

# Crossings

September 2014

## September 7th HOMECOMING

(for Marthame, Elizabeth, Cyrus and Ramsey)



## SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK OFF and LUNCH

Marthame returns to our pulpit on Sunday, September 7 to begin a new sermon series named "Home". This will be a great Sunday to get out of summer habits and back to church. We will be looking for you.

The Pastor Renewal Team has come up with the theme of "Tie a Yellow Ribbon around OPC" so we invite you to wear yellow. If you haven't written a note to Marthame for us to give him upon his return, you can email it to Cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org and we will print it off to add to the others he will receive welcoming him and his family back to our church family.

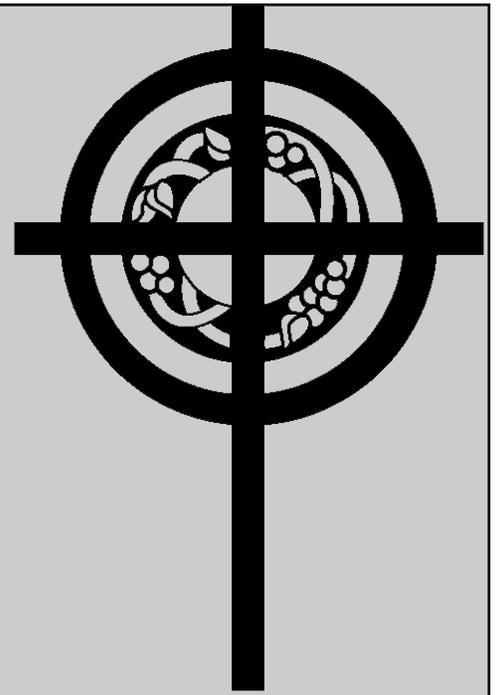
There will be a catered lunch following worship with a chance for us to visit and catch up about the summer and all that happened here, on our travels and in Chicago. Please make plans to attend. There is no charge for lunch. If you want to prepare a poem, song or presentation for the lunch, please let Cheryl or Donna know.

We will also be kicking off our new Christian Education year with the grand re-opening of our children's Sunday School classes! Children will enjoy a newly renovated space now located on the Sanctuary level while learning about the wonders of our Lord using "Grow, Proclaim, Serve". Children 3 -12 will meet in the first room on the left. Just look for the signs!

We are also please the offer another adult Discoveries Class! We invite you to join us in the Parlor which is on the same floor as the Sanctuary and Children's classes. This class is aimed at people wanting to learn a little more about our faith, connect with parents of young children and get to know others with the same concerns and questions. It will be topical in nature.

Or join us in the Library for our continued studies of the Bible using the "Present Word".

Refreshments will be served at 9:30.  
Classes start at 9:45.  
Worship at 11:00  
Lunch at 12:15



## What's Inside:

- *Prayer List (page 2)*
- *Monthly Calendar (page 3)*
- *Stewardship (page 4)*
- *Mission (page 5)*
- *Evangelism (page 5)*

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastoral

The Rev. Dr. L'Anni Hill  
*Summer Minister*  
ext. 222  
lanni@opcbrookhaven.org

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne  
*Parish Associate*

The Rev. Marthame Sanders  
*Pastor/Head of Staff*  
On Sabbatical until September

Program and Support  
Cheryl Hartman, C.C.E.  
*Office Manager*  
*Director of Christian Education*  
ext. 221  
cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org

Dr. Tim Hsu  
*Music Director*  
tim@opcbrookhaven.org

Francisco Flores  
*Sexton*

Preschool  
404.233.5479

Beverly Moon  
*Director*  
beverly@oppbrookhaven.org

Lynnette Kachel  
*Assistant Director*  
lynnette@oppbrookhaven.org

Pastor Emeritus  
The Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Legerton

Ministers  
All Members of OPC

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
9:45am Sunday School  
11 am Worship

*Next Deadline*  
**September 20, 2014**

www.opcbrookhaven.org  
The community is our congregation.

## CLERK'S CORNER

Mary Ann Hawthorne

The Session of OPC met on August 17, 2014 and the following items were decided.

- Approved the agenda for the meeting as amended
- Approved the minutes from the July 20 meeting
- Received the August Clerk's report
- Approved a request from a Daisy troop to hold their meetings in the Fellowship Hall at no cost
- Approved the Sunday School curriculum and teachers
- Approved hiring a second Nursery / C.E. assistant for Sunday mornings
- Approved, in concept, the pew pads proposed by the Evangelism committee and sent the pads back to the committee for revisions

*Session meetings are open meetings and are held the third Sunday of every month following worship.*

*Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church has an open book policy. To view the financials or minutes, make an appointment with the church office.*

On August 14th I had surgery. My wife Connie and I agreed that she would not be able to drive me to and from the hospital due to her recovering from broken bones in her foot.

Not ones who usually ask for help, we needed it this time. Our Deacon, Linda Jones offered a ride to and from surgery adding in her positive, energetic, and generous attitude, also providing meals for us. Margy Jones, Pat & Dwane Morrison chipped in providing meals.

My family and I want to express our heartfelt thanks to OPC and your help during a time of need. Your caring has instilled a strong feeling in us of how much OPC cares for those who need help. I was added to the prayer list, and at church this weekend, I was greeted and asked how I and my family are doing. Thanks to all of you, we are doing well.

Dan Delinski

## DEACONS

### People in Our Prayers

Mark Shanks, Jean Williams (Pat Morrison's niece); Janice Dixon (Diane Powell's cousin); Steve Hayner (Columbia Seminary President); Tyron-da Mackall (Samantha Cassidy's friend); Jim Coulter; Mark Stephens (Cortlandt Minnich's friend); Elaine Stephenson (Geoff's mother); Bill Coble; Grant Gossling (nephew of Rachel Isley); Pat Morrison; Jack Krantz (Barbara Landes' Brother in Law); Ashleigh Range (friend of Sarah Kennedy); Christina Wu (mother of Judy Wu); Barbara Pinson, Eleanor Frazier, Christopher Gummere, Judy McKinley (friends of Genie Stringer); Floyd Vann; Karen Emory; Chris and Dakota Matthews (John Gunter's family); Diane Powell; Jody Hand; Guadalupe Villareal (Francisco Flores' uncle); Joe Hensley (JoAnn Kearns' father); Martha Hyduke (Pat Morrison's family); Bob Allison (Steve's father); Jerry Crouse, Sophie Essex, and Sharon Kirkpatrick (Victoria Weaver's friends); Jerry Romano (Amanda Marshall's father); Owen Mulvaney (Marshall's friend); Nick Isley (Rachel's cousin); Lee Andrews (Elizabeth Sanders' mother); David Vickers (Lorraine Jones Wynn's friend); Louise Timmons (Brock & Eleanor's Timmons daughter-in-law); Denny Spear (Balmers' friend); Harmon Family (Mary Ann Hawthorne's friends); Brian Delinski; Dave Kelley (Diane Leyburn's cousin); Jeff & Erin Schneider (Betty Dalziel's friends); Jake Buchanan (Margy Jones' family); Guy and Lee Marley; John Suder; Beth Cunningham; Steve Cunningham (Beth's brother); Mary Ratliff; Doug Hill (Eleanor Timmons' brother-in-law); Fiona Isham (Cassidy's friend); Dolly Azar (Coulter's friend); Jane Newton (Kyle's family); Diana Miller (Jim Coulter's cousin); Frances Bockman (Marthame Sanders' cousin); Rachel Galotti; Al Paul; Lawrence Docherty (Betty Dalziel's nephew); Hilde Hildebrandt (Chris Hagler's mother); Connie Delinski; Mary Zumot; Martha Stoy; Florence and Helen Ottah Aleh (Florence's mother); friends at Journey Night Shelter; Heath Rada (Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Marthame Sanders and family on Sabbatical.

# Calendar: September, 2014

## STEWARDS SERVING

**September 7:** (Marthame Returns)

**music:** Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Linda Morris; **usher/greeters:** Charles Hawthorne, Eleanor Davis; **usher/counters:** Paul Reynolds, Donna Poseidon; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **refreshments:** Christian Education; **PowerPoint:** Brian Pierce; **nursery:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**September 14:**

**music:** Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Ingrid Kelly; **usher/greeters:** Steve Green, Molly Pierce; **usher/counters:** Eka Cox, Brandon Cassidy; **sound/open:** Jean Cox; **refreshments:** Margy Jones; **PowerPoint:** \_\_\_\_\_; **nursery:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**September 21:**

**music:** Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Margy Jones; **usher/greeters:** Kelly Norris, Paul Reynolds; **usher/counters:** Jardon Bouska, Donna Poseidon; **sound/open:** Jean Cox; **refreshments:** Elizabeth Sanders, Carol Moore; **PowerPoint:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **nursery:** Kristi Stephenson.

**September 28:**

**music:** Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Donna Poseidon; **usher/greeters:** Bill Balmer, Diane Powell; **usher/counters:** Mary Lee Williams, Margy Jones; **sound/open:** Mark Kelly; **refreshments:** Jan Thomas; **PowerPoint:** Steve Allison; **nursery:** Molly Pierce.

**October 5:**

**music:** Tim Hsu; Chancel Choir; **liturgist:** Eleanor Timmons; **usher/greeters:** Linda Morris, Jeff Morris; **usher/counters:** Bill Cox, Georgia Gunter; **sound/open:** Geoff Stephenson; **refreshments:** Mary Frances Jung; **PowerPoint:** Mike Poley; **nursery:** Ingrid Kelly.

## FELLOWSHIP

Jean Cox

### Book Club

The book group will be meeting on September 15 at 7:00 pm at Bonnie Holler's home. This month's book is *Orphan Train*, a novel by Christina Baker Kline (304pp, fiction).



## Missions

Emily Texter

### Food Pantry Numbers

The OPC food pantry served 243 households during the month of July. This is a total of 924 persons, including 425 children and 14 seniors. We distributed 643 bags of food which totaled 9860 pounds.

## Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

### Weekly

**Sundays:**

**9:00- 9:45** Sunday School for all ages  
**10:00am** Worship

**Tuesdays:**

**10am** Food Pantry at Suthers Center  
**8pm** Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)

**Wednesdays:**

**5:15pm** Centering Prayer (Parlor)  
**6:15pm** Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)  
**7:30pm** Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

**Fridays:**

**10 am** Food Pantry at Suthers Center  
**8pm** Alcoholics Anonymous (FH)

### Monthly

**Third Sundays after Worship**

Session Meeting

**Fourth Saturdays**

OPC Serves Dinner at Journey



**DARKNESS to LIGHT**  
END CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church is working towards becoming a Partner in Prevention with the Darkness to Light program. We have asked all of our church officers and teachers of children and youth (including nursery volunteers) to participate in a Stewards of Children Class.

**The next class will be offered on September 17 (Wednesday) from 6-8:30 P.M.** This is a wonderful class for parents and caretakers of children to take as we work together to protect our children.

Please sign up on the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs or contact Cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org to register. There is a \$15 fee.

## Annual Men's Retreat



The Annual Men's Retreat is scheduled for September 26-28! This year, we will be at the Lake Catuge Lodge in Hiawasee. See [www.lakechatugelodge.com](http://www.lakechatugelodge.com) for details on accommodations. Two men to a hotel room or private room is available. Currently, we have 12 rooms reserved. Saturday afternoon fun is planned on pontoon boats and canoes! Please let Paul Reynolds know if you can attend asap as time is short. Cost \$185 may go down depending on number attending. Call Paul at [404-772-1945](tel:404-772-1945) or email [preynolds010@comcast.net](mailto:preynolds010@comcast.net) for more details! Hope you can attend for a meaningful, spiritual, and fun weekend.

## STEWARDSHIP

Cindy Alexander

# Together in Faith

**Mark your Calendars!**  
**October 5, 2014**  
**Stewardship 2015 Luncheon and Kickoff**  
**12:00 noon**

On Sunday, October 5, Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church will celebrate the 65th anniversary of its founding in 1949. The church will mark its storied history and celebrate our achievements in 2014 and move "Together in Faith" for 2015!

Fellowship Hall immediately following service  
 Lunch and childcare provided  
 Review our 2014 Stewardship Campaign & goals for 2014

## FINANCE

### Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Financial Summary

		<u>Jul-14</u>	<u>YTD 2014</u>	<u>YTD 2013</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$	17,207	189,753	186,139	3,614
Expenditures		<u>26,481</u>	<u>190,047</u>	<u>182,537</u>	<u>7,510</u>
Surplus/(deficit)		(9,274)	(294)	3,601	(3,895)
Cash increase/ (decrease)		(47,083)	(55,099)	(14,635)	(40,464)
Beginning bank balance		218,197	226,213	148,678	77,535
Ending bank balance		171,115	171,115	134,043	37,072
Loan balance	\$	<u>59,712</u>	<u>59,712</u>	<u>92,094</u>	<u>(32,383)</u>

- With the impact of summer vacations reducing giving but not expenses, we are now at breakeven for the year to date.
- While receipts are up \$3,614, expenses went up faster at \$7,510.
- Receipts and expenditures do not include Capital Campaign but bank balance does. Bank balance also includes a grant of \$14,485 from the Lily Foundation for Pastor Marthame's sabbatical during 2014.

We are almost on budget through the month of July! Total revenue is \$189,753, and total expenses are \$190,047. However, our revenue figures include additional funds from Mind-The-Gap gifts campaign conducted earlier in the year. As we move into the fall season, I encourage you to bring your pledges up to date.

*OPC has an "open book" financial policy: for more information, contact the Treasurer, Barbara Landes at 404-931-3897.*

## EVANGELISM

Donna Poseidon

### The Community *IS* our Congregation

On Friday, August 15, OPC was the only church represented at the Welcome Dinner and new student orientation for our neighbors at Oglethorpe University. OPC's Mike Poley and Earline Willcott staffed our booth, where first-year and transfer students and their parents had a chance to visit and discuss our church services and missions.



Over 30 students and families stopped by, from downtown Atlanta, greater Atlanta area, other Georgia locales, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Brazil, South Korea and Venezuela! Students, parents and even a fifth grader wrote prayer requests for our prayer bowl. People reached for schedule cards even if they didn't stop to chat. One parent even told her son, "There's where you can go if you need to talk with someone."

And on Monday, August 25 we welcomed back Oglethorpe Presbyterian Preschool (OPP) parents and staff at the Parent Orientation meeting.



Fall events are noted below:

Saturday, October 4 - Screen on the Green  
Friday, October 24 - OPP Spaghetti Dinner  
Sunday, October 26 - Trunk or Treat  
Saturday, November 8 - Ashford Park School fall festival

Watch [Vertical Response](#) and [Crossings](#) for details, but mark your calendars now, and let friends and neighbors know!

## STEWARDSHIP

Cindy Alexander

An old story about generosity.

The *sannyasi* (a wise man) had reached the outskirts of the village in India and settled down under a tree for the night when a villager came running up to him and said, "The stone! The stone! Give me the precious stone!"

"What stone?" asked the sannyasi.

"Last night the Lord Shiva appeared to me in a dream," said the villager, "and told me that if I went to the outskirts of the village at dusk I should find a sannyasi who would give me a precious stone that would make me rich forever."

The sannyasi rummaged in his bag and pulled out a stone. "He probably meant this one," he said, as he

handed the stone to the villager. "I found it on a forest path some days ago. You can certainly have it."

The man gazed at the stone in wonder. It was a diamond, probably the largest diamond in the whole world.

He took the diamond and walked away. All night he tossed about in bed, unable to sleep. Next day at the crack of dawn he woke the sannyasi and said, "Give me the wealth that makes it possible for you to give this diamond away so easily."



## A Message from Lanni

Dear Friends at Oglethorpe Presbyterian,

This summer has flown by and soon you'll have Pastor Marthame back with you again.

I cannot tell you what a blessing it has been to be with you all this summer! You are such a warm, bright, caring and gifted congregation, willing to try new things - I have already invited several of my friends who live nearby OPC to come to church and meet you (and hopefully stay!). Your interest in spiritual life and excitement at finding ways to connect to God are contagious.

Of course, Cheryl and Tim have also been wonderful program staff to work with, along with other support staff, session leaders and deacons. All in all, a great congregation! Thank you for being who you are - I'd love to see you again from time to time.

Blessings,  
Lanni + + +



## Choir Notes

Tim Hsu

As we roll into fall, I'd like to thank all the wonderful singers that contributed their talents to worship this summer. Our diversity in music is truly one of our greatest strengths and the summer season is a wonderful time to highlight our talented musicians.

Both our Handbell and Chancel Choirs have both started again and we welcome any and all people interested in ringing or singing. The Handbell Choir meets at 6:45 on Wednesdays for rehearsal and the Chancel Choir meets at 9:45 Sunday mornings for a time of reflection and rehearsal. Don't be intimidated—no previous musical training is needed! I can promise that you will have a great time

Lastly, as we plan for the future, please feel free to suggest favorite songs or hymns. We try to incorporate these suggestions when possible. Contact me if there are any questions or requests at [tim@opcbrookhaven.org](mailto:tim@opcbrookhaven.org).

**Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church**  
**Starting August 3 Sunday School for All Ages: 9:45 am • Worship: 11am**  
**404.233.5469 • [www.opcbrookhaven.org](http://www.opcbrookhaven.org) • [info@opcbrookhaven.org](mailto:info@opcbrookhaven.org)**

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church  
3016 Lanier Drive, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30319

If you don't want to receive this by mail,  
please contact the church office:  
404.233.5469, [cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org](mailto:cheryl@opcbrookhaven.org)