

Crossings

March, 2018

Dum Vivimus Servimus

This Latin phrase, "While we live, we serve," has stuck around in my consciousness ever since I was introduced to it at college orientation at Presbyterian College. The school's motto has been around for quite some time and students have lived up to it through a large variety of service opportunities like Thornwell Children's Home, Big Brother/Sister, Habitat for Humanity, tutoring, and more.

I've always thought it a beautiful image: service as a part of our daily living, caring for others as often as we breathe. As followers of Christ, we acknowledge how service was deeply a part of Christ's identity: healing the sick, giving hope to the hopeless, lifting up the plight of the poor and needy. Christ's example of living and serving is the challenge given to the church. In John 20:22, after the resurrection, Christ breathed on the disciples, passing of the Holy Spirit upon those who would be carrying on the mission of the church. As Christ lived a life of service to others, so too were the disciples called to do the same.

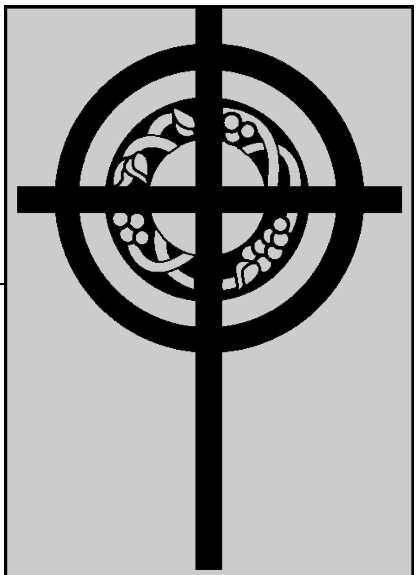
Flowing forth from "connecting" and "growing," "serving" is where we step out from the comfort of our community and out into the world in need. We serve because Christ has first served us. We care for those in sick because Christ cared for the sick. We preach God's hope to the hopeless because Christ gave hope to the hopeless. We lift up the plight of the poor because Christ lifted up the plight of the poor. Every act of service we take on as a body of faith comes from the Holy Spirit Christ empowered us with.

OPC's Serve team has been providing a great many opportunities to serve while we live this year. I hope you will consider being a part of these activities if you haven't done so already. There can always be more opportunities for service beyond what we have available as well. If you have a passion for living out acts of service, I invite you to consider making it known.

Breathe in deep. Now breathe out. If you have accomplished those two tasks, then the Spirit of God is alive in you. Christ's call is upon you. As a church, let us seek out together ways we can join Christ's call to service in our city and beyond.



For more information on our special services during the Lenten and Easter seasons, check out our website, www.opcbrookhaven.org, and click on the events tab or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/opcbrookhaven



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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

Cheryl Hartman, C.C.E.
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Beverly Moon
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Lynnette Kachel
Assistant Director
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Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Legerton

Ministers
All Members of OPC



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

Holy Week

Thursday, March 29:

Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Meal and worship through prayer stations in the fellowship hall.

Friday, March 30:

Good Friday Tenebrae in Chapel, 7pm

John 18:1 - 19:42

Service of darkness: contemplating the Passion narrative through word, song, and prayer.

Sunday, April 1:

Easter Sunrise Service in Chapel, 7am

Fellowship and Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn, 10am

Easter Service, 11am

Isaiah 25:6-9, John 20:1-18

Easter morning is a busy time around OPC and we are looking for some extra hands! Please contact Steve Allison if you can pitch in with supplying food or fellowship help.

We will need volunteers to **adopt Easter Eggs**. You can find empty eggs in the entryway. Please fill them with toys or candy and return them to the office before **March 25!** Invite your friends and family to the Hunt, family photos, and our worship celebrations!

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 March 18 at noon. Please put this completed form in the offering plate, leave it at the church office, or mail it in.



People in Our Prayers

Mary Smith, Larry Tyrer (Elizabeth Parks friend); Jim Bohart; Walter Weeks (Balmers friend); Madeline McNeely (Jennifer Sterner-Allison's friend); Dot Gunter (John Gunter's mother); Mary Ratliff; Brian Bielhy, Barbara Kiefer- Konow (Georgia Gunter's mother); Ward Porch (Trip Porch's son); Mark Chance (Jeff's brother); Jane and Hillman Moon (Beverly's in-laws); Roberta DaVia; Edyie DaVia; Lee Chang; Karen Zacek (Amy Chance's mother); Community of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School; The Rev. Denise Anderson and The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston (Co-Moderators, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)); .

In Memoriam

John Dewey

(Diane Leyburn's brother)

Mark Edson

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

-Romans 8

Monthly Calendar



Do you feel **called to serve** Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church in a new way? We are looking for volunteers to help in several areas on Sunday mornings. If you would like to help, please tell the church office or email info@opcbrookhaven.org

Stewards Serving Sunday, March 4:

liturgist: Jeff Chance; **ushers/Greeters:** Bill Balmer, Mike Poley; **ushers/counters:** Donna Poseidon, Jesse Rappole; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **refreshments:** Mimi Averill; **PowerPoint:** Steve Allison; **nursery:** Kristi Stephenson.

Stewards Serving Sunday, March 11:

liturgist: Eleanor Timmons; **ushers/greeters:** Linda Morris, Jeff Morris; **ushers/counters:** Eleanor Timmons, Bill Cox; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **Refreshments:** Deborah O'Donnell; **PowerPoint:** Ric Paterson; **nursery:** Deborah O'Donnell.

Stewards Serving Sunday, March 18:

liturgist: Georgia Gunter; **ushers/greeters:** Ric & William Paterson, Jean Cox; **ushers/counters:** Brock Timmons, Ric Paterson; **sound/open:** Jeff Morris; **Refreshments:** Emily Texter; **PowerPoint:** Mike Poley; **nursery:** Jennifer Sterner Allison,

Stewards Serving Sunday, March 25:

liturgist: Linda Morris; **ushers/greeters:** Charles Hawthorne, Cortlandt Minnich; **ushers/counters:** Nancy Minnich, Ethan Gillespie; **sound/open:** Jesse Rappole; **Refreshments:** Eleanor Timmons; **PowerPoint:** Kelly Norris; **nursery:** Rachel Paterson.

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

March 10 will be our **Church Work-day** for the month.

Book club will meet Monday March 12 at 7pm at Bonnie Holler's home where we will discuss *Founding Brothers* by Joseph J Ellis. For more information on the book club, contact Margy Jones at mjnbai-ley@aol.com

It's time to renew our Partner in Prevention status through **Stewards of Children**. These classes will be required of all officers and teachers of OPC. The first class will be offered on Sunday, March 25 at 12:30. More information to come or call the church office for more information

OPC's **Easter Book Fair** runs through March 18. You'll find the books and order forms in the entryway.

Gabby Paterson is collecting new and gently used kids books to donate to **Children Read** for her Girl Scout Gold Award. For more information, email Gabby at gepgs4501@gmail.com

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Financial Summary

	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>YTD 2018</u>	<u>YTD 2017</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$ 24,773	24,773	19,897	4,876
Expenditures	24,296	24,296	22,286	2,009
Surplus/(deficit)	477	477	(2,390)	2,867
Beginning bank balance	\$ 96,398	96,398	127,584	(31,187)
Cash increase/ (decrease)	(3,734)	(3,734)	(11,758)	8,024
Ending bank balance	92,664	92,664	115,827	(23,163)
Loan balance	\$ 92,157	92,157	0	92,157
Reserve funds	\$ 37,060	37,060	60,575	(23,515)
Reserves - months of budget expense	1.3	1.3	2.1	(0.9)

- Starting the year off positively - thanks for your faithfulness!

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

Grow Team

In other news, after Easter we will be changing the duties of the stewards who open the church and do sound on Sundays. These duties will be split so that one person is not required to both open and help with sound. New processes for each are being developed and will be distributed to all those who serve OPC in these ways. We will also set a date for training for all new and continuing stewards. If anyone is interested in serving in either of these capacities please let Brock Timmons or Elizabeth Parks know and we'll add you to the list.

Serve Team

Hunger Walk 2018 On Sunday, February 25th, Pastor Mike Watson, his wife Melody, and several OPC members (some not pictured) joined thousands of Atlantans in the 34th annual Hunger Walk benefitting the Atlanta Community Food Bank. The 3.1 mile stroll began at Georgia State Stadium (formerly Turner Field) and continued through the Grant Park neighborhood in surprisingly rain-free weather! Various bands and other performance groups lightened our steps as we passed by them along the route. The event is expected to raise over \$1 million to fight hunger in the Atlanta area, including items for the food pantry at Suthers Center in Chamblee which was started, and is currently supported, by OPC. Many thanks to all who participated in the Hunger Walk, as well as to those who sponsored our participants with donations!



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

DATED MATERIAL