

AUGUST 2022

# OAKNOTES



Oakmont Presbyterian Church  
415 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Oakmont, PA 15139  
412.828.5770  
[www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org](http://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org)



Beloved in Christ,

Three joys to celebrate!

First was **Vacation Bible School** that was held the final week of June. Few would realize the hours of preparation for the week's activities. I'll simply mention that planning started in January and, beginning this spring, Ronnie met weekly with the Christian Education Committee. Ronnie recruited teachers and helpers and some others just offered their help. 25 children participated in the 5-day program. Many of those children sang in church the Sunday after VBS. Well done Ronnie and team!

Secondly, **the refugee team** is doing life-changing work for the family. Our team is organized by various functions including apartment setup (at the very start), cultural and community orientation, medical care, grocery shopping, financial skills and education for the children and the mother. When one of the children was hospitalized this spring our team mobilized to care for the other two children while a team member stayed at the hospital with the mom and the sick child. Three of our members are making great progress in teaching English to the mom and the children. Our team leader, Sharon Myers, is working closely with our sponsoring organization, the Jewish Family and Community Services, including pursuing employment for the mom. Well done, team!

Lastly, **noticing simple pleasures around us**. First, some background. Earlier this spring one of the houses across Pennsylvania Avenue was sold and renovation work began. As we watched through our office windows the workers seemed to remove everything except the outside walls. Then they removed the exterior bricks and added insulation and vinyl siding. They replaced the roof and added a back porch. The crew leader and crews show up Monday-Friday at 7 a.m. There is something enjoyable in watching others work and make progress. I told the crew leader that we will miss seeing him when his work is completed.

Because we are living in an extended season of national division and its accompanying stresses, it is unhealthy to remain in constant tension. With attention to our surroundings we can recognize the simple pleasures around us: the wildlife in our yard, children at play, the comforting drone of a fan, and the sounds of summer rain. Rather than let these pass without a thought, recognizing such simple pleasures may bring us joy and gratitude which renew our spirits.

**In worship** we will spend some time noticing people who are using their talents to create/recreate beautiful works. Worship plans for August include four guest speakers each with special gifts for God's good work: Beatrix Tarfur on mission in Peru (8/7), Sister Linn Miller on her amazing work as a *Foster Care* parent (8/14) and Rachel Fagan and Pat DiVitri on the ministries of counseling and coaching (8/28).

Grace to you all, and

Peace,

*Steve*

**FALL WORSHIP**

**Begins September 11**  
worship time will be **11:00** am

Christian Education resumes September 18

**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.

Oakmont Presbyterian Church

# HOMECOMING PICNIC

Sunday, September 11

*Extended family and  
friends are welcome!*

Join your OPC family for food and fellowship  
on the side lawn, immediately following worship.  
Feel free to wear picnic attire to worship on picnic day!

Bring a dish to share, labeled with the dish name and your name, to the church kitchen before worship. Last names A-O bring a side dish, last names P-Z bring a dessert. In the event of inclement weather, the picnic will be in the church dining room. Main course and beverages will be provided.

RSVP to the church office 412-828-5770 with the number of picnickers; or sign up at worship on Aug. 28 and Sept. 4.

**OPC STAFF**

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Wilson	Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Crocco	Associate Pastor
Michael P. Frank, III	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Ronnie Bailey	Education Director for Children and Youth
Maureen Stecik	Program Staff Assistant
Buster Harper	Custodian
Tracy Messenger	Financial Secretary of Accounting
Marge Kuhn	Financial Secretary of Contributions
Roberta Erickson	Handbell Choir Director
Ron Burkert	AV Team Coordinator

415 Pennsylvania Avenue, Oakmont, PA 15139  
412-828-5770 (Office)

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**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) 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.

**Key Bank—Oakmont Branch  
June 7—Neighbors Day at OPC**

Every year thousands of KeyBank teammates across the country contribute their time and talents to local nonprofit organizations to give back to their local communities for Key's annual Neighbors Make the Difference Day . On June 7, 4 employees of Oakmont's Key Bank came to OPC and helped clean the kitchen, nursery and financial files. They did an amazing job!



**BIG OPC THANK YOU**

to  
Lorri Donatucci  
Natalie Glepi  
Alex Havran  
Tracy Messenger

**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.



**SAMARITAN**

Counseling • Guidance • Consulting 412.741.7430 • samaritancounseling.net

**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!  
**Many open Sundays September through December!**



Soup puts the heart at ease, calms down the violence of hunger, eliminates the tension of the day, and awakens and refines the appetite.

Auguste Escoffier

Since last September, the Soupers have lovingly and prayerfully made 250 containers of soup to provide the “ease of heart” that so many of us need. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 10:00 am in the church kitchen. If you’d like to join in this wonderful ministry, email Barbara Price at [bpprice.808@gmail.com](mailto:bpprice.808@gmail.com), or call her at (412) 727-7695. And if someone you know could use the pick-me-up of a container of soup, stop by the freezer in the downstairs kitchen and help yourself!



### **OPC Chancel Choir Rehearsals Resume September 8**

The Chancel Choir is gearing up to resume weekly rehearsals on **Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in the Choir Room**. We rehearse on **Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 pm**. **Our first Sunday back to lead in worship will be September 25**, with a Service of Commissioning for the entire Music Ministry. We are happy to have new singers join us at ANY time of the year - OPC members, visitors, and community members - from Grade 9 and up. You just need a willingness to learn and develop your voice and a servant’s heart to give of your time as you join in an awesome opportunity to lead God’s people in Worship. If you have questions, please contact Michael Frank at 412-828-5770 x206 or via email [mfrank@oakmontpresby.org](mailto:mfrank@oakmontpresby.org).

**Verona Community Dinner Preparation—May 25, 2022**  
Deacon Helpers—Judy Murray, Keith McKenzie, Barbara Price,  
Susan Buell, Nancy Kline, Debby Malandra and Sherry Dimon



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**OAKMONT PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**



**FALL  
FILM SERIES  
2022**

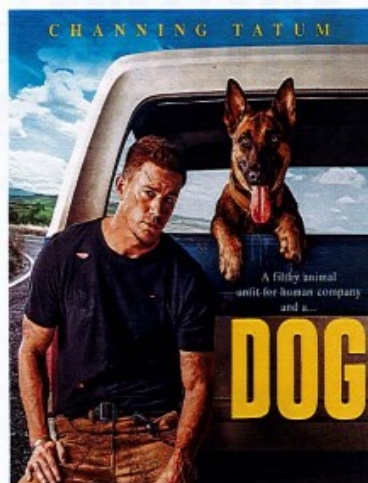
**You Are Invited**  
**Admission is free!**  
**Everyone is welcome!**  
**Multi-Purpose Room**  
**(lower level)**  
**Every other Friday Night**  
**at 7:00 pm**

**SEPT 9**      ***The Miracle Season (2018)***

After the tragic death of star volleyball player Caroline "Line" Found, a team of dispirited high school girls must band together under the guidance of their tough-love coach in hopes of winning the state championship. Followed by video of the actual Dr. Ernie Found. Very inspiring.

**SEPT 23**      ***Dog (2022)***

Two former Army Rangers are paired against their will on the road trip of a lifetime. Briggs (Channing Tatum) and Lulu (a Belgian Malinois) race down the Pacific Coast to get to a fellow soldier's funeral on time.



August newsletter article- Ronnie

I love what God is uniquely and powerfully doing at Oakmont Presbyterian Church and I am honestly honored to even be a part of it. Thank you so much to everyone who gave their time, energy, and prayers to make Vacation Bible School such a success yet another year. It certainly takes a village to raise a child, and that is especially true when it comes to nurturing each one of them in faith. We are blessed with so many people in our congregation that are committed to that mission. It brings my heart so much joy the emails, texts, and phone calls I've gotten from parents praising our church and the opportunity we bring to kids and young people. It was amazing seeing them share what they learned in "big" worship and having their parents present to support them. I have big dreams for the future of all these ministries, and I am so thankful to do it with all of you. I am so excited to see how these programs, these kids, and our church continue to grow in the way of Christ.

We had a very successful year into summer with children and youth desiring not just to memorize things about God, but to know Him. For the truths of God to penetrate their lives and lead them in this world. I've had a front row seat to real life change, and the building of authentic friendships that they can lean on when this faith thing isn't so "easy." I hope that you will continue to get to know them and get involved in these ministries. I am very thankful and continually celebrating the work of God I see here. Let's keep going. Hallelujah.



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)	1 12:00pm AA's (MPR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR)	2 12:00pm Staff (DR)	3 10:00am Women's AA (DR)	4 8:00pm NA's (DR)	5	6 5:00pm Chancel Choir Picnic (D. Harrell Garden) 8:30pm AA's (DR)
7	10:00am WORSHIP & COMMUNION (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)	8 12:00pm AA's (MPR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR)	9 7:00pm Our Journey Without Them (MBC) 7:00pm Session (DR)	10 10:00am Women's AA (DR)	11 8:00pm NA's (DR)	12	13 10:00am Readers of the Word Training 8:30pm AA's (DR)
14	10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)	15 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 12:00pm AA's (MPR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR)	16	17 10:00am Women's AA (DR)	18 8:00pm NA's (DR)	19	20 8:30pm AA's (DR)
21	10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)	22 12:00pm AA's (MPR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR)	23 7:00pm Our Journey Without Them (MBC)	24 10:00am Women's AA (DR)	25 8:00pm NA's (DR)	26	27 8:30pm AA's (DR)
28	10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) / Time with Children (Pre-K-2nd grade) and LIVESTREAM 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn (weather permitting)	29 12:00pm AA's (MPR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 (MPR)	30	31 10:00am Women's AA (DR)			

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