00 pm-Finance Committee

Wednesday, March 6

7:00 pm-Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 7

6:30 pm-Congregational Life Committee

Sunday, March 10

12:00 pm-Personnel Committee

12:00 pm-Deacons

1:00 pm-OPC Youth Theater Trip

Tuesday, March 12

7:00 pm Session

Wednesday, March 13

6:00 pm-Lenten Supper/Service

Friday, March 15

11:00 am -RPM Cafe

Sunday, March 17

12:00 pm-Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, March 20

6:00 pm-Lenten Supper/Service

5:00 pm-Property Committee

Saturday, March 23

8:00 am-Women's Retreat-IHM Conference Center

Sunday, March 24-12:00 pm-Mission & Outreach Committee

Monday, March 25

1:00 pm-Prayer Shawl Group

7:00 pm-Prayer Shawl Group

Wednesday, March 27

6:00 pm-Lenten Supper/Service

Sunday, March 31-11:30 am-Welcome Luncheon for

Rev. Hearlson

❖Every Sunday - 9:15 am -Arrival for Christian Education (Adults/Youth)

10:30 am-Worship

11:30 am-Coffee Hour

❖Every Monday -5:15 pm -Junior Choir Rehearsal/ Dinner

❖Every Thursday - 7:30 pm -Adult Choir Practice

Coming up in April:

❖ April 6-Men's Group at 8:00 am

❖ April 13-Journey with Jesus-The Passion at 9:30am

❖ April 18-Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm

❖ April 19-Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm

❖ April 21-Easter Sunday