

MARCH 2022

OAKNOTES



Oakmont Presbyterian Church
415 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oakmont, PA 15139
412.828.5770
www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org



Beloved in Christ,

I don't remember how I got the picture below. It was a cottage that a former church member rented while she was in seminary. To me, it looks magical as if it were part of a children's fable. As I imagine entering the cottage, a desire to read and think and pray is stirred within me.

We read in Scripture that early one morning Jesus went off by himself to pray (Mark 1:35). Ruth Haley Barton writes, "Solitude is a place. It is a place in time that is set apart for God and for God alone, a time when we unplug and withdraw from the noise of interpersonal interactions, from the noise, busyness and constant stimulation associated with life in the company of others. Solitude can also be associated with a physical place that has been set apart for times alone with God, a place that is not cluttered with work, noise, technology, other relationships, or any of those things that call us back into doing mode. Most important, solitude is a place inside myself where God's Spirit and my spirit dwell together in union." (*Sacred Rhythms*)

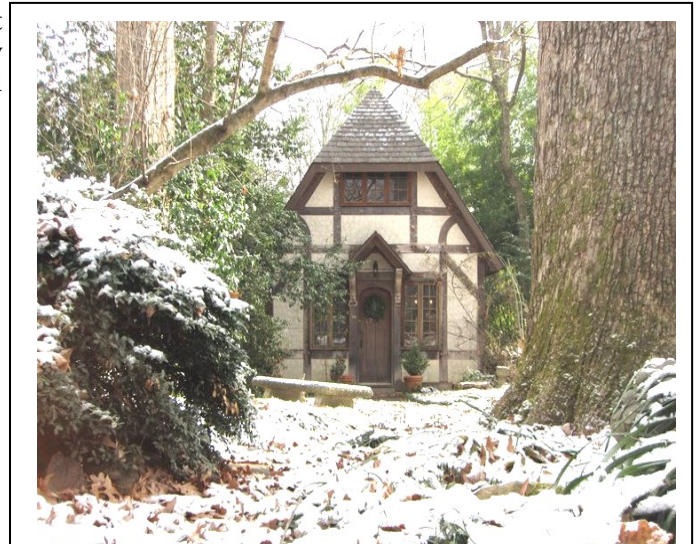
I am interested to learn what places and devotionals nurture your spirit. One woman I recently visited had two different daily devotional booklets in her room. "Our Daily Bread", "Pray as You Go" and "Sacred Space" are three internet-based devotionals that you may find helpful.

This year we are providing a Lenten devotional from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Copies of the devotional are located in the church vestibules. If you prefer to receive a daily email of the devotional, 1. Visit <https://www.pts.edu/email> 2. Complete the required information and select Devotionals (Advent and Lent). 3. Then click "Subscribe".

Lent begins on March 2nd which is Ash Wednesday. We will gather for worship that evening at 7 p.m. and begin our Lenten journey together. I pray that this Lent may be a season of Christian nurture and growing closeness with God.

Yours in Christ,

Steve



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY – April 10 at 11:00 am

Steve Wilson, preaching
Palm Sunday Processional led by Children of OPC
Distribution of Palm Crosses

MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 14 at 7:00 pm

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated
Steve Wilson, preaching
Ministry of Music: Chancel Choir

GOOD FRIDAY – April 15 at 8:00 pm

7:40 pm - *Prelude for Good Friday* (organ)
8:00 pm - *Service of Tenebrae*
A dramatic service of shadows, darkness, scripture and music
that enables participants to reflect deeply on the events of Christ's
last week leading to the crucifixion.
Led by the Chancel Choir and Lay Readers

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 17 at 11:00 am

Festival of the Resurrection of The Lord
Steve Wilson, preaching
Ministry of Music:
Chancel Choir, Hillsdale Brass, percussion and organ

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you at our services!

Childcare will be available at OPC services

OAKMONT PREBYTERIAN CHURCH - FOB REQUEST POLICY



To complete the keyless building entry system will require all key locks on external doors to be removed on **April 4, 2022**. As a result, a keyless FOB will be necessary to enter the building after hours. If you feel it is necessary to obtain a FOB, please review the criteria below. Should your situation meet these criteria a request form will be available in the church office by the church secretary (Mon-Fri 9:00 am-2:00 pm). Each request will be reviewed by OPC Session Property Committee for authorization prior to FOB's being issued. Upon departure from church or no longer matching FOB criteria, the FOB is to be returned within 30 days. The new system was installed to improve the security for all at OPC.

CRITERIA:

- All OPC Staff members, Session Committee Chairpersons, Trustee Officers and Deacon Moderator are to have a FOB once requested. FOB to be returned upon end of those responsibilities.
- Necessary OPC member entry should be at minimum of twice per month on average, which needs to be listed on FOB request form. If not, entry times can be programmed in by the church secretary upon request negating a need for a FOB.
- All external groups meeting at the church ARE NOT to have FOBS as their meetings are routine and should request entry times to be programmed at minimum once per week prior to the event unless an on-going routine meeting which can be programmed as requested.
- All FOB requests must be made by a signed form available at our church office (Mon-Fri 9:00 am-2:00 pm) and will require approval from the OPC Session Property Committee.



ANCHORS AWEIGH



A Concert Presented By

THE SCOT SYMPHONIC BAND

AND

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER PIPE BAND

OAKMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
415 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
OAKMONT, PA 15139

SUNDAY MARCH 20TH, 2022
4:30PM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. DONATIONS ACCEPTED.
AUDIENCE MEMBERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MASK

RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS

AAs

Mondays at Noon
Multi-Purpose Room

Saturdays at 8:30 pm
Dining Room

Women's AAs

Wednesday at 10:00 am
Dining Room

NAs

Thursdays at 8:00 pm
Dining Room

EYE GLASS COLLECTION

The Lions Clubs collect used eyeglasses and deliver them to regional Recycling Centers where they are cleaned, sorted by prescription strength and packaged. Most are distributed to people in need in developing countries where they will have the greatest impact. The Lions Clubs accept prescription and reading glasses, sunglasses and plastic and metal frames. Children's glasses are especially needed. For your convenience, there is a drop box located in the church office.



Chancel Flowers – would you like to place flowers in the sanctuary some Sunday to provide visual beauty to worship? One or two arrangements are welcome each week. They can be placed *in memory of loved ones, in celebration of an event or to honor someone*, and all to the Glory of God. Please call Carla Lowman at 412-826-5914 to reserve your date; give her the info and wording for the bulletin that week. We appreciate your assistance in enhancing the beauty of our sanctuary!
Available Dates – February 27 (no flowers during Lent) Available dates will continue Sunday April 24.

Please continue to support our local food banks through the Deacon's outreach. Donations can be placed in the shopping carts located in both entry ways to the sanctuary. Some of the **items that are especially needed: healthy cereals, flour, sugar, cooking oil, spaghetti sauce and toilet paper.**

Members of the OPC **Refugee Resettlement Team (RRT) need your help!** The team has been busy preparing the home to welcome the new family of four, which includes a mother and three children (a girl, age 6; and two boys, ages 3 and 2). They arrived on February 15! We have had many items donated by OPC members, and for this, we are grateful. We are still in need of some new or gently used children's items, including:

- Board books/picture books/sticker books
- Board games
- Children's Toys
- Riding toys
- Sippy Cups/Plastic Cups/plastic cereal bowls (we have plates)
- Stroller/Jogging Stroller
- Booster Seats (for sitting at the table (2)
- Utility Shelves (for basement)

The **Christian Education Committee** is planning on opening the nursery for church families with small children. During this transition time, we are **looking for volunteers to staff the nursery**. If we have enough volunteers, they can rotate duties to, perhaps, once a month. If you are interested, please contact any of the following members of the CE Committee for further details. Ronnie Bailey (r.bailey@oakmontpresby.org); Grace McGhee (gmcghee124@gmail.com) or Jeff Kline (jw.kline@verizon.net). We are working on a more permanent solution for the nursery, as it a valued and needed service for our church.

In February, Deacons are collecting *gently worn* ***HATS AND GLOVES** *for the Opportunity Shop in Turtle Creek. Place your donation in the bag at the top of the steps at the 5th street entrance to the church.



Some snowy visitors to the church yard!



Your OPC Family Cares About You! Because there are times when you are ill, in the hospital or in emotional need and we don't know about it, please remember to contact the church office ([412.828.5770](tel:412.828.5770)) or a staff member (mstecik@oakmontpresby.org) so we may support you in your time of need. You are loved!

Prayer Requests - Members of our church will pray for you and anyone in need. Please send prayer requests to: prayers@oakmontpresby.org or contact Carol Heimerich at 412-242-1028.

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S CORNER

Over this special season of Lent, I'm going to be inviting our youth to *notice* more. Notice how we spend our free time. Notice what our minds drift to when we're stressed. Notice our natural pulls when angry, overwhelmed, sad, etc. Notice the kid who ends up as the punch line of everyone's jokes. Notice how we can pattern our lives around Jesus' 40 days and nights in the wilderness. What is taking up most of our time? Do we rely on prayer and meditation during hard times or something else?

Above all—I will be inviting our youth to notice God. The way God works in and around us. The way God brings us stillness and peace during Lent into Holy Week. The whispers in the silence, the shouts in Scripture, all the way down to the beauty in the snowfall and sunsets.

Noticing invites us into practices of faith. These practices turn into disciplines and help us make meaning of God being in the day to day with us. We can notice ourselves inviting the Holy Spirit to do transformative work in our lives. I hope this season is impactful for our children and youth, as well as our whole congregation. Looking forward to hearing and seeing how God is moving in OPC during this time.



OPC FILM SERIES SCREENINGS

You are invited to join us for the Oakmont Film Discussion Series every other Friday evening at **7:00 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room, lower level.** Everyone is welcome: family, friends, and any one who needs a hug, or come for Christian fellowship! Admission is FREE ! Don't forget to stay after the film for a wonderful and inspiring discussion.

MAR 4 - *Dark Waters*
MAR 18 - *Downton Abbey*

We're Here to Help

Are you or someone you know struggling with emotional, relational, or spiritual pain? **Samaritan Counseling, Guidance, Consulting** offers compassionate, spiritually integrated care that helps you heal, gives you hope, and allows you to change. Licensed and highly skilled, Samaritan therapists are people of faith who are driven by their passion to help others.

Samaritan offers telehealth and in-person counseling, complying with COVID mitigation guidelines. We accept most major insurances and offer aid to those who qualify. Samaritan welcomes all people without discriminating on any basis. You can make appointments on a weekday, evening, or Saturday.



Counseling • Guidance • Consulting 412.741.7430 • samaritancounseling.net

MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 TRANFIGURATION OF THE LORD 9:30 AM Adult Coffee & Conversation (Multi-Purpose Room) 9:30 AM Elementary Sunday School 11:00 AM WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM</p>	<p>28 12:00 PM AA's (MPR) 7:00 PM JUBELLation Ringers (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>1 4:30 PM Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level 7:00 PM Oakmont Lion's Club (MPR)</p>	<p>2 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM Women's AA (DR) 1:30 PM PW Circle Meeting (LMR) 7:00 PM WORSHIP/MPPOSITION OF ASHES (Sanctuary) 8:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC)</p>	<p>3 4:00 PM Cherub Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 8:00 PM NAs (DR)</p>	<p>4 7:00 PM OPC Film Series (MPR)</p>	<p>5 10:00 AM Holy Ground Ministry Team (MPR) 8:30 PM AA's (DR)</p>
<p>6 1st SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30 AM Elementary Sunday School 11:00 AM WORSHIP & COMMUNION (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 12:00 PM Youth Gathering (6-12 grades)</p>	<p>7 12:00 PM AA's (MPR) 7:00 PM JUBELLation Ringers (Choir Room)</p>	<p>8 9:30 AM Oakmont Garden Club Board Meeting (LMR) 12:00 PM Staff (DR) 4:30 PM Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level 7:00 PM Our Journey Without Them (MBR) 7:00 PM Session (DR)</p>	<p>9 10:00 AM Women's AA (DR)</p>	<p>10 4:00 PM Cherub Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 8:00 PM NAs (DR)</p>	<p>11 Scout Set-Up (DR)</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM Scouts (DR) 8:30 PM AA's (DR)</p>
<p>13 2nd SUNDAY IN LENT <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i> 9:30 AM Elementary Sunday School 11:00 AM WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM</p>	<p>14 12:00 PM AA's (MPR) 7:00 PM JUBELLation Ringers (Choir Room)</p>	<p>15 10:00 AM Oakmont Garden Club (MPR) 4:30 PM Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level 7:00 PM Deacons (DR) 7:00 PM Oakmont Lion's Club (MPR)</p>	<p>16 10:00 AM Women's AA (DR)</p>	<p>17 4:00 PM Cherub Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 8:00 PM NAs (DR)</p>	<p>18 7:00 PM OPC Film Series (MPR)</p>	<p>19 8:30 PM AA's (DR)</p>
<p>20 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30 AM Elementary Sunday School 11:00 AM WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 12:00 PM Youth Gathering (6-12 grades) 1:00 PM Scot Band of Wooster College 4:30 PM Scot Band of Wooster College Public Concert (Sanctuary) 6:30 PM Scot Band Dinner (PRIVATE)</p>	<p>21 12:00 PM AA's (MPR) 7:00 PM JUBELLation Ringers (Choir Room)</p>	<p>22 4:00 PM Membership Com (SGR) 4:30 PM Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level 7:00 PM Our Journey Without Them (MBR)</p>	<p>23 10:00 AM Women's AA (DR)</p>	<p>24 4:00 PM Cherub Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 8:00 PM NAs (DR)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 8:30 PM AA's (DR)</p>
<p>27 4th SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30 AM Elementary Sunday School 11:00 AM WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM</p>	<p>28 12:00 PM AA's (MPR) 7:00 PM JUBELLation Ringers (Choir Room)</p>	<p>29 4:30 PM Children's Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level</p>	<p>30 10:00 AM Women's AA (DR)</p>	<p>31 4:00 PM Cherub Choir (Children's Choir Rm - Lower Level) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (SANC) 8:00 PM NAs (DR)</p>		

EASTER FLOWERS

It is time to think of flowers for decorating the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Help us make the church glorious for Easter. Please use the order blank below to select your choice. Place with cash or check in an envelope clearly marked "Easter Flowers" and place in the offering plate.

The *deadline for ordering is MARCH 29th*.

Name _____

Phone _____

<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Price</u>
_____	Lilies @ \$9.90	_____
_____	Tulips @ \$6.80	_____
_____	Daffodils @ \$9.20	_____
_____	Azaleas @ \$13.75 pink or white (circle preference)	_____

If this is to be in memory/honor of someone, please indicate your name and their name the way you want it printed in the bulletin.

Your Name: _____

in memory of

Name: _____

Your Name: _____

in honor of

Name: _____

Flowers may be taken following the 11:00 a.m. Easter worship service. If this is a problem, contact Dixie Anderson (412-828-2137) or Ann Buechli (412-828-9382).



**ASH
WEDNESDAY**

**MARCH 2
7:00 pm, Sanctuary**

Imposition of Ashes

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Steve Wilson
Ministry of Music: The Chancel Choir

Childcare will be available during the service for infants through 3-year olds.

Oakmont Presbyterian Church
415 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oakmont, PA 15139

Return Address Service Requested

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