



Overbrook
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Overbrook Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson
Pastor

Rev. David K. McMillan
Pastor Emeritus

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Director of Children & Family Ministry

Artia Benjamin
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Youth Leaders

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NEWS FROM THE CROSSROADS

Small Acts in a Divided World

The book of Ruth opens with a quiet but important line: “In the days when the judges ruled.” It’s easy to pass over, but it sets the stage for everything that follows. The time of the judges was marked by violence, division, and instability. Communities were fractured. Leadership was inconsistent. Fear and conflict shaped daily life.

Into that world, the story of Ruth introduces not a hero or a ruler, but a vulnerable family. Famine drives Naomi, her husband, and their sons from Bethlehem to Moab. There, tragedy compounds: Naomi’s husband dies, and then her two sons die as well, leaving Naomi and her daughters-in-law, Orpah and Ruth, alone and exposed.

It is a story that begins in loss and uncertainty—something that feels uncomfortably familiar in our world.

What makes Ruth remarkable is not grand gestures or dramatic victories, but quiet faithfulness. When Naomi decides to return to Bethlehem, she urges her daughters-in-law to stay behind. Orpah eventually does. But Ruth refuses. She chooses to go with Naomi, embracing a future as a foreigner in a land that may not welcome her.

It is a small, deeply personal decision, and it is also an act of profound courage and love.

From there, Ruth’s story unfolds through a series of ordinary yet meaningful choices: caring for Naomi, working to provide food, forming new relationships. Again and again, she chooses kindness, loyalty, and compassion in a world that was built on fear and division.

And those small acts matter more than anyone could have imagined.

By the end of the book, we learn that Ruth, a foreigner from Moab, becomes the great-grandmother of King David. Her story, rooted in quiet faithfulness, becomes part of a much larger story of hope and renewal.

In a troubling time, Ruth reminds us that acts of goodness are never inconsequential. What seems small can carry significance far beyond what we can see.

This truth feels especially important today. We live in a world that often feels divided—politically, socially, even within families. The scale of these divisions can make us feel powerless, as though nothing we do could possibly make a difference.

But Ruth offers another vision.

She does not set out to fix the world. She simply commits to loving well, right where she is. She tends to what is in front of her. And in doing so, she becomes part of God’s work of healing and restoration.

[continued on page 2]

HELP WANTED

A summary of volunteer opportunities at OPC. More details throughout this newsletter.

Upcoming Opportunities

- **Cooking in Community. Friday, May 1. 9:30AM-12:00PM.** More info on page 4.
- **Gardening at OPC. Saturdays, May 2 & 9.** More info on page 7.
- **Books Through Bars. Saturday, May 4, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM.** More info on page 8.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry. Tuesday, May 12.** More info on page 6.
- **Kensington Project. Sunday, May 17, 10 AM.** More info on page 9.
- **Run to ReBuild. Saturday, May 17.** More info on page 9.

Ongoing Opportunities

- Fellowship Hour Sharing Table. More info on page 11.

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In this Easter season I am likewise reminded of Jesus who also enters a fractured world not with domination, but with compassion. In him, we see that God's power is often revealed not in overwhelming force, but in persistent, self-giving love.

The invitation of Ruth is not to do everything, but to do something—to practice small acts of care, to mend what is broken in whatever ways we can. These acts may feel modest, even insignificant, but they participate in something much larger.

In a divided world, faithfulness still matters. Kindness still matters. Love still matters.

And through them, God continues to write stories of hope.

grace + peace
Adam Hearlson

From the Music Director

As our program year nears its conclusion, we have one more opportunity for you to participate in the **Overbrook Gospel Choir** before the summer...

- **Saturday, May 23. 10:30 AM to 12:00PM.** We will gather at OPC to sing together and learn a couple of gospel songs.
- **Sunday, May 24. 10:00 AM.** We will warm up an hour before the service and sing during worship.

You do not have to have sung for previous Gospel Choir Sundays to participate in this one; all are invited, regardless of experience. Help us continue this wonderful new ensemble!

—Chris Gage

Finance Update

Here is a view of our financials through March 31, 2026. This does not include any fire-related expenses, fire donations, insurance payments, or capital campaign income.

Accounts	Actual Quarter 1 2026	Annual Budget 2026	Annual Budget Remaining 2026
Revenues			
Giving Income (pledge, non-pledge & plate)	\$ 210,294.31	\$ 543,500.00	\$ 333,205.69
Other Giving Income	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Building Use Income	\$ -	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Other Income	\$ 32.00	\$ 57,725.00	\$ 57,693.00
Revenues	\$ 210,326.31	\$ 609,725.00	\$ 399,398.69

Expenses			
Personnel Expenses	\$ 164,190.14	\$ 637,132.53	\$ 472,942.39
Session Expenses	\$ 263.48	\$ 360.00	\$ 96.52
Congregation Expenses	\$ 5,911.76	\$ 19,604.00	\$ 13,692.24
Deacons Expenses	\$ 185.29	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,314.71
Church-Wide Events Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Communications Expenses	\$ 1,182.03	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 817.97
Welcome Committee Expenses	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Worship & Music Expenses	\$ 4,937.54	\$ 8,350.00	\$ 3,412.46
Christian Education Expenses	\$ 6,156.58	\$ 14,850.00	\$ 8,693.42
Finance & Administration Expenses	\$ 17,773.42	\$ 41,500.00	\$ 23,726.58
Mission & Outreach Expenses	\$ 7,314.31	\$ 54,350.00	\$ 47,035.69
Property Expenses	\$ 67,305.37	\$ 102,116.00	\$ 34,810.63
Capital Expenditures*	\$ 65,874.41	\$ -	\$ (65,874.41)
Expenses	\$ 341,094.33	\$ 883,062.53	\$ 541,968.20

Net Total	\$ (130,768.02)	\$ (273,337.53)	\$ (142,569.51)
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*As part of our budget monitoring, we are also now separately tracking our Capital Expenditures, which we have reported in a separate line item. For 2026 to date, those expenses totalled approximately 65% of our property budget, which did not originally contemplate each of these items. In the past, we have accounted for those purchases as expenses fully in the year of purchase. We are exploring other methods of accounting for these types of expenses to recognize the longer-term value of these capital assets, which for a boiler could be 15-30 years.

In the Spirit at Overbrook...

Tuesday Morning Prayer Group. Tuesdays. 7:30–8:30 AM. Online.

Early risers are invited to start the morning with small group community prayer. Join us from the comfort of your home for a time of faith-filled fellowship and shared prayer. All are welcome. **Please use the following link: tinyurl.com/OPCTuesPrayer.**

Centering Prayer. Wednesdays. 9:30–10:00 AM. OPC Office.

All are welcome to participate in OPC's Centering Prayer gathering, Wednesday mornings from 9:30–10:00 AM, in the office at Overbrook Presbyterian Church. Centering Prayer offers opportunities for contemplative prayer and reflection.

Adult Bible Study. Wednesdays. 10:30 AM–12:00 PM. OPC Office and Online.

Led by Pastor Adam, from 10:30 AM–12:00 PM each Wednesday, Bible Study participants meet in the office at Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

Cooking in Community: A Bountiful Serving of Care. Friday, May 1. 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The kitchen of Christ's Community Church, corner of Riverview and Garrett Roads, Drexel Hill, PA.

Calling all who **can** stand the heat and love stirring the pots! *Cooking in Community* is a monthly opportunity to cook for those in need, while enjoying the fellowship of good-spirited, spatula-wielding friends. We will be preparing meals for distribution by Caring for Friends and by our ministry partners, The African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas and Christ's Community Church. All supplies and ingredients are provided, as well as an abundance of fellowship and snacks. To request more information, or to volunteer, please contact Sharon Parker (sparker614@gmail.com).



OPC's Retired Persons' Ministry (RPM)

Retired Person's Ministry: An "A-MAY-Zing" Community Café. Friday, May 8. 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Anderson Hall (upstairs), African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19151.

(Due to the celebration of Memorial Day weekend, The Retired Persons' Ministry will not be meeting on May 22. Please join us for a special RPM Cafe on Friday, May 8.)

RPM, a mutual ministry of neighboring congregations of Overbrook Presbyterian and the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, welcomes all members, friends, and neighbors to join us for community-building, good-spirited fellowship, and a great meal. Please join us in Anderson Hall (upper level) of St. Thomas on **Friday, May 8, from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM** for the RPM "A-May-Zing" Community Cafe. A special lunch buffet will spotlight the specialties of local businesses, as well as the culinary talents of the Great Chefs of RPM. Following lunch, guest presenters will share updates on initiatives that serve and support the senior members of our community. Our program will conclude with a time of shared prayer.

The RPM Cafe welcomes guests of all ages. We are a mutual ministry of OPC and the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas; there is no cost to participate. For more information, please contact Sharon Parker (sparker614@gmail.com).



Camp RPM...History Meets Adventure!

Camp RPM...History Meets Adventure! 2026 Theme: The Hope of Ages Past

The Retired Person's Ministry welcomes all members and friends of OPC and St. Thomas to participate in this summer's **Camp RPM**. Gathering on the second and fourth Tuesdays in July and August, Camp participants will begin the day at 9:30 AM with devotions and an introductory message at OPC and then travel to a designated historic site for an interactive exploration. Each session will include light morning refreshments and a picnic lunch. RPM programs are open to all adults, regardless of age. Families are warmly welcome to join RPM activities, as well. As you begin to plan your summer adventures, please save the following dates for **Camp RPM: July 14, 28; August 11, 25**. *Come explore with us!*

Pentecost Retreat

Winds of Change: A Pentecost Retreat. Saturday, May 16, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

As we prepare for the season of Pentecost, all are invited to participate in a morning of prayer, song, creative expression, and spiritual renewal. Retreat activities will be held in Overbrook's Wistar Morris Room and, weather permitting, on the surrounding church grounds. All materials will be provided, as will light morning refreshments.

Retreat leaders, Wanda Harris-Cooper, Janie Martin, and Sharon Parker extend a warm welcome to all. RSVPs are encouraged by May 14; please respond to Janie Martin, (janie.m4rtin@gmail.com).

"The Spirit of God has made me; the breath of The Almighty gives me life." Job 33:4

OPC Game Night



April's intergenerational Game Night was a marvelous time, thanks to everyone who joined us in the spirit of fellowship and whimsy! Special thanks to Lois Davis for introducing many of us to bridge, and Trudy Sheau for teaching Mahjong. We played, we laughed, we ate pizza...the only thing that could possibly make it



better is YOU! That's right, you are invited to our **MAY GAME NIGHT** on **Saturday, May 9 from 4:30 to 7:00 PM at OPC**. Contact Mads Cosgriff (mpecosgriff@gmail.com) with any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The prayer shawl ministry warmly welcomes all who are interested in making blessed handwork for those facing illness or other difficulties, as well as those celebrating joys. These gifts go to OPC friends and members, and also to their family and friends. If you would like to request a prayer shawl gift for someone you know, please contact Bette Homer at bettebhomer@gmail.com or call **215-470-7736**. If you know someone in our ministry, feel free to contact him or her.



Whether you are experienced in hand crafts or would like to learn, we invite you to join us at our monthly meeting. Crafts are not limited to knitting or crocheting. If you make a different craft that might be shared through our ministry, please call or email the contact above. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 12 at 11:00 AM** at the home of Bette Homer, 5948 Woodbine Avenue, Philadelphia.

If you're on our prayer shawl email list, we'll send you confirmation of our meeting dates each month. If you'd like to be added to our email list or want more information, please call or email **contact above**.

Garden Season Has Arrived! Let's Make Something Beautiful!

Even though some of the landscape around the church is inaccessible, many garden spots need attention.

A BIG project will take place on **Saturday, May 2**, and **Saturday, May 9**. We will replant the Rain Garden, with weeding and prep on May 2 and planting on May 9. You can sign up at this link: [Gardening Sign Up](#). Please bring your own gloves and trowels/weeders/shovels. If you live in Montgomery County, please bring leaf bags.

Other projects:

- Come and weed anywhere, anytime.
- Adopt one or more raised beds and plant with vegetables and herbs.
- Adopt a bed or area to plant and care for:
 - Triangle garden at the corner of City and Lancaster.
 - Playground area, which includes planters.
 - Boy Scout and Memorial Garden on the northwest corner.

Please contact Rachel Carnahan at 610-348-4659 or carnahanrachel@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer.

T-shirt Rug Update

T-shirts from Overbrook's Memorial to the Lost now have a new life as woven rugs. Emily Stewart, Coordinator of Narberth Public Art, established a partnership with local artist Christine Goon who uses salvaged fabrics and clothing material to create unique hand-woven rugs. Each rug measures 4 feet across, weighs 8 pounds, uses approximately 25 shirts, and takes around 25 hours of cutting and braiding to complete.

This project, titled "Rugs Against Gun Violence" is a physical representation of inter-connectivity of our community, and continues the remembrance of those affected by loss. Completed rugs will be on display at sites throughout the region and later raffled and sold to raise money for local anti-gun violence organizations. For more information about this project and Christine's artwork, visit: circlefiberstudio.com.



Mission & Outreach



A festive evening of delicious food and fellowship was enjoyed by the 36 participants in the **Women's Dining Circle** event on **April 17**. Pastor Wanda spoke in support of the youth group's mission activities for which \$1,375 was raised and matched by the Mission & Outreach committee for a total of \$2,750. We are most grateful to Janie Martin for opening her beautiful home to us.

If you are interested in preparing part of the meal, setting up or clearing dishes, or being on the WDC committee, we welcome your help. If you have a cause which touches your heart and would benefit from some financial help, please let one of us know. Janet Bowker, Mads Cosgriff-Piatt, Cindi Landmesser, Laura Marin, Sharon Parker, Jane and Carol Rozmiarek, Karen Testa.

On **April 18**, the **Overbrook Presbyterian Rebuilding Together Philadelphia** team was hard at work on Conestoga Street in West Philadelphia. The team painted walls, hauled away wood and drywall from backyard and basement, installed handles on kitchen cabinets and added quarter-round and caulked upstairs rooms.



We are grateful to Brad and Dan Biederman, Herb Brabham, Mads Cosgriff-Piatt, and Jill Van Rawley for representing OPC at the Rebuild event.



On **Saturday, May 16**, OPC will be represented by a team of ten enthusiastic walkers/runners at the **Run to ReBuild** event in Fairmount Park in support of **Rebuilding Together Philadelphia**. It is not too

late to put your sneakers on and register for the [OPC team](#).



MAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Saturday, May 2. 1:00 PM. Books Through Bars. We meet at 1:00 PM in the OPC parking lot to carpool to Baltimore Avenue and return by 4:00 PM.



Saturday, May 16. Run to ReBuild. A fun way to raise funds for Rebuilding Together projects. See above.

Ongoing. We are collecting calendars, gently used paperback books, and magazines for **Books Through Bars**. Look for the plastic bins on the Mission table in Fellowship Hour.

Prayers for **Norristown Hospitality Center** as they continue work on their new location.

Youth Ministry

First Fridays, Monthly Youth Group

If you're in grades 6-12, join us at OPC (please use the playground side entrance), on **Friday, May 1, from 5:30 to 8:00 PM**, for some fun, food, and fellowship. We'll be learning about *Peacemakers, Matthew 5:9*. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. and RSVP to youth@overbrookpresb.org so we can plan the dinner.

On April 3, thirteen of our young adults were wise enough to attend a fun night of fellowship at our monthly youth group! We shared a meal, filled Easter Eggs for the egg hunt, and Pastor Wanda gave a lesson on *Wisdom and Foolishness* and how they both play a role in our lives.



Save the date, Friday, June 5. Sunanda and Phillip Brown will be hosting our End of the Year Youth Group Celebration! 5:30 to 8:00 PM at their home, 800 Sproul Rd., Bryn Mawr.

Youth Sunday School. Grades 6-12 are encouraged to leave after the sermon on every 3rd and 4th Sunday to study the sermon and its related scripture. How does the word relate to our present-day lives?

The Kensington Project. The Kensington Project is a non-profit organization that supports people affected by the opioid crisis in Philadelphia's Kensington neighborhood. Youth and families are invited to join us as we feed, clothe, and love our neighbors. We will be gathering at OPC on **Sunday, May 17 at 10:00 AM**. If you would like more information or would like to attend, please contact Becky Lazo at 443-745-3178 or rebeccalazo@hotmail.com or Suchita Fiorillo at 215-450-5356 or youth@overbrookpresb.org.

On April 19, five youths and four adults joined the Kensington Project team to serve over 150 people, providing them with food, clothing, toiletries, and most importantly, kindness. Showing people God's love through action. Showing up is hard work. Thank you to all who support us in person, in spirit, and through generously donating to make a difference.



OPC Youth Choir

Our OPC Youth Choir, led by Virginia Jennings and Victor Fiorillo, is in full swing! Their first performance was on **April 12** and it was AMAZING! If you're interested in joining, come to rehearsals immediately after service on May 3, 17 and 31. The next performance will be in June.



Youth Mission Trip

The youth of The First Presbyterian Church of Germantown (FPCG) invited five members of OPC to join them on a service-learning experience to Puerto Rico to work with *Techo Pa' Mi Gente*, which translates to *A Roof for My People*. Nathan Lazo, Blake Hotek, Solly & Anya Brown, and Suchita Fiorillo will be away from August 8-15 helping to rebuild homes damaged by hurricanes. To help raise funds, we will be selling coffee direct from Tres Picachos farm from Jayuya, PR for \$10 per 8 oz bag. This is the start of a beautiful partnership with FPCG and we hope to have many more mission opportunities for our youth in the years to come.



OPC's Puerto Rico bound youth joined FPCG on April 12 to help support their hoagie sale fundraiser by making over 50 hoagies. OPC's first Hoagie sale was on April 26.



Youth Sunday is May 31. Our next Youth Sunday will be at the end of this month. We need youth volunteers from ages 12 to mid-20s to participate in all aspects of our worship service. If you would like to be involved or have any ideas, contact **Artia or Suchita** at youth@overbrookpresb.org. Here are some ways in which youth can participate:

- **Liturgist/Lay Leader:** Assists with worship service and works with Pastor Adam.
- **Scripture Readers (2):** Reads the first or second scripture during service and works with Pastor Adam.
- **Welcomer:** Gives welcome message to congregation at beginning of service and works with Pastor Adam.
- **Usher:** Hands out bulletins; directs people before, during, and after service; and works with a member of Worship and Music.
- **Greeter:** Stands at doors and welcomes people; also assists those who require help and work with a Deacon.
- **Storyteller:** Reads biblical book to children during Biblical Storytelling and works with Anthony, who will provide the book.
- **Biblical Storytelling Second Person:** Leads the prayer with children and works with Anthony and Pastor Adam.
- **Musician:** Plays instruments or sings. Works with Chris.

For additional information on any youth activities, reach out to youth@overbrookpresb.org.

Children & Family Ministry

A Special Evening of Music & Poetry. Wednesday, May 20. 6:30 PM. At Overbrook

Save the date for this special presentation! Details coming soon.

Annual Pool Party. Friday, June 12. 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Belmont Hills Pool

Save the date and find your swim gear! Rain date June 19. Entirely funded by CFM. A signup will be offered as the event gets closer.

Congregational Life

Fellowship Hour Hosts

We are grateful for all those who volunteered to be a coordinator or donated food in April. If you would like an opportunity to practice hospitality and kindness toward one another or celebrate a special event. Please sign up to be a Fellowship Hour Coordinator. We still need your help.

There are several ways to provide service:

- Be a coordinator – set up before worship service between 10:15 am to 10:30 am which includes putting table covers and trays on tables for the donated food.
- Donate food for Fellowship Hour, for example a bag of cookies, bag of cuties, etc.
- The church provides the table covers, trays, plates, cups and utensils – you provide the service.
- The church provides gluten free food to place on the gluten free table separate from other food.
- Clean up after Fellowship Hour. You do not have to break down tables and chairs.

Just fill out the SignUpGenius. Here's the link_

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a4aacae2da2fe3-fellowship>



The Coffee Ministry

Coffee will be made and served by this ministry, so you as host do not have to do anything for coffee or hot tea.

The Congregational Life Committee thanks those who coordinated Fellowship Hour in April!

Here's some more tips for coordinating:

- Take all leftover food that is perishable home with you or give it away to someone.
- Coordinators do not need to break down furniture. It will be put away by Leonard.
- Trash and recycling handled by Leonard.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35

*Thank you for your Fellowship Hour ministry!
Congregational Life Committee*

Ongoing Weekly Events

Every Tuesday

- Tuesday Morning Prayer Group. 7:30 AM. Online. Join <https://bit.ly/3yxD2F4>–Meeting ID: 932 4865 5338

Every Wednesday

- Centering Prayer. 9:30 AM. Overbrook Presbyterian Church office.
- Bible Study. 10:30 AM. Overbrook Presbyterian Church office.

Every Thursday

- **Choir Rehearsal.** 7:30 PM. Gold preschool room of Overbrook Presbyterian Church. All are welcome, regardless of experience or skill level. For more information, contact Chris Gage (music@overbrookpresb.org).
- **The Overbrook Westminster Handbell Choir** meets for several Thursdays in a row before playing in worship. We rehearse in the OPC basement from 6:30 to 7:15 PM

Committee Information

Committee Name	Monthly Meeting	Chair or Co-Chairs
Worship and Music worship@overbrookpresb.org	4 th Tuesday 7:30 PM*	Pat Dillon
Deacons deacons@overbrookpresb.org	2 nd Sunday 1:00 PM	Denise Stewart Mads Cosgriff
Mission and Outreach mission@overbrookpresb.org	4 th Sunday 1:00 PM	Jeff Bowker
Finance finance@overbrookpresb.org	1 st Tuesday 7:00 PM*	Lainie Blodgett
Children and Family Ministry (CFM) cfm@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Molly Andrews Burke
Personnel personnel@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Elizabeth Cosgriff
Property property@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Jeff Bowker
Stewardship stewardship@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Karen Testa
Congregational Life clc@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Artia Benjamin
Welcoming welcoming@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Elizabeth Mendoza
Youth Ministry youth@overbrookpresb.org	TBD	Wanda Harris Cooper Artia Benjamin Suchita Fiorillo
An asterisk (*) indicates that the committee meets virtually.		

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS!

- 5/1 Seth Adjei
- 5/3 Gail Kaercher
- 5/4 Christy Hearlson
Pat Ogundele
- 5/5 Kristan Davis
Lucas Ziemba
- 5/7 Karin Ferguson
- 5/8 Dick Williamson
- 5/9 Liam Clifford
- 5/11 Bob Kothari
- 5/12 Joanne Roman
Christoph Von
Andreae
- 5/13 Daniel Biedermann
Sage Bryan
Cecile Burgert
- 5/17 Nora Whalen
- 5/20 Mark Burgert
Jed Filkin
Nancy Gilhool
Rebecca Lazo
- 5/21 John Baker
John Roman
- 5/25 Isaac Gosfield
Isidora Gosfield
Phoebe Morris
- 5/27 Bob Harden
Catherine Kendig
- 5/29 Jim McDaniel
- 5/30 Keedra Carroll

If the birthday for you or a family member is not listed and you wish to be included on the monthly birthday list, please email office@overbrookpresb.org.

Prayer List

- Prayers of healing for Syrena Torres, who is undergoing surgery this week.
- Prayers for Dornell Guthrie and her family as they mourn the recent death of Douglas Guthrie.
- Prayers for Scott Long's friend, Ammar in Pakistan, who is facing cancer.
- Prayers of healing and comfort for Nancy Gilhool, as she recovers from a broken ankle and finger.
- Prayers for Bob Harden's speedy recovery following a minor kayaking mishap.
- Prayers for peace and restoration in the Middle East, and that the hearts of world leaders are turned away from violence.
- Prayers for dignity and resilience of the people of Cuba as they suffer under the US blockade.
- Prayers of support for those embarking on new ventures and for all undergoing the uncertainty of transitions.
- Prayers for healing for Emma Greene, Laurie Geers's daughter, as she faces some health issues.
- Prayers for dignity, stability, and comfort for all those navigating changes in government assistance programs.
- Prayers for restoration of health and comfort for Beth Brawley's mom, Patricia, as she faces health challenges.
- Prayers for all who are facing health concerns, especially Roz Benton, Peggy Boatwright, Brian Henderson, Gwen Anthony, Gail Kaercher, Vince Gilhool, Gwen Harden, Ed Harvey, Bette Homer, Beth Leach, Valerie Craig, Joan Moylan, Jim Moylan, Davorka Sabljak, Carolyn Summers, Nathan Tullio and Natalie DeShields.

Please contact Mads Cosgriff (deacons@overbrookpresb.org) or Adam Hearlson (adam@overbrookpresb.org) to add names to the prayer list.

What is a Deacon?

The Board of Deacons are a group of 15 members, ordained by the church to care for the congregation of OPC. You will see us at the doors on Sunday mornings, welcoming you into the building. Afterwards we take flowers to members who are homebound and can provide communion to them as well. Meals and food support is available to those who are going through a difficult time.

If you see the word **Deacon** on a member's nametag, feel free to introduce yourself and let them know if we may be a support to you. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Wanda (wanda@overbrookpresb.org).

New deacons are nominated yearly. Please let us know if you are interested in learning more about this ministry of care to others.

A new Caregivers Support Group meets at OPC on the third Friday of each month. If you, or someone you know would benefit, please refer them to Pastor Wanda.

—Denise Stewart