

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
JUNE/JULY - 2010

TO:

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Organist: Lynn Jacobs

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JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 1 Marjory Fetter
June 2 Sarah Miller
Sandy Richardson
Bill Fisher
Justin McGoldrick
June 3 Marlene Vaughn
Sherry Schilling
June 5 Joyce Bolon
June 6 Ellen Bueschel
June 7 Mary Fuehrer
Jim Sturgeon
June 8 Bill King
Joni Marcum
June 10 Rachel Mehl
June 13 Scott Hartman
Mitch Poetter
June 14 Janet Holmes
June 16 Dave Maxfield
June 17 Maxine Peters
Joe Wespiser
Pat Roberts
June 18 Bill Snavely
June 19 Adele McLaren
June 21 Judy Fisher
Ian Pacey
June 22 Charles Skipper
John Baer
June 23 Opal Wespiser
Andrea Johnson
April 27 Kate Wespiser
Linda Hesford
June 28 Betty Reinhart
Jane Hollingsworth
Cheryl Ferris
June 29 Connie Everhart

JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 1 Jay Baird
Janet Stuckey
July 2 Elizabeth Lane
July 3 Nancy Crell
July 4 Jack Vaughn
Jim Wilson
July 5 Roberta Crain
July 6 Ann Hardy
July 9 Lucy Ewbank
Michael Wilkins
July 10 Nancy Moeckel
July 12 William Hazleton
July 13 Richard Ziegler
July 14 Jim Maynard
July 15 Betty Tomblinson
July 15 Dave Kraushar
July 16 Mary Lou Bogan
Judy Spencer
Jean Vance
Barbara Jena
July 19 Gil Siegel
Amanda McGoldrick
July 20 Reba Deiss
July 23 Bruce Bowerman
July 24 Joyce Trump
Ashley Richardson
July 25 Karen Shearer
July 26 Peg McKillop
Vicki Pacey
July 28 Bob Lake
July 29 Alexandra Hazleton
July 31 Barbara Mecklenborg
Janet Feazell

FROM OUR PASTORS

“The Gift of Community”

The key purpose of the Pentecost event, wrote Reformer John Calvin, was the “gift of community.” The Spirit descended upon the disciples with a mighty wind and with tongues of fire and they spoke in many languages so that all could understand. What remained after these dramatic effects passed away was a community. Frightened, dispirited disciples were forged into a community animated by the Spirit of Jesus. They became the Church.

In these weeks after Pentecost we give thanks for the gift of community. More especially, we thank God for the gift of being part of our congregation. What a gift of community the Spirit gives when members show care for one another! We personally are grateful for such care this last month through cards and food and yard work and prayers. And what a gift of community the Spirit gave us all in the thirteen young people preparing to be confirmed in their faith on Pentecost Sunday! And what a gift of community the Spirit is giving *through* our church in all the ways members contribute to the growth of love and justice in our city and in our world! On Memorial Day Sunday, the “Worship Away” at Hopewell and the picnic afterwards will be a special affirmation of the gift of community. Praise God that we are not alone to face the challenges of life! God is with us through the presence of our brothers and sisters in Christ! What a gift!

These Sundays after Pentecost may also be a time when we thank God for community with the greater family of faith. We’ll be worshipping together with our United Methodist friends for two months. What a joy for those of us who meet up in so many other settings (in neighborhoods, in service organizations, in sports, in bridge groups or book clubs, shopping at Kroger’s) that we may enjoy worshipping together, coming together for no other reason than that we love God, to claim and celebrate our unity in Christ. A number of us, on vacation, will worship with other congregations in the States and abroad. Give thanks for the Spirit who has raised up a worldwide church!

It may also be a time, this more relaxed time before the Fall begins, to revisit our individual and family commitments to participating in the community of the Spirit. What kind of time and energy, what kind of intentionality will we bring to building community in and through our congregation?

Leonard Sweet has written, “Like leaven added to dough, bringing a loaf to life, the Holy Spirit wants to permeate an environment until a glob of people, dense with selfish discord and heavy with small mindedness, is transformed into something fresh, buoyant, and beautiful. For this reason, if we are to experience the fullness of the Spirit, we cannot experience it in ourselves alone, or by membership in a community and support of a community building, but only through personal participation in community-building.”¹

Giving thanks for the Spirit’s gift of community, and recommitting ourselves to participate in building spiritual community -- something to think and pray about as we head into Summer! In the Fall, the Holy Conversations Planning Team and the Session will challenge us with some concrete ways we might celebrate and more passionately participate in the wonderful community God has given us. Give thanks for all God’s gifts! We give thanks for all of you!
Mark and Barbara, pastors

¹Sweet, Leonard. *New Life in the Spirit*. Westminster Press, 1982.

FROM OUR STUDENT PASTOR - Deb Bolen

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now" (Philippians 1:3-5, NRSV).

My dear Friends,

It is difficult for me to believe that my time serving as your student pastor is drawing to a close on May 30 and that nine months could pass by so quickly; it is difficult to believe how much this time has meant in my life and how much I will miss you all. I thank God for each and every one of you for all that you have taught me and all that you have meant to me. I feel so very lucky to have shared this time with you, so it is difficult to say goodbye.

When I arrived here, I was not at all sure what my call was or what in the world God was calling me to do. I have much yet to learn, but I am astounded that my sense of call has become so clear through the course of this year. I am called to pastor a church, to preach a message of healing and good news, to walk with people through the many stages of life.

Still, I have much yet to learn. The M.Div. degree is a 90 hour program and I still have one more year of seminary classes to complete. In the fall, I will begin a semester of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at Clarian North Medical Center in Indianapolis in which I will complete 300 hours of supervised face-to-face patient visits and 100 hours of group and individual education at the hospital. When I complete the CPE program, I will have earned an additional 6 credit hours toward graduation, projected for May of 2011. CPE is known to be intense as well as rewarding, and I am looking forward to continuing to grow and learn in the hospital setting as I integrate the many elements of life into the practice of spiritual care.

Oxford Presbyterian Church – which includes each one of you reading this – is a congregation that never blinked at my missteps or my bumbling words as I lost my place in reading or my train of thought in speaking. You have been

encouraging, supportive, and loving, and you grew me into being comfortable and self-assured whether I was in the pulpit, in a nursing home, at the hospital, or in your homes.

You have taken me into your hearts and your lives without flinching, and in so doing, you have birthed a fledgling pastor. I will forever be grateful for my time with you because you have taught me so much. I am thankful for **Barbara and Mark's** wise and supportive supervision, for my Ministry Support Committee (**Candace, Nancy, Pam, Bill, and Marty**) for making me laugh and for not letting me take my mistakes so seriously, and for each and every one of you who invited me into your midst.

I pray with a thankful and grateful heart and with a sense of wonder for this journey together. I truly do thank my God at each remembrance of you, constantly praying with joy in my prayers for all of you, because you have indeed shared the gospel from my first day among you until now. You are a light in Oxford, a bright light indeed, and it has illumined me with the love of God that you so graciously shared with me. Be well, my friends, and continue to live out your call to be the hands and feet of Christ in Oxford and in the world. Peace and blessings to each one of you.

Love,
Deb

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Prue Dana

We couldn't do it without them! What and Who? Have a full Sunday school program without our youth! Our adults are the anchors, but our youth **Mark, Ben and Will Hesford** all taught a rotation workshop, as did **Amanda McGoldrick, Kelsey Listerman, and Sara Smith. Jenni Roberts** taught a quarter of Preschool. **Alex Hughes** has assisted with numerous classes. **Lindsay Crist, Matt Rudolph, Maya DeGennaro and Thomas Payne** have all helped in the summer as well as during the year and on special Sundays. **Emily Wade** has helped consistently in the nursery. I

have also called on **Sam and Mitch Poetter and Ethan and Jeremy Crist**. Now at the end of the school year, we say thank you! And hope we can call again on them all!!!

Summer youth helpers and teachers are **Matt Rudolph, Maya DeGennaro, Thomas Payne and Emily Wade**. If you are a parent out there who would like their youth to assist in some way this summer, please contact **Prue Dana**.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- June 6: Commissioning of the youth and adults going on the Habitat for Humanity Work Project with Baldwin County Habitat in Foley, Alabama. Those going are **Jenni Roberts, Amanda McGoldrick, Emily Wade, Spencer Wade, Bo Stephenson, Evan Bader, David Malone, Chris Bailer, Kevin Jamieson, Kody Wilhelm, Justin McGoldrick, Melanie Leonard, Maggie Dowling, Mike Malone, Prue Dana**
- **June 20 is the first Union Service and Sunday School. Children follow the same routine as worship.**

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER TEACHING SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR. Opportunities available: Preschool: for a quarter period. Workshop Rotation for a 4 to 5 week commitment during the course of the year. Please see the insert.

WEEKEND VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

Join everyone at God's Great Get-Together. All are welcome at the Baobab Blast. Weekend Vacation Bible School. July 16, 17, 18.

- Friday, 5 to 8pm
- Saturday, 10am to 3pm
- Sunday, during 10am Union Service at the Faith Lutheran Church
 - There will be an all church picnic after worship
 - The offering will go for insecticide treated mosquito nets!

This is a joint venture, presented by Oxford UMC, Oxford Presbyterian Church and Faith

Lutheran and Holy Trinity for children of the Oxford Community

KIRKMONT NEWS: At this point we have 9 attending Kirkmont this summer! There is still time to check out the most intriguing camping programs-from preschool through adult!

MISSION TRIP 2010: June 7-13, sixteen youth and adults will head to Foley, Alabama. We wish the group God Speed and look forward to a sharing of the experience in late August.

COMMUNITY MEAL CONTINUES IN THE SUMMER

The Presbyterian Community Meal will be June 30, 2010, 5:30 to 6:30 at the Seminary. Please look for the bulletin insert that asks what can be contributed. The menu will be all kinds of salad and rolls. The main salad will be Chicken Salad. Please sign up for:

- Chicken Salad,
- Other Salads
- Rolls
- Dessert

Please make a dish to serve 10-12 and bring to the Seminary in the afternoon of June 30. Email or call **Prue Dana** or the church office with what you might contribute.

Christian Cooperative Nursery School ~ (C.C.N.S.): There are still openings in the school year 2010-11 in the Christian Co-op Nursery School. For questions call Verda Johnson, 523-6174, Roberta Crain, 523-1026 or Prue Dana, 523-6364.

DEACONS

ANGEL REPORT: Deacons connected with their angles with 7 cards, 10 calls, 29 visits and 3 errands.

STRESS AND CONCERN MISSION:

Delivered 21 meals to folks needing assistance. Prepared 2 after memorial service receptions: including a hot lunch for out of town family members.

KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

“Summertime and the living is easy...” For many of us this is true. For others less fortunate, summer can be a difficult time. The money generated from our members using their Kroger gift cards has been used to help make monthly food purchases for the Community Choice Food Pantry. This summer, it will also be used to help purchase food items more geared towards children, who will be home from school and not necessarily getting the nutritious meals often provided by the school. So keep using your Kroger cards so that you can help make summertime an easier time for others.



Did you know? The money you load onto your Kroger gift card can also be used at the Kroger fuel pumps? It’s so easy. Follow the prompts as you would if you were going to use a credit card, but instead choose the option to pay with a gift card and just swipe your Kroger Rewards gift card. Need a gift card? It’s so easy to get one. See Elaine in the church office, or call **Debbie DeGennaro @ 524-2409**. Take it easy and have a great summer!

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Mission and Outreach Committee provides information to our congregation each month about opportunities for volunteer service in our community as a way of encouraging our members to become involved in local mission. We also want to recognize and rejoice in the many ways our church members are reaching out to the community. As a church we need to find ways to reach out to those in need.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Oxford Parks & Recreation
Dept. Contact Person: **Tom Holmes** - I have an ongoing commitment to OPRD as a coach of youth teams. I have completed two seasons of T-Ball, one season of Flag Football and look forward to the



instructional basketball league beginning the first of the new year. During each of these seasons I give about 3 hours/ week, but a total of about 50 hours/year. I enjoy working with my son Grady and kids his age in the development of movement and athletic skills.

Talawanda Recreation Inc

Contact Person: **Tom Holmes**

My involvement requires little more than a one-hour meeting each month, and an occasional hour spent at special events hosted by the TRI. My involvement is no more than two hours/month, and I hope at some point in time I will feel as though we have done something important to further the recreational opportunities to youth in the Talawanda School District, as well as adult members of our community.

Pleasant Vineyard Youth Ministries

Contact Persons: **Jim and Billie Maynard**



Located near Camden, this

organization provides Christ centered youth camps in age range from K5 to K12.

Campers come from the tri state area and some from

foreign countries as well. Last year we had two youngsters from Vietnam. In the spring we host some 600 Preble County sixth graders, for earth day with other Preble County organizations. It has been a very rewarding relationship, seeing young people's lives changed. During the school year, a leadership team of students called SLAM (Student Leaders As Mentors) have some 300 teens meet monthly at the YMCA for an evening of inspirational speakers featuring character development. Several years ago we began an outreach to disadvantaged kids in the Over the Rhine area of Cincinnati. Many of these youngsters have never been in the out of doors.

CARES, CONCERNS AND JOYS

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Keep these friends in your prayers:
Janet Ziegler, Adoree Bystrom, Leda Melis, Brian Hitsman, Keith Dittman



WE CELEBRATE the May 26th birth of **Autumn Elizabeth Saylor**, daughter of Brad and Katie (Marcum) Saylor and big sister of Brady. Proud grandparents are Joni and Danny Marcum.

IN MEMORIAM:

We celebrate the life of **Dwight Smith** who died early on May 6th and surround his son, Greg, and other family members and loved ones with our prayers.

We keep the family of **Martin Dulgarian** in our hearts and prayers as they celebrate his life and grieve their loss.

We remember in our prayers Rodger and Jan Cromer as they grieve the death of Rodger's daughter, Vicky.

We remember Barbara and Charles Skipper as they grieve the death of Barbara's mother, Alice Creager.

THANK YOU: Our Thanks and Appreciation goes to **Pam Deahl** and **Layne Listerman** for completing our story walls with Old Testament Stories. Please visit the back stairwell to see and marvel at their talent and creativity. The front stairwell to the second floor has been painted for some time now with New Testament stories. The middle upstairs hallway was completed 4 years ago with a Market Scene. We will be using the pictures this summer and fall for our curriculum. Thank you again for sharing your talent with everyone and for braving the scaffolds.



**OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH WOMEN
HONORED WOMEN 2010:**

Honorary life memberships in the Presbyterian Women of the Presbyterian Church are awarded to those who have shown a commitment to Christ and exhibited faithful service to the mission of the church. Honorees

receive a pin designed to commemorate the uniting of the women of the former United Presbyterian Church of the U.S. and the Presbyterian Church U.S. in the mid 1960's. These symbols include - hands that represent women building an inclusive community; a leaf showing growth in personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ; the dove that indicates the work toward peace in their own lives and in the world; the cross in the center of the design demonstrates that our sins are forgiven as we live with Christ as the center of our lives; and the overall design of the butterfly symbolizes our newness in Christ and the emergence of the creation of the combined Presbyterian Women's groups. Oxford Presbyterian Women contribute \$95 for each honorary membership from this church. The money goes toward supporting leadership development opportunities. On Sunday, May 9, two women were bestowed with the title, Honored Woman. Below are the nomination letters for each.

Both of the women honored this morning have been active in this congregation for almost a half century – each – although you would not know that to watch them work. Both have been active in their professional lives and in the Oxford community.

From the Presbyterian point of view - one of our honorees has served on Session at least twice, with her focus in the Christian Education committee and teaching both in the Sunday School and participating in Vacation Bible School; she is one of those people that when you call for a special event she will say "How can I help?" she has served on the church personnel committee; served as a liaison between CCNS and church; she is currently spending many Wednesday evenings with the Holy Conversations Planning Team; and is volunteering daily with CCNS doing many of the busy work jobs that frees teacher, Verda Johnson, so that she can concentrate her energies on the children. It gives us great pleasure to call **Roberta Crain** forward.

Another Session member with multiple terms of service - she just cannot say NO – had the opportunity to serve on one of the Pastoral Nominating Committees – this was during the years that she was also putting her many talents to use for the benefit of the now defunct Holiday

bazaar; she has traveled many miles in this Presbytery as commissioner to Presbytery meetings; she has contributed squares to both quilts that are displayed in the Molyneaux and the hallway; has served as a wedding hostess; after her retirement she jumped into the Rummage Sale and boutique, helps with fall kick-off luncheons, takes cookies to worship service visitors and acquaints them with our congregation through her service on the membership committee; and has gotten her hands dirty planting the urns at the entrance to the church with seasonal flowers. By now, **Susan King**, you must know who we are talking about.

Roberta Crain and Susan King, we are very happy to recognize you as an Honored Women of 2010.

EVENING CIRCLE

The Tuesday Evening Circle will meet June 1st at 6:30 pm at the home of Nancy Sturgeon for a picnic. Co-Hostess is Violet Suit; Program: Billie Maynard; Devotions: Joyce Trump.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON CIRCLE

The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will have its last meeting before the summer break Tuesday June 15th at 1:30 in the Board Room at the Knolls with **Lawretta Clum** leading the Joshua Bible Study. **Betty Reinhart** will do the Mission Yearbook and **Mary Dodd Hunter** will conduct the Least Coin. Those desiring lunch at 12 in the Commons before the meeting please call **Lawretta Clum** by Friday June 11. The \$6.00 lunch is optional. New members and visitors are always welcome.

SPRING RUMMAGE RESULTS

The unofficial total is in for the Presbyterian Women's Spring Rummage Sale. The total is \$2771.95. Thank you Oxford Presbyterian for helping in so many ways: set-up, tear-down, unpacking, sorting, pricing, displaying, donations of every size and description, selling, advertising, accounting and shopping. Scores of people made this happen and scores of people will benefit with the proceeds going to mission locally and around the world. Thank you and thanks be to God!

The co-chairs want to make sure that everyone who volunteered knows that we appreciate **EACH ONE OF YOU** *very much* and are *very grateful* for your time and talents. We want to acknowledge the contributions of:

Sukie Ahn, Mary Bachman Jane Baer, Pris Berry, Margaret Butcher, Lawretta Clum, Jan Cromer, Chuck Crain, Nancy Crell, Brad Cronk, Marilyn Curry, Reba Deiss, Sandy Drewes, Carol Flee, Steve Flee, Joe Foltz, Pat Gifford, Ann Hardy, Judy Herold, Alex Hughes, Greg Hughes, Michael Hughes, Jane Jackson, Marylee Keebler, Susan King, Marjory Leflar, Jim Maynard, Billie Maynard, Barbara Mecklenborg, Evalou Middaugh, Marty Miller, Mickey Preston, Becky Quay, Betty Reinhart, Jo Reinhart, Jan Reinhart, Mary Jane Roberts, Karen Simpson, Joe Simpson, Diane Sklensky, Barbara Skipper, Nick Soika, Sarah Jane Soika, William Soika, Jack Staberg, Violet Suit, Nancy Sturgeon, Dave Wilson, Jim Wilson, Sue Wilson, Jean Woodruff, Janet Zeigler.

If we left your name off the list, it was an unfortunate oversight. Please let **Nancy Moeckel** know, so that we can correct ourselves.



The Rummage Co-Chairs:

Lynn Cronk, Paula Foltz, Ginny Staberg, Nancy Moeckel

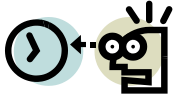
Fall Rummage Sale Dates Set!!

Keep these dates open:

- Sale Hours
 - Thursday, Sept. 23: 6-8 p.m.
 - Friday, Sept. 24: 11-4
 - Saturday, Sept. 25: 9-12
- Wednesday Dates
 - August 18: 9-12 Turn Around/ Sort
 - Aug. 25: 9-12 Sort
 - Sept. 1: 9-12 Sort
 - Sept. 8: 9-12 Sort
 - Sept. 15: 9-12 Sort
- Set-Up
 - Saturday Sept. 18: 9 a.m.
 - Pricing and Store Set-Up Sept. 20-22: 9-3 each day



ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Deadline for the August Newsletter
is July 20, 2010**

FIRST FRIDAY NITERS FELLOWSHIP

- First Friday Niters will meet Friday, June 4th for a picnic at the **Sturgeons**, 417 Pamela Drive. Bring a covered dish and your own table service. All are welcome!
- First Friday Niters will meet Friday July 2 at the church to carpool to Ainsley's restaurant. Meet at 5:00 p.m. to carpool.

Presbyterian Writers Guild prize goes to environmental stewardship tome. By Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE — **Rebecca Barnes-Davies**, a student at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and consultant for environmental and social justice ministries for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), has been named winner of the Presbyterian Writers Guild (PWG) 2010 Angell Award for the best first book by a Presbyterian author. Barnes-Davies will be honored at the PWG luncheon at the upcoming 219th General Assembly in Minneapolis for her book *50 Ways to Help Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Help Make a Difference* (Westminster John Knox Press, Louisville, KY). The Angell Award, named for longtime Presbyterian writer Jim Angell, is given each Assembly year to the best first book written by a Presbyterian author. Barnes-Davies' book was chosen from among seven entries. Of *50 Ways*, Angell Award Chair Nancy Bray of Dallas writes: "While the author acknowledges that there are many more than 50 ways to help creation, she explains that she has chosen 50 to symbolize the Scriptural idea of the fiftieth year as the jubilee year, "a time when justice and Sabbath benefit the whole community." In seven chapters, Barnes-Davies leads readers through ways that individuals, churches, and communities can help save the earth through attention to energy, food and agriculture, transportation, water, people, other species, and wilderness and land.

An eighth, or "jubilee" chapter, concludes the book. Each chapter contains a simple, two-page format of subtopic suggestions that give background for the plan, how-to's, a scriptural basis for the idea, and real-life examples ("Walking the Talk.") "While readers will find some familiar ideas among the 50," Bray says, "the new ideas offered can inspire individuals, church study groups, youth groups, vacation church schools, and camps. The book offers an ecumenical approach that will appeal to other denominations, as well."

Information for this story furnished by Nancy Bray.

OPC Adventures in Letterboxing: Staying on the Right Path



It's summertime! Are you ready to enjoy the outdoors? OPC members and their families will begin a new adventure called "Letterboxing". It is an exciting activity combining map-reading skills and artistic ability with "treasure-hunts" in beautiful scenic places. From creative problem-solving to Christian collaboration, we will come together by staying on the right path.

An introduction to letterboxing will begin May 30th during our Worship-Away Day (after lunch, of course). We will get a sneak-peek into letterboxing searching for the boxes containing Harry Potter Series: Search for Harry, Clue#2 and Clue #3. Both of these boxes are located in the beach area. Bring a small notebook and a rubberstamp of your choice for your own personal letterboxing account. An ink pad will be provided as we will create a letterboxing log specific to OPC for use at each of our quests.

Once a month throughout the summer, Letterboxers will meet in the church courtyard at 1:00 to begin a new adventure. Mark your calendars for this wonderful time to have FUN together!

May 30th: Hueston Woods Beach

Harry Potter Series: Search for Harry

June 27th: Liberty Township, OH

Wetlands Park

July 25th: Metamora, IN

Whitewater Canal Trail

August 8th: Fairfield, OH
Harbin Park *

*After letterboxing, take a splash @
FAIRFIELD AQUATIC CENTER
2605 Augusta Blvd, Fairfield, OH 45014

For more information contact Leanne Staley at (513)726-1417, mds2906@zoomtown.com or visit the following websites: <http://www.letterboxing.org/> <http://www.fairfieldcity.org/swimming/aquaticcenter.cfm>

COMMUNITY

Habitat for Humanity

If you think you might be interested in volunteering as a Family Advocate with our Oxford families below is a brief description of this volunteer position.

- Meet with new Partner Families to review and hold families accountable to the program and expectations,
- Meet with families regarding the lot and house choices, and
- Support families in the process and preparation for closing.

Commitment: 8 months (approximately).

Still think you might be interested then read on.... Kevin Buckley, Family Service Coordinator at the TriState office has created two manuals:

- A manual for the Partner Family that contains all the forms and documentation needed to get through the process to close on a house.
- A manual for the Family Advocates that contains all the forms and documentation in the Partner Family manual along with the appropriate descriptions to help fill out the forms and documents.

Mary Melvin (melvinmp@muohio.edu) is working with the folks that are interested in becoming Family Advocates. She will be coordinating meetings with folks to go through the manuals and help prepare you for this very important volunteer position. **Still interested?** Please contact Mary or myself to get you started. Thanks again to everyone for all that you all do!

--Jim Lipnickey

TriState Habitat for Humanity
513-785-3195
lipnicje@muohio.edu
www.habitat-tristate.org

Oxford Seniors is seeking volunteers to be trained as drivers to drive the senior transportation vehicles. Volunteers need be at least 21 years old and have two years of driving experience. They must also have a clean driving record. There is extensive training involved including: CPR/first aid, Defensive Driving, DRIVE Training, Drug and Alcohol Screening, Background check and Fingerprinting. Trained drivers can drive on Sunday mornings, Monday evenings or on an as-needed basis. For more information, contact **Joan Potter-Sommer**, Oxford Seniors at 513-523-8100.

Spring into Volunteering

Looking for a fulfilling, satisfying way to spend your summer? Become a *volunteer with our Home Delivered Meal Program*.

We are looking for a new Friday Packer (our current packer is moving out of town); Fridays at McCullough-Hyde Memorial Hospital from 9:30am to 12:30pm. For more information, call Jennifer Marcum at Oxford Seniors 523-8100

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY ADULT DAY SERVICE

- Summer proves to be a busy time of the year at home and at the Adult Day Service. Here are some highlights of events we have scheduled. We will be having Peter Carels come in and lead us in Drumming fun. Bob Baer will once again return to lead us in our monthly sing a long. We have a COURTYARD CAMPOUT scheduled, a Hawaiian party planned and a fishing trip to go on! We will be celebrating State Parks week with a trip out to Hueston Woods. Summer music programming is back at the Lane Library and we will again be making visits to these musical afternoons at the library. We do want to recognize that June R. is having a birthday on June 24. We would like to invite you in for a visit. If you know anyone who would like information regarding Adult Day Service, please have him or her contact Debbie Curry at 523-0464.

Oxford Community Choice Pantry needs

volunteers for the summer. The Choice Pantry is open Monday and Thursday evenings 5 -7 pm and Saturday afternoon 2 - 4 pm. Orientation for shopping assistant and receptionist volunteers will be held at the OCCP on Thursday, June 3, 2010 from 7:10pm - 8:00 pm. Please contact Mickey Bement mcbement@zoomtown.com if you are interested in attending this required training program. Thank you for your support!

ABOUT JIM CONNERLEY (our jazz trio leader) Information from:

<http://www.jimconnerley.com/home.html>

Pianist Jim Connerley has been an active member of the tri-state jazz community since 1990. He graduated, magna cum laude, with a master's degree from the Indiana University School of Music. He has performed with such internationally known jazz artists as Barry Ries, Don Braden, Antonio Hart, David "Fathead" Newman, Rich Perry and Delfeayo Marsalis. Since moving to the Cincinnati area he has been a member of some of its finest jazz groups including the Pat Harbison Quintet, the Cohesion Jazz Ensemble the salsa band, Tropicoso and the rock band, The Hiders. Currently he is a member of the Art Gore Quartet, the John Zappa Quartet, Salsa Brava, the Brent Gallaher Quartet, the Dan Faehnle Quartet, and the Gary Gorrell Trio...

Along with his own jazz trio, Jim also leads the United Methodist Jazz trio, an exciting group who performs jazz treatments of gospel songs, hymns and spirituals. Their album, Spirit Songs, re-released in 2006 received critical acclaim from



both jazz and liturgical circles. Music critic Larry Nager of the Cincinnati Enquirer gave the album 4-½ stars and called it "music of the highest level."

He also leads the Vintage Keys Project, a group dedicated to music showcasing the Fender Rhodes and Wurlitzer electric pianos. The group performs classic arrangements by artists such as Miles Davis, Chick Corea, Cannonball Adderley and Dave Douglas as well as originals and original arrangements by members of the band.

Jim has appeared on nearly twenty CDs including the recent releases, Vanessa's Song by Brent Gallaher, A Road Less Traveled by the Pat Harbison Quintet and the 2009 release of Frequency by vibraphonist Rusty Burge. Currently he is working on an album of jazz duos featuring performances by some of the area's best artists.

Jim has been a jazz educator on the university level since 1990. He has taught at Miami of Ohio University and the DePauw University School of Music. Currently he is a member of the jazz faculty at the University of Louisville School of Music.

HOLY CONVERSATION PLANNING TEAM

The Holy Conversation Planning Team was pleased to provide the congregation with a progress report on Sunday, May 16. Many stayed after the worship service to watch a PowerPoint presentation, ask questions and engage in a brief conversation. The full report was given to Session on Tuesday, May 11. Elders and HC Team members will work through details and further prioritize recommendations at the June Session meeting. **Pat Gifford**, Convener of the HC Team, thanked the team for their continuing commitment and many hours of work and study. *She also encouraged the congregation to save the date of September 26 for a Conversation Cafe.* More specific recommendations will be presented and the church community can sign up for one or more of the many "Go Teams" being formed to implement action items from the report. The outline of the presentation is below. Hard copies of the PowerPoint slides can be obtained from **Roberta Crain**, HC Team Recorder (523-1026) or crainrw@muohio.edu.
Progress Report of the Holy Conversations Planning Team

- The Charge
- Session, Spring 2009
 - Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Guide Rendle & Mann
 - Session and Lay Leader Retreat
 - Planning Team commissioned
 - Robert Crain, Recorder
 - Rich Drewes
 - Bill Fisher
 - Pat Gifford, Convener
 - Joan Hoover
 - Chris Wilson
 - Tip Ziegler
 - Barbara and Mark Barnes, Co-Pastors

- The Process
 - Holy Conversation Planning Team, April 2009-May 2010
 - Reading, study, conversation, discernment, planning the process
 - Information gathering
 - Worship surveys, discussion groups
 - Conversation Café, Conversation Quick Stop
 - Discussions with community, university and church leaders
 - Analysis of Learnings
 - Session Retreat, initial findings and feedback
 - Shaping our Future
 - Mission, Vision, Goals, Recommendations
 - KEY FINDINGS
 - Members appreciate:
 - Overall contentment with church, pastors, staff and programs
 - Sanctuary beautiful and comforting
 - Christian Education one of the best
 - Relationships important in attracting and retaining
 - Members are concerned:
 - Aging, lack of diversity in congregation
 - Decline in membership and attendance
 - Inadequate or inappropriate spaces for welcome, fellowship, alternate worship
 - Lack of accessibility
 - Family time constraints
 - Financial concerns for the future
 - Lack of awareness of OPC in community
 - KEY FINDINGS
 - National cultural context
 - Decline of membership in mainline churches
 - Lack of trust in institutions including churches
 - Increase in persons claiming “no religion”
 - Consumer culture in religion—what can the church do for ME?
 - Local context
 - No growth in Oxford population
 - Miami University suffering cutbacks and job loss
 - Population dip in 25-49 year olds in Butler County
 - More families and students in need
 - MISSION
 - The Oxford Presbyterian Church is a community
 - Seeking God, Serving Others and Sharing Christ’s Love With all
 - VISION
 - Our Big Holy Audacious Goal (our vision of the future, five to ten years ahead)
 - To be a more joyful, passionate, spiritually vibrant, intergenerational community of friends who are intentionally *engaged in* growing in faith, *committed to* serving our community and the world, and *centered on* transforming lives through the Good News of Jesus Christ.

- GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Seeking God—We strive to know God and love God. As fellow seekers welcome all who wish to learn and grow with us.
 - Through worship
 - Through spiritual growth
 - Through Christian education
 - GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Serving Others—Following our Servant Savior, we give our time, talent and resources to help bring fullness of life to others.
 - Through local mission
 - Through Miami student outreach
 - Through a “Care Line”
 - GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Sharing Christ’s Love With All—Through our words and actions, we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ. Filled with joy and hope, we build relationship across any boundaries that separate us.
 - Through Fellowship
 - Through Evangelism
 - Through Communication
 - GOALS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
- Supporting the Mission of the Oxford Presbyterian Church
 - Through Facilities
 - Through Financial Management
- SUMMARY
 - Recommendations focus on engagement and involvement of everyone to fulfill our mission and God’s plan for our congregation
 - Session will thoughtfully and prayerfully prioritize
 - We are recommending that an implementation team be formed to guide...
 - ...”Go Teams” in each key area to implement action items
 - Consider where YOU can provide time, talent and resources to carry out our mission
 - *Come to Conversation Café on September 26*

JUNE CALENDAR

Tuesday, June 1

6:30 Evening Circle Picnic: Nancy Sturgeon’s

Friday, June 4

6:30 First Friday Niters: Picnic at Jim and Nancy Sturgeon’s.

Saturday, June 5

10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial

Sunday, June 6

9:00 Chancel Choir

10:00 Worship - Commissioning of Habitat Mission Trip Participants; Presentation of Jamieson Award

10:20 Church School

11:05 Time of Fellowship: Courtyard

Monday, June 7

Youth Mission Trip June 7 – 13

Wednesday, June 9

7:30 Stewardship and Finance Committee

Thursday, June 10

6:30 Mission and Outreach Committee

Saturday, June 12

10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial

Sunday, June 13

9:00 Chancel Choir

10:00 Worship

10:20 Church School

11:05 Time of Fellowship: Courtyard
Tuesday, June 15
 Worship and Music Committee will **NOT** meet
 7:30 Session: Molyneaux
Wednesday, June 16
 6:30 Christian Education Committee
 7:30 Deacons: Molyneaux
Saturday, June 19
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
Sunday, June 20 - Father's Day
 Union Services - OPC
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir: OPC
 10:00 Worship: OPC-OUMC leading worship
 10:20 Church School
 11:05 Ice Cream Social: Courtyard
Tuesday, June 22
 7:30 Trustees
Friday, June 25
 Mobile Health Fair in Willard, Ohio
 OPC participants leave Jun 24, return June 26
Saturday, June 26
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
Sunday, June 27
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir; OPC
 10:00 Worship: OPC-OUMC leading worship
 10:20 Church School
 11:05 Time of Fellowship: Courtyard

JULY CALENDAR

Friday, July 2
 5:00 First Friday Niters. Meet at the church
 to carpool to Ainsley's restaurant
Saturday, July 3
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
Sunday, July 4 Union Services – OPC
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir: OPC
 10:00 Worship: OPC-OUMC leading worship
 10:20 Church School: OPC
 11:05 Time of Fellowship: Courtyard
Monday, July 5 - Office Closed
Saturday, July 10
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
Sunday, July 11
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir: OPC
 10:00 Worship: OPC-OUMC leading worship
 10:20 Church School: OPC
 11:05 Time of Fellowship: Courtyard

Friday, July 16
 4:30 Deahl/Chaney Wedding Rehearsal:
 7-9 Vacation Bible School at Faith
 Lutheran Church
Saturday, July 17
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
 10-2:00 Vacation Bible School at Faith
 Lutheran Church
 5:30 Wedding - Erica Deahl and Daniel
 Chaney: Sanctuary
Sunday, July 18 - Union Services - OUMC
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir: OUMC
 10:00 Worship: OUMC -OPC leading worship
 10:20 Church School: OUMC
 11:05 Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, July 20
 Deadline for August Newsletter
Friday, July 23
 6:00 Johnson/Hoelzer Wedding Rehearsal:
 Sanctuary
Saturday, July 24
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial
 5:30 Wedding of Verda Johnson and Ned
 Hoelzer: Sanctuary
Sunday, July 25
 Union Services - OUMC
 9:00 Combined Chancel Choir: OUMC
 10:00 Worship: OUMC OPC leading worship
 10:20 Church School: OUMC
 11:05 Time of Fellowship: Fellowship Hall
Saturday, July 31
 10:00 Alcoholics Anonymous: Memorial