

# Crossings

June, 2018

## Preparing Space

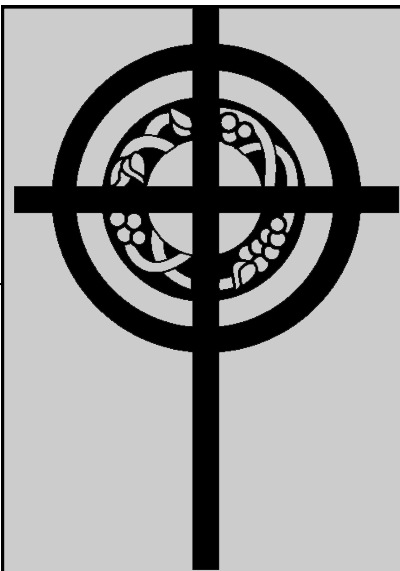
I would not have guessed that one of the tasks during the most recent OPC work day would be hacking at a chunk of insulation hanging loose from the chapel ceiling. It was one of many activities our stellar group of volunteers took on over the course of 3 hours in that sacred space. We dusted awnings, cleaned off cobwebs, worked on windows, wiped off pews, vacuumed floors and pews, and of course, hacked at chunks of insulation hanging from the ceiling. Gratitude is well deserved for our hard working volunteers!

There's something very sacred about spending time cleaning a space that will be used for worship. Our chapel carries a rich history of this church's beginning. Many patriarchs and matriarchs have spent time worshipping, and likely also cleaning, the chapel. In fact, they were likely using that space in a time when insulation did not just hang loose from the ceiling!

This summer, we will be spending two months worshipping in the chapel. Many of you are accustomed to this practice. This will be my first opportunity to worship in that place with you on Sunday morning. I'm excited about the more intimate environment and the connection with our history. Perhaps this chapel space evokes a special memory within you? I'd love to hear about it sometime.

While we change the space in which we worship for June and July, other changes will be taking place elsewhere. While in transition, the session and diaconate will be spending time in discernment of their roles, gifts, and the call upon our church. Two newly elected task forces will be beginning the process of seeking a new office manager and music director. Our communications team will be joining with former OPC intern, artist, and graphic designer, Lauren Wright Pittman, in a process of OPC image rebranding. Just like a large group of OPC volunteers were preparing our chapel for worship, others will be preparing us for a new season of being church together.

Certainly, the pace activity of activity at OPC may slow somewhat as many of us take time to travel this summer. Yet God is still at work, here and everywhere, inviting us into new and exciting times. I hope you will discern in your own life, how you can join the work of our church, as we prepare space in this building, as well as our own hearts. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us.



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The Session has reorganized into four teams which are as follows:

#### **CONNECT TEAM**

(Evangelism, Fellowship, and Preschool Liaison)

Elders: Steve Allison, Bill Cox

#### **GROW**

(Christian Education, Stewardship, Worship)

Elders: Elizabeth Parks, Brock Timmons

#### **SERVE**

(Mission)

Elders: Jeff Morris, Emily Texter

#### **VISION SUPPORT**

(Buildings & Grounds, Finance & Admin)

Elders: John Gunter, Mike Lopata

**Connect. Grow.  
Serve. Belong.**

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastoral

The Rev. Mike Watson  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
pastor@opcbrookhaven.org

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne  
Parish Associate

### Program and Support

Dr. Tim Hsu  
Music Director  
tim@opcbrookhaven.org

Alexandria Stephenson  
Communications Assistant  
Interim Office Manager  
alexandria@opcbrookhaven.org

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



**Next Deadline for  
Crossings  
June 20, 2018**

## The Clerks Corner

From Session meeting on May 20, 2018

- Approved Emily Texter to serve as Clerk
- Approved Task Forces for staffing Music Director and Office Administrator
- Approved purchase of REALM Software Database for church administration and community engagement
- Approved Preschool Allocation beginning in January 2019 the monthly cost sharing will increase to \$4500 per month.
- Approved Special Summer Ask to help with intern costs and funding \$14,000 deficit. Plan to start early June with a goal of \$8,000.

*Oglethorpe Presbyterian maintains an open book policy. All financial reports and session minutes are available at request.*

*Updated financials can always be found on our website at [opcbrookhaven.org/financials/financials.pdf](http://opcbrookhaven.org/financials/financials.pdf)*

## People in Our Prayers

*Jenny Purvis & Family (Sarah Jackson's friends); Family of Betsy Whittinghill; Family of Josh Pisani; Lexi Perry (Genie Stringer's family friend); Betty Tillman (Debbie O'Donnell's grandmother) Jennifer Dowd; Caroline Brewer; Shannon Love (Genie Stringer's friend); Aviva; Daniel Russell (Balmer's friend); Royce Foreman, Jr (Samantha Cassidy's cousin); Vickie Fisher (Mary Shank's friend); Janelle Watson (Mike Watson family); Clara Martin; Mary Smith; Larry Tyrer (Elizabeth Parks friend); Jim Bohart; Madeline McNeely (Jennifer Sterner-Allison's friend); Dot Gunter (John Gunter's mother); Mary Ratliff; The Rev. Denise Anderson and The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston (Co-Moderators, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)).*

## New Officers!

On Sunday, May 20, the OPC congregation voted on a slate of new officers. Congratulations to our newly elected church officers!

### Elders:

Jean Cox, class of 2019  
Thomas Paterson, class of 2021  
Cathy Poley, class of 2021

### Deacons:

Kelly Norris-Bouska, class of 2020  
Mike Poley, class of 2020

### Other Officers:

Jardon Bouska, treasurer  
Barbara Landes, asst. treasurer  
Mary Ann Hawthorne, clerk of session

## THANK YOU

Dear friends,  
The joy and celebration of my last Sunday with you still warms my heart with all the love that you shared with me.

Thank you for the gifts that you gave me. The book of notes and photo of the children along with the monetary gift the church gave me shows once again what an amazing Church Oglethorpe Presbyterian really is. As I move into my new position at Calvin Center I remember and miss the loving responses I received from you through these last 7 years.

Thank you  
And remember that I love you and God loves you.  
Love one another.  
Cheryl

# Monthly Calendar



## Stewards Serving Sunday, June 3 (Worship in Chapel):

**liturgist:** Linda Morris; **ushers/greeters:** Cindy Alexander, Emily Texter; **ushers/counters:** Carl Texter, Georgia Gunter; **sound/open:** Brandon Cassidy; **Refreshments:** Mimi Averill; **nursery:** Jean Cox.

## Stewards Serving Sunday, June 10 (Worship in Chapel):

**liturgist:** Georgia Gunter; **ushers/greeters:** Kelly Norris, Lisa Kelly; **ushers/counters:** Mark Kelly, Charles Hawthorne; **sound/open:** Jean Cox; **Refreshments:** Deborah O'Donnell; **nursery:** Gabby Paterson.

## Stewards Serving Sunday, June 17 (Worship in Chapel):

**liturgist:** Eleanor Timmons; **ushers/greeters:** Bill Balmer, Mike Poley; **ushers/counters:** Matt Kim, Marianne Martin; **sound/open:** Mark Kelly; **Refreshments:** Emily Texter; **nursery:** Steve Al-lison.

## Stewards Serving Sunday, June 24 (Worship in Chapel):

**liturgist:** Nicholas Cox; **ushers/greeters:** Linda Morris, Jeff Morris; **ushers/counters:** Mary Ann Hawthorne, Brandon Cassidy; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **Refreshments:** Eleanor Timmons; **nursery:** Mark Kelly.

## Stewards Serving Sunday, July 1 (Worship in Chapel):

**liturgist:** Reyn Langwell; **ushers/greeters:** Ric & William Paterson, Jean Cox; **ushers/counters:** Brock Timmons, Bill Cox; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **Refreshments:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **nursery:** Jennifer Kim.

### Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Financial Summary

		<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>YTD 2018</u>	<u>YTD 2017</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$	24,397	92,208	88,387	3,821
Expenditures		20,729	106,270	102,601	3,669
Surplus/(deficit)		<u>3,668</u>	<u>(14,062)</u>	<u>(14,214)</u>	<u>152</u>
Beginning bank balance	\$	69,910	96,398	127,584	(31,187)
Cash increase/ (decrease)		<u>3,943</u>	<u>(22,545)</u>	<u>16,720</u>	<u>(39,264)</u>
Ending bank balance		<u>73,853</u>	<u>73,853</u>	<u>144,304</u>	<u>(70,451)</u>
Loan balance	\$		89,993	98,603	(8,610)
Reserve funds	\$		22,520	48,751	(26,231)
Reserves - months of budget expense			0.8	1.7	(0.9)

● April 2018 YTD deficit of \$14,062 nearly the same as April 2017 YTD as receipts increased \$3,821 and expenses increased \$3,669.

OPC has an open book financial policy: for more information, contact the Treasurer, Jardon Bouska via email: [jtbouska@comcast.net](mailto:jtbouska@comcast.net)

## Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

### Weekly

#### Sundays:

**9:45** Sunday School for all ages  
**11am** Worship

#### Tuesdays:

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

#### Wednesdays:

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

#### Fridays:

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

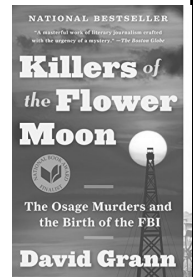
### Monthly

#### Fourth Sundays after Worship

Session Meeting

## Calendar Events & Notes

Book club will meet Monday June 11th at 7:00 PM at Margy Jones' home where we will discuss Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. For more information on the book club contact Margy Jones at [mnjbailey@aol.com](mailto:mnjbailey@aol.com)



## SUMMER IS COMING

And that means changes at OPC. Beginning Sunday, June 3 and continuing through July, Worship will be in the Chapel and will begin at 10am. Also, there will be no church school during June and July.

Hope to see everyone bright and EARLY each Sunday this summer!

## Memorial Day Closing

The office will be closed Monday, May 28 in observance on Memorial Day. We will reopen Tuesday.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

OPC's 17<sup>th</sup> **Habitat for Humanity** home build continues each **Saturday** through **June 30th** when the keys to the home will be turned over to the homeowner. All skill levels are welcome and encouraged to participate. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board just outside the parlor or online here: [churchpartners.atlantahabitat.volunteerhub.com](http://churchpartners.atlantahabitat.volunteerhub.com)

This year's home buyer is Monica Berry. She has worked as a food assistant for a school for over 17 years. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering at her nephew Cruz's school, listening to music, & watching HGTV. Cruz, is a very busy 4-year-old whose favorite things are Mickey Mouse & Paw Patrol. Ms. Berry says that the best memory of her life is when she received custody of Cruz. She now wants a home of her own so that Cruz can play in the yard. She also believes a home will further her self-worth, and she can't wait to share it with her family. She is eager to build her new home in Hammond Park!

Please contact **Jeff Chance** at 678-373-7487 if you have any questions.

## MERCY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mercy Community Church is a mission partner that OPC helps support with coffee supplies, and they sent a request that they are in desperate need of white athletic socks for men. Maggie Leonard explained that their congregation navigates the city, mostly by foot--and in shoes that are frequently already worn through or the wrong size. A clean, dry pair of socks is usually their best defense against blisters and fungus. Mercy hands out clean socks from the clothing closet each day that they are open. Additionally, the Harriet Tubman Foot Clinic now operates out of Mercy. They too give folks a clean pair of socks after caring for the member's feet and have also raised awareness about the importance of having clean, dry socks for their general health and well-being.

The Missions Committee is organizing a **sock drive** to help meet this need for white athletic socks for men. A box will be labelled Mercy Community Church and will be located in the room across from the main office through the month of June.

For more information read <https://mercyatl.org/internshipsvolunteers/>

**Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church**  
**Worship: 11am • Christian Education: 9:45am**  
**404.233.5469 • www.opcbrookhaven.org • info@opcbrookhaven.org**

DATED MATERIAL