

Oglethorpe Presbyterian

Crossings

November, 2015



FEARLESS GENEROSITY

Stewardship Dedication Sunday
November 15

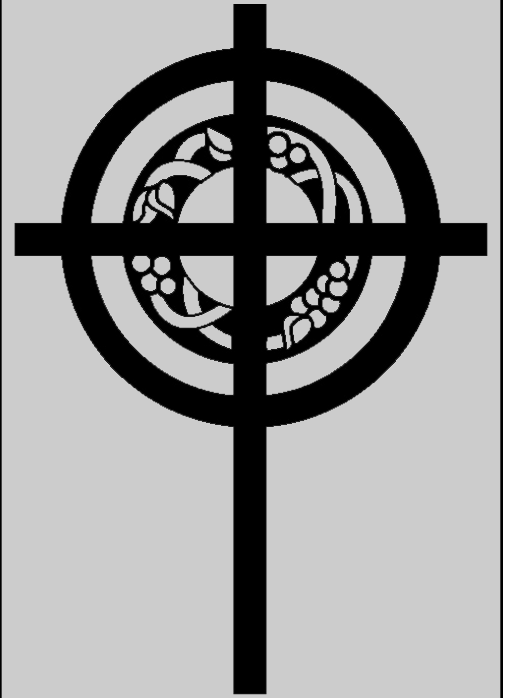
Come Celebrate God's Work!

Lunch in Fellowship Hall follows worship. Childcare provided.

As you fill out your 2016 pledge card, remember the blessings that are ours and the good we have accomplished together for the cause of Christ. Take a moment to pray and thank God for the blessings we receive. Perhaps consider asking the question, "What now, O Lord? What would you have me do with what you have given me?"

We invite you to bring your pledge card to worship on Sunday, November 15. If you will not be able to attend, you can always mail your pledge card to the church.

Thanks be to God for all that we have and all that we are!



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CHURCH STAFF

Pastoral

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

Rebekah Carpenter
Student Pastor
rebekah@opcbrookhaven.org

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne
Parish Associate

Program and Support
Cheryl Hartman, C.C.E.
Office Manager
Director of Christian Education
ext. 221
cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org

Dr. Tim Hsu
Music Director
tim@opcbrookhaven.org

Alexandria Stephenson
Communications Assistant
alexandria@opcbrookhaven.org

Francisco Flores
Sexton

Preschool
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
November 20, 2015



www.opcbrookhaven.org
The community is our congregation.

DEACONS

People in Our Prayers

Roger Strauss (Margy Jones' family); Greg Smith (Newtons' Friend); Betty Dalziel; Cary Hestad (Mimi Averill's family); Tricia Igleheart (Cindy Alexander's friend); Caroline Meredith (Pat Morrison's friend); Andrea Fierini; Jeff Dore (Reyn Langwell's friend); Stacey Calvin's family; The Madden Family (Rappoles' friends); Billy Hawthorne (Charles' family); Margie Garrett; Jung Soon Park (John's mother); Karen Jenkins (Linda Jones' family); Francisco Flores; Dona and Bob Dutton; Ann Campbell; Roberta Davia; Tony Zacek (Amy Chance's father); Janet Larry (Susannah Morris Larry's family); Krissie Weeks (Marianne Martin's sister); Martha Cam Maves' family; Jeannie Jamieson (Elizabeth Parks' friend); First Presbyterian, Americus (Elizabeth Parks' home church); Cathy Poley; Corine Coning (Sharon Hall's friend); Cameron Lester; Jarrod Finn; Mary Doras, Merritt Pearson, Terri Leslie (Jan Thomas' friends); Mick Crouse (Cheryl Hartman's friend); Angela Olsen (Kristi Stephenson's family); Paul Poley, Debbie Smith (Mike Poley's family); Ken Wilkerson (Heather Bogle's friend); Jim & Anna Coulter; George Konow, Patricia Livingston, Chris & Dakota Matthews (Gunters' family); Robert Dosh, Sam Whitfield, Georgia Lozoff, Martha Zea, Roland Greene (Steve Greene's friends and family); Don Levine (Balmers' friend); Mark Heimiller (Kelly Norris'

family); Mallory Kate (Brian Pierce's friend); Horace Cox (Bill's father); Mary Smith; Lee Marley; Mary Shanks; Jean Williams; Tyron Mackall (Samantha Cassidy's friend); Bill Coble; Grant Gossling (Rachel Isley's family); Connie Stoker, Roger Mudd, Kit Young, Julie Bleier, Barbara Pinson, Christopher Gummere, Judy McKinley (Genie Stringer's friends & family); Phil Lord, Sophie Essex (Victoria Weaver's friends and family); Lee Andrews (Elizabeth Sanders' mother); Doug Hill (Timmons' family); Tyler Harmon (Mary Ann Hawthorne's friend); Brian Delinski; Dave Kelley (Diane Leyburn's family); Jeff & Erin Schneider, Lawrence Docherty (Betty Dalziel's friends and family); John Suder; Mary Ratliff; Dolly Azar (Coulter's friend); Jane Newton (Kyle's family); Rachel Galotti; Al Paul; Hilde Hildebrandt (Chris Hagler's mother); Mary Zumot; Martha Stoy; Journey Night Shelter; Penny Hill (Executive Presbyterian, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta); Heath Rada (Moderator, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

CLERK'S CORNER

The Session conducted its monthly meeting on Sunday, October 18. Among its actions were to:

- Approved the Habitat for Humanity Offering for March 2016
- Authorized the Advent Taize service on Tuesday, December 8, at 7 pm
- Approved communion dates for 2015-2016.
- Approved taking up an offering for Francisco Flores and to celebrate his retirement on Sunday, December 20.

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

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church has an "open book" policy. To see financial reports or Session minutes, please contact the church office.

In Memoriam

Lamar Carney
(Lopatas' friend)

Julia Jenkins
(Linda Jones' niece)

Floyd Maxwell Findley
(Ted Watts' grandfather)

Miriam Demola
(Chantal Jordan's friend)

Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. -Rom. 8

Calendar: November, 2015



STEWARDS SERVING

November 1, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Jeff Morris; **usher/greeters:** Cindy Alexander, Bill Balmer; **usher/counters:** Mark Kelly, Amy Chance; **sound/open:** Jesse Rappole; **refreshments:** Genie Stringer; **PowerPoint:** Tamara Lopata; **nursery:** Geoff Stephenson.

November 8, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Jeff Chance; **usher/greeters:** _____, Cortlandt Minnich; **usher/counters:** Nancy Minnich, Adam Weaver; **sound/open:** Bill Cox; **refreshments:** _____; **PowerPoint:** _____; **nursery:** Gabby Paterson.

November 15, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Linda Morris; **usher/greeters:** Emily & Thomas Paterson, Pat Morrison; **usher/counters:** Mary Lee Williams, _____; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **refreshments:** Kristi Stephenson; **PowerPoint:** Ramsay Sanders; **nursery:** Steve Allison.

November 22, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Georgia Gunter; **usher/greeters:** Jean Cox, _____; **usher/counters:** Mary Ann Hawthorne, _____; **sound/open:** _____; **refreshments:** _____; **PowerPoint:** Christopher Soltis; **nursery:** _____.

November 29, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Eleanor Timmons; **usher/greeters:** Charles Hawthorne, Eleanor Davis; **usher/counters:** Paul Reynolds, _____; **sound/open:** _____; **refreshments:** Chris & Deborah O'Donnell and Connie Phillips; **PowerPoint:** Brian Pierce; **nursery:** _____.

December 6, 11am:

music: Tim Hsu, Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** _____; **usher/greeters:** Steve Greene, Jennifer Soltis; **usher/counters:** Eka Cox, Brandon Cassidy; **sound/open:** Adam Weaver; **refreshments:** Edyie DaVia; **PowerPoint:** _____; **nursery:** _____.

Sunday Stewards

Will you pitch in to keep Sunday mornings running smoothly? Contact the church office and we will sign you up for your choice of Sunday stewards' roles: office@opcbrookhaven.org, 404.233.5469.

Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

Weekly

Sundays:

9:00- 9:45 Sunday School for all ages
9:45 Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
10:00am Worship

Tuesdays:

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

Wednesdays:

5:45pm Centering Prayer (Parlor)
6:15pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

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

Notable Notes

Bookkeeping Transition

Our bookkeeper transition continues. Thank you for your patience. If you have any questions, please contact Treasurer Barbara Landes.

Church Workday

Join us on Saturday, October 10, for our monthly church workday.

***Crossings* Submissions**

Do you have something for the monthly *Crossings* newsletter? Send it to crossings@opcbrookhaven.org by the 20th of each month.

Book Club

Book club will meet at Mary Ann Hawthorne's home on November 9 at 7pm. This month's book is *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins. If you are interested in joining the book club and would like a list of future book selections contact Margy Jones at mjbailey@aol.com

PRESCHOOL



Scholarships

The State of Georgia allows you to direct a portion of your state income tax to support private school sponsorships.

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Preschool's Pre-K program is one of the eligible recipients. We have partnered with Georgia Student Scholarship Organization (GaSSO), a reputable organization handling funds for many private schools.

Here's how it works:

1. Register on the GaSSO website before December 31, 2015 (www.georgiasso.us).
2. Choose the amount you wish directed to Pre-school scholarship (up to \$1000 for an individual, \$2500 for a couple). Please note: this merely holds your place. It is not a *commitment* to give.
3. In January, 2016, the Department of Revenue will approve your registration and amount based on the total amount requested, subject to legal limits.

4. In February or March, 2016, you make your donation up to the amount approved by the Department of Revenue.
5. In the Fall, 2016, Pre-K families receive scholarships based on our criteria.
6. In 2017, you get a dollar-for-dollar reduction of your state income tax for your donation when you file your 2016 return.

In other words, your donation is not just a tax deduction, but a true tax credit. For example: if you donate \$1000 in 2016, your state tax bill will be reduced by \$1000 in 2017. It does not cost you anything, and it helps deserving Preschool families.

Now is the time to register! This program is limited statewide. If previous years are any indication, it will be over-subscribed by the end of the year.

Even if you are unsure about whether or not to give, please register now. Whether or not you donate, and how much you donate, are a decision you do not have to make until next year. Registering simply reserves you a place in line.

To register, go to www.georgiasso.us and click on the "donate" button on the lower left side.

MUSIC

Tim Hsu

Fall Music Notes

Happy Fall! It has been a busy time with music at Oglethorpe Presbyterian. In addition to the Bell Choir and Chancel Choir kicking off in August, we recently started a Children's Choir! Meeting every Sunday morning at 9:45am, we sing sacred children's music, learn about music, and integrate with Sunday School. We have already made terrific progress in a short time, and it has been a joy to sing with them!

The children will be singing the anthem on November 15 and participating in worship leadership three or four times a year.

We are also happy to announce the second annual *Songs of the Season* concert! The concert will take place on Sunday, December 13, at 4pm. Christmas favorites will be performed by all facets of our music ministry, including the children's choir!

If you are interested in participating in singing or organizing please let me know!

As always, if you have any questions regarding the new children's choir, the *Songs of the Season* concert, or have any general requests or inquiries about the music at Oglethorpe Presbyterian, please do not hesitate to contact me at tim@opcbrookhaven.org.



MISSION

Emily Texter

Bargain Shop and Holiday Marketplace Sale

The Bargain Shop and Holiday Marketplace Sale will take place on Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7, from 9am-2pm. You can drop off your household items, clothes, and Christmas decorations Between November 1-4.

Volunteers are needed to set up and staff the sale November 1-7.

We are also soliciting vendors to sell their crafts, jewelry, and miscellaneous items. Outdoor space can be rented for \$30 for both sale days. Vendor applications can be found on the church website: www.opcbrookhaven.org/bargainshop. Contact Jan Thomas for more information.

Food Pantry

The **Food Pantry** needs your help. Volunteers are needed on Tuesday morning and Friday morning from 10am-12pm at the Suthers Center in Chamblee. Contact Linda Jones for more information.

In September, the Food Pantry served 279 families a total of 698 bags of groceries, including 49 new clients.

Journey Night Shelter

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, November 28, and Saturday, December 26, to bring dinner to the homeless shelter. For almost thirty years, The Journey Night Shelter at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church has provided dinner, hospitality, a shower, a safe night's sleep, breakfast, and counseling for up to thirty homeless men who are actively seeking work. Oglethorpe Presbyterian brings dinner to the Shelter the fourth Saturday of each month. But it's more than bringing dinner - it's about encouraging people to seek God's dreams and God's best for their lives. Sign up on the bulletin board.

Thornwell School for Children

Save your Box Tops for Education and Campbell Soup Labels to benefit Thornwell School for Children in Clinton, SC. Add your box tops to a collection envelope on the bulletin board in the hall.

AMIS

Lisa Majoros, Executive Director, with **Atlanta Ministry with International Students**, visited with us on Sunday, October 4, inviting us to befriend an international college student this fall.

This is a ministry of friendship, not hosting, meaning that you would call or email the student, invite them to a meal or an event, and continue the relationship as you both desire and as time allows throughout the school year.



Atlanta Ministry with International Students, Inc.

On Thanksgiving Day, November 26, you can give the opportunity to one or more International Students to discover the American tradition of Thanksgiving by inviting them to a Thanksgiving meal in your home. They will never forget your hospitality!

Hosts are also needed for the Christmas Holidays, when international college and university students across the country are away from their families, wanting to connect more closely with Americans and our holidays, and furthermore are often locked out of their dorms and alone. Hosts are needed for December 18-26 and/or December 26-January 2.

You can volunteer on the AMIS website (www.amis-inc.org) or by calling 404.846.4396.

Mission and outreach are central to our identity at Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church. Our mission programs are a way to serve those in need and also provide opportunities for us to share our time, talents, and resources.

The OPC Missions committee meets on the second Tuesday at 6pm. To find out more about how you can get involved in these missions, contact Emily Texter (emilytexter@bellsouth.net).

Elaine Clark Center Holiday Market

The 2nd annual Elaine Clark Center Holiday Market will be held on Saturday, December 5, in our Fellowship Hall from 10am-4pm. The market will feature local artists with handcrafted items. Booth spaces are still available and you may contact Event Coordinator Christy Murray (cmurray@ecvc.org) for more information. The proceeds will benefit the Center which serves children and young adults from 6 weeks to 22 years old with special needs. ElaineClarkCenter.org

ADMINISTRATION

Charles Hawthorne

Celebrate Francisco Flores!

Francisco Flores has been our faithful, energetic, and dedicated custodian for twenty years. Few of us can even remember Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church without Francisco's loving care. Alas, as with many wonderful things, Francisco has decided to retire at the end of 2015.



ministry with a luncheon following worship on Sunday, December 20, 2015. Please mark and save the date! More details to come later.

We will also be presenting Francisco with a monetary gift in gratitude for his many years of faithful service. If you wish to contribute, please send your gift to the church marked 'Francisco Gift' and we will include it.

Thanks be to God for Francisco and all he has done for us!

We will be celebrating Francisco's many years of



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