



Lamplighter

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Our Leadership Team

Pastor
the Rev. D. Kerry Slinkard
Clerk of Session
Jane Trimble
Deacons Moderator
Robert Hudler
Director of Music
Peter Slauch
Organist
Julie Allport
Parish Nurse
June Hoffman
Director of Christian Education
Stephanie Templin Ashford
Preschool Director
Nicole Hartman
Secretary
Eryn Tierney
Sexton
Clyde Prigg
Treasurer
Beth Keefer

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Our Vision

Oxford Presbyterian Church is a family of Christians dedicated to sharing the unconditional love of Jesus Christ with the local and world communities

Congregational Meeting



On January 31st, following the 11:00 worship service we will have a special luncheon and hold our annual congregational meeting. At the meeting we will elect officers for the coming year and review the annual report of our ministries in 2009. We will also be reviewing the changes in Pastor Kerry's Terms of Call.

(pizza party continued)

cover the costs of ordering the pizza and a beverage or dessert to share.

Please also bring ideas for activities you think you'd like to group to do together throughout the upcoming months. Start thinking about if you'd like to host a get-together at your home or another activity elsewhere.

Please let us know if you will be able to come. Sign-ups will be in the church office. You may also send an email to: amanda.woolston@gmail.com to let us know as well.

We looking forward to seeing and getting to know as many young adults and young families as possible. Feel free to bring the kids!



Meet and Greet Pizza Party!

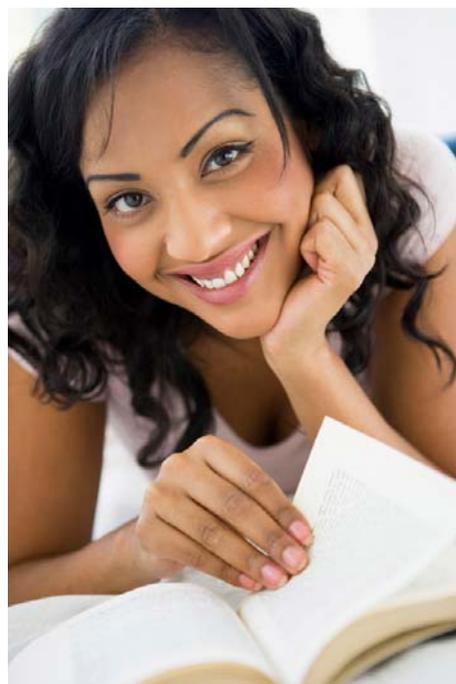
January 10, at 5:00PM

There is a NEW group at OPC! We we're trying to gather all of the individuals and families in the church ranging from ages 18-39 to start a church social group with lots of activities.

We are going to start our new group off in the New Year with a fabulous meet-and-greet pizza party in the fellowship hall.

Please bring \$5 per family to

OPC Young Adults and Families



Pastor's Corner

As we begin our journey into 2010, first let me say how much I have appreciated your caring support for me and my family on the death of my mother. She was always sweet and loving, and also quirky enough to provide endless happy memories for our family. I will miss her, but I am glad that she is at rest and at peace with her Lord and Savior. Again, thank you all so much for your love and prayers.

Into the New Year!

In the life of the church, we celebrate two great cycles of life centered around Jesus. The first is Advent / Christmas, which ends with the Day of Epiphany (January 6, after "The 12 Days of Christmas"). The second is Lent / Easter, which ends with the Day of Pentecost (after seven weeks of Easter). Each of these cycles begins with a time of preparation—not for Jesus to prepare, but for us to prepare for him. We all know about Advent and how frustrating it is when the Pastor doesn't let us sing Christmas songs until deep into December. We also know about Lent and how we feel guilty if we don't "give up something" for those 40 days. But we often forget that Christmas and Easter are both seasons. I say all this because in the last 35 years of my life (including 20 years in ministry) I have NEVER spent Christmastide (the season of Christmas) at home. I have always lived away from family, so the week between Christmas and New Years was always spent traveling, either to Georgia, or Missouri, or Indiana, or Michigan.

This year, because of all of our fall travels, we stayed home. It has been so relaxing not to have to be in the car or the airport (although the girls can get stir-crazy). It has also been nice to worship here with you in the warmth of the Christ Child. As we look forward to the transition from one year to the next, I celebrate OPC and the witness of this family of faith to the community of Oxford. Your willingness to share the love of Jesus is manifest every day of the year. May God bless you all!

See you in church!

PEACE, Pastor Kerry



Ten Thousand Villages

By Beverly Hartgrove

THANK YOU from Social, Justice and Peacemaking!

Once again this year Ten Thousand Villages Gift Shop was a success. Thanks to the Congregation and community who supported us. Sales total was approximately \$5000. That includes \$3500 for Ten Thousand Villages, and \$1500 for the Coffee Project, Palestinian Oil, and Threads of Hope.

Our efforts to give back to the countries who make the crafts and jewelry are appreciated around the world.

Thank you especially to the Outreach Committee. They are Jackie Caleb, Nancy Andress, Jim Sumner, Amanda Woolston, Kay Skinner, Sue Sizoo, Vivian Brown, Bonnie MacKrell, Bob Brede, Kay Atkinson, Don Drennan and Beverly Hartgrove. Others to thank for helping are Lisa Claypoole, Ila Barlow, Phyliss Lillard, Eryn, Clyde, and Lorraine. Special thanks to Dave Keefer for moving his kids' chime practices to make room for the shop. It was a true team effort.

Youth Group

January 3rd: No Youth Group

January 8th: Friday Night WJTL
Bowling Night at Garden Spot Bowl

January 17th:

Regular Youth Group

Seniors 5-6

Open House (with dinner) 6-7

Juniors 7-8



Resolve to be New

" By Amanda Woolston

As we embark on the New Year, remember that you no longer have to live for yourself; Christ died for you so that you may live for him! We are a new creation in Christ Jesus; 2 Corinthians 5.

Thank you for following with us in 2009 as the Lamplighter also became "a new creation" with an editor change. I hope I can continue to serve you as wonderfully as our former editor did.

The Lamplighter and the folks at OPC wish you all a fantastic end to 2009 and a blessed entry into 2010!"

Presbyterian Women

Submitted by Jackie Slauch

Presbyterian Women in our congregation support the mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA) through the General Assembly Mission budget and the basic operating budget of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery, in the Synod, and at the churchwide level. Our funds come mainly from our kitchen events - Lenten lunches, receptions, dinners, and the Lighthouse Auction. We also have a few investment funds. In a successful year we can raise our giving.

We support and give to the Fellowship of the Least Coin (a worldwide ministry), Birthday and Thank Offerings, sewing and knitting for children in impoverished countries, and needs for extra help that may arise.

(continued....)

The Synod of the Trinity's Special Mission Project for 2009 - 2010 will fund the Susquehanna Safe Harbor at Market Square Presbyterian Church, Carlisle, PA. and Navaho Reservation Kayenta Presbyterian Church in Arizona.

A point to remember for the women in our congregation: Who is a Presbyterian Woman? -----YOU ARE!!!

NOMADS

Nomads Winter 2010 Schedule

Happy New Year! It's 2010 and time for resolutions. Why not resolve to join Nomads in 2010? There's always room for more people who enjoy fun, food and fellowship.

Mark your calendars for the next two Nomads dinners:

Saturday, February 6

Saturday, April 10

While the Kraybills take a break this winter, Carol Groff and Bev Hartgrove have volunteered to coordinate the program. You'll be hearing from them with info regarding the February and April dinners. They can be reached by phone or e-mail at:

Carol Groff: 717-529-2249,
tcgcp@epix.net

Bev Hartgrove: 410-658-4792
rhartgrove@zoominternet.net,

Bev Hartgrove: 410-658-4792
rhartgrove@zoominternet.net



Women's Retreat

March 19-21, 2010

If you are interested in attending, please contact Kathy Stullken at 610-998-9341.

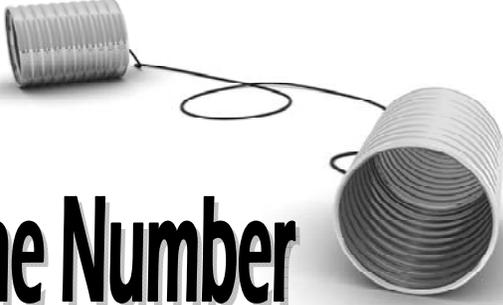
"NEW"

The word "new" occurs 176 times in 161 verses (NASB).

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

-2 Corinthians 5:17





God's Phone Number

By Amanda Woolston

I remember being very young, maybe 6 or 7 and hearing my mother announce to me that she had God's phone number and that we were going to call him.

I have always had a very intense belief in God. He was not something that anyone had to explain to me or whose existence I ever needed to question. I felt God; I always knew he was there. Despite this, the prospect of talking to God on the phone was really cool. I tried to envision what speaking to God on the phone would be like. I knew God has no beginning and no end. So that means he is very old and therefore no doubt an adult. Would it be like talking to other adults on the phone? You know, the adults that are just calling friends and family on the phone to say hello or give a quick update and end up having to make awkward small talk when the telephone is handed to the five year old who wants to say "hi." Those adults don't always seem like they want to talk to me. Would God?

I decided that maybe adults didn't like talking on the phone to kids because kids talk too much. Maybe if I thought about what I wanted to say before-hand, I could make sure I didn't miss anything and still not talk God's ear off.

I am trying to recall my mental list of this very vivid memory of mine. I'm sure it included questions about Miss Kitty, our family

pet that I was always very concerned about. I didn't have very many questions but I did want God to know about me and who I was. I figured he already did but I wanted to make sure.

The time came for us to call God. My toy phone was out on the day bed with my mother's Bible. I remember raising an eyebrow because I knew you couldn't make real calls with my toy phone. I was right, we wouldn't be using my toy phone to make a phone call. It was just an illustration.

My mother flipped open her Bible to Jeremiah 33:3

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

I immediately responded "there's only three numbers in that passage, phone numbers have seven numbers."

"God doesn't have an earthly phone number," she responded. "You can call him by praying or just by thinking thoughts to him."

Oh how I grumbled to myself over this. I really wanted to call God on the phone but it turned out, you just couldn't do so.

I never forgot this instance and although I did not learn the lesson my mother most likely wanted me to learn immediately, I did come to a conclusion over time.

In-context, the Jeremiah verse is a part of a passage where God

promises restoration to his people. His promises are meant to encourage their prayers to him and for them to seek him. What they want, what they need and what they'd like to know is there if they only seek him and ask.

Jeremiah 33:3 isn't the only instance where God gives direction to "call" him. Psalm 50:15 and 91:15, Isaiah 48:6 and 55:6-7 and Jeremiah 29:12 give similar promises and instruction.

What I failed to realize in my youth is that I had always had God's phone number. I could call him and had always been calling him in the way that he had asked. God's answers to me personally are not by physically picking up a phone, dialing a number and hearing his voice. God's answers to me are around me in the things I see and in the quiet confirmation of my heart. When given the option of dialing up God on the phone, I immediately discredited the perfectly beautiful and effective way I had been calling God already.

I think we are often too eager to discredit our own relationship with God and our ability to reach him—especially when we aren't getting the answer from him that we want. Keep an open heart; his ways are not our ways.



"Everything that we see is a shadow cast by that which we do not see."

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



A post-Christmas reflection by Stephanie Templin Ashford.

Many scholars assume Mary to have been a teenager—maybe even a younger teen—when she became pregnant with Jesus. That fact amazed me when I was in junior high. It amazes me even more now when I look around at the middle school students I know. Do they get younger looking every year for everyone, or is it just me?

I know her culture and ours are apples and oranges. Mary was engaged to be married, after all. Society expected more maturity of her than it does of the braces-wearing, iPod-equipped 14-year-olds in this time and place. Still, the amount of faith she exhibits in the face of visits from angels and an unplanned pregnancy is inspiring.

And that's our hope this week, to prod our kids to be inspired by—and to aspire after—Mary's faith. And we hold her up as a role model not because she was extraordinary (which she was) but because she was a normal human teenager just like they are. If Mary can trust God in the middle of a difficult opportunity, they can, too. We want our kids to catch that they, too, can trust God when it's hard and be used by Him right now, often in unexpected ways.

It might be helpful to talk about Mary's faith in God and willingness to obey after catching a church Christmas program or Christmas movie on TV. If you get a chance to read through Luke 1:26-45 together, even better.

Talking Points

- ◆ Does it surprise you when you hear people say Mary was probably a teenager when the angel came and told her she would become pregnant and give birth to Jesus? Why do you think we expect God to choose older people for really important things like this?
- ◆ Can you think of any other kids or teens God used in the Bible to do something big?
- ◆ Can you think of any modern kids or teens God has used to accomplish big things?
- ◆ Can you think of any current or historical kids or teens who did other kinds of important things?
- ◆ Do you think of yourself—at your age—as someone who is available to be used by God to do whatever He wants to through you? Why or why not?
- ◆ Do you think you'd ever want to have a conversation with an angel? Why or why not?
- ◆ Why do you think angels always had to tell people not to be afraid of them?
- ◆ How would it feel, do you think, to hear a messenger from God tell you that you are highly favored and the Lord is with you?
- ◆ Do you believe that because you are a Christian you really are highly favored? Do you believe God is with you? [Parent: Be sure to reinforce that God favored us so much He sent Jesus as a baby to grow into a man to die for our
- sins so we could be saved. That's favor! Also talk about how God is always with every Christian now through His Holy Spirit.]
- ◆ Do you think you would have believed the angel's message that you were about to get pregnant even though you'd never had sex? Why or why not?
- ◆ If you had believed the angel, what kinds of things would you have been tempted to worry about? [Parent: Many of us would wonder what our parents would think. Would people believe us that we had not had sex, that this was "God's baby"? What would Joseph think? Does it hurt to be pregnant?]
- ◆ How much would it help to hear that one of your relatives was also pregnant with a "miracle baby"?
- ◆ Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." How close is that to our attitude toward God—that He can do whatever He wants to with us? How hard is it to keep that attitude?
- ◆ What are some of the ways you expect God to use your life—at your age—for His glory? Are you ready if the opportunity comes from Him to use your life in an unexpected way?
- ◆ Do you think of Mary as a valuable role model for how she trusted God and obeyed Him? Why or why not?



January Birthdays

- 01/02 Jerry Coe
Merton Deaver Jr.
Carolyn Guzzo
Christine Vanella
William Taylor
- 01/05 Connie Gatlin
- 01/06 Walt Osborne
- 01/07 Lucille Liggitt
Guy Hager
- 01/10 Daniel Pugh
- 01/11 Gale Drake
Philip Atkinson
- 01/12 George Boettcher
Gage Cave
- 01/13 Larry Nelson
Marilyn Deaver
Colleen MacKrell
- 01/14 Lawrie Drennen
Ronald Brooks
Ann Holton
Jennifer Kretzing
- 01/16 Rebecca Kelso
Abbi Keefer
- 01/18 Yilan Slinkard
- 01/20 Judy Hastings
Loretta Rhodewalt
Louis Neyman
Warren Vosburg
Richard Jones
Patty McComsey
- 01/22 Wesley Robinson
Jacob Crawford

- 01/23 Stephen Albrecht
- 01/24 Cindy Pugh
Mark Gundrum
- 01/26 Madison Hopkins
- 01/27 Sally Tipton
- 01/28 Ann Nelson
Elena Olivieri
Ashley Talley
- 01/29 Ginny Lorah
David Meyers
- 01/30 Helen Ribauda
Richard Phillips Forcey
- 01/31 Jacqueline Montgomery

Psalm 139:7-14

Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my

mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Thank You!

Presbyterian Women would like to thank OPC for all of their generosity for recent missions such as Baby Layettes, Christmas Gift Giving and Santa Sack.



Congratulations to Stephen & Diana Albrecht

OPC members Stephen and Diana Albrecht renewed their vows on December 26, 2009 for their 7th wedding anniversary.

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 One Room Sunday School.	4	5	6 No Children's Choir Adventure Club at Boomers.	7	8	9
10 Communion. Young Adults and Families Pizza Party.	11	12 WIC	13 Children's Choir resumes	14	15	16
17 Oxford Minsterium MLK Celebration	18 Martin Luther King Day Race Relations Day	19 WIC	20	21	22	23
24 Blood Pressure Screenings.	25	26 WIC	27	28	29	30
31 Congregational Meeting.						



Please join us for the
Ecumenical Celebration
Sunday, January 17
Stay tuned to the
church bulletin for the
time and location.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

thousand gather that evening, and the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) is formed with King as president.

January 30, 1956

King's home is bombed. Addressing a crowd outside his home, King demands nonviolence.

November 13, 1956

After a year-long boycott, the U.S. Supreme court declares Montgomery and Alabama bus segregation laws unconstitutional.

January 10, 1957

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is formed, with King as president. Montgomery is rocked by a series of bombings that night.

March 1957

The Kings travel to West Africa to celebrate Ghana's independence from British colonial rule.

May 17, 1957

King delivers his first national address, "Give Us the Ballot," in Washington, D.C.

September 20, 1958

At a book signing in Harlem, King is stabbed by a mentally ill woman.

February 1959

King travels to India for one month where he meets with many of Gandhi's followers.

April 18, 1959

King meets with Kenyan leader Tom Mboya.

January 1960

The King family moves to Atlanta where King becomes co-pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church with his father, Martin Luther King, Sr.

Journeying Toward the Promised Land

A chronology of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement

January 15, 1929

Martin Luther King, Jr., is born in Atlanta, Georgia. In his late teens, King works a factory job alongside both Whites and Blacks.

1944-1948

King attends Morehouse College in Atlanta. His professors encourage a critical exploration of racial issues. King reads Thoreau's *Essay on Civil Disobedience* numerous times.

February 1948

At age nineteen, King is ordained and becomes assistant pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta.

1948 - 1951

At Crozier Theological Seminary, King engages in "a serious intellectual quest for a method to eliminate social evil," digesting various philosophies on social transformation, including Rauschenbusch, Marx, Nietzsche,

Reinhold Niebuhr, and A.J. Muste. He discovers the teachings of Gandhi, from which he develops a strong belief in nonviolent resistance.

1951

King begins graduate studies in systematic theology at Boston University where he is exposed to the philosophy of personalism, "the theory that the clue to the meaning of ultimate reality is found in personality." He receives his doctorate in 1955.

June 18, 1953

King marries Coretta Scott.

September 1954

King begins a pastoral position with Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

December 1, 1955

In Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks refuses to vacate her bus seat for a White man and is arrested. Parks had attended training sessions in labor and civil-rights organizing.

December 5, 1955

A bus boycott begins on the same day as Parks's trial. Several

February 1, 1960

Four students in Greensboro, North Carolina, refuse to leave their seats at a lunch counter when they are denied service, sparking a sit-in movement throughout the South. On February 16, King addresses the student protestors in Durham, North Carolina, imploring them to follow the moral imperative of "jail, not bail," and encouraging them to consider economic boycott.

April 17, 1960

Through the organizing efforts of Ella Baker, the longtime assistant director of SCLC, the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is established to unite the sit-in protestors.

October 19, 1960

Student protestors recruit King for a sit-in demonstration in Atlanta, where he and thirty-five others are arrested.

April 10, 1961

Under a compromise reached by business owners and the Black clergy, schools and businesses in Atlanta begin to desegregate.

May 21, 1961

After suffering a series of violent attacks in Alabama, Freedom Riders on a campaign to desegregate interstate travel are addressed by King in a Montgomery church. With the church besieged by a White mob, King calls Attorney General Robert Kennedy for assistance. King begins pressuring the Kennedy's for federal civil-rights legislation.

September 22, 1961

The Interstate Commerce Commission mandates that all interstate transportation be desegregated.

October 16, 1961

King meets with President Kennedy and asks him to deliver a

second Emancipation Proclamation.

December 1961

King begins a lengthy campaign in Albany, Georgia, to challenge the city's refusal to comply with the integration order. The campaign is ultimately unsuccessful.

April 1963

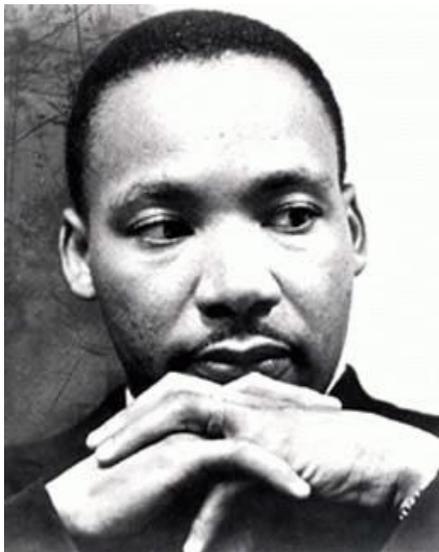
While in jail during a campaign to integrate Birmingham, Alabama, King writes "A Letter from Birmingham Jail" chastising liberal White clergy for their passive stance against segregation. For several months, the campaign in Birmingham includes massive civil disobedience and severe measures by city police against protestors, including high-pressure for hoses, clubs, and dogs. Several bombings occur, including at the hotel where King had been staying.

August 28, 1963

The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom uses the momentum of Birmingham to move the power of mass resistance to the national stage. King delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech.

September 15, 1963

Four young girls are killed in the bombing of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

**January 17, 1964**

President Lyndon Johnson meets with King to seek support for his "War on Poverty" initiative.

May - July 1964

King leads an effort to integrate St. Augustine, Florida. One day before Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act of 1964, St. Augustine business leaders hammer out an agreement to comply with the new law.

July 1964

With widespread integration compliance in Alabama, King begins a tour of Mississippi where the Civil Rights Act is widely ignored.

December 10, 1964

King receives the Nobel Peace Prize.

January 2, 1965

At a mass meeting in Selma, Alabama, King introduces SCLC's plans for a voter drive. On March 3, while attempting to march from Selma to Montgomery, civil rights advocates are beaten at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma.

August 1965

President Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act. California's Proposition 13, seeking to block the fair housing component of the Civil Rights Act, creates a feeling of despair and injustice among the urban Black population. Rioting breaks out in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles, leaving dozens dead and hundreds injured. King travels to Watts where he questions the effectiveness of violence.

January 1966

King moves to Chicago's South Side where he develops Operation Breadbasket to address urban economic injustice. The campaign increases black employment, business opportunities, and housing rehabilitation while strengthening black financial institutions.

June 6, 1966

In a show of unity, King, Floyd McKissick of the Congress of Racial Equality, and Stokely Carmichael of SNCC resume James Meredith's "March Against Fear" from Memphis, Tennessee, to Jackson, Mississippi, after Meredith is shot and wounded.

April 4, 1967

At Riverside Church in New York City, King denounces U.S. military action in Vietnam. Subsequently, he is harshly criticized in the media and by colleagues in the civil rights movement.

November 1967

King envisions a Poor People's Campaign—poor people camping out en masse in Washington to dramatize the need for a redirection of national priorities and resources.

April 4, 1968

King is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, where he is helping to organize striking sanitation workers.

1998

The King family, after unsuccessfully petitioning President Clinton to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to explore the facts behind King's killing, files a wrongful-death suit. In December 1999, a twelve-person, mixed-race circuit court jury finds that Martin Luther King, Jr., was "murdered by an intricate plot that included government agencies."

Source: The Other Side: Strength for the Journey. Vol. 39, no. 1, January & February 2003: pgs 22-23. This timeline can be found at PCUSA.org

We hope you'll join us for the Ecumenical Celebration Sunday, January 17. Stay tuned to the church bulletin for the time and location.



Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Rev. Dr. Gloria J. Tate

Any reflection on the work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. calls into view particular gifts of his ministry: the application of the gospel to political and social reform; the coupling of cries for justice with public action; and the merger of passion and intellect.

Dr. King, like preachers before him, focused on agape. However, he was radical enough to merge the themes of grace and justice. He brought to the pulpit a social gospel that defined racism as a theological issue and promoted active agape love as a power that could bring political transformation to a nation steeped in discriminatory practice and ideology.

In the early 60's, many of us saw King as representing a new breed of preachers. My exposure to the church had provided a limited view of the black preacher as someone who only interpreted the gospel as a promise of salvation in the "bye and bye." Dr. King wasn't the first, but he was the most prominent symbol of a person who brought together themes of the black church tradition (emphasis on justice and hope) with the universalism of the gospel (God has created all people equal) in a style that affirmed both the passion of black preaching and the astuteness of

theological training.

Certainly people who preceded him and many of his contemporaries fit that mold, however they were not as visible to the masses. Dr. King launched, through the help of television, the times and his being deemed the leader of the civil rights movement, an appreciation in the populous for a different image of the "black preacher."

His incorporation of a social gospel, a passionate call for political involvement, with a well-grounded theological perspective is still an influential model of ministry within the African American Christian community and beyond.

The Rev. Dr. Gloria J. Tate is pastor of The Presbyterian Church of Teaneck in Teaneck, New Jersey. She can be reached at g.j.tate@worldnet.att.net.

Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: Rev. Marthame Sanders

Tariq got the call from his parents. His uncle's home was being demolished. He tried desperately to call them back, but the phone was dead. He was beside himself - they lived next door to his uncle, and there was no telling what could happen during a home demolition.

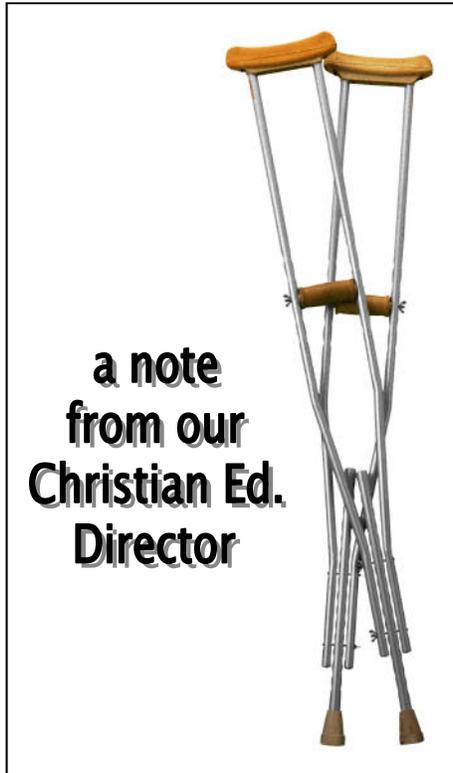
This was the latest in a string of bad news for the 18 year-old. Several cousins had been killed. His parents were out of work. And his town was being completely isolated, surrounded by a 25-foot high cement wall on all sides. Meanwhile, Tariq tried to focus on his studies. It was his freshman year of college, and his life seemed upside-down.

A few weeks later, an organizer came to campus, talking about "non-violent resistance." An intelligent, thoughtful young man, Tariq was by nature a skeptic. But the past few months had filled him with rage. The thought of non-violence seemed so naïve, but something grabbed him. Perhaps it was desperation, anything that could bring a glimmer of light to his darkened life.

Tariq is a Palestinian Muslim, a person too often written off as a terrorist. The kind of anger and desperation he felt can easily provide fertile soil for militancy. And yet, Tariq found himself at a non-violent protest. Israelis and Palestinians joined hands against Israel's building of the Separation Barrier and the further expropriation of Palestinian land. He found himself next to a young Israeli, the first he had ever met who wasn't carrying a gun. His eyes lit up as he recounted the story. He had found a reason to hope.

Dr. King left a legacy that non-violent resistance can change the world. Such hope glimmers as a candle in an ocean of darkness. The darkness shall not overcome it.

The Rev. Marthame Sanders is a Missionary in Residence of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). From 2000-2003, he and his wife Elizabeth lived in the Palestinian Christian village of Zababdeh. More information about their ministry can be found at www.saltfilms.net.



**a note
from our
Christian Ed.
Director**

**The State of the Knee
The Templin Ashfords**

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness through this whole ordeal! I fell at Adventure Club on Dec. 2nd and somehow re-tore a previous ACL injury in my Left Knee. I also tore some meniscus (cartilage) in my knee. I have seen several surgeons and will be undergoing a reconstruction any day now. Thank you for your prayers and thoughts, your willingness to help out and for all of the wonderful meals. It will be a long road to recovery but we are so glad to have so much support along the way.

-Paul, Stephanie, Noah and Maeve

Update! Stephanie had surgery at 9AM on Monday, December 21st. Everything went very well and the surgeon was pleased with the results. Stephanie will be off her feet for a while. Keep her family in your prayers!

**ADVENTURE CLUB
2010 KICK OFF!!!**



January 6th is Boomers night for Adventure Club

\$12 pp includes dinner, laser tag and Fun Zone. Meet at Boomers at 6PM. Party ends at 7:30 PM

Women Peacemakers

The Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries/PW is seeking nominations for women who help the church to grow in its witness and commitment to peacemaking! Hurry - you have till January 18th 2010 to respond! (the day before Presbytery)

Please visit:

<http://www.donegalpby.com/womenpeace1.pdf>





The Lamplighter

6 Pine Street
Oxford, PA 19363

OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Phone: 610-932-9640
Fax: 610-932-0863
E-mail: opc@oxfordpresbyterian.org

Our Web Page:

[http://
www.oxfordpresbyterian.org](http://www.oxfordpresbyterian.org)

Our Session

The Session meets the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 pm

<i>Class of 2009</i>	<i>Class of 2010</i>	<i>Class of 2011</i>
Nancy Andress	Richard Forcey	Jackie Caleb
Peter King	Andrea Evans	Warren Vosburg
Vaun Newill	Beverly Hartgrove	Carol Carter
Bill Stullken	Don MacMillan	Jim McLeod
Eryn Tierney	Susan Sizoo	Eileen Loeliger
Jane Trimble	Wendell Higgins	Don Drennen

Our Deacons

The Deacons meet the third Sunday of the month after the 11:00 service

<i>Class of 2009</i>	<i>Class of 2010</i>	<i>Class of 2011</i>
Dianne Hammond	Andrew Ralston	Dennis Tierney
Bob Hudler	Jessica Hammond	Jackie Montgomery
Jean McCauley	Patty McComsey	Cindy Hager
Raymond Vanover	Mark Verbanas	Herman Wharton



Return Service Requested

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