



OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News from the Crossroads

October 2016

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

Roseann Christian
Office Manager

Earlene Ford
Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins
Building Manager



Church Office Hours

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

Letter from the Pastor

The Jefferson Memorial: Monument to Defiance

When we moved to Arlington in 1991 my family developed the tradition of going into Washington DC on the Fourth of July to watch the fireworks. We would park on the Virginia side of the river and walk (it is faster on the return trip than driving) across the bridge to the Jefferson Memorial.

I love the Jefferson Memorial. It is my favorite memorial in all of Washington, largely because Thomas Jefferson fascinates the dickens out of me. So there we would sit on the steps of the memorial with fireworks popping on the Mall, their colors reflecting off of the Tidal Basin and Jefferson's soaring words of defiance chiseled on the walls behind us. It is from there that we would call our parents in Philly and Florida; those calls became a part of the tradition of the Fourth.

Doing all of that was to join in a massive celebration, of course. But going downtown as we did had some of the elements of the defiance of the tyranny of evil about it. I had never thought of the Fourth that way until we lived in that area.

There is much in this world which we might defy; evil is forever busy and wants to be fed. And while sometimes that seems to require the bearing of arms, for the most part it means that we must be willing to simply stand up and say, "No more", and then to live in a way which affirms our defiance of the wrong of which we have had enough. We need to live as if the words we say about our country or to our God are not mere lip service to hollow ideals.

To live the American ideal is to defy evil. More to the point, to live the ideals of the Kingdom of God requires that we defy evil.

The evil of the moment is terrorism, and it is a real beast. But that is not the only thing one might defy. Hunger is certainly another. Racism is one more. That black lives still seem not to matter is one. The idolatry of guns is yet one more. Religious bigotry is another, of any stripe. Poverty yet another; the poorest of the poor are children, with women next. Talk about evil...

There is much which is evil which we might defy; the most effective way to do that is to refuse to participate in it any longer, and then to live in a way which is righteous (be careful of "self-righteous", however!). Easier said than done, certainly, yet it is worthy of the effort, both as an American and as a Christian.

Defiance of injustice is a way of life for those with the ideals of either our nation or our Lord. It means standing up and saying "No More!"

The good news is that defying evil will *Change the world, in Jesus' name.*

-Drew

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will be sponsoring a "Shredding Event" In the OPC parking lot on October 8th from 10:00 a.m. til noon.



Congregational Life



The Pastoral Nominating Committee...

Continues its work with the search for our new Pastor. The PNC will keep the congregation informed of their progress. Please keep the PNC in your prayers as they pursue this most important endeavor.



October Coffee Hour Hosts

October 2

Mimi Winkler and Laurie Geers

October 9, 16, 23, 30

TBA



Thank You OPC -



It is with a very heavy heart that I say goodbye to OPC. I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to work here, however, positive schedule changes in my life have made it necessary for me to step down from my position as Office Manager. I appreciate the warm welcome, help and advice that everyone offered while I was here. I've enjoyed my time here immensely, and will keep OPC in my heart and thoughts always!

-All my best, Roseann

Meet Lisa Faso – Our New Office Manager at OPC

Overbrook Presbyterian Church would like to introduce our new office manager Lisa M. Faso. She comes to us with over twenty years' administrative experience with an emphasis on non-profit organizations. She brings energy, enthusiasm and a strong background of the PC (USA) denomination. She has served previously as an Elder on the session of her church and was the chair for Fellowship committee. Her passion for Mission had her helping out when Super Storm Sandy affected the Jersey Shore, volunteering in local food shelters and helping out in her church P.H.A.T. closet. (Personal Hygiene & Toiletries)

Lisa and her two daughters Savannah (11) and Sierra (6) recently relocated to Broomall, PA where they enjoy living with their Yorkshire Terrier, *Blaze*.

When she's not packing lunches, helping with homework and shuffling kids around to after school activities she enjoys relaxing with a good cup of coffee and catching up on the latest episodes of Property Brothers on HGTV.

Calling all Readers...

The Overbrook Book Club is resuming after a summer break. The Club meets on weeknights at 7:30, approximately every month. The day of the week varies to accommodate members with different commitments. We hope you will join us in reading and discussing this interesting list of books, and enjoying some fellowship together!

Wednesday, October 19th - When Breath Becomes Air - by Paul Kalanithi

Hosted by Amy Behrman, 240 Beech Hill Rd. Wynnewood (610-649-7859)

Wednesday, November 16th - Grit - by Angela Duckworth

Hosted by Nancy Gilhool, 1408 Surrey Lane, Wynnewood (610-896-8329)

Tuesday, December 20th - How It All Began - by Penelope Lively

Hosted by Emily Amerman, 403 Kent Road, Bala Cynwyd (610-664-6573)

Wednesday, January 18th - Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania - by Eric Lawson

Host: TBA

Thursday, February 16th - A Thousand White Women by S. Feyman - Host: TBA

Tuesday, March 21st - The Underground Railroad - by Colson Whitehead - Host: TBA

Wednesday, April 19th - Leaving Church - by Barbara Brown Taylor - Host: TBA

Thursday, May 18th - Americanah - by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - Host: TBA



Music

Mark your calendar for:

Sunday, November 27, 2016 - 3:00 p.m.

The 22nd Annual Handel's MESSIAH SING



Meet Matthew Lulofs - New Member to the Overbrook Choir

Baritone Matthew Lulofs has been praised for his “aptly lush and unctuous tone” by Steven Winn of San Francisco Classical Voice. In the 2014-2015 season, he performed Nardo in Mozart’s *La Finta Giardiniera* with Temple University Opera and Tommy in Lerner and Loewe’s *Brigadoon* with Temple Musical Theater. Recently, at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, he sang John Brooke in Adamo’s *Little Women* and excerpts from Mechem’s *Tartuffe*. This summer Matthew looks forward to his first performances in the role of Belcore in *L’elisir d’amore* with Opera Libera (West Chester, PA).

Matthew has been recognized as one of the *South Coast Singer’s* “Stars of Tomorrow” (first place, 2009), Rotary International’s “Young Singer of the Year” (Male Classical, 2008), one of the artists hailed by the Segerstrom Center for the Arts as “Tomorrow’s Stars” (2008), and the “Laila S. Conlin” competition (first prize, 2007).

His special performances have included “Operatic Fusion” at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in 2009 and a concert for the Ronald Simon Family Foundation with guest speaker Colin Powell in 2008. In the 2013-2014 season, while a student at San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Matthew sang in a select octet for the first recording of Gordon Getty’s concert work *A Prayer for My Daughter* and was the bass soloist in Rossini’s *Petite Messe Solennelle* with the Chamber Choir and conductor Ragnar Bohlin. As an ensemble member he has also shared the concert hall and operatic stages with conductor Robert Gurney and the Lyric Chorus of San Francisco and conductors John DeMain, Steven Mercurio and Thomas Cockrell.

Matthew earned his B.M. in Voice Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in the spring of 2014. Currently, he is pursuing a M.M. in Voice Performance at Temple University’s Boyer College of Music and Dance where he studies with Dr. Marcus C. DeLoach and is the recipient of the Robert Grooters Me-

Christian Education

Women’s Retreat: Saturday, October 15

The OPC Women’s Spiritual Retreat will be held on October 15, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Retreat Center, in Bryn Mawr. Rev. LoisAnn Furgess-Oler will be our retreat leader. The cost for this special event is \$10.00 per person and will include a continental breakfast, as well as lunch. Reservations are required; please sign up in the Wistar Morris Room following worship. Thank you to our Retreat Committee: Becky Lazo, Artia Benjamin, Sabrina Johnson, and The Rev. LoisAnn Furgess-Oler.

Christian Education

CROP Walk: Sunday afternoon, October 2 - 1:00 p.m.

This year's CROP Walk will offer a unique and enriching experience for all participants. Partnering with Ardmore Presbyterian Church, Penn Wynne Presbyterian Church, and the Japanese Christian Church, OPC participants will walk through the Wawa Preserve in Middletown. Rev. Lisa Farrell of Penn Wynne has designed a refugee simulation experience for all walkers. Funds raised through the walk, will support the refugee ministries of CROP. Let's circle the date, build a great OPC Team, begin to gather sponsors, and lace up our walking shoes



Please Note:

Fall Calendar Change: October at Overbrook is filled with so many wonderful events, we've decided to postpone the Prayer Breakfast originally scheduled for Saturday, October 29. The Prayer Breakfast will be rescheduled in the near future...please watch the website, weekly bulletins, and newsletter for the

The Women's Dining Circle

On October 21st the Circle will inaugurate the 2016-17 season by welcoming Maureen Fitzgerald as our first speaker. "My Daughter's Kitchen" started with the simple goal of teaching kids to cook healthy, affordable meals from scratch. Maureen Fitzgerald, food editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer, started the first after-school cooking class in 2012 at St. Martin de Porres in North Philadelphia, the idea spurring from the cooking lessons she gave her own daughter. She wrote about her experience in the Philadelphia Inquirer and received overwhelmingly positive feedback from her readers. Philadelphians loved the idea and wanted to get involved."

You can get involved too! This exciting event will be held on Friday, October 21st beginning at 6:30 at the home of Elizabeth Cosgriff. An evite will be emailed shortly, but save the 21st for an evening of feasting and funding!



Adult Bible Study meets every
Wednesday, at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.
Join Dr. Mann as he leads our discussions.

Christian Education

Join the CE All-Star Volunteer Team!

Overbrook is blessed with a growing population of children and youth. In order to maintain and build our programs for children and youth, additional volunteer helpers, chaperones, teachers and drivers with clearances are sorely needed. Pennsylvania law requires all who teach, lead, supervise, and serve children and youth are to have child protection clearances. The process is simple, especially for those who have lived in PA for at least 10 years. Complete the clearances process by stopping at the ALL-CLEAR table in the Wistar Morris Room after worship. In order to facilitate this effort, computer stations will be available at OPC throughout August.

Clearances can be completed on-line by going to the following links: Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance (<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>); Pennsylvania Criminal History Record Check (<http://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>); Mandatory Reporter Certificate (*which is required for those who wish to teach Sunday School or serve as a mission trip leader/chaperone*); (<https://www.reportabusepa.pitt.edu>).

We encourage those who already have clearances as a requirement of employment, or for other areas of volunteerism, to keep a copy on file with the church. All clearances are secured in the church safe. For assistance with this process please contact Sharon Parker (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) or Carol Rozmiarek (carol@makinmusic.com). Thank you for supporting the faith formation of our OPC children and youth!

Meeting Space is Needed for OPC Programing...

It is wonderful that our building is used by so many people in the community. It gives us the opportunity to let many people learn about what is going on in our church. The building use fees greatly help us meet our financial goals. However, sometimes we cannot convene meetings on our premises when needed due to lack of unoccupied space. Groups such as the confirmation class, Bible study, youth group, committee meetings, etc., occasionally need to find someplace other than OPC to get together.

Can your nearby home or office accommodate small groups of people for relatively short meetings? If you are able and willing to share your space, please let the church office know. We will keep a "master list" of possible locations and call to schedule in advance, and at your convenience. NO other duties are required of the host. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and praise God for the overflow of people affiliated with OPC.

-Raelyn Harman



Urban/Suburban Book Club

Meeting : Tuesday, October 18, 2016 - 12:00 noon

Location: Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

October's Selection: An Invisible Thread by Laura Schroff & Alex Tresniowski

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

Mission & Outreach

Mission & Outreach's message is simple, that everyone can help in some way, shape or form. The importance of sharing this message inspired Mackenzie Blake and Francisco Grajales to research, design, build, and then donate the new Mission & Outreach website. The domain name: opcmao.com, is an acronym for Overbrook Presbyterian Church Mission And Outreach.

By visiting the website, you can stay up to date with M & O news, hear about new volunteer opportunities, and learn more about some of the numerous causes we have and continue to support with your help. M & O strives to create numerous opportunities year round for which both members of the church and our community can get involved. On the website we have outlined four ways in which you can participate: volunteer, make a donation, suggest a cause, become a member.

Mackenzie and Francisco stated that building the new website was a labor of love and hopes that it inspires more people to volunteer. While the M & O committee looks forward to seeing each of you get involved; every little bit can make a difference.

Community



NCT (Narberth Community Theatre) begins their new season with the play

TOMMY

(a musical)

Running from November 4-9, 2016



We are anticipating another wonderful season of shows presented by NCT. WE ARE ALSO ready to staff another season of successful concession runs that have supplemented OPC's operating budget abundantly. To all my experienced concessionaires (and hopefully many new concessionaires to come), I look forward to your support/help in staffing OPC's THEATRE REFRESHMENT STAND during these shows.

-Trudy Sheau



"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."

-Proverbs 22:9

It's time to start thinking about ways you can help with the Overbrook Feed My Starving Children event. Planning is underway; we'll need folks to reach out to local businesses, schools, and neighbors for contributions and volunteers. The site is not yet set (so there is not a firm date, though probably sometime in the Spring), but we can certainly start talking. Stay tuned for more information, and thanks in advance for your support. Thanks so much!

-Becky Lazo

Deacons



October Birthdays!!



- 10/1 Elizabeth Bouzarth
Leonard Sloan
- 10/3 Hannah Lazo
- 10/5 Rebecca Winkler
- 10/8 Emily Amerman
- 10/11 Winifred Carver
- 10/12 Matther Henry
- 10/13 Zachary Gavin
- 10/16 Jane Rozmiarek
- 10/17 Steven Kaercher
- 10/24 Michael Pompa
- 10/25 Amanda Gilhool
- 10/28 Barbara Owens
Marita Patino-Treat
- 10/29 Henry Baker



Pastor Drew and his wife

Sharon Parker's continued recovery

Carolyn Rodewald

Phyllis Watson

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.

Notice:

Bonnie Miller is looking for a few good people who would be willing to occasionally drive her to visit her daughter. This is a two to three hour commitment once a month, but with several volunteers any one person does it once in a while as your schedule permits. Please contact Mike Rottinger if you

Card of Thanks

From

Dorothy Burton

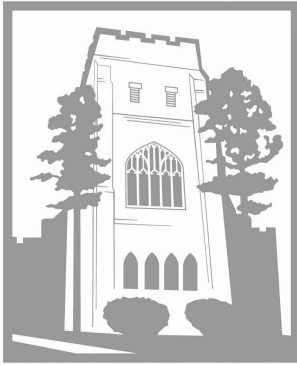
To "My Overbrook Church Family" in celebration through cards, flowers, and well wishes of my 98th-birthday! May God continue to Bless all of us. Amen.



OPC Family Film Library

Want to plan a family film and game night? Looking for activities to share with your visiting grandchildren? Stop by the Wistar Morris Room and sign out a DVD or game...be sure to grab a bag of complimentary microwave popcorn!!

News from the Crossroads



Overbrook Presbyterian Church

6376 City Avenue ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-877-2744 ♦ office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

Come to the Farmers Market!!

Every Saturday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the church parking lot

About the Market: Established in 2008, this market is located at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church, and has a loyal following of residents in the neighborhood who make this market a regular part of their Saturday mornings.

Look for:

Forest View Bakery - 72 miles to market from Lancaster, PA
(Breads, sticky buns, moon pies, jams, jellies, relishes and more)

Walnut Springs Farm - 112 miles to market from East Berlin, PA
(Early berries and asparagus, in season sweet corn, peaches and more)

Homestead Gardens - 68 miles to market from Ephrata, PA
(Seasonal fresh vegetables)



Payment accepted:

Cash, ACCESS cards, Philly Food Bucks and WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) vouchers