



# Lamplighter

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

**September 2013**

<b>Our Leadership Team</b>	
<b>Pastor</b>	the Rev. D. Kerry Slinkard
<b>Clerk of Session</b>	Jane Trimble
<b>Deacons Moderator</b>	Andrew Arthur
<b>Director of Music</b>	Peter Slauch
<b>Organist</b>	Julie Allport
<b>Faith Community Nurse</b>	June Hoffman
<b>Director of Christian Education</b>	Stephen Doutrich
<b>Preschool Director</b>	Nicole Hartman
<b>Secretary</b>	Eryn Gallagher
<b>Secretary</b>	Lorraine Holton
<b>Sexton</b>	Clyde Prigg
<b>Treasurer</b>	Beth Keefer

## Apple Festival 2013

**ATTENTION—ALL OPC MEMBERS**

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 - OUR ANNUAL APPLE FESTIVAL**



**DONATIONS NEEDED (bring to church office):**

- SODAS and BOTTLED WATER
- BOOKS (especially children's)
- SILENT AUCTION ITEMS
- BAKED GOODS



**HELP NEEDED:**

- FOOD BOOTHS (see Ila Barlow or Patty McComsey)
- APPLE PIE BOOTH (see Sally Tipton or Jean McCauley)
- BEVERAGE BOOTH (see Suzanne Herr)
- APPLE AND CIDER SALES BOOTH (see Laura King)
- BOOK TABLE (see Lorraine Holton)
- APPLE BUTTER - 2 days - Wednesday (and/or) Saturday paring, stirring, jarring - see Vern Ringler or Donna Krauss
- KIDS ACTIVITIES - YOUTH GROUPS
- GROUNDS CREW - NEEDED

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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.

# LET'S MAKE THIS THE BEST APPLE FESTIVAL YET!!!!!!!



## WORSHIP NOTES

As you know, we have been experimenting with worship times this Summer. The combined single service at 9:30 for August has been a real hit with many of you, although it was only easy because there was no Sunday School or Choir rehearsal, etc. Now that fall is upon us, we are going to return to the old schedule of 8:15 and 11:00 Worship with Sunday School at 9:30. The Session will continue to evaluate our options and perhaps recommend another single-worship idea after the first of the year. There is value in having two services in order to provide a convenient time for the broadest range of families. But there is also value in having the whole congregation together. We continue to ask for your ideas to help us make the best decisions.

On another note, I enjoyed preparing the two sermon series this summer: "Favorite Gospel Hymns" and "Prophets We Never Knew." I hope they were meaningful for you as well. They gave me a chance to explore some church history and biblical history. When I was in seminary, my fellow students and I always dreaded the history classes (the Church History text by Williston Walker was fondly called "Sleep Walker"). As my ministry has deepened, I have come to appreciate the importance of having historical context to help me interpret scripture. Imagining the difficulties of being faithful in the times of the divided kingdoms, or the exile, or the Middle Ages, or the slave trade makes me appreciate God's persistent call on our hearts even more.

As we head into Fall, I pray that our ministries will honor and build upon the faithfulness of our ancestors. May God bless us all!

See you in church!

PEACE,

*Pastor Kerry*

**THE GOOD  
GIFTS**

*Stewardship  
Celebration!*

**Festive Meal**

Our Fall Financial Campaign this year will consist of a terrific dinner where we will celebrate our church and our members, hear stories about how OPC changes lives, and make our commitments for the coming year. You will be receiving more information in the mail and a call from a Deacon or Elder inviting you to be a part of this celebration. As soon as we know the date we will let everyone know so you can plan appropriately. This year's theme reminds us that ALL GOOD GIFTS come from God.

— your Stewardship Committee



## CHOIR NEWS

The Chancel Choir will resume practice on Wednesday, September 8 at 7:30 P.M. The Bells of Praise will begin on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 P.M. New members are always welcome and no tryout is necessary.

Both choirs are under the direction of Peter Slauch.

Our choirs work with a variety of music styles—traditional, gospel and contemporary. We are open to many new ideas for worship.

Our mission - to praise the Lord!

*“In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall  
prophesy, and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.”*

—Acts 2:17



In a time of declining resources for many churches and presbyteries, we often bemoan the lack of staff and finances in order to do the ministry that we once undertook. We forget that Peter does not say that God will pour out money upon all flesh. He does not say that God will pour out extra staff members upon all flesh. Peter reminds us that God will pour out the Spirit upon all flesh, so that people dream dreams and have visions.

Hopefulness about the rich ministry that can happen despite reductions in staff and money challenges us to stop being functional atheists in such things—proclaiming God with what we say, but thinking that it is all up to our human efforts and resources to determine whether our ministries thrive or fail. The Spirit blows where it will. “I am who I am,” says the Lord of Hosts. Without a vision, the people perish. Jesus’ work in the world does not depend on our money or staff. For this grace, we act in gratitude, dreaming dreams and joining Christ’s mission.

*Excerpt from PCUSA Blog “Comings and Goings:  
Watching God on the Move”*

## Discourse from the Director



*Steve Doutrich*

This month we begin anew with Sunday School. This is my passion and calling to develop fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ (Read Colossians 1:28-29). Not everyone’s discipleship path will be the same. But one common factor for everyone is a Bible study. That’s why I believe Sunday School and Bible Study groups are so important.

The realm of the soul is a wide expanse, yet everyone shares a substantial commonality like the important questions of life that everyone wonders about: Why am I here? What am I supposed to do with my life? Why is the world so messed up? Is there a God? Does He know I exist? What should I believe? What is going to happen to me? That is where Sunday School and Bible Discussion groups are a great way to find some answers and help in answering some of these important questions.

The Apostle Paul told the Colossians that he was praying that they would be “growing in the knowledge of God.” That is my prayer also for OPC—that we would be a church that is growing spiritually into a deepening relationship with God.

Make a commitment to be part of a Sunday School class or a Bible study group. You will be glad you did! But be careful! It might transform your life!

*Steve*

# Outreach

## Missions We Support



### Local

Neighborhood Services Center	.\$8,140
Oxford Senior Center	.....\$1,200
Domestic Violence Center of Chester County	.....\$1,300
Lighthouse Youth Center	.....\$2,020
Meeting Ground	.....\$1,000
Miscellaneous Local Mission	....\$8,320
Christmas Food Boxes	.....\$3,450
Community Meal	.....\$2,000
Onesimus Ministries	.....\$880
American Cancer Society	.....\$500

### Beyond our Area

Presbyterian Coffee Project Mthatha Presbytery	
Good News for India	.....\$1,320
Church World Service	.....\$2,500
Ten Thousand Villages	.....\$3,500

### Missions with the Larger Church

Per Capita (sent to Presbytery)	
.....	\$12,398
Basic Mission Support/to Presbytery	
.....	\$6,000
Theological Education Fund/to Presbytery	.....\$3,500
One Great Hour of Sharing	....\$2,400
Pentecost Offering	.....\$600
Peacemaking Offering (75%)	....\$900
Christmas Joy Offering	.....\$1,600

## Fair Trade

### A form of hunger ministry

The **Presbyterian Hunger Program** works to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes.

**Fair Trade** is an economic model that helps people:

- Access needed resources
- Provide for their families
- Gain control over their lives
- Live with increased dignity
- Tell their stories

The PC(USA) has been involved in Fair Trade since 2001, when the Presbyterian Coffee Project was launched.



**CROPWALK is  
October 20 in  
Oxford, PA**

**Walk together this fall!**

Join with friends and family and raise funds to help end hunger.

## Dates to save - Help needed

The Outreach Committee will be selling coffee and tea at the **Apple Festival**. Look for us by the drinks and apple pie booth. Sales people needed.

Work on **Christmas Food Boxes** begins in September. If you are interested in helping, contact Ila Barlow.

**Ten Thousand Villages** will be back in November/December. A treasurer and people to set up are needed. See Bev Hartgrove.

# Ministry

## Habitat for Humanity of Chester County

P.O. Box 1452  
1853 East Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320  
610-384-7993  
[info@hfhcc.org](mailto:info@hfhcc.org)

**Where We're Building:** Cambria Terrace, Coatesville

Cambria Terrace elevation provided by Carnevale Eustis Architects, Inc. Since 1992, Tom Carnevale and Lauren Eustis have donated their architectural services to Habitat for Humanity of Chester County.

### Building Status:

Several homes under construction on Community Lane in various phases of the building process. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.

### Future Projects:

Infrastructure for 40 homes in West Grove, PA currently scheduled to begin in 2014.

## Live as Global Disciples: Observe the International Day of Peace

As followers of Jesus, we celebrate and promote peace. The United Nations has designated **September 21** as the International Day of Peace. This day provides an opportunity for individuals, organizations and nations around the world to engage in practical acts of peace on a shared date. Established in 1981, the International Day of Peace coincides with the opening of the United Nations General Assembly.

Learn more at [222.pcusa.org/blogs/swords-plowshares/tags/international-day-of-peace/](http://222.pcusa.org/blogs/swords-plowshares/tags/international-day-of-peace/).

*from the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations*

## "Least of These"

**One of our oldest missions.** In the Church Narthex you will see a basket where canned goods, non-perishable items, and cleaning and toiletry supplies may be donated. We also have a wagon by the front door. Neighborhood Services Center is meeting the growing needs of the community.

Let's collect 3,000 pounds of food in 2013!! **We are at 778 lbs. now, thanks to your generosity!**

*Jesus said, "Whenever you did this for one of the least of these, my brothers, you did it for me."*

## Collecting Children's Shoes and Boys Jeans for the Neighborhood Thrift Shop

Sizes 1 thru 9  
New or Gently used

ALSO NEEDED  
BOYS JEANS size 4-16



**DROP BOX BY CHURCH OFFICE**

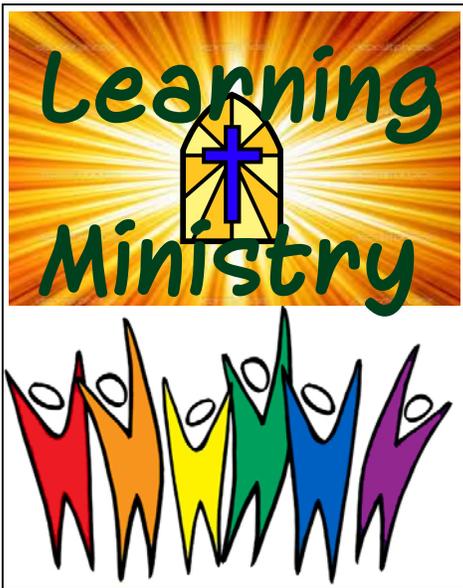


## Community Meal

Hosts: 2013 Mission Team

**It is free and open to  
everyone.**

Currently we are feeding about 80 each evening. Join us on **September 29** at 5:30-7 P.M. for good food and fellowship.



**Wear your favorite baseball team jersey or baseball cap!!**

**Everyone is invited!!  
Preschool children through  
Senior Adults.**

**Come learn about your  
class**

**Adults can learn about class options!**

**September 15 - Sunday School classes begin!!**

**Adventure Club – starts Wednesday, September 18**

### **Adult Classes**

**Adult Class 1**—This adult Sunday School Class will explore a variety of books of the Bible in the Old and New Testaments throughout the year. Our first study guide is *The Nehemiah Blueprint* by Jon D. Bennett (Kindle Edition is available at amazon.com). Nehemiah is an awesome testimony that when God has a purpose for a group of people, He does not forget about them. Through ups and downs, God remembers. Sometimes we may be tempted to think that when walls fall down around us, God has thrown up His hands and left us to perish. Nothing could be further from the truth! I believe that even your reading this book is evidence that God is working behind the scenes in the hearts of modern day Nehemiahs and Ezras to bring His eternal purposes to pass. As mentioned at the outset of this work, either God knows all and is in control of all, or He's not God at all. Class facilitators are Gale and David Sauer and Kay and Steve Smith. The class meets in the Library.

**Adult Class 2**—*On God's Side: What Religion Forgets and Politics Hasn't Learned About Serving the Common Good* is a rare book that calls for real reform in the realms of both politics and religion. The future of our American democracy, Wallis argues, isn't partisan. Rather it is in the redemption of a democracy that restores a deeper and more engaged understanding of citizenship. Wherein we all work toward the idea of a Common Good; that greater unity envisioned by Jesus. This class meets in the Bride's Parlor.

**Adult Class 3** (for women only) — "Unglued. Making Wise Choices in the Midst of Raw Emotions" by Lysa TerKeurst. Why do we hurt the ones we love—with a word, a look, or a cold shoulder? Offering healing for the times when raw emotion gets the upper hand. This class meets on the "comfy chairs" in the Parlor.

**Adult Class 4**—(meets Thursday nights @ 6:30 P.M. in the Bride's Parlor) "Once upon a time..." Remember how exciting those words used to be? They were the open door into an exciting world of make believe, a dream world that helped you forget all your troubles of childhood. Then POW!! We grew up and discovered life was a battleground, not a playground. Fairy tale stories were no longer meaningful. You need something that is real! The search for what is real is not new. That's where the Apostle John's letter comes in. John explains that the satisfying reality of life can be found in one place. Come and discover where that place is! This class will begin on September 26.

## 7 Reasons to Serve in the Church Nursery



Too often serving in the church nursery can seem like a thankless job. With that in mind, here are even reasons why serving in the church nursery is important.

**Reason #1**—God is in the church nursery. This may come as a shock, but the Bible has specific promises about God's presence when children are welcomed and loved in Jesus' name.

**Reason #2**—Your service in the church nursery allows church goers to focus on worship, rather than worrying about their children. In a very real sense your ministry makes it possible for the pastor to fulfill his ministry.

**Reason #3**—The first (and sometimes lasting) feelings a child will have toward church is formed in the nursery department. While not everyone agrees, many believe that a positive experience in the church nursery is essential.

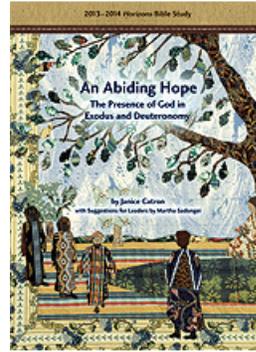
**Reason #4**—When you serve in the nursery, you are being entrusted with the most important (and vulnerable) members of the church family. There is no greater treasure on this side of heaven than the little ones God has given us. You must be someone special to have a job that is so important.

**Reason #5**—Your service is essential for your own spiritual growth. You may have never looked at it this way, but a *growing* Christian is always a *serving* Christian. Jesus was known for putting others first, when you serve in the church nursery you are walking in His example.

**Reason #6**—The church nursery is the first contact young families will have with your church. Your friendly greeting and exceptional care for their children can make a great first impression for your church. If they don't feel like their children are safe, they will not return—and rightly so.

**Reason #7**— Your service in the church nursery is a powerful opportunity for prayer. If every nursery worker would spend several minutes praying over the children in their care, imagine how God might begin to change this coming generation. There is no better way to create an environment of spiritual nurture than to pray while you serve in the nursery.

Presbyterian  Women



## AN ABIDING HOPE THE PRESENCE of GOD in EXODUS and DEUTERONOMY

This is the 2013-2014 Horizon Bible Study that the Shalom Circle and the Women of Faith at Ware will be using this year.

The Shalom Circle meets the first Thursday of the month in the church library at 7:00 P.M.

The Women of Faith at Ware meets the third Friday of the month.

The Naomi Circle meets every Thursday morning at 7:00 A.M.

All women are welcome. Come try us out.

## Thank You From Presbyterian Women

We are very grateful to the congregation for it's overwhelming support of the Back to School Mission. PW had enough money to purchase the 100 binders and 50 packs of Crayons that we were assigned, with money left over to send a check to Nottingham Church for \$300 to purchase whatever they still needed to complete the mission. Your generosity helped to make many children and their parents very happy. Thanks.

Kay Skinner - OPW/Missions

# The Worst Summer Calorie Traps - Treats to Think Twice about This Summer



-- By Megan Patrick, Staff Writer  
([http://www.sparkpeople.com/resource/nutrition\\_articles.asp?id=1893&page=2](http://www.sparkpeople.com/resource/nutrition_articles.asp?id=1893&page=2)retrieved, 16 July 2013.)

Summer is the season for back-yard barbecues, family get-togethers and lots of cool treats on hot days. But if you're not careful, a few sneaky snacks (or drinks) can derail a week's worth of healthy eating and fitness. Be on the watch for these surprisingly high-calorie tastes of summer.

## Fresh Fruit Treats

Fruit is a sweet treat you can enjoy every day as part of a healthy eating plan. But don't let fruit-based seasonal dishes fool you into thinking that they're healthy or low calorie. There are tons of ways to turn fresh summer fruit into delicious desserts at home, but the fruit-topped treats you're likely to find when eating out probably aren't what you really had in mind for a healthy meal or snack.

Food Item	Calories	Fat
T.G.I. Friday's Strawberry Fields Salad with Chicken and Balsamic Vinaigrette	800	54 grams
IHOP Berry-Berry Brioche French Toast	770	29 grams
Bob Evan's Strawberry, Banana and Yogurt Crepe	750	14 grams
Applebee's Seasonal Berry and Spinach Salad with Chicken and Strawberry Vinaigrette	620	31 grams
Au Bon Pain Strawberry Salad with Chicken and Balsamic Vinaigrette	440	27 grams
Au Bon Pain Blueberry Yogurt & Wild Blueberry Parfait	410	8 grams

## Carnival Foods

You're well aware that most of the food options you'll find at summer fairs and theme parks aren't going to do you any favors. You'll probably be able to find a few choices that will fit into your daily calorie goals like giant dill pickles, chicken and steak kabobs or even cotton candy. But there's nothing wrong with indulging in a once-a-year treat that you really enjoy. Just know what you're getting into and eat a healthy meal before you go so you can limit yourself to one treat (or bites of several shared treats). Here's how much these popular fair foods will set you back, so you can plan accordingly for your indulgence.

Food Item	Calories	Fat
Giant Turkey Leg	1,136	54 grams
Funnel Cake	760	44 grams
Snow Cone	550	0 grams
Walking Taco	450-900	30-60 grams
Elephant Ears	300-500	15-20 grams
Fried Snickers	450	30 grams

## Entrée Salads

There's nothing better than a cool salad for dinner on a hot evening. Just toss some leftover grilled chicken on top for a little protein and brighten it up with cherry tomatoes and carrot slices. A simple dressing of olive oil, vinegar and Dijon mustard or a yogurt-based ranch will add tons of flavor for a small number of calories. It makes sense to choose a salad when dining out, right? Not so fast. Many restaurant salads seem healthy but tend to skimp on the healthy, low-cal veggies and fruit and add way too much of the high-calorie salad toppings like nuts, dressing, and cheese. Sometimes a salad is the perfect choice, especially at fast-food places, but at fast-casual restaurants, salads can be hidden calorie mines.

Food Item	Calories	Fat
Applebee's Oriental Chicken Salad with Oriental Vinaigrette	1,390	98 grams
Ruby Tuesday Carolina Chicken Salad with no dressing	1,181	52 grams
T.G.I. Friday's Pecan Crusted Chicken Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette	1,080	71 grams
Panera Chopped Chicken Cobb with Herb Vinaigrette	810	66 grams
Au Bon Pain Chicken Cobb with Light Lemon Shallot Vinaigrette	490	30 grams
Wendy's Berry Almond Chicken Salad with Fat Free Raspberry Vinaigrette	460	16 grams
McDonald's Premium Southwest Salad with Grilled Chicken with Low Fat Balsamic	320	11 grams

## Iced Tea

Iced tea can be a refreshing no-calorie beverage or secret sugar trap depending on how it's prepared. Tea is made from the leaves of the *Camellia sinensis* bush, with different varieties depending on growing region and processing. All types of black, green and white tea provide antioxidants that are good for your heart and may be able to lower your risk for certain types of cancer. (Herbal teas, made from dried herbs and fruits, aren't true teas, but have beneficial properties of their own, are naturally caffeine free and make delicious no-calorie drinks.) If you brew your own tea and sweeten it yourself (even with a small amount of real sugar), you can enjoy it every day without worrying about derailing your healthy eating plan. But grabbing a bottle or cup of tea on the go is tricky. What often sounds like a "natural" or healthy iced tea can be loaded with sugar and other ingredients that add calories.

Drink Item	Calories	Sugar
Arizona Rx Energy Herbal Tea (16 oz)	240	58 grams
Arizona Raspberry Black Tea (16 oz)	180	44 grams
Starbucks Iced Chai Tea Latte (16 oz)	240	42 grams
Dunkin' Donuts Sweet Tea (16 oz)	160	39 grams
McDonald's Sweet Tea (16 oz)	150	36 grams
Lipton 100% Natural Green Tea with Citrus (16 oz)	140	36 grams
Starbucks Shaken Iced Peach Green Tea (16 oz)	80	20 grams
Wendy's Strawberry Tea (Medium)	70	16 grams

## Lemonade

This summertime favorite is incredibly refreshing on a warm day, but this sweet treat should be enjoyed occasionally, rather than every day. And lemons are good for you, right? They are, and you can certainly squeeze all the lemon you want into water for a splash of flavor and vitamin C (and virtually zero calories), but unless you use an artificial sweetener, the calories will creep up quickly in the sweetened varieties.

Drink Item	Calories	Sugar
Dairy Queen Lemonade Chiller (Medium)	390	99 grams
Wendy's All-Natural Lemonade (Medium)	290	72 grams
McDonald's McCafe Frozen Strawberry Lemonade (16 oz)	250	65 grams
Dunkin' Donuts Strawberry Lemonade Coolatta (16 oz)	240	60 grams
Country Time Bottled Lemonade (20 oz)	230	58 grams
Arizona Lemonade (16 oz)	220	52 grams
Panera Lemonade (21 oz)	160	41 grams
Starbucks Shaken Iced Green Tea Lemonade (16 oz)	130	33 grams

## Smoothies

Fruit smoothies make an excellent breakfast or afternoon snack. When you make them yourself, you can control exactly how sweet they are and how much fruit (or veggies) they really contain. When you grab one on the go, however, you need to do a little research in advance to know exactly what you're getting. Something that sounds safe like "strawberry banana" could be a reasonable choice or it could be hiding a heap of sugar—or very little fruit at all.

Drink Item	Calories	Sugar
Smoothie King The Hulk Strawberry (20 oz)	964	125 grams
Dairy Queen Strawberry Banana Smoothie (Medium)	810	148 grams
Smoothie King Light & Fluffy (20 oz)	395	89 grams
Au Bon Pain Peach Smoothie (16 oz)	310	41 grams
Starbucks Strawberry Smoothie (16 oz)	300	41 grams
Panera Low-Fat Strawberry Smoothie with Ginseng (16 oz)	260	53 grams
McDonald's Strawberry Banana Smoothie (16 oz)	250	54 grams

Continued on page 10

### Iced and Frozen Coffee

Everyone knows by now that iced and frozen coffee drinks can be delicious and refreshing on a hot summer day. But they're often calorie bombs just waiting to blow up your healthy eating plan. It's tough to tell at a glance which ones are just fine as an occasional treat and which ones you might want to skip in favor of something that will actually fill you up and satisfy your sweet tooth. In general, any coffee drink that's blended or contains large amounts of syrup, chocolate flavoring, cream or whole milk are the ones to watch out for. If you're not sure what's in your favorite iced coffee, ask! You can always make substitutions to cut down on fat and calories.

Drink Item	Calories	Sugar
Dunkin' Donuts Frozen Coffee Coolatta (Medium)	660	69 grams
Dairy Queen Cappuccino MooLatte (Medium)	570	79 grams
Panera Frozen Mocha (16 oz)	570	77 grams
McDonald's McCafe Frappe Mocha (16 oz)	550	71 grams
Starbucks Bottled Dark Chocolate Mocha Frappuccino (13.7 oz)	280	48 grams
McDonald's Premium Roast Iced Coffee (16 oz)	140	22 grams
Starbucks Mocha Frappuccino Light (16 oz)	130	26 grams
Dunkin' Donuts Iced Latte (Medium)	120	15 grams
Starbucks Orange Spiced Iced Coffee (16 oz)	90	21 grams
Starbucks Iced Skinny Vanilla Latte (16 oz)	80	10 grams

There's no reason not to enjoy all the tastes of summer from refreshing iced tea to a cool, filling salad. Just be aware of what you're eating and drinking so you can make delicious and healthy choices all summer long.

Nutrition information comes from individual restaurant/brand websites on July 11, 2013. Restaurants may change their ingredients, portion sizes and nutrition information at any time. Carnival food nutrition information is estimated based on averages since sizes and recipes vary, especially at fast-food places, but at fast-casual restaurants, salads can be hidden calorie mines.

### Can Tabs

Please bring your can tabs to the church office. They are being collected to donate to Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, DE.



## COFFEE HOUR

**Isn't it great to come out after worship and share coffee or tea and snacks with our church family each Sunday?**

sign  
up  
now

Those few moments of fellowship and conversation can really make our Sunday special. The Deacons need your help to continue this important time in our life together. No experience is necessary! Anyone can do it! Detailed instructions are provided for making coffee and starting the hot water for tea and cocoa. You just need to bring a light snack (homemade or store bought), lemonade or other juice, and straighten up afterwards. **NO DISHWASHING INVOLVED.** Don't like to bake? Team up with a friend who does! Families and groups are welcome too! We'd also be grateful for those willing to just provide baked goods or cleanup. **ANY HELP IS APPRECIATED!** The sign-up sheet is in the coffee hour area upstairs.

**Worship in the Park!**



## Oxford Memorial Park

September 15 @ 11:00 A.M.

(8:15 service will be in the Sanctuary)

12:00 P.M.—LUNCH: The Deacons are supplying burgers and hotdogs and fixings.

Please bring a covered dish to share and a lawn chair.

### Normal Families

*Martin B. Copenhaver, Senior Pastor of Village Church, United Church of Christ, in Wellesley, MA.  
Reprinted from "Stillspeaking Daily Devotional" email.*

*"Rebekah called her younger son Jacob and said to him, "Your brother is consoling himself by planning to kill you...Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran, and stay with him a while—until your brother's anger against you turns away, and he forgets what you have done to him."  
Genesis 27:42-45*

In a town called Normal, Illinois, there is a lovely sculpture in a park that features a husband and wife embracing and looking lovingly into each other's eyes, while their young children sit contented on their laps. The sculpture is entitled, "The Normal Family." The only trouble with that image of family life is that none of us live in a place that could be described as Normal. That may be why that sculpture is regularly vandalized—the vandals are striking out at an idealized image of the family none of us can live up to. As a mother once told me, "The only thing normal in our family is the knob that says *Normal* on the clothes dryer."

In contrast to that sculpture, the Bible does not hold up an idealized picture of family. Instead, the Bible depicts families with rival siblings and tension between the generations. There is marriage and betrayal, children who refuse to honor their parents and parents who hold back a blessing from their children. There is love expressed in many of the families of the Bible, but there are also heated arguments and stony silences, slow-boiling resentments, and rifts as wide as a canyon. So when I hear reference to biblical family values, I wonder: are they talking about the rifts and alienation or about the sibling rivalry and bitter resentments?

Catholic author Richard Rohr tells a story of Navajo rug weaving. These beautifully handcrafted rugs are perfectly structured, except for a corner on each rug where an obvious flaw can be found. When he asked why flaws were allowed to remain in such otherwise perfect rugs, he was told, "This is where the spirit moves in and out."

Our families, and the families depicted in the Bible, are far from perfect. They are flawed. Yet it is exactly in those flawed places that the Spirit of God can move and where we can catch a glimpse of grace.

**Prayer:** May your Spirit move in and out of the imperfections. Where there are flaws, let there be grace.



## *Check out our new Preschool Hallways!*

Over the summer our Artist in Residence Eryn Gallagher and a troop of helpers transformed the Preschool hallway with color and images that reflect the names of the various rooms.

Take a minute to walk around the hallway and marvel at what God's people can do.



# September Birthdays

3	Amy Van Kleeck	12	Michael Gehron	19	Mark Verbanas
3	Nancy Kodish	13	Nancy Wright	21	Kathleen Kamp
3	Riley Meyers	14	Larry Herr	22	Christy Robinson
5	Ernie Gray	16	Dillon Williams	23	Sam Terry
5	Frank Guzzo	16	Jennifer Berg	23	Sharon Fogg
5	Janet Newill	16	Joan Appleton	24	Zachary Koza
7	Emily Klein	16	Joe Goss	25	Virginia Hook
8	Carol Lewis	16	Richard Shrom	26	Ila Barlow
8	David Crawford	17	Brooke Gundrum	26	Nicole Hartman
8	Kirsten Northrup	17	Dianne Hammond	27	Chris Higgins
9	Lorraine Holton	17	Hugh McAllister	27	Kay Atkinson
9	Neeley Spotts	18	Fred Brubaker	28	Chase Verbanas
9	Ron Ritter	18	Pete Slauch	28	Denny Asel
10	Tricia Barlow	19	Jan Chimchirian		
11	Jackie Slauch	19	Karen Moore		

*If your or a loved one's birthday does not appear in our lists, please contact the office. We'd love to include you in our well wishes.*



**A big thank you to Emma Spotts,  
for covering nursery over the  
summer while Tricia recovered  
from a broken shoulder.  
Thanks Emma!**

*As in the parable of the mustard seed, when this congregation learned of my husband's illness it was the planting of the seed. The outreach of calls, cards and constant kindnesses were like the tree that grew and grew. It covered and enveloped my family and made all of the sadness so much more bearable. We want to thank everyone from OPC for their caring words and actions at this time.*



*Ila Barlow  
Matt Barlow and Tricia  
Jennifer MacGregor and John  
and all of those little ones.*

**Regularly Occurring Meetings in the Oxford Presbyterian Church**

- Sundays:** Worship every Sunday at 8:15 and 11:00 A.M. in the Sanctuary. Communion the first Sunday of every month. Coffee Fellowship follows each service in the Parlor.  
Sunday School for All Ages every Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
- Mondays:** Lectionary Bible Study—Pastor’s Study (except first Monday of the month when Pastor Kerry leads worship at Ware).
- Tuesdays:** POMS—First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in the Parlor.  
Living Healthy/Living Well—Every Tuesday at 4:15 P.M. in the Parlor.  
Prayer Shawl Ministry Workshop—Every Tuesday from 12:00 P.M to 2:00 P.M. in the Bride’s Parlor.  
Family Literacy Program—Every Tuesday from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. in the Parlor and the Children’s Church Room  
Women, Infants and Children—The second, third and fourth Tuesdays of every month from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. (Room may vary throughout the year.)
- Wednesdays:** Office Staff Meeting—Every Wednesday at 10:30 A.M. in the Pastor’s Study.  
Adventure Club (Starting September 18) from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.  
Bells of Praise Practice from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary.  
Chancel Choir Practice at 7:30 P.M. in the Sanctuary.
- Thursdays:** Family Literacy Program—Every Thursday from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. in the Parlor and the Children’s Church Room.  
Cub Scout Pack 213—Every Thursday 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. (Dates may vary during the year.)  
Bible Study with Steve Doutrich—every Thursday at 6:30 P.M. in the Bride’s Parlor.  
Shalom Circle—First Friday of every month at 7:00 P.M. in the Library.
- Fridays:** NA Clean and Serene—Every Friday at 7:00 P.M. in the Sonshine Room.

**Special Events/Meetings in the Oxford Presbyterian Church**

- 9/2           **LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED — Pastor Kerry leads worship at Ware**
- 9/3           **FIRST DAY OF PRESCHOOL**
- 9/3           6:30p           Wellness Council Meeting - Fellowship Hall  
                  7p               CROP Walk Meeting - Library
- 9/5           7p               Shalom Circle—Library
- 9/7           9:30-10:30a   ACE Anti-Human Trafficking Alliance-Oxford Senior Center
- 9/8           9:30a           RALLY DAY - Fellowship Hall  
                  12:00 p        Appreciation Reception for Retired Choral Directors - Parlor  
                  5:30-7p        Revolution Gathering - Youth Group Room  
                  7p               Session Meeting - Library
- Preschool Book Fair - September 9, 11, 12, 13 - Fellowship Hall**
- 9/10          7:00p           CROP Recruiters Meeting - Library  
                  7:00p           Oxford Area Historical Association - Fellowship Hall
- 9/13          6-7:30p        Preschool Ice Cream Social - Fellowship Hall
- 9/14          2-5p            Second Presbyterian “Food Tasting” - Oxford High School Cafeteria
- 9/15          8:15a           Worship in the Sanctuary  
                  11a             Worship in Oxford Memorial Park  
                  12p             Lunch in the Park
- 9/17          7p               Apple Festival Planning Meeting - Library
- 9/20          **Delegation from Umtata Arrives**
- 9/21          **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**
- 9/21          9a-4p           Nottingham Presbyterian Church Fall Festival
- 9/22          9:15a           Worship Committee Meeting - Library  
                  6-8:30p        CROP Walk Youth Kickoff - Fellowship Hall
- 9/24          9:30a           Presbytery Meeting at Camp Donegal
- 9/25          All Day         Make First Batch of Apple Butter
- 9/28          10a-3p         APPLE FESTIVAL - Oxford Memorial Park
- 9/29          4-5:30p        Revolution Gathering - Youth Group Room  
                  5:30-7:00p     Community Meal - Fellowship Hall



## The Lamplighter

Volume 26, Issue 9

6 Pine Street  
Oxford, PA 19363

### OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Our Web Page:*

<http://www.oxfordpresbyterian.org>

### Our Session

The Session meets the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Class of 2013	Class of 2014	Class of 2015
Whitney Bradford	Joe Bauer	Barbara Hill
Kay Atkinson	Bill Gundrum	Elizabeth King
Vivian Brown	Don MacMillan	Kay Skinner
Rich Lombardi	(vacant)	Bonnie Rhodes
Dotty Philips	Hal Walls	David Sauer
Mark Verbanas	Charlie Wichhart	Rebecca Zundel Tanner Smith (Youth)

### Our Deacons

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

Class of 2013	Class of 2014	Class of 2015
Andy Arthur	Lisa Claypoole	Lisa Koza
Lisa Slinkard	Alberta Gehron	Cristina Tackett
Neeley Spotts	Charlie Stoltzfus	Herman Wharton
Judy Walls	Teresa Verkamp	Ethel Backenstose Emma Spotts (Youth)



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Oxford Presbyterian Church

Return Service Requested