

**Oxford Presbyterian Church
Theological Education Sunday
Sunday, September 17, 2017**

Liturgist: Bill Fisher

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Triune God, draw near to us in this moment of worship.
Surround us with confidence in your good news:
that you love us as parents love their children;
that your mercy is boundless and generous,
that you beckon us as we find our way back to you.
Open our hearts that we may be vessels of resurrection
hope in our troubled world. Amen.

(Image on the bulletin cover – Children streaming into the Seminary Church, date unknown)

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION – Rummage Sale

PRELUDE *"God of Grace"* arr. Rebecca te Velde

CHORAL INTROIT *"Make A Joyful Noise"* Allen Pote

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 103)

**All: Bless the Lord, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name.
Bless the Lord, O friends, and never forget God's gifts--**

One: Forgiveness flowing into healing,
Tireless goodness and joy:
Strength and youth of the eagle's flight.

**Bless the Lord, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name.
Bless the Lord, O friends, and never forget God's gifts--**

Vindication, justice for all those oppressed;
Liberation from bondage, and guidance for the way;
Unending mercy, steadfast love.

**Bless the Lord, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name.
Bless the Lord, O friends, and never forget God's gifts—**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's love toward those who are faithful;
As a parent has compassion for children,
so our God has compassion for us.

**Bless the Lord, O friends: with all our strength, bless the holy name.
Bless the Lord, O friends, and never forget God's gifts.**

***HYMN** *"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"* #69

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy and forgiveness, in confession these questions become mirrors
to examine our lives as we turn around and embrace you as Lord.
Where do we need forgiveness? Where do we need to forgive?

**Where do our choices and daily practices maintain
structures, practices, attitudes that deeply hurt our neighbors?
Where must we seek forgiveness?
Where must we seek to effect change?**

**Some of us have been wounded with structures, practices,
attitudes of the wider community that need to be transformed
by your good news.
How may we begin to forgive?**

**For all that we have done,
and all we've failed to do;
and turn us back to you.
Turn us again into confessional people that we may be
reminded of your love that washes over a multitude of sins
and works heavily and heartily to make us whole again. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**
**Lord God, you call us into this ever expanding dance of grace;
Turning "seventy times seven" is not too much when we follow your
lead into a future of hope and peace.
Glory be to the One who, working in us,
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Alleluia! Amen!**

***SHARING THE PEACE**

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Sink these timeless words of promise and truth into our hearts,
O God, that we may be inspired to love into a new life,
to forgive as if our lives depend on it,
and to look with greater hope toward the reconciliation of the world.
Through the witness of the great Reconciler Jesus the Christ we pray,
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Matthew 18:21-35

pg. 19

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Rabbi's Yoke: Tell My Story"

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*HYMN

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

#435

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"In My Father's House"

*Pamela Martin
& Craig Courtney*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

#20

*BLESSING

With wise and well-chosen words,
we witness to the love of God.

Responding in acts of generous compassion,
we witness to the way of Christ.

Encouraging a life-giving freedom and creativity,
we witness to the work of Spirit.

Together, we are sent out to be the people of the Triune God!

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"God Be in My Head"

Old English Prayer

*POSTLUDE

"My soul, Now Praise Your Maker!"

Friedrich Wilhelm Markull

**Please rise in body or in spirit*



Theological Education Sunday

Oxford Presbyterian Church

101 N. Main St. | Oxford, OH 45056 | 513.523.6364
office@oxfordpresbychurch.org | www.oxfordpresbychurch.org

Sunday, September 17, 2017

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 17

9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday school
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux
11:30 Journey Through the Bible:
Bible Study (Sanctuary)
12:30 Crop Hunger Walk
(Uptown Parks)
5:00 Nominating Committee
(Molyneaux)

Monday, September 18

OPW Fall Rummage
Sorting, Display pricing (Seminary)
10:00-1:00 and 3:00-7:00

Tuesday, September 19

OPW Fall Rummage
Sorting, Display pricing (Seminary)
10:00-1:00 and 3:00-7:00
1:30 Tuesday Afternoon Circle
(Knolls)
7:00 Session (Molyneaux)

Wednesday, September 20

OPW Fall Rummage
Sorting, Display pricing (Seminary)
10:00-1:00 and 3:00-7:00
7:00 Deacons (Molyneaux)

Thursday, September 21

10:00 Colombian Mission Team
(Molyneaux)
2:00-9:00 Directory Photos
(Molyneaux)
6:00-8:00 Rummage Sale
(Seminary)
7:00 Youth Group (Youth Room)
7:30 Chancel Choir (Geneva Room)

Friday, September 22

10:00-3:00 Rummage Sale
(Seminary)
2:00-9:00 Directory Photos
(Molyneaux)
4:30 Race and Ethnicity Fellowship
5:30 Race and Ethnicity Forum:
Waking Up White (Sanctuary)

Saturday, September 23

10:00 A.A. (AV Room)
10:00-12:00 Rummage Sale
(Seminary)
10:00-4:00 Directory Photo
(Molyneaux)
5:30 PCCM Worship (Seminary)

Sunday, September 24

9:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday school
11:10 Fellowship in the Molyneaux

OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Lawrence H. Bartel
Music Director: Kent Peterson
Organist: Lynn Jacobs
Pastor Emeritus: Dr. Joseph R. Hookey
Parish Associate: Rev. Diane Ziegler
Clerk of Session: Julia R. Fisher
Administrative Assistant:
Bridgite Dickerson:
office@oxfordpresbychurch.org
Financial Secretary: Mary Martin
finance@oxfordpresbychurch.org
Director/Teacher C.C.N.S.: Sarah Mapel:
513-207-3630
Newsletter Editor: Nancy Moeckel:
moeckenj@miamioh.edu
Custodian: Priscilla Parks
Sexton: Robert Simpson

OFFICERS OF OPC SESSION

Class of 2017: Gwen Fears, Kim Logsdon,
Mary Jane Roberts,
Robert Smith, Janet Ziegler

Class of 2018: Carol Klumb, Amy McGoldrick,
Katie Payne, Deb Sayers,
David Wilson

Class of 2019: Jenny Bailer, Lynn Cronk,
Greg Hughes, Nancy Moeckel,
Johanna Reinhart

DEACONS

Class of 2017: Danny Cross, Connie Everhart,
Matt Lykins, Rori Lykins,
Jean O'Connell

Class of 2018: Lee Fisher, Virginia Layton,
Joni Marcum,
Mary Jo McFadden,
Karen Shearer

Class of 2019: Carol Burkhalter,
Debbie Davidson,
Janet Holmes, Pat Roberts,
Diane Young

TRUSTEES

Class of 2017: Rick Bailey, Lisa Brunckhorst
Class of 2018: Nick Fears, Tom Holmes
Class of 2019: Keith Payne, Joe Simpson

Oxford Presbyterian Church
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September 17 - September 24, 2017

Large-print bulletins and hearing assistance units are available from the ushers. **Please sign the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass them to your neighbors.**

WELCOME VISITORS! We're so glad you're here! We welcome you to participate in any or all activities of the church. Our congregational vision is to become "a more joyful, passionate, spiritually vibrant, inter-generational community of friends who are intentionally engaged in growing in faith, committed to serving our community and the world, and centered on transforming lives through the Good News of Jesus Christ." As a community of friends in Christ, our mission is: **Seeking God...** We strive to know God and love God. As fellow seekers, we welcome all who wish to learn and grow with us. **Serving others...** Following our Servant Savior, we give our time, talent and resources to help bring fullness of life to others. **Sharing Christ's love with all...** Through our words and actions, we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ. Filled with joy and hope, we build relationships across any boundaries that separate us."

WELCOME MIAMI STUDENTS! We're so glad you're here! We invite you to make this church your church home away from home during your time at Miami.

Greeters: Dick Munson and Libby Burch

Acolyte: Lydia Bartel

The flowers on the communion table are given by Carol Burkhalter in celebration of all the birthdays that God has given us.

Mission Partners Prayer List:
Presbytery of the Miami Valley:
Belle Center United Presbyterian Church
Sister Churches: The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

Congregational Prayer Concerns:
Betty Barnhart, Pris Berry, Tracy DeGood, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Breanna Kinneman, Betty Reinhart, Jan Reinhart, Marilyn Rettig, Sarah Soika, Stacey Winn

Email prayer requests to Jean O'Connell, occonnelljm17@yahoo.com, call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

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Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Mission and Outreach

HOST A MISSIONARY

Ellen and Al Smith, missionaries supported by OPC in Russia, will be joining us during worship service on Sunday, October 1, and will need a place to stay on Saturday, September 30. If you can accommodate our guest, please contact Bill Fisher at 524-4504 or fisherwf@miamioh.edu.

OPC Nominating Church Officers (for Class of 2020)

The OPC Nominating Committee invites your suggestions for officers who will lead our congregation over the next few years.

Name submissions will be accepted until September 24th. **Nominations ballots are located in the mailbox labeled Nominating Committee.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Prior to the Children's Message, Children's Bulletins are available in the Narthex next to the Activity Bibles. Following the Children's Message, our teachers are waiting to welcome our students. Members of the Christian Education Committee will be available to escort students to their perspective rooms following the children's story.

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Nursery: Infants through age 2, Nursery 1st Floor

Preschool: Ages 3-5, Preschool area, 1st Floor

Grades K through 2: K-1 Room, 2nd Floor

Grades 3-5: Art Room, 2nd Floor

Grades 6-8: Geneva Room, 2nd Floor



Fall Kick-Off Picnic for Youth, Sunday, September 24 at 5:30 pm at Greg and Peggy Hughes' home, 2285 Trenton Rd. Watch for more details.

Journey Through the Bible: Race and Ethnicity

All are invited to join us Friday, September 22 as we continue the forum on race and ethnicity in the Bible and in our times. Fellowship begins at 4:30 p.m. We will then move to the Sanctuary for our forum discussion beginning at 5:30.



Aaarrggghh and Avast ye, Matey.

Shiver me timbers, Rummage Sale Time is almost here. But, don't worry. There is still plenty of time to steer the right course and help donate, sort, set-up and price.

Monday Sept 18 10-1, 4-7pm
 Tuesday Sept 19 10-1, 4-7pm
 Wednesday Sept 20 10-1, 4-7pm

Ahoy me Hearties! On Thursday, September 20 we belay donations, weigh anchor and come about into sale mode. Batten down the hatches at home and be at The Seminary to help on:

Thursday, Sept 20, 6-8pm
 Friday, Sept 21, 10-3
 Saturday, Sept 22 10-12 (bag sale)

Saturday, September 22 starting at noon is your last chance to offer succor. Leftovers have to be boxed, tables need to be put away, and all those leftovers taken to Goodwill. Blimey, we need lots of help, all you strong young people. (hint, hint)

So, Heave Ho and get those closets and cupboards and Davey Jones' lockers emptied out. Donate your no longer needed booty and your valuable time to the rummage sale. You'll help our community and gather doubloons for OPW missions. Yo-Ho-Ho!

WALK, GIVE, CHANGE THE WORLD

The CROP Hunger Walk is set for today, September 17, 12:30 p.m. beginning and ending at the Uptown Parks. Signup and pledge envelopes are available during fellowship time following service.



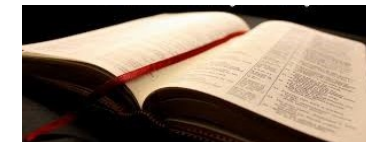
Was your last family Christmas photo not quite what you wanted? Good News! You have another chance! We have several time slots still available for your family to get professional family portraits. Great photos are wonderful gift ideas. Greeting cards are also available.

Be included in our new family directory. You will get a complimentary 8X10 professional portrait & a copy of our new directory just for participating.

Three ways to schedule your appointment

- Use the link on our website (oxfordpresbychurch.org)
- Sign up after Church (Molyneaux Lounge)
- Call the Church Office (513-523-6364)

Photography dates:
 Sept. 21-23 in the Memorial Church
 Sept. 28-30 in the Seminary Building
 Weekdays 2- 9 p.m.
 Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Journey Through the Bible

Last week's Questions and Answers

- How long will the psalmist sing praises to the Lord? (As long as he/she lives. - Ps. 104:33)
- What was the name of Philemon's runaway slave who had become one of Paul's helpers? (Onesimus. - Philemon 1:10)

Next week's Questions

- Who prays for deliverance from Sennacherib because this seemingly invincible Assyrian king has mocked the "living God"?
- What Persian king does God, in a prophecy of Isaiah, call "my shepherd"?

THE TUESDAY AFTERNOON CIRCLE

will have its first meeting of the year on Tuesday the 19th of September at the Knolls beginning with an optional lunch at 12 noon. Call Prue Dana or Lynn Cronk if you are interested in joining this group. Bring your pennies because the Least Coin is always collected during the meeting and the Mission Yearbook is also read.



October Newsletter Deadline: September 20

Don't Miss It!

Please submit all articles to

Nancy Moeckel:
moeckenj@miamioh.edu