

Oglethorpe Presbyterian

Crossings

March, 2016

Holy Week

March 20 - March 27

Palm Sunday, March 20, 11am
Worship in the Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, March 24, 6:30pm
Meal and Worship in the Fellowship Hall

Good Friday, March 25, 7pm
Taizé Worship in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, March 27
7am Sunrise Service (Chapel)
9:15am Family Pictures
9:45am Sunday School
10:30am Egg Hunt
11am Worship (Sanctuary)

The Evangelism Committee is asking you to help share the Easter good news this year!

In the November, 2015, Evangelism town hall meeting, many of you indicated you'd place flyers around your neighborhood - in stores, businesses and neighborhood gathering places - and give or email them to a friend. Flyers will be available Sunday, March 6.

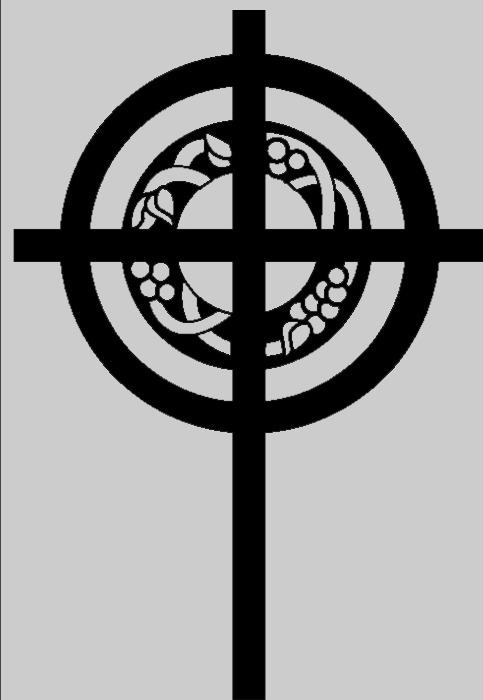
On Sunday March 13 after worship, OPCers will go out into the Brookhaven neighborhood in groups to deliver flyers. We'll gather again mid-afternoon and debrief.

This year there will also be yard signs available to announce Easter Sunday activities. If you are inter-

ested in placing a sign in your yard or on a busy corner in the neighborhood, they will be available in mid-March.

A recent US Congregational Life Survey said almost half of first-time church visitors came because someone invited them. And 57% said they already have a friend in the congregation they visit. You know what worshipping at Oglethorpe Presbyterian means to you - let's invite others to share the experience with us.

Contact a member of the Evangelism Committee - Elizabeth Parks, Shelby Schuller or Donna Poseidon - for more information.



What's Inside:

- *Prayer List (page 2)*
- *Stewards Serving (page 3)*
- *Mission News (page 4)*
- *Financial Update (page 5)*
- *Deacon Note (page 7)*
- *Christian Ed. (back page)*

CHURCH STAFF

Pastoral

The Rev. Marthame Sanders
Pastor/Head of Staff

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne
Parish Associate

Rebekah Carpenter
Student Pastor

Program and Support
Cheryl Hartman, C.C.E.
Office Manager
Director of Christian Education
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Lynnette Kachel
Assistant Director
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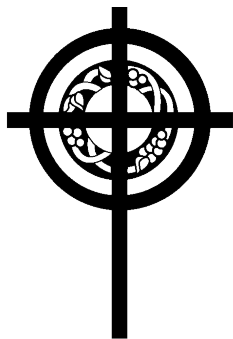
Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Legerton

Ministers
All Members of OPC

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45am Sunday School
11 am Worship

Next Deadline
March 20, 2015



www.opcbrookhaven.org

The community is our congregation.

DEACONS

People in Our Prayers

Rachel and Lucia Galotti (Rachel's family); Trish Ashby; Bradley Bonecutter (Amy's brother); Margy Jones, Sr.; Pat Lee (Kyle Newton's mother); Nancy Mackenzie (Marthame's friend); Nancy Freeman (Emily Edwards' mother); Virginia O'Donnell (Chris' mother); Condit Lotz, Betsy McLeod, Jean Williams (Pat Morrison's friends); Jean Chance (Jeff's mother); Levan Jorjishvili; Pam Whitney; Donna and Pete Brown (Austin's parents); Annisa Wyatt; Bernice Hill (Emily Texter's friend); Greg Smith (Newtons' friend); Betty Dalziel; Cary Hestad (Mimi Averill's family); Stacey Calvin's family; Madden Family (Rappoles' friends); Billy Hawthorne (Charles' family); Jung Soon Park (John's mother); Karen Jenkins (Linda Jones' family); Ann Campbell; Roberta DaVia; Janet Larry (Susannah's family); Krissie Weeks (Marianne Martin's sister); First Presbyterian Americus; Cameron Lester; Jarrod Finn; Mary Doras, Merritt Pearson, Terri Leslie (Jan Thomas' friends); Tim Siders, Mick Crouse (Cheryl Hartman's friend); Angela Olsen (Kristi Stephenson's family); Pat & Paul Poley (Mike'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, Alan Greene, 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; Tyron Mackall (Samantha Cassidy's friend); Bill Coble; Grant Gossling (Rachel Isley's family); Joy Rogers, Roger Mudd, Kit Young, Julie Bleier, Barbara Pinson (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); Al Paul; Mary Zumot; Martha Stoy; Journey Night Shelter; Penny Hill (Executive Presbyterian, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta); Heath Rada (Moderator, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).

In Memoriam

Louise Stainbrook
(Amy Chance's great-aunt)

Linda Jones

Philip White
(Bailey Dean's father)

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

CLERK'S CORNER

Mary Ann Hawthorne

The Session met on Sunday, February 21 and approved the following:

- Approved Souper Bowl of Caring funds to Mercy Community Church (\$563.32)
- Authorized the Clerk to send letters to the several members regarding their membership status
- Approved the posting of our weapons policy on the website: "Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church is in compliance with Georgia State Law, which prohibits carrying weapons in a place of worship."

- Approved sponsorship of a team for the Hunger Walk on March 13, 2016
- Approved exploration of a co-sponsorship program with New American Pathways' refugee resettlement program

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

We have an open book policy. If you wish to see the financials or the session minutes, please make an appointment with the church office.

Calendar: March 2016



STEWARDS SERVING

March 13:

liturgist: Donna Poseidon; **usher/greeters:** Bill Balmer, Emily Texter; **usher/counters:** Carl Texter, Amy Chance; **sound/open:** Mark Kelly; **refreshments:** Cindy Alexander; **PowerPoint:** Steve Allison; **nursery:** Deborah O'Donnell.

March 20:

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

March 27:

liturgist: Margy Jones; **usher/greeters:** Earline Willcott, Paul Reynolds; **usher/counters:** Eleanor Timmons, Christopher Soltis; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **refreshments:** Amy Chance; **PowerPoint:** _____; **nursery:** Rachel Paterson.

April 3:

liturgist: John Gunter; **usher/greeters:** Ric & William Paterson, Lisa Kelly; **usher/counters:** Mark Kelly, Diane Powell; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **refreshments:** Margy Jones; **PowerPoint:** Kim Crocker; **nursery:** Jean Cox.

April 10:

liturgist: Elizabeth Parks; **usher/greeters:** Jeff Chance, _____; **usher/counters:** Brock Timmons, Amy Chance; **sound/open:** Jeff Morris; **refreshments:** Debra Hogan; **PowerPoint:** Kelly Norris; **nursery:** Jen Allison.

April 17:

liturgist: Chris Hagler; **usher/greeters:** _____, _____; **usher/counters:** Julia Berry, _____; **sound/open:** Brandon Cassidy; **refreshments:** Nancy Minnich; **PowerPoint:** Ric Paterson; **nursery:** Mark Kelly.

April 24:

liturgist: Jeff Morris; **usher/greeters:** Cindy Alexander, _____; **usher/counters:** Donna Poseidon, _____; **sound/open:** Jesse Rappole; **refreshments:** Genie Stringer; **PowerPoint:** Tamara Lopata; **nursery:** _____.

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

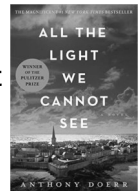
Session Meeting

Fourth Saturdays

OPC Serves Dinner at Journey

Calendar Events

Book club for March will be at Libba Sweeney's home Monday March 14th at 7:00 PM where we will be discussing All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr. If you would like more information on the OPC book club contact Margy Jones (mnjbailey@aol.com)



Our next **two church workdays** are Saturday, **March 5** and **April 9**, from **9am to 12pm**.

Dear OPC,
Thank you all for giving us a wonderful wedding and a great start to our life together. We are doing well in Nashville and miss everyone greatly. If you made a donation on our behalf to either the Faith Family Medical Clinic or the Cystic Fibrosis Scholarship Foundation and have not received a thank you card from us, please let us know! We want to make sure we acknowledge your generous gift.

With love,
David and Carey Young

AMIS

On March 6, AMIS will celebrate 38 years of friendship and hospitality with international students. This event will be family-friendly with students and hosts celebrating international friendships. A dinner will be held at St. James Methodist Church with entertainment by Philip Gold, singer and songwriter, and Rhubarb Jones, a comedian and country music radio personality. RSVP to the AMIS office at Dene at ddixon@amis-inc.org

The Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed on Tuesday morning and Friday morning from 10-12 at the Suthers Center in Chamblee. Contact Genie Stringer for more information.

Habitat for Humanity

We start building our 15th Habitat for Humanity home in early May. There is a wide range of volunteers needed each Saturday in May and June. Thank you for your support in February as we worked towards the goal of \$3000. See Jeff Chance for more information.

Journey Night Shelter

Volunteers are needed the 4th Saturday of each month to bring dinner to the homeless shelter. For almost 30 years, The Journey Night Shelter at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church has provided dinner, hospitality, a shower, a safe night's sleep, breakfast, and counselling for up to thirty homeless men who are actively seeking work. But it's more than bringing dinner - it's about encouraging people to seek God's dreams and God's best for their lives. Please sign up on the bulletin board for 2016. See the new website at <http://journeynightshelter.org/>

Souper Bowl of Caring

OPC raised \$563.32 on Feb. 7 for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Thank you to everyone who participated this year. Groups across the country came together with a common cause to give to those who are hungry and in need. Session approved that this collection go to Mercy Community Church.

The Hunger Walk/Run

The Hunger Walk/Run will take place March 13 at Turner Field. For more information see www.hungerwalkrun.org. The Hunger Walk/Run -- an annual 5K walk and "fun run" begun in 1984 -- is a project of the Atlanta Community Food Bank that unites our community to raise awareness and critical funds for local hunger relief. Proceeds from the event benefit the Atlanta Community Food Bank and other local nonprofit organizations that support food pantries, community kitchens, shelters and other programs for people in need of food assistance. These benefiting partner organizations help recruit participants and receive a percentage of the funds raised to support their direct hunger relief programs. **In its 32 years, Hunger Walk/Run has raised over \$7 million for hunger relief - enough to provide 28 million meals!**

The family-friendly, festival atmosphere at Turner Field's Green Lot will host activities starting at 12:00 and the race will start at 2:00. Email Emily Texter at emilytexter@bellsouth.net if you are interested in participating.

New American Pathways

Marthame Sanders, Jeff Morris, and Emily Texter attended orientation meetings for New American Pathways, an organization who works with refugees providing complementary services ranging from initial resettlement to literacy, employment, youth education and school services, and immigration and citizenship assistance. OPC is in the process of exploring opportunities for sponsoring a refugee family and volunteering. If you would be interested in working on this exciting new mission, contact Emily Texter at emilytexter@bellsouth.net

Mercy Community Church

OPC donated coffee and creamer to be served to the homeless members of the Mercy Community Church.

Missions Committee at OPC

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 6:00. To find out more about how you can get involved in these missions, contact Emily Texter at emilytexter@bellsouth.net

DEACONS

A Tribute to Linda Cooper Jones

We are still stunned and so very saddened by the loss of our dear friend and one of the true saints, Linda Jones. The evening before Linda's memorial service here at our church, a group of us (among whom were a few of us who had the privilege to serve with Linda as Deacons) were gathered to listen to and enjoy the live music of a soulful folk artist we all really like, Carrie Newcomer. There was a song that Carrie wrote and sang that evening that immediately made all of us think of Linda Jones, who certainly wasn't far from any of our minds anyway. We are taking the liberty of sharing the lyrics of that song to use as a special tribute to Linda J, knowing that she would so appreciate the words and the sentiment, and she would have been singing it right along with all of us had she been there!

Let it go my love, my truest,
let it sail on silver wings;
Life's a twinkling that's for sure,
but it's such a fine thing.
There's a gathering of spirits,
there's a festival of friends,
And we'll take up where we left off
when we all meet again.

I can't explain it, I couldn't if I tried
How the only things we carry
are the things we hold inside;
Like a day out in the open,
like the love we won't forget;
Like the laughter that we started
and it hasn't died down yet.

Oh, yeah, now didn't we,
and don't we make it shine
Aren't we standing in the center
of something rare and fine?
Some glow like embers,
like a light through colored glass;
Some give it all in one great flame,
throwing kisses as they pass.

And we're never really all that far
from those we love and miss.
And the wisest say there's a thousand ways
to kneel and kiss the ground.

There's a gathering of spirits,
there's a festival of friends, East of Eden,
but there's heaven in our midst,
Wade out in the water, there's glory all around
And we'll take up where we left off
when we all meet again.

by Carrie Newcomer

We will all miss you very much, Linda J, but we'll see you in the by and by, "when we all meet again!"

With lots of love from your fellow Deacons

ADMINISTRATION

Charles Hawthorne

Financial Summary

		<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>YTD 2015</u>	<u>YTD 2014</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$	52,480	356,085	351,190	4,896
Expenditures		30,094	358,092	347,826	10,266
Surplus/(deficit)		<u>22,387</u>	<u>(2,007)</u>	<u>3,364</u>	<u>(5,371)</u>
Beginning bank balance	\$	109,532	158,067	148,678	9,389
Cash increase/ (decrease)		<u>32,184</u>	<u>(16,351)</u>	<u>9,389</u>	<u>(25,740)</u>
Ending bank balance		<u>141,716</u>	<u>141,716</u>	<u>158,067</u>	<u>(16,351)</u>
Loan balance	\$	<u>11,681</u>	<u>11,681</u>	<u>45,852</u>	<u>(34,171)</u>

- Thanks to extraordinarily generous giving in December, OPC ended 2015 with a deficit of only \$2,007 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$15,078.
- Versus 2014, expenditures increased by \$10,266 or 3% with staff costs up \$16,136 and maintenance up \$4,735. Utilities decreased by \$6,872 and all other items decreased \$3,733.

- Receipts and expenditures do not include Capital Campaign but bank balance does.

OPC has an open book financial policy: for more information, contact the Treasurer, Barbara Landes at 404-931-3897.

Adopt some Easter Eggs

Please take a bag or two of empty Easter Eggs home with you to fill and return for our Easter Egg Hunt on March 27. Our community Easter Egg Hunt is a fun event for children of all ages and we will need lots of filled Eggs for the hunt.

You are encouraged to consider non-candy options (like toys or stickers) or some of the healthy snacks (like fruit chews) along with candy.

If you are planning to be in town on Easter and willing to help hide the eggs, provide refreshments or hospitality, please talk to Cheryl

Nursery Volunteers

we are looking for additional volunteers to help in the nursery during worship on Sundays. If you would be interested in helping take care of and watch over some of our youngest members, please contact Cheryl Hartman or Steve Allison.

Presbyterian Giving Catalog

Our children are collecting money for the **Presbyterian Giving Catalog** in their fish banks that were given out in worship. From the money they collect and donate they will get to choose where their mission dollars will go.

Gifts to the Presbyterian Giving Catalog are signs of our gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the broken-hearted, and sharing our faith with young and old. By joining our gifts together, however large or small, we expand our witness to God's gracious and abundant work in the world.

Banks will be collected on Palm Sunday and then the children will vote where to designate their gifts. If you would like to donate to this worthy project there is a bank on Cheryl's desk. You can find more information on <https://presbyteriangifts.org/how-it-works/>

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