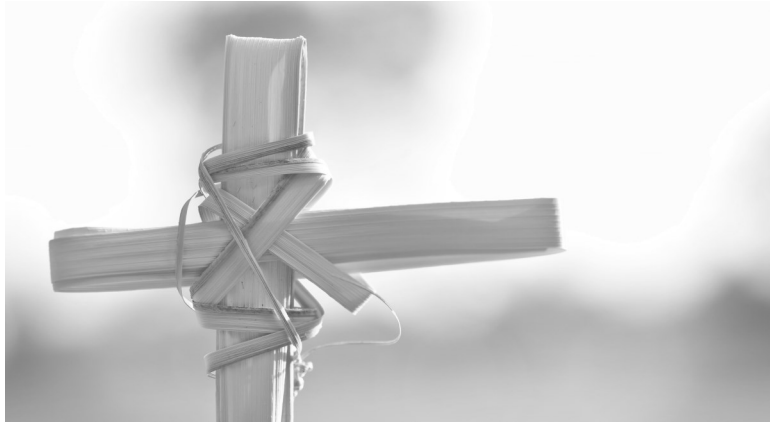


Crossings

March, 2015



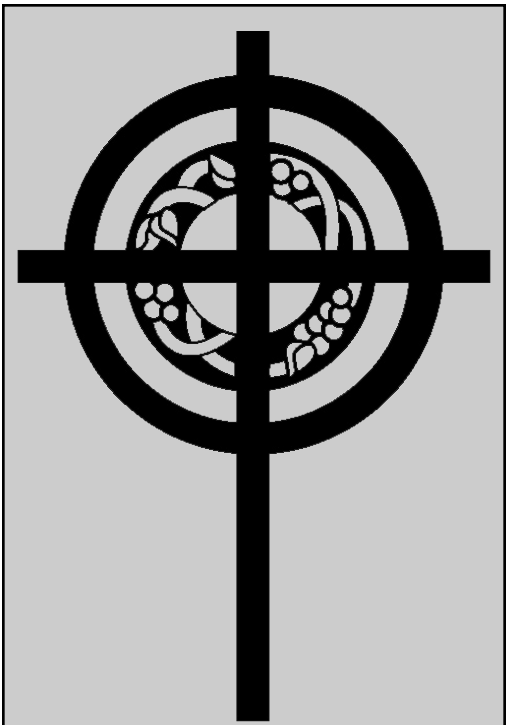
Holy Week Schedule

- March 29: Palm Sunday worship service, 11am
- April 2: Maundy Thursday meal and worship service, 6:30pm
- April 3: Good Friday Taizé worship service, 7pm
- April 5: Easter Sunday worship service, 11am

Easter Sunday, April 5

We are working so that our Easter Sunday is a glorious one that glorifies God. To do that, we need your help.

- We have plenty of empty plastic eggs, but need to get them "adopted" and filled. Look for the box in the Narthex and take home a couple of bags full. Fill the eggs with small toys, candy, or games, and bring them back to the church by March 29. On Easter morning, we will scatter them across the lawns for the children to enjoy the "Hunt".
- The Easter Egg Hunt begins Easter morning at 9:30am. Younger children will get a headstart before the older children join the crowd. Bring your own baskets.
- Photographer Jeff Frantal returns this year to take family photos. If the weather is nice, we will be in the Memorial Garden. In case of rain, we will move inside. Photos begin at 9:30 and will be emailed to you.
- We will have Sunday School from 10-10:45am for interested adults and children. We will also provide the opportunity for visitors and families alike to hang out together.
- We will use sticker name tags so visitors and members alike can greet one another by name.
- Celebrate! It is Easter, after all!



What's Inside:

- *Prayer List (page 2)*
- *Monthly Calendar (page 3)*
- *Evangelism (page 4)*
- *Planned Giving (page 5)*
- *Child Protection Training (page 6)*

CHURCH STAFF

Pastoral

The Rev. Marthame Sanders
Pastor/Head of Staff
marthame@opcbrookhaven.org

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne
Parish Associate

Lauren Wright Pittman
Student Pastor
lauren@opcbrookhaven.org

Program and Support
Cheryl Hartman, C.C.E.
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Sexton

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404.233.5479

Beverly Moon
Director
beverly@oppbrookhaven.org

Lynnette Kachel
Assistant Director
lynnette@oppbrookhaven.org

Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Legerton

Ministers
All Members of OPC

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:45am Sunday School
11 am Worship

Next Deadline
March 20, 2014



www.opcbrookhaven.org
The community is our congregation.

CLERK'S CORNER

Mary Ann Hawthorne

The Session met on Sunday, February 15, and approved the following:

- Appointed Rachel Galotti to the Preschool Board
- Approved exploring outdoor table space options during the next Bargain Shop
- Changed the Mission budget to support Thornwell Home
- Bargain Shop proceeds will support Mission Ministries of Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church
- Launching a program of extending the table (e.g. home communion)
- Appointed a Maintenance Cost Task Force to clarify responsibilities for the building, maintenance, capital improvements, and ongoing expenses with the Church and Preschool (including representation of the Preschool Board, Buildings & Grounds, Finance, Administration, and Staff)
- Approved a provisional budget through March 31, 2015
- Approved increasing wedding prices by \$200 per room

Session meetings are held the third Sunday of each month following worship and are open meetings.

Oglethorpe Presbyterian has an "open book" policy. To see the finances or meeting minutes, please contact the church office.

DEACONS

People in Our Prayers

Mary Tipton Carter; Dona Dutton; Mick Crouse (Cheryl Hartman's friend); Justin Crews (John Clark's cousin); Angela Olsen (Kristi Stephenson's step-sister); Alton Allen (Lesley Cole's father); Paul Poley, Debbie Smith (Mike Poley's family); Ken Wilkerson (Heather Bogle's friend); Randy Petty; Joe & Stacey Yeager; Jim & Anna Coulter; Betty Dalziel; Amy Chance; Patricia Livingston (Georgia Gunter's cousin); Sam Whitfield, Georgia Lozoff, Steve Greene, Roland Greene (Steve Greene's friends and family); Mary Ann Edmonton, Ed Colburn (Earline Willcott's friends); Don Levine (Balmers' friend); Mark Heimiller (Kelly Norris' nephew); Bill Bertolet (Donna Poseidon's father); Mallory Kate (Brian Pierce's friend); Horace Cox (Bill's father); Tricia Igleheart (Cindy Alexander's friend); Mary Smith; Dennard Family; Merritt Pearson (Jan Thomas' friend); Roberta DaVia; Lee Marley; Mary Shanks; Jean Williams; Diane Powell; Tyron Mackall (Samantha Cassidy's friend); Bill Coble; Grant Gossling (Rachel Isley's family); Julie Bleier, Barbara Pinson, Eleanor Frazier, Christopher Gummere, Judy McKinley (Genie Stringer's friends); Chris and Dakota Matthews (John Gunter's family); Joe Hensley (JoAnn Kearns' father); Bob Allison (Steve's father); Jerry Crouse and Sophie Essex (Victoria Weaver's friends); Lee Andrews (Elizabeth Sanders' mother); Louise Timmons, Doug Hill (Timmons' family); Tyler Harmon (Mary Ann Hawthorne's friend); Brian & Connie Delinski; Dave Kelley (Diane Leyburn's cousin); Jeff & Erin Schneider, Lawrence Docherty (Betty Dalziel's friends and family); John Suder; Steve Cunningham (Beth's brother); Mary Ratliff; Dolly Azar (Coulter's friend); Jane Newton (Kyle's family); Frances Bockman (Marthame Sanders' cousin); Rachel Galotti; Al Paul; Hilde Hildebrandt (Chris Hagler's mother); Mary Zumot; Martha Stoy; Florence and Helen Ottah Aleh (Florence's mother); friends at Journey Night Shelter; Penny Hill (Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta); Heath Rada (Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

In Memoriam

Steve Hayner
(Columbia Seminary President)

Mildred Dawson
(Lesley Cole's friend)

Janice Dixon
(Diane Powell's cousin)

Louis Stripling
(Barbara Landes' friend)

Floyd Vann
(Steve Greene's uncle)

Calendar: January, 2015



STEWARDS SERVING

March 1:

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Eleanor Timmons; **usher/greeters:** Charles Hawthorne, Eleanor Davis; **usher/counters:** Paul Reynolds, Georgia Gunter; **sound/open:** Jean Cox; **refreshments:** Lisa Kelly; **PowerPoint:** Brian Pierce; **nursery:** Gabby Paterson.

March 8:

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Weston Manders; **usher/greeters:** Steve Greene, Ric Paterson; **usher/counters:** Eka Cox, Brandon Cassidy; **sound/open:** Jesse Rappole; **refreshments:** Mary Frances Jung; **PowerPoint:** Christopher Soltis ; **nursery:** Jen Allison.

March 15:

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Elizabeth Sander; **usher/greeters:** Kelly Norris, Paul Reynolds; **usher/counters:** Jardon Bouska, _____; **sound/open:** Jeff Morris; **refreshments:** Julia Berry; **PowerPoint:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **nursery:** Kristi Stephenson.

March 22:

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Donna Poseidon; **usher/greeters:** Bill Balmer, Emily Texter; **usher/counters:** Carl Texter, Margy Jones; **sound/open:** Mark Kelly; **refreshments:** Cindy Alexander; **PowerPoint:** Steve Allison; **nursery:** _____.

March 29 (Palm Sunday):

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Reyn Langwell; **usher/greeters:** Linda Morris, Jeff Morris; **usher/counters:** Bill Cox, Georgia Gunter; **sound/open:** Geoff Stephenson; **refreshments:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **PowerPoint:** Mike Poley; **nursery:** _____.

April 5 (Easter Sunday):

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Margy Jones; **usher/greeters:** Ruth Walker, Paul Reynolds; **usher/counters:** Eleanor Timmons, Christopher Soltis ; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **refreshments:** Amy Chance; **PowerPoint:** Trent Lopata ; **nursery:** Rachel Paterson.

April 12:

music: Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** John Gunter; **usher/greeters:** Ric & William Paterson, Lisa Kelly; **usher/counters:** Mark Kelly, _____; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **refreshments:** Debra Hogan; **PowerPoint:** Kim Crocker; **nursery:** Jean Cox.

Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

Weekly

Sundays:

9:00- 9:45 Sunday School for all ages
10:00am Worship

Tuesdays:

10am Food Pantry at Suthers Center
8pm Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)

Wednesdays:

5:15pm Centering Prayer (Parlor)
6:15pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)
7:30pm Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

Fridays:

10 am Food Pantry at Suthers Center
8pm Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)

Monthly

Third Sundays after Worship
Session Meeting

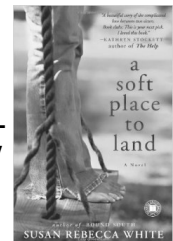
Fourth Saturdays

OPC Serves Dinner at Journey

Calendar Events

Go **OUT to Lunch** at Oglethorpe University on Sunday, March 1!

Book Club will be at Eleanor Timmons' house on March 9 at 7pm. We will be discussing *A Soft Place to Land* by Susan Rebecca White.



Our next **church workday** is Saturday, **March 14, from 9am to 12pm.**

The **Women's Retreat** will be March 13 -15 in beautiful Ellijay. \$150 due March 1.



EVANGELISM
Donna Poseidon



Invite a Friend to Worship

This year, most of March is also the season of Lent in our Christian calendar. We will spend time in contemplation and preparation, worship and service. On the last Sunday of the month, we begin the drama of Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday's parade, through Maundy Thursday, to the grave, and beyond with our celebration of Easter on April 5.

Whether you are new to our community, a long-term member, or somewhere in between, please consider inviting someone you know to worship at Oglethorpe Presbyterian during Lent and Holy Week. A recent US Congregational Life Survey said almost half of first-time church visitors came because someone invited them. And 57% said they already had a friend in the congregation they visited.

Throughout this edition of *Crossings* you will find information about worship services and other activities during Holy Week and on Easter Sunday. Take an extra copy and share it - or share our website (www.opcbrookhaven.org). We will also have post-card-sized invitations to mail or give to a neighbor or friend. A personal invitation can go a long way.

You know what worshipping at Oglethorpe Presbyterian means to you. This season is a great time to share that with a friend!

Get "Engaged"!



Beginning after Easter, Oglethorpe Presbyterian will launch a program called "Engage". A congregation-wide study, Engage will help us explore how to share our faith with one another and with others. In a word, it's about Evangelism. Marthame introduced "Engage" in his February 15 sermon, and you will hear more about it in March.

If you're like many of us who find the word "evangelism" uncomfortable, then this program might just be for you! Engage teaches that evangelism is not the process of going door-to-door, forcing pamphlets into people's hands, or manipulating every conversation into faith and Jesus. Instead, evangelism is a natural experience, living lives of integrity that speak for themselves, being comfortable at expressing our faith, and conversations about faith that arise naturally.

There will be several groups meeting at different times during the week. Our goal is to have half of our community participating in a group as we grow through discussion, fellowship, and sharing. We will be with each other, connecting, sharing our challenges and joys as people of faith trying to figure it out.

For more information, watch the website and weekly email, listen during worship services, or contact a member of the Evangelism Committee (Steve Allison, Brandon Cassidy, Elizabeth Parks, Donna Poseidon).

WORSHIP
Jeff Morris

Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies are available for purchase in honor or memory of someone for Easter Sunday. After the service you may take your lily home. The cost of each lily is \$12.50.

Easter lily orders must be received in the office no later than Monday, March 16, at 9am. The list of those being honored or remembered will be printed in the bulletin and the newsletter.





Planned Giving Launch

On Sunday, February 22, 2015, members gathered in our Fellowship Hall to celebrate the kick-off of the Planned Giving Ministry, as we plan for the future of Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church!

Pastor Marthame Sanders introduced the event and our speaker, Robert Hay, Jr. Robert, the Church Relations Officer of the Presbyterian Foundation, shared philanthropic stories with the group, explaining how this is an opportunity to impact Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church.

He went on to describe how establishing a planned gift for the church in your will can also serve as your "statement of faith." Through our membership in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Robert is available to members at no cost in finding resources to make, modify, or update a will. Contact Pastor Marthame (marthame@opcbrookhaven.org, 404.233.5469) for more information.

1949 Society

The 1949 Society was established to honor members and friends who have chosen to include Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church in their estate or planned giving, regardless of the amount or nature of the gift.

Planned Giving provides general and endowment support to Oglethorpe Presbyterian through individual's bequests, annuities, and other planned giving vehicles. Permanent Gift funds have been established to provide a stable source of income for church programs, ensuring their availability to further our mission.

To become a member of the 1949 Society, simply let us know that you are considering making a planned gift. We want to thank God for your generosity!

For additional information, please contact Pastor Marthame Sanders or Planned Giving Committee Co-Chairs Jardon Bouska and Jennifer Sterner-Allison.

The Freedom of Consensus

The story is told of the local church that had a history of making all major decisions by consensus. They were used to this process when they were faced with a big problem: resources were declining and church membership was, too. The question of what to do next came to a head when their pastor of many years decided to retire.

For a number of months, the members discussed their options informally, and it became clear that a wide variety of opinions existed among the congregation. Every option had pluses and minuses, strengths and weaknesses.

Finally they met to decide. As the meeting went on,

people felt freer to express their hopes and fears, freer to caringly question themselves and others, freer to notice the nuanced views of other members. It was clear that concern about the members was the major value.

At the end, they did in fact in reach consensus. They found a solution that didn't satisfy everyone, but one that everyone could support.

We endeavor to do the same in our congregation. Thank you for sharing your thoughts, hopes, concerns, and resources freely and honestly.

Stewards of Children: Partners in Prevention

We think that protecting our children is very important. That is why we are committed to ending child sexual abuse through our work with Darkness to Light, and are now Partners in Prevention.

We offer our Stewards of Children Class four times a year for our volunteers, teachers, leaders, and staff are trained in what to watch for. The class is also perfect for parents to help keep their children safe.

Our next class will be on Sunday, March 8, 2-4:30pm in the Library. The material cost is \$15 (free for church volunteers and staff). RSVP to Cheryl Hartman (cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org, 404.233.5469).



Alternative Handbell Choir Planned!

Are you interested in playing handbells, but haven't because of time? Or maybe you were intimidated at the prospect? Then our Alt-Handbell Choir is for you! A more "informal" group that our existing handbell choir, we will meet less frequently, and will include both children and adults. If you are interested, please email Tim Hsu (tim@opcbrookhaven.org), or call the church office (404.233.5469).



Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church
Sunday School for All Ages: 9:45 am • Worship: 11am
404.233.5469 • www.opcbrookhaven.org • info@opcbrookhaven.org

DATED MATERIAL

If you don't want to receive this by mail,
please contact the church office:
404.233.5469, cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church
3016 Lanier Drive, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30319