March 4 – Third Sunday in Lent
March 7 – Wednesday at 12 noon – Lenten Lunch
Speaker – Paul Matthews, Eli Seth Matthews Leukemia Foundation
March 11 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
Daylight Saving time begins
March 14 – Wednesday at 12 noon – Lenten Lunch
Speaker – Rev. Brenda Moore, Good Samaritan Services
March 16 – 18 Women’s Retreat at Sandy Cove
March 18 – Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 21 – Wednesday at 12 noon – Lenten Lunch
Speaker – to be announced
March 25 – Palm Sunday
Community Meal – 5:30–7 P.M.
March 29 – Maundy Thursday Communion Service – 7:00 P.M.
March 30 – Good Friday Service 7:00 P.M. at Shiloh Presbyterian Church

April 1 – Easter Sunday Resurrection of the Lord
7 A.M. – Sunrise Service
7:30-10:30 A.M. – Easter Breakfast – OPC Fellowship Hall
8:15 A.M. – Early Worship
11:00 A.M. – Worship Service

Our Leadership Team
Pastor
Clerk of Session
Bonnie Rhodes
Deacons Moderator
Danielle Stapleton
Director of Music
Peter Slauch
Director of Children’s Choirs
Allison Perry
Organist
Julie Allport
Faith Community Nurse
June Hoffman
Director of Christian Education
Stephen Doutrich
Preschool Director
Nicole Hartman
Secretary
Eryn Gallagher
Secretary
Lorraine Holton
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.
Our Incoming Pastor Shows Deep Commitment and Passion

By Walt Osborne

Showing a depth of maturity, spiritual insight, and compassion, Pastor Scott Szabo never answers a question quickly. There are no extra words, but the ones that come out follow a careful and deliberate thought process that reflect dedication and a commitment to his spiritual journey and to his fellow Christians. As most of you know by now, Reverend Szabo (pronounced “Say-bo”) will be serving as our Temporary/Transitional Pastor to guide us over the next several months, starting in mid-March. His first Sunday to preach from our pulpit will be March 18th.

Pastor Scott comes to us extremely qualified for the position. He is a man of strong Christian faith and scholarly Biblical knowledge, whose compassion for his fellow Christians was made palpably evident in his application and during his interview. My committee was most impressed with the research he had done about our church and its many activities, both within and outside its walls. Specifically, he wrote, “I love the congregation’s heart for welcome and inclusivity, the humility and trust in the presence of God that undergirds that welcome, and the strong commitment to service and social justice OPC has long displayed.” These were not just words to win us over; they were sincere and from his soul.

Rev. Szabo recently completed a four-and-a-half-year term as designated solo pastor at Union Presbyterian Church in Kirkwood, PA. He holds a master of divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, and a doctor of ministry with an emphasis in proclamation and

(Continued on page 11)
Two thousand years ago, in the Middle East, an event occurred that permanently changed the world. Because of that event, history was split. Every time you write a date, you’re using the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point. What’s so important about Easter? It’s important because it proved that Jesus was who he claimed to be. He was God in the flesh, and he came to earth to save us.

Everyone who has ever considered the claims of Jesus has to make some kind of decision about who he is. You either believe he’s a liar, or you believe he’s a lunatic, or you believe he’s the Lord. It can’t just be: “I believe he was a good teacher.” He couldn’t be just a good teacher, because a good teacher would not say, “I’m God, and I’m the only way to heaven.” A good person would not say that unless it was the truth. Jesus claimed to be the Savior of the world. In John 12:47, he is recorded as saying: “I didn’t come to judge the world. I came to save it.”

Why did Jesus have to die? Because he alone was able to pay for your sins. You deserved punishment, but Jesus paid the penalty for you. Because He was the sinless, perfect sacrifice, Jesus was able to pay for our sins.

You know the story. But it’s important to remember that Easter is not some memorial to a nice, good religious teacher who lived some 2,000 years ago. It’s a celebration of the fact that he is alive today. “... by being raised from the dead he was proved to be the mighty Son of God, with the holy nature of God himself.” (Romans 1:4, LB) Easter is the good news about God’s Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

What does this mean to us today? You see, Easter really boils down to only two issues. One, do you believe Jesus is who He said He was. And two, if you believe in Jesus, when are you going to start following what he says to do with your life?

Steve
A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. You can help sustain the important PC(USA) ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. An offering will be accepted on April 1, Easter Sunday. Thank you for giving generously.

Volunteer Opportunity with LCH: Helping Our Community with Rides

Want to make a huge difference in our community? Have a car and a valid driver’s license? Then we might have the perfect volunteer opportunity for you. LCH is partnering with Zoom to offer our members free rides to specialty appointments and other community agencies

- You pick the rides that best fit your schedule. Service is curb to curb.
- What a great opportunity to connect with LCH members and give back!

Contact Linda Conzentino (lconzentino@familyservice.us or 610-696-4900 x114) for more details, or join the volunteer meet and greet on March 7th, 9:30 –11:00 a.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, West Chester, PA. Many residents of Oxford who use our services have limited transportation, so we are really excited to partner with Zoom to help get the community connected.

Family Promise assists homeless families in Chester County get back on their feet and into stable housing by offering them safe, temporary shelter, transportation services, and meals. The year-round program is supported by local churches and volunteers. OPC volunteers support Sacred Heart in Oxford one week every quarter by preparing a meal, serving a meal, or staying overnight at Sacred Heart. More volunteers are needed! Training will be held in the fellowship hall at OPC on Wednesday, April 4th at 6 p.m. At that time details related to becoming a volunteer will be shared as well information about Family Promise and what the volunteers mean to these families in transition. Please save the date! If you have any questions please contact Gale Sauer at Gale.M.Sauer@gmail.com.

Community Meal

Hosted by Corner Café Breakfast Club
March 28 -5:30-7:00 p.m. It is FREE and OPEN to EVERYONE. Come and fellowship with your neighbors.

Community Meal Update

Thanks to all who have signed up to host. We still have May, June, and November left.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Outreach Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 11 at noon in the library. New members are welcome!
OPC will be a participating team again in the Relay for Life of Southern Chester County at Oxford. Relay for Life is an organized, overnight fundraising walk where team members take turns walking around a track. Many teams even camp out at the track for the night. It is a family-friendly event filled with fun, food, games, music, and entertainment.

This year’s Relay will start on June 15, 2018 at 4 P.M. and run through NOON on June 16 at the Oxford Area Football Stadium (301 S. 5th Street, Oxford). This is an opportunity for OPC to not only support our community but to celebrate those who have won their battle against cancer, support those still in the battle, remember those no longer with us, and fight back against this disease that robs so many of so much.

It may only be March, and the thought of walking around a track may not be very appealing, but cancer does not respect the time of year or weather. Make sure to mark your calendar, be looking for upcoming information on the many ways to get involved, and get your walking shoes ready!

For more information contact Barbara Boyle at 484-667-2022 or bboyle57@gmail.com

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**WELLNESS COUNSEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

Caregivers need time to care for themselves! The Wellness Counsel realizes the importance of helping caregivers with: keeping appointments, shopping, getting hair done, going to movies or out to lunch with a friend. Many caregivers do not have immediate family in the area. Therefore the Wellness Counsel would like to help.

For those who are caregivers and need a break, please contact Eryn Gallagher in OPC Office by phone: 610- 932-9640 or email: oxfordpresbyterian@gmail.com (Topic: Caregivers) with your name, number, email address, day(s), times and person whom volunteers would be caring for in your absence and their needs. (There is no sign-up sheet since this is personal information being provided.)

For volunteers – please notify Eryn Gallagher in the OPC office of your day(s) available, times and what you feel comfortable doing, such as preparing a small meal, giving loved one their medication, helping them to the bathroom, etc. Then when a caregiver calls or emails Eryn in the office, she can refer to the list and match up with the caregiver making the request. Please consider helping since there is a need to provide respite care for our caregivers.

Any questions, please contact June Hoffman, Faith Community Nurse, at: home number: 610-869-3326 or email: junehoffman226@gmail.com.
CALLING ALL KNITTERS!
Learn how to knit Prayer Squares. We seem to need more and more each Sunday. Join us on Tuesdays from 12 to 2. We are knitting in the Bride’s Parlor.

S.A.I.L. (Single Adults In the Lord)
Activities
If you are 40 years old and up
Never married, Separated,
Divorced or Widowed
This may be the new singles group for you, for both men and women. (Prefer just adults, no children).

For OPC members and those just attending for monthly Christian fellowship.


Upcoming event in April will be on Saturday, 4/14 from 1-3 P.M. at British Bell Tea Room in Newark, DE. Pay when arrive: $19.95. DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS APRIL 6.

Please email or call: Carol Latsch, Coordinator for further information. Luv2laugh08@gmail.com / cell: 484-686-7735

ACE (Advocating, Collaborating, Educating) – Anti-Human Trafficking Alliance of Oxford
Meetings are the First Saturday of October through May at the Oxford Senior Center from 9 A.M. (refreshments) to 10:30 A.M. (presentation).

Next Meeting: March 3—"Who Speaks for Them?"
Questions: Peggy Ann Russell (610-932-0337)
P. O. Box 103, Oxford, PA 19363

7 P.M. OPC Fellowship Hall
The Atkinson Book Group
Our next meeting is March 26, 2018, when we will discuss The Faith Club by Ranya Idliby, Priscilla Warner, and Suzanne Oliver

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.
OPC Lenten Lunches are served every Wednesday at 12 noon during Lenten season with the guest speakers afterward. Thanks to our Presbyterian Women’s Association for providing these delicious meals for OPC and the community.

At the February 11 Annual Meeting a question was asked about Active Membership. A couple years ago when OPC was in the budget “crunch/freeze,” in order to help cut expenses, Membership Development thought it might be helpful to poll those on OPC rolls who never attend, have moved away, etc. hoping to lower our total Per Capita amount paid to Donegal Presbytery. Each church in the Presbytery pays a per-member yearly “fee” called Per Capita. The blue envelope in your box is for this purpose. This year’s amount is $34.78 per member and can still be paid to OPC. Thank you.

The Deacons’ Moderator for this year is Danielle Stapleton with these Deacons: Andy Arthur, Alberta Gehron, Herman Wharton, John Day, Sabina Fomunyam, Barbara Hill, Charlie Stoltzfus, Lisa Claypoole, Carol Latsch, Gale Sauer and Elaine Pennell. The Deacons ministries are Fellowship, Pastoral Care, Men in Service Team (MISTers) and Wellness Council/Faith Community Nurse. We thank our Faith Community Nurse, June Hoffman, for giving blood pressure screenings and helpful information, as well as to the Deacons’ Wellness Council for their acts of caring to our congregation and community. Thanks to the Deacons for the delicious luncheon served at the Annual Congregation Meeting and all their benevolent acts of kindness!

The OPC 2018 Nominating Committee will be looking for new Elders and Deacons to serve for next year. If you are interested, please see one of the Committee: Elder Ed Jefferis, Chairman, Elder Joe Bauer, Deacon Carol Latsch, and from the congregation: Andrew Atkinson, Carol Carter, Carol Groff, Woody Hartgrove and Ediene Ringler.

If you would like to host a Community Meal at OPC, please see Bev Hartgrove or Jackie Caleb (Outreach) to volunteer. Lots of help is always available.

Please continue turning in your Capital Campaign pledges. The HVAC and sound system work is nearing completion and was only possible through your generous giving. Thanks a bunch!

Let us continue to give God the Glory for his Everlasting Presence here!

Stewardship Update

To date we have received 93 pledges totaling $226,956. Thank you to those members who returned their pledge cards. It is not too late to make a pledge. Our pledge goal this year was $300,000. Here is a comparison of prior year pledges:

- 2014 – 108 pledges $251,622
- 2015 – 123 pledges $266,882
- 2016 – 112 pledges $259,744

Capital Campaign: A friendly reminder to continue to submit your campaign donations.

Thank you.

Geoff Henry, Chair, Stewardship and Interpretation Committee
One of the fun things about working at Oxford Presbyterian Church is the random special occasion. On Friday, February 9th, we were visited by Tesi from Canine Partners for Life. Susann Guy, Chief Operating Office of Canine Partners, is Sally Tipton’s daughter. Sue called the office and asked if we would be willing to allow them to use our elevator to evaluate Tesi before she is placed as a courthouse dog in the Lancaster County Courthouse. I made an executive decision right there and then and said a resounding “Yes!”

There were several of us eagerly awaiting Tesi’s arrival. Sue and her associate Janie Cramer (President of their Board of Directors) asked us to help with the evaluation. Tesi was asked to say hello, gently put her head on our laps, and to place her forepaws on our laps. After that, we took random places down the hallway and Tesi came down the hall and “said hello.” As most service dogs are trained from an early age to not solicit contact from the public, Tesi needs to now understand that she can accept petting and being approached by the public. As a courthouse dog, she will be expected to give comfort to witnesses as they go through a trial situation.

Sue and Janie then took Tesi on the elevator and did some other tests up on the Sanctuary floor. She did very well with all her tasks. Back down in the lobby, we did another round of “laps” and “hello” before Tesi, Sue, and Janie left to continue Tesi’s evaluation in other areas of Oxford.

So I, Eryn Gallagher, Gwen McCoy (Preschool Teacher), Nicole Hartman (whose dream job is as a “Puppy Petter”) and Sally Tipton, had a wonderful half hour with Tesi.

Lorraine Holton
BLESS THE LIGHTHOUSE!

"We love, because he first loved us" 1 John 4:19

March 2010

VOLUNTEER!

The Lighthouse is open Monday through Friday from 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

If you have interest to volunteer, please contact Amy Perkins, Lighthouse Program and Volunteer Coordinator at 610-467-6000 or amy@oxfordlighthouse.org

Lighthouse Youth Center

30th Anniversary Spring Celebration Banquet
Thursday, April 26th @ 6:27 p.m.
at Bethany Christian School
For your ticket, please call the Lighthouse at 610-467-6000

TRIVIA QUESTION!

What is Executive Director, Buzz Tyson’s FAVORITE Bible verse?

Come into the Lighthouse to give us your answer. If you are correct, you win a Lighthouse mug!

Lighthouse Youth Center Vision Statement: Changing the world through Jesus Christ ... one child at a time
Upcoming Events at the Oxford Senior Center:

**Line Dancing**  
Friday Evenings, March 2 and 16, and 30, 2018 – Line Dancing Lesson, 6:30 to 8:30 P.M. Cost $5 per person.  
Tuesday Afternoons, March 13 and 27 – Line Dancing Lesson, 1:00 to 2:30 P.M. Free!

**Other Events**  
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – 7 P.M. – Easter Card Stamping. Cost: $10 (cash only). Class size is limited to 10 participants.  
Wednesday, March 21, 2018 – 7 P.M. – Easter Card Stamping. Cost: $20 (cash only). Class size is limited to 20 participants.  
Tuesday, March 27, 2018 – Trip to Rainbow’s Comedy Playhouse. Leave promptly at 10 A.M. from Luther House in Jennersville and 10:30 A.M. from the Senior Center. Cost is $74 (including driver tip).

Check out the bulletin board in the first floor hallway for complete descriptions of these activities.

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**When The Bough Breaks**  
A Presbyterian Women’s Mission on Behalf of The Village.

Each year Presbyterian Women does a mission for theVillage. Again this year we are asking our congregation to please help by making monetary donations to support theVillage with emergency foster home needs. When a child is removed from his or her home and arrives in foster care he/she comes with no personal belongings. It is not possible to wait until funding begins to purchase the items needed immediately. This need is especially acute for a baby who requires a safe place to sleep, a car seat, safety items for the new home, and start-up necessities like diapers and formula. theVillage finds temporary homes for about 20 infants and toddlers each year. The cost to support a baby or toddler entering care is about $300. This covers the cost of a portable crib, car seat, basic clothing, and necessities. Envelopes for your donation are available in the Narthex. Donations will be accepted through March 11, 2018.

Please make checks payable to Oxford Presbyterian Women.  
Thank You for Your Support
It’s time to plant our gardens. As you plant, may I suggest the following rules for your garden planting:

PLANT three rows of squash:
- Squash gossip.
- Squash criticism.
- Squash indifference.

PLANT three rows of peas:
- Purity.
- Patience.
- Perseverance.

PLANT six rows of lettuce:
- Let us be unselfish and loyal.
- Let us be faithful to duty.
- Let us search the scriptures.
- Let us not be weary in well-doing.
- Let us be obedient in all things.
- Let us love one another.

NO GARDEN is complete without turnips:
- Turn up for church, prayer service and Bible study.
- Turn up with a smile, even when things are difficult.
- Turn up with determination to do your best for God’s cause.

After planting, may you “Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”

II Peter 3:18

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You are cordially invited to a

Spring & Summer

Fashion Preview Event

Enjoy a runway show featuring the hottest fashion & newest collections from

All proceeds benefit Oxford Women’s Club & Ware Presbyterian Village Auxiliary

Light fare & refreshments to be served

Sunday, April 8, 2018
2 P.M. – 4 P.M.

Vista Ridge at Ware Presbyterian
1162 Kensington Lane, Oxford PA 19363

Fun • Fashion • Food •

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worship from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, TX. Scott was ordained in January 2014, and his leadership competencies include spiritual interpretation, communication, organization, strategy of vision, collaboration, and interpersonal engagement. Rev. Szabo is married, the father of two young children, and they live in Lancaster, PA. He plans to commute to OPC.

Working with Session, Rev. Szabo eagerly looks forward to guiding OPC on its journey into the future as our church seeks new leadership and spiritual growth in the Word. He believes in strong administrative communication, as well as connecting one-on-one with those in need, spiritually or otherwise. Rev. Szabo has no plans for a “clean sweep of the house,” but instead plans to engage in significant listening and dialog to glean what we want to be and where we want to go as a Presbyterian church in the 21st century. He has told me personally how anxious he is to meet everyone and to get to know you on a personal level. I know you will want to join me on March 18 in extending a warm hand of welcome to him and his family.
Rejection often finds its way into our hearts at an early age. Perhaps as a child you were teased mercilessly for your hair or clothes, or you received an injury and couldn’t play the sport you loved and had to watch from the sidelines, or maybe like Lysa TerKeurst, an adult who should have cared for you and nurtured you, left without explanation. These wounds dig deep into our sense of self, and can resurface in surprising ways as an adult. However, this doesn’t have to be the end of the story.

In *Uninvited*, Lysa shares honestly from her own struggles with rejection and gives readers concrete truths to combat the lies our old Enemy hurls our way. You can stop feeling left out, because even when you are overlooked by others, you are handpicked by God. You can change your tendencies to either fall apart or control the actions of others by adopting healthy ways to process your hurt. You are designed for a love without limits, a love that will never let go.

**New Topics in Adult Sunday School**

**Women’s Bible Study Class –**

Rejection often finds its way into our hearts at an early age. Perhaps as a child you were teased mercilessly for your hair or clothes, or you received an injury and couldn’t play the sport you loved and had to watch from the sidelines, or maybe like Lysa TerKeurst, an adult who should have cared for you and nurtured you, left without explanation. These wounds dig deep into our sense of self, and can resurface in surprising ways as an adult. However, this doesn’t have to be the end of the story.

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**Vacation Bible School Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 13**

**7:00 P.M.**

Library/Conference Room

Anyone and everyone is welcome!!

We will have materials to hand out to begin planning for this exciting week!!
February 11 was Scout Sunday, and we were blessed to have our charter cub pack, Pack 213 join us for the 11:00 a.m. service. The Cubs handed out bulletins prior to the service and served as ushers and took up the offering.

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Boy Scout Sunday at Oxford Presbyterian Church

SHILOH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SPC-COC Pancake & Omelet Breakfast
March 10, 2018, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Held at SPC Community Outreach Center
42 South Fifth Street, Oxford, PA 19363

Tickets are purchased at the door.

(Adults, $7.00; Children (4-11) $5.00; 3 years and under free)

This Breakfast has been scheduled on the second Saturday every other month; other items on the menu vary (French toast, bacon, sausage, biscuits, potatoes, sausage gravy, juices, coffee....)

We are indeed grateful for all you have done to ensure the success of this event.

Prayers and best wishes,

Virginian S. Gray

Virginia Gray, SPC Secretary
TUESDAY TALKS WITH DICK WINCHESTER

MARCH 6TH, APRIL 3RD & MAY 1ST BEGINNING AT 6:30 PM

Please join us for three dynamic and informal historic talks given by Dr. Richard Winchester. All are welcome to attend any or all of the talks.

Now Retired, Richard Winchester graduated from Ursinus College in 1957 and later earned his PhD from The University of Rochester. For 39 years, until June of 2000, he labored as a Professor of History at Lincoln University where he also served as Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Capital Campaign Status Report

Campaign Goal $650,000

Campaign Pledges $820,000+

Received to Date $516,484
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.

Oxford Presbyterian Church – Financial Review Congregational Giving

*Other income is comprised of committee offerings, building use fees, and non-living gifts.
Sorry, power failure, we couldn't do the electronic calendar.