

Oxford Presbyterian Church
101 North Main Street
Oxford, Ohio 45056



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Seeking God, Serving others, Sharing Christ's love with all

The Oxford Presbyterian Newsletter

OCTOBER 2011

TO:



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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FROM OUR PASTORS

"Ready to Share"

Through Christ, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13.16)

We don't live in a time when God's people were expected to bring offerings of grain or animals, the first-fruits of their livelihood, to the temple as they were in ancient times. But the author of Hebrews reminds us that Christ's people may offer a different kind of sacrifice to God.

We offer a **sacrifice of praise**. We offer to God our thanks and praise for who God is and what God does. Psalm 51.15, which is often used to begin a service of morning prayer, points us in the right direction: "Lord, open thou my mouth and my lips shall declare your praise." God's love is new every morning, so we offer up our daily praise to God. Is this sacrifice? Is it in any sense a costly offering? Yes, in the sense that we offer praise as a matter of daily devotion to God, day in and day out, whether or not we happen to feel particularly grateful. The sacrifice of praise helps keep us oriented to God.

We are also called to **do good to others** and to **share what we have**. This, too, is a matter of daily devotion. The Holy Spirit pours love into our hearts and this love is meant to overflow into acts of kindness and sharing. We give of our time and talents and money to help others in a way that reflects God's own costly love. This sacrifice of kindness and sharing helps keep us oriented to others.

In these busy days of Fall, the church ponders the meaning of stewardship, our responsibility to use a portion of our time, talent and money to express that we love God with our heart and mind and soul and strength. We consider how in the new year we will step forward with our calendars and our checkbooks to make that calculation and that pledge. But we have a month now before the annual stewardship emphasis begins. So, let's take time to consider the greater issue: the orientation of our lives toward God. Are we offering praise to God daily? Are we offering kindness and help to others in a way that reflects God's own extravagant love? How does the word "sacrifice" with its connotation of costliness apply to our giving? Does what we offer to God and others stretch us, challenge us to adjust other priorities, and require us to depend on God's strength?

When we offer our lives as a gift to God, when we do good and share what we have, we find Christ with us on the way. Christ, who loves so extravagantly, is there beside us to strengthen and guide us, to bring us joy and patience and peace! This wonderful, unmerited gift of God--Christ with us--should set loose our love and make us ready to share!

Mark and Barbara

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION with CHRISTINE GARTON



Greetings! As the seasons change and our weather turns cooler, I am already planning things for Advent! I am putting together a congregational Advent

devotional book this year, and I invite all of you to write an Advent devotion. If you are willing to write devotion, please contact me so we can discuss what scripture you will base your devotion on. I can give you a scripture to build a devotion around or you can pick one that fits your story. I need 28 devotions to cover each day of the Advent season. Youth and children, please consider writing a devotion! I am also collecting stories about your favorite Christmas and Advent memories or traditions and rituals that have been meaningful to you. These will be placed at the back of the Advent devotional book. Please let me know ASAP if you are willing to write either of these. Thanks!

A NEW WAY TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH MISSION TRIP THAT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY!

Please go to www.iGive.com to sign up for your FREE account and choose "Oxford Presbyterian Church (Ohio) Youth Mission Trip" as your cause. Every time you shop online with merchants who contribute to iGive, a percentage of the amount you spend will be sent back to our church to be used for the Youth Mission trip next summer. When you sign up for your FREE account, we will receive a \$5 sign-up bonus. Not into online shopping? Install the iGive toolbar and every time you do a search through their search engine, we will receive a penny. Please tell your friends and family online about this wonderful fundraising opportunity so they can sign-up or use it with their own groups. Contact Christine Garton for more information.

15 Youth Bibles are needed for the Youth Center. The cost for each Bible is \$7.99 (hardcover, from American Bible Society). If you are interested in sponsoring one or more Bibles, please write a check for the amount and put "Youth Bibles" in the memo area and put it in the offering plate or give to Christine Garton. Thank you in advance!

TEACHERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL IN 3

AREAS: 1) We need a teacher for the Winter Quarter (Dec.-Feb.) for the preschool class. 2) We need 3 people to be substitute teachers for the 2nd-6th grade class rotation during this school year. As a sub, the only time you will teach is when the regular teacher is unable to attend on any given Sunday morning. 3) 4 teachers are needed for the Advent rotation Nov. 20-Dec. 18. You will only need to teach 3 Sundays during this rotation because we are going to combine the 5th & 6th grade classes as well as the 2nd & 3rd grade classes. If you have dates you will be away during that time, we can schedule your 2 mornings off during those dates. Please contact Christine Garton if you can help out. Thanks!

THANK YOU TO OUR 4TH GRADE BIBLE

BREAKFAST VOLUNTEERS! Christine Garton and the 4th grade families who attended the Bible Breakfast wish to thank **Dick & Marian Nelson, Katie & Thomas Payne, Becky Quay** and **Jenn Walter** for helping out. And thank you to the congregation for providing the Bibles for the 11 4th graders on our roll.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2ND-6TH GRADE TEACHERS WHO TAUGHT THE CREATION ROTATION!

Jenn Walter taught Art, **Sara Smith** taught Drama, **Lisa Gayhart** taught Computers, **Linda Hesford** taught AV, and **Roberta Crain** taught Bible Skills. Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents with our children!

Sunday School will not meet on October 2 due to World Communion Sunday. There will be new Children's Worship Bags available for pick-up in the narthex. They will be filled with activities and resources to better help your child understand what is going on during worship. Parents, please be sure your child gets a Children's Worship Bag at the beginning of the service and returns it to the narthex at the end of the service.

DEACONS

Angel Report: Deacons tended to their angels with 11 calls, 17 visits, 1 errand and 9 cards.



The Oxford Presbyterian Church and the Community Blood Center of Dayton, Ohio,

will hold their spring blood drive on **Wednesday, October 26, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at the Seminary Church located at 104 Church Street (corner of Church and Poplar Streets).



Thanks to Miami University Athletic Department, all donor names will be placed in a box for a drawing to win

four tickets to any 2011-2012 home MAC football game, men's basketball, women's volleyball or women's basketball. McDonald's has favored us with tickets for their varied products for each donor.

An added thank you from the Community Blood Center is a free Halloween T-shirt.

In order to donate blood, you must be at least seventeen years of age (16 with signed Community Blood Center parental consent form), weigh at least 110 pounds, and be in generally good health. Each donor will have blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and hemoglobin checked before donation, and must also present a photo I.D. (such as a driver's license). A donor must eat a nourishing meal, drink plenty of liquids, and get a good night's sleep prior to donation.

To set up an appointment to donate email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org, or go to the Community Blood Center's web site: www.donortime.com and make your own reservation. If you have any questions or concerns, contact **Dick Nelson** at (513) 523-2246.

PRAYER SHAWLS

We have all shapes, sizes and colors of **Prayer Shawls** available. If you have a friend or relative to whom you would like to give a Prayer Shawl, please call **Barbara Mecklenborg**, 524-7447.

DEACONS THANK YOUs

Through the Deacons, OPC has been helping students at Kramer by donating backpacks, shoes and shorts. We received a special thank you note from staff: *"Thank you so much for our bookbags. You are very generous."* "Thank you for the generous donations. The Kramer students will benefit from you generosity." *"Thank you so much for your generous donation to Kramer Elementary. Many students and families will benefit from you thoughtfulness and generosity! God Bless."*

Because McDonalds provides food coupons for the Blood Drive, the Deacons have donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Ronald sent his thanks, saying, "Thanks to your donation of \$100.00 to Cincinnati's Ronald McDonald House, you are joining a special group of people who are committed to providing a supportive 'home away from home' for critically ill children and their families, regardless of their ability to pay. Your donation will go directly toward meeting the financial, emotional and physical needs of our guest families by enabling us to provide comfortable beds, home-cooked meals and support from caring staff, volunteers and other guest families who share the same hopes and fears. It is truly a testament to your kindness and generosity that our families feel they have a lifeline when their worlds are turned upside down. Thank you so much for caring for our families!"

CARES, CONCERNS, JOYS & THANK YOU'S



IN OUR PRAYERS: *Keep these friends in your prayers:*

Hal Bondus, Lucy Ferris, Cathy Fey, Mary Dodd Hunter, Bob Berry, Brian Hitsman, Ann Hardy, Mary Jane Roberts, Marjorie Baer and Judy Spencer

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

On October 24th, we celebrate with the **Farler** family the 1st anniversary of **Carter's** baptism. Carter is the son of **Molly and Andrew Farler**. Also on October 24th, we celebrate with the **Saylor** family the 1st anniversary of **Autumn's** baptism. Autumn is the daughter of **Katie and Bradley Saylor**.

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

Pat Gifford sends thanks to everyone:



Thanks so much to everyone who attended and to everyone who helped with the

Seek, Share, and Serve it Up! Open house and Picnic. The logistics worked so well due to big **Tom** and his team. Food was great, thanks to **Diane**, and **Çy** too for helping out. The **Shandon Gospel Singers** were awesome and really made the picnic atmosphere comfortable. **Lindsey, Chase, and Betsy** did a phenomenal job with the promotions AND helping out at the Welcome table. **Jenny, Tip, Nancy G., Nancy M., Mary Jo, Karen, Janet, Joe, Chuck, Roberta, Becky and Christine** your table displays were wonderful examples of the involvement and service of our church community...*please thank the rest of your "helpers."* **Mark and Barbara**, thanks for your support and your loving care of our congregation and visitors. **A huge thank you to**

Elaine for printing and communicating (lol) between all of us! If we left your name out of this print list, please be assured we do appreciate your help and participation. (and do forgive the unintentional oversight).



We had at least 118 people at the picnic. People really seemed to enjoy the relaxing atmosphere and the music. Lots of

good feedback about the displays and all that we are doing to fulfill our mission...even some of our



members were heard exclaiming..."I didn't know we did that!" Let's keep asking friends, neighbors, and students to join us...a personal invitation is the best way to encourage interest and participation in worship and service to the Lord. Pictures are posted on our church Facebook page. If others took pictures, please post those too! Again, many thanks and blessings to all, **Pat**

AND EVERYONE SENDS THANKS TO PAT GIFFORD

Kudos and special thanks to you, **Pat**, for being the leader and the force behind the whole thing!!! **It would not have happened without you.** Fabulous job!

OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

OPW FALL GATHERING

The Oxford Presbyterian Women will be holding their Fall Gathering on Sunday, October 23rd at 2:30 pm in the Molyneaux Lounge. **Jim Lipnickey** will be our guest speaker and will update us on the progress of the Oxford Habitat for Humanity. The Dedication of the Thank Offering will be lead by **Sarah Jane Soika**. The contact person for this event is **Lawretta Clum**. The Hostesses will be the Tuesday afternoon Circle.

AFTERNOON CIRCLE

The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will meet October 18 in the Card Room at the Knolls. **Lawretta Clum** is Bible Study Leader, **Barbara Mecklenborg** will conduct Least Coin and **Sarah Soika** will read the Mission Yearbook. Those desiring lunch at noon in the Card Room reservations should be made to **Lawretta Clum** by Friday October 14th. The cost is \$6 for this optional lunch. *Visitors and guests are always welcome.*



EVENING CIRCLE

The Tuesday evening Circle will meet on October 4th, at 7:30 pm, in the home of **Connie Everhart** with **Jean O'Connell** as co-hostess. **Nancy Sturgeon** will give the Devotions. **Jean O'Connell** will lead the Program that will be centered on the Second Beatitude: Greatly Honored Are the Mourners! *We welcome visitors to our Circle meeting to join our Bible Study and Fellowship.*

THE FALL RUMMAGE sale still NEEDS YOU! Yes YOU! If you have rummaged before, thank you and you know what to do. IF you have NOT rummaged before, this is your opportunity. Mark you calendars, start sorting and plan on joining in! **Let's break all records for donations and volunteers!** GO TEAM! (well, donate some records, break others)

Drop Off Opportunities:

Call Lynn or Nancy for help with drop-offs

Sorting and Drop-off(ing) at the Seminary:

Wednesday **Oct 5**, 9-12

Set-up:

Saturday, **Oct 8** at 9am (we need help moving tables, racks and boxes! **Men, we need you ESPECIALLY!**)

Pricing and Sorting:

MTW, Oct 10, 11, 12 9-3 each day

The Sale:

Thursday, **Oct 13**, 6-8pm,

Friday **Oct 14**, 11-4pm

Saturday **Oct 15**, 9 to noon (bag sale at 11:30)

Tear Down:

Saturday, **Oct 15**, noon—til done. (we need help moving tables, racks and boxes! **Men, we need you ESPECIALLY!**)

Thank you for all your help.

Lynn Cronk 524-8574

Nancy Moeckel 523-6003

Ginny Staberg 523-9211

Proceeds of this sale go to local, regional and international Mission Projects.

BOXES, TISSUE, SHOPPING BAGS, oh MY!



Yes, the rummage folks can use your help gathering up boxes, packing tissue or paper and handled shopping bags. Please save these items for the rummage sale. You can drop these off

any time, or call Nancy or Lynn for a pickup.

THANKS MUCH!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



First Friday Nitters will meet on Friday, October 7 at 6:30 in the Molyneaux. Bring a covered dish to share and come for some fun. The program will be announced soon.

A 4 SESSION BEREAVEMENT SEMINAR is scheduled to begin at the Oxford Presbyterian Church. Meetings will be on Thursdays, at 10:30, in the Molyneaux Lounge. The first session is September 29. Meetings will continue October 6, 13 and 27. There will not be a meeting on October 20.

Dr. Alan Gruber from Hospice of Cincinnati will be leading the seminar. It is open to anyone in the community who has lost a loved one or is dealing with grief. The sessions will last approximately 1 1/2 hours.



Evalou Middaugh sends her love to everyone from Columbus. Keep in touch with Evalou. Her new phone number, email and address are: 614-389-5105
ESmiddaugh@Columbus.rr.com

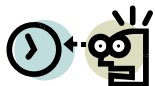
CHURCH SERVICES AT THE KNOLLS

I will be going to The Knolls again the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. I will be showing one of our church services on DVD in the Country Kitchen at 10:00 A.M. on October 11 & 25.

Becky Quay

Oxford Presbyterian Church is now on Twitter! Follow @Oxpresbychurch for all your latest church community news.

Deadline for the November Newsletter is October 20, 2011



Help spread the news—share what's happening **with you by sending info to Nancy Moeckel, your newsletter editor.**

COMMUNITY

Safe Haven Farms WON the grant from Impact 100. This grant of \$112,000 to Safe Haven Farms will allow us to offer Therapeutic Riding for many youth and adults with autism starting next summer.



Lights on Campus

Just a note that on **Thursday Oct. 13** we are having a **Dinner (free) at 6 p.m.** at the CMC with our International Peacemaker, Dr. Emad Ramzy Philobos who is a professor emeritus in Geology from Assuit University in Upper Egypt. He comes under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church USA and the sponsorship of the Miami Presbytery Campus Ministry Network of Miami, Central State, Clark State, and Sinclair Universities. All are invited to attend. Please let us know you plan to attend. Bring friends.

Thank you,

Harry

Lights on Campus website:

<http://www.lightsoncampus.org>

Rev. R. Harrison Bolen, Advisor & Executive Directory

16 S. Campus Avenue

Office Phone: (513) 523-4848



October Birthdays

- 1 Jerry Collins
 - 2 Emily Jordan
 - 5 Chris Jackson
 - 6 Ginny Snell
 - 7 Helen Martin
 - 9 Steve Friede
 - 9 Corey Simpson
 - 9 Haley Jena
 - 10 Chris Wilson
 - 10 Mark Hesford
 - 11 Adrienne Bader
 - 11 Eric Snell
 - 13 Molly Todd
 - 14 Jean Derickson
 - 14 Larry Niehoff
 - 15 Noah Curry
 - 16 Mark Barnes
 - 17 Bob Douglass
 - 17 Abigail Curry
 - 19 Brady Saylor
 - 21 Stephanie Hartman
 - 21 Maya DeGennaro
 - 23 Charles Watson
 - 23 Pat Hawley
 - 24 Judy Rymer
 - 25 Sandy Drewes
 - 25 Keith McGoldrick
 - 26 Verda Johnson
 - 26 Bonnie Stephenson
 - 28 Derek Jordan
 - 30 Gary Gayhart
 - 31 Bruce Bueschel
 - 31 Jacob Marado
-

SOME OCTOBER ODDITIES

This year, October will have 5 Sundays, 5 Mondays & 5 Saturdays. This happens only once every 823 years. These particular years are known as Moneybag years.

October is Adopt-A-Shelter Dog Month, Bat Appreciation Month, Church Library Month, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Cookie Month, Roller Skating Month, National Popcorn Poppin' Month,

[Erie Canal](#) opened to traffic, October 26, 1825.

Daylight Savings Time ends every year at 2:00 A.M. local time on the last Sunday of October?

The Moon in the month of October is called "A Hunter's Moon".

[Thomas Edison](#) began the first successful demonstration of his electric light, October 19, 1879.

October 3, 1906 SOS was established as an international distress signal

Halloween candy sales average about 2 billion dollars annually in the United States

Legends say if you see a spider on Halloween, it is the spirit of a loved on watching over you.



OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR

Saturday, October 1

10:00 am A.A.: Audio Visual Room
11:00 am Memorial Service for Sally Baird:
Sanctuary
6:30 pm Emily Cox and Nathan Pacey Wedding:
Krohn Conservatory

Sunday, October 2

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Peacemaking Offering received

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
11:10 am Time of Fellowship

Monday, October 3

7:00-9:00 pm Art Class: Seminary (Jean Vance)

Tuesday, October 4

10:30 am Staff Meeting: Molyneaux
7:30 pm Evening Circle: Connie Everhart's

Wednesday, October 5

9:00-noon OPW collecting for Rummage Sale:
Seminary
1:30 pm Adult Study: The Knolls of Oxford
6:30 pm Christian Education Committee:
Geneva Room
7:00 pm Adult Study: the Barnes'
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts: Seminary

Thursday, October 6

10:30 am Beyond Grief: Molyneaux
5:30 pm **College Student Dinner @ Barnes'**
6:30 pm Mission & Outreach Committee:
Molyneaux
7:30 pm Chancel Choir: Geneva Room

Friday, October 7

6:30 pm First Friday Neters: Molyneaux
7:00-9:00 pm Faith & Fellowship
(Middle School youth): Seminary

Saturday, October 8

9:00 am-? OPW Rummage Sale Set-Up: Seminary
10:00 am A.A.: Audio Visual Room

Sunday, October 9

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
10:20 am Church School
11:10 am Time of Fellowship

Monday, October 10

7:00-9:00 pm Art Class: Seminary (Jean Vance)

Tuesday, October 11

9:00 am-? OPW Rummage Sale Set-Up: Seminary
10:30 am Staff Meeting: Molyneaux
2:00 pm DVD Worship: The Knolls of Oxford
6:30 pm Oxford Piecemakers: Seminary

Wednesday, October 12

1:30 pm Adult Study: The Knolls of Oxford
7:00 pm Adult Class: Barnes'

Thursday, October 13

10:30 am Beyond Grief: Molyneaux
6:00-8:00 pm OPW Rummage Sale:
Seminary
7:30 pm Chancel Choir: Geneva Room

Friday, October 14

C.C.N.S. does NOT meet-Fall break

Faith & Fellowship does NOT meet Fall Break

11:00 am-4:00 pm
OPW Rummage Sale: Seminary

Saturday, October 15

9:00 am-noon OPW Rummage Sale: Seminary
noon-? OPW Rummage Sale Clean-Up: Seminary

Sunday, October 16

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship
10:20 am Church School
11:10 am Time of Fellowship
11:15 Membership Committee: Mark's office

Monday, October 17

7:00-9:00 pm Art Class: Seminary (Jean Vance)

Tuesday, October 18

10:30 am Staff Meeting: Molyneaux
1:30 pm Afternoon Circle: The Knolls
6:30 pm Worship & Music Committee: Molyneaux
7:30 pm Session: Molyneaux

Wednesday, October 19

1:30 pm Adult Study: The Knolls of Oxford
7:00 pm Adult Study: the Barnes'
7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts: Seminary
7:30 pm Deacons: Molyneaux
7:30 pm Stewardship & Finance Committee:
Audio Visual Room

Thursday, October 20

*****November Newsletter deadline*****

Beyond Grief group will not meet this week

7:30 pm Chancel Choir: Geneva Room

OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR(continued)

Saturday, October 22

10:00 am A.A.: Audio Visual Room

Sunday, October 23

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 am Worship
 10:20 am Church School
 11:10 am Time of Fellowship
 2:30-4:30 pm OPW Fall Gathering: Molyneaux

Monday, October 24

7:00-9:00 pm Art Class: Seminary (Jean Vance)

Tuesday, October 25

Set up at the Seminary for blood drive

10:30 am Staff Meeting: Molyneaux
 2:00 pm DVD Worship: The Knolls of Oxford
 7:30 pm Trustees: Molyneaux

Wednesday, October 26

3:00-7:00 pm Blood Drive: Seminary
 7:30 pm OPW Coordinating Team: Molyneaux
 7:00-8:00 pm Cub Scouts: Seminary (upstairs)

Thursday, October 27

10:30 am Beyond Grief: Molyneaux
 7:30 pm Chancel Choir: Geneva Room

Friday, October 28

7:00-9:00 pm Faith & Fellowship
 (Middle School youth): Seminary

Saturday, October 29

10:00 am A.A.: Audio Visual Room

Sunday, October 30

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 am Worship
 10:20 am Church School
 11:10 am Time of Fellowship
[Kiwani Food Drive for Thanksgiving Baskets:](#)
[Seminary](#)

Monday, October 31

7:00-9:00 pm Art Class: Seminary (Jean Vance)

2011 Thank Offering

Presbyterian Women

Since 1888, Presbyterian women have expressed gratitude for God's blessings by sharing their blessings through the Thank Offering. This offering funds programs that relieve pain, provide clean water, alleviate homelessness, provide educational opportunities, promote health and improve the lives of women and children throughout the world. This year that tradition continues by supporting 26 projects chosen from the 68 requests received. Funds from the 2011 Thank Offering will make possible new work for projects in the United States and 12 projects internationally from 11 countries. Please use envelopes that were in the September newsletter or in the pews to make your gift.

DAY SERVICES

Faith Lutheran Church
 420 S. Campus Avenue



Warm Cinnamon and pumpkin aroma - Autumn greetings to all!! We have decorated the Day Service in fabulous fall colors. Stop by and say **HI**.

The time has come for our annual **WALK OF THE GENERATIONS**. It will be held at the Knolls of Oxford on October 29 from 10-12am. There is a \$10 entry fee and lap sponsors are encouraged, (three laps are a mile) we will have music and snacks for walkers. All proceeds go directly to the Adult Day Service. Come out and join us in this fun fundraising event for the ADS.

Our friends – The Kappa Kappa Gamma ladies will be returning on October 5th to again head up the OMA art program. This is a program developed by Like Loken at Miami University to Open Minds through art, designed specifically for people with alzheimers and dementia. We are so very fortunate to have this program to offer here to the ADS clients every other Wednesday afternoon. We have two birthdays in October to celebrate. Chris Quimby's is October 24 and Edna H. is the 30th. We would like to wish both ladies a very **Happy Birthday!!** We have some openings at the Day Service. If you know someone who may be interested in information, please have them call Debbie Curry at 513-523-0464.