

# Crossings

September, 2016

## A Note from the Interim Pastor

### New Beginnings and Recovering Wonder

September after Labor Day has traditionally been the start of many new things: the start of a new school year, the start of Christian Education, the start of not wearing white....

Some of these things, while traditional, are optional, like packing away our white clothes until after Memorial Day. Other things, like education, are both traditional and non-optional, at least for the young among us.

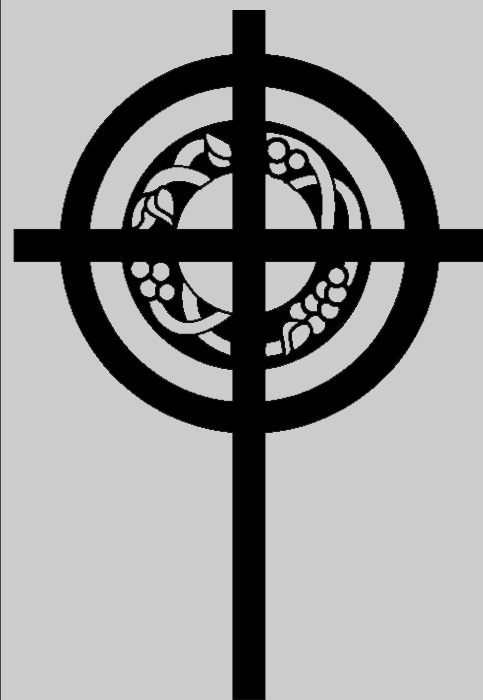
While some of the students in our area schools have been in classes for a couple of weeks now, OPC and OPP are indeed beginning our education anew after the Labor Day holiday. This means new teachers, new classrooms, and lots of new learnings for children, parents, and teachers.

For OPP, this September brings a new kindergarten class... and new construction under the chapel, and groups like AA, AI-Anon, and the Meditation Group finding new spaces at OPC for their meetings.

For OPC, this September brings new teachers/facilitators and methods of nurturing the spirituality of all ages and stages. And of course, we continue on this newest chapter of OPC's life - the interim period.

Every new beginning is bound to bring with it sets of complex emotions. Excitement for new adventures. Nervousness and anxiety for the unknown. Joy for new discoveries and new friends. Grief for things that have been. Frustration for new routines and spaces that don't seem to work quite right. And that's just a very small part of the feeling wheel.

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## DEACONS

### CHURCH STAFF

#### Pastoral

The Rev. Jihyun Oh  
*Interim Pastor/Head of Staff*

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne  
*Parish Associate*

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

Dr. Tim Hsu  
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tim@opcbrookhaven.org

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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

### People in Our Prayers

Kathy Houlihan (Linda Hawthorne's friend); Steve Edwards (family of Balmers), Bill Bertolet (Donna Poseidon's father); Steve Greene; Erla Secrest (Anna Coulter's sister); Tony Zacek, Jean Chance (Chances' family); Eugenia Whitfield, Martha Zea Robert Dosh, Sam Whitfield, Georgia Lozoff, Alan Greene, Roland Greene (Steve Greene's friends and family); Betty Jane Deadwyler, (Diane Leyburn's family); Bruce Hall (Food Pantry); Trish Ashby; Chantal Jordan; Wemette Family (Lorraine Wynn's friends); Margy Jones, Sr.; Virginia O'Donnell (Chris' mother); Nancy Brown (Pat Morrison's friends); Svetlana Sobolevskaia; Donna and Pete Brown (Austin's parents); Betty Dalziel; Cary Hestad (Mimi Averill's family); Madden Family (Rappoles' friends); Don Collier, (Hawthornes' friend); Jung Soon Park (John's mother); Roberta DaVia; Krissie Weeks (Marianne Martin's sister); First Presbyterian Americus; Cameron Lester; Mary Doras, Merritt Pearson, Terri Leslie (Jan Thomas' friends); Angela Olsen (Kristi Stephenson's family); Pat Poley (Mike's mother); Ken Wilkerson (Heather Bogle's friend); Jim & Anna Coulter; Patricia Livingston, Chris & Dakota Matthews (Gunters'

family); Mark Heimiller (Kelly Norris' family); Mallory Kate (Brian Pierce's friend); Horace Cox (Bill's father); Mary Smith; Lee Marley; Mary Shanks; Tyron Mackall (Samantha Cassidy's friend); Bill Coble; Tim Simons; Joy Rogers, Roger Mudd, Kit Young, Barbara Pinson (Genie Stringer's friends & family); Tom Weaver, Phil Lord, Sophie Essex (Weavers' friends & family); Doug Hill (Timmons' family); Tyler Harmon (Mary Ann Hawthorne's friend); Mary Ratliff; Greg Smith, Pat Lee, Jane Newton (Kyle Newton's friends and family); Al Paul; Mary Zumot; Martha Stoy; Journey Night Shelter; Penny Hill (Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta); The Rev. Denise Anderson and The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston (Co-Moderator, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)); Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church during our

### In Memoriam

**John Weeks**  
(Marianne Martin's uncle)

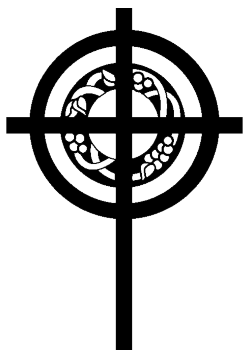
**Jean Williams**

*Nothing in all creation  
will be able to separate us  
from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
-Romans 8*

### CLERK'S CORNER

Mary Ann Hawthorne

*Next Deadline*  
September 20, 2015



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

The community is our congregation.

The Session met on Sunday, August 21, and approved the following:

- Approved the Sunday School curriculum and teachers
- Approved communion dates for 2016-2017
- Authorized allowing Christian Ed. to use some or all of the bulletin board that is across from the parlor to advertise for Sunday School, especially adult classes
- Approved use of the facilities at OPC by the following groups: Brownies, physical therapy for a Preschool family, Drop & Shop by Preschool teachers, & AMIS

board.

- Approved use of \$5000 in designated funds to repair chapel wall
- Approved the Interim Pastor contract
- Approved a variance from the building plans regarding moving the paintings of former pastors

*Session meetings are open meetings and are usually held the third Sunday of every month following worship. Our open-book policy includes our finances and session minutes.*

# Calendar: September 2016



## STEWARDS SERVING

### September 4:

**ushers/greeters:** Kelly Norris, Cathy Poley; **ushers/counters:** Georgia Gunter, Donna Poseidon; **sound/open:** Jean Cox; **refreshments:** Jennifer Sterner Allison; **PowerPoint:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **nursery:** Jennifer Kim.

### September 11:

**liturgist:** Donna Poseidon; **ushers/greeters:** Bill Balmer, Emily Texter; **ushers/counters:** Carl Texter, Margy Jones; **sound/open:** Mark Kelly; **refreshments:** Cindy Alexander; **PowerPoint:** Steve Allison; **nursery:** Deborah O'Donnell.

### September 18:

**liturgist:** Reyn Langwell; **ushers/greeters:** Linda Morris, Jeff Morris; **ushers/counters:** Bill Cox, Georgia Gunter; **sound/open:** \_\_\_\_\_; **refreshments:** Mary Ann Hawthorne; **PowerPoint:** Mike Poley; **nursery:** \_\_\_\_\_.

### September 25:

**liturgist:** Margy Jones; **ushers/greeters:** Ruth Walker, Donna Poseidon; **ushers/counters:** Eleanor Timmons, Christopher Soltis; **sound/open:** Mike Lopata; **refreshments:** Amy Chance; **PowerPoint:** \_\_\_\_\_; **nursery:** Rachel Paterson.

### October 2:

**liturgist:** John Gunter; **ushers/greeters:** Ric & William Paterson, Lisa Kelly; **ushers/counters:** Mark Kelly, Cathy Poley; **sound/open:** Cortlandt Minnich; **refreshments:** Margy Jones; **PowerPoint:** Kim Crocker; **nursery:** Jean Cox.

### October 9:

**liturgist:** Elizabeth Parks; **ushers/greeters:** Jeff Chance, Mike Poley; **ushers/counters:** Brock Timmons, Amy Chance; **sound/open:** Jeff Morris; **refreshments:** Debra Hogan; **PowerPoint:** Kelly Norris; **nursery:** Jen Allison.

### October 16:

**liturgist:** Chris Hagler; **ushers/greeters:** Brett Phillips, Connie Phillips; **ushers/counters:** Julia Berry, Matt Kim; **sound/open:** Brandon Cassidy; **refreshments:** Nancy Minnich; **PowerPoint:** Ric Paterson; **nursery:** Mark Kelly.

### October 23:

**liturgist:** Jeff Morris; **ushers/greeters:** Cindy Alexander, Georgia Rappole; **ushers/counters:** Donna Poseidon, Charles Hawthorne; **sound/open:** Jesse Rappole, Genie Stringer; **refreshments:** Tamara Lopata; **PowerPoint:** Ric Paterson; **nursery:** \_\_\_\_\_.

### October 30:

**liturgist:** Jeff Chance; **ushers/greeters:** Earline Willcott, Cortlandt Minnich; **ushers/counters:** Nancy Minnich, Adam Weaver; **sound/open:** Bill Cox; **refreshments:** Connie Phillips; **PowerPoint:** Brock Timmons; **nursery:** Gabby Paterson.

## Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

### Weekly

#### Sundays:

11am Worship

#### Tuesdays:

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

#### Wednesdays:

5:15pm Centering Prayer (Parlor)  
6:15pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

#### 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

## Calendar Events

### Monthly Workday

Our next church workday is Saturday, September 10, from 9am to 12pm.

### Halfway Room in use

Just an FYI that the Halfway Room will be used by the Preschool for the coming school year as a classroom.

**Book Club** will discuss *The Swan House* by Elizabeth Musser on Monday, September 12 at 7pm in the church parlor.

## THANK YOU

Thank you for all of the calls, a zillion cards, and food that I was so blessed to receive from OPC upon Frank's death. I feel much blessed. God is good.

Love  
Ruth Walker

**Cont'd. from front page.**

One of the many things that I appreciate about children is their emotional honesty. They haven't learned to "cope," yet, and there isn't any judgment about which feelings are "good" and which feelings are "bad." They feel. They just are. So, transitions and new beginning can be a bit rocky. They chafe at new rules and routines and new ways of being. They navigate how to be with new friends... or with old friends in new times. They struggle with sharing. They wrestle with new skills and new knowledge. But that emotional honesty, and the sense of openness that comes with it, means that children also bring a sense of wonder and curiosity to their encounters with the world.

And wonder, some scholars say, breeds awe, and awe breeds reverence.

Throughout the Bible, God is always doing a new thing. Sometimes, those new beginnings and transitions were rocky for God's people. Sometimes, they were not the new things the people wanted. Some-

times, the people complained about the new thing long after it was new. Sometimes, the people even asked over and over again for the old thing to be given back to them. But always, when they were honest with God and (eventually!) brought a sense of openness and wonder about the new thing that God was doing, they grew in knowledge and awe of God, and their awe produced a reverence for God deep in their souls.

I hope this is true for us in this time. This September, as we face our many new beginnings and the struggles they bring, may our sense of emotional honesty and openness and sense of wonder lead to a deepening knowledge of God and ourselves. May that deepening knowledge lead us to awe. May that awe produce in us a reverence for God. And may that reverence lead us to a life of being grounded in and grateful to the God who was, and is, and is to come.

Grace and Peace,  
*Jihyun Oh*

**TRANSITION TEAM**

We are very pleased and grateful that interim pastor, Rev. Jihyun Oh, has joined us! She has been preaching, moderating session meetings, attending committee meetings, and meeting with various groups and individuals in the church. She already is providing us with leadership and guidance.

Our ministry is in full operation. We are preparing for our fall Christian education programs, continuing our numerous outreach programs, and adding a new mission project, American Pathways, in which we will co-sponsor a refugee family with Emory Presbyterian Church. Oglethorpe Presbyterian Preschool is preparing to welcome children. We are proud that we will be expanding the program to include our first kindergarten class! Many exciting worship opportunities are being planned. As always, there will be many opportunities for congregation members and friends to be involved and to serve.

The Transition Team will remain in place until a new pastor is installed. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the transition process, please contact either Charles Hawthorne or Margy Jones.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
Steve Allison

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**returns September 11 at 9:45 am**

This **adult class** meets in the **parlor** on Sunday mornings and discusses a topic from the news around the world in comparison to what we are taught in scripture. This is a class you can join any time as each week it is on a different topic.

The **Present Word Class** meets in the **library** on Sunday mornings and through biblical text are invited into a deepened relationship with God in an experiential learning style.

**Deep Blue** will be returning as the curriculum for our **children's Sunday School** Classes. Asia, Edgar, Kat and a new friend gather each week to share a new Bible Story. Our teachers then carry that story on from the video to activities, crafts and more.

Classrooms are located on the **Sanctuary Level** starting **September 11.**



**AMIS**

We are very proud to announce that Donna Poseidon is the new President of the 2016-2017 Board of Directors for AMIS. Jean Cox and Emily Texter also are on the AMIS Board this year serving on committees which organize the Christmas International House, the AMIGO program, and the Communications committee.

Meet the students at a Welcome Reception on Sunday, September 25, at Agnes Scott College, Evans Dining Hall from 3-5PM. This event is free and open to the public. *(Please note this is a correction to the date and place that were posted in the August Crossing.)* If you would like to be a friend to an international student, read more about the Amigo at <https://amis-inc.org/volunteers/amigo/>

**Journey Night Shelter**

Volunteers are needed the 4th Saturday of each month to bring dinner to the homeless shelter. For almost 30 years, The Journey Night Shelter at Druid Hills Presbyterian Church has provided dinner, hospitality, a shower, a safe night's sleep, breakfast, and counselling for up to thirty homeless men who are actively seeking work. It's about encouraging people to seek God's dreams and God's best for their lives. Please sign up on the bulletin board for 2016. See the new website at <http://journeynightshelter.org/> and Facebook page at JourneyMen. Contact Edyie DaVia for more information.

**Thornwell** will no longer accept Campbell Soup labels but are still accepting General Mills Box-tops for Education.

**The Food Pantry**

Volunteers are always needed at the Food Pantry at the Suthers Center in Chamblee. The Food Pantry is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings and we would love to have you join the team!

Genie Stringer took the leftovers and supplies from the last Bargain Shop sale to the Suthers Center and they were delighted with the donations.

**New American Pathways**

Thank you to the OPC members and friends who generously supported the special offering this past month to raise the co-sponsorship fee for a refugee family. OPC and Emory Presbyterian Church will be assigned a refugee family this fall. Here is a link to the website <http://newamericanpathways.org/> and a list of volunteer opportunities <http://newamericanpathways.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Volunteer-Opportunities-List-1.22.16.pdf> If you would be interested in working on this exciting new mission, contact Emily Texter at [emilytexter@bellsouth.net](mailto:emilytexter@bellsouth.net)

**Missions Committee at OPC**

Mission and outreach are central to our identity at Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church. Our mission programs are a way to serve those in need and also provide opportunities for us to share our time, talents, and resources. To find out more about how you can get involved in these missions, contact Emily Texter at [emilytexter@bellsouth.net](mailto:emilytexter@bellsouth.net)

**Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church  
Financial Summary**

		<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>YTD 2016</u>	<u>YTD 2015</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$	27,905	181,435	190,132	(8,697)
Expenditures		18,041	186,110	199,064	(12,954)
Surplus/(deficit)		<u>9,863</u>	<u>(4,675)</u>	<u>(8,931)</u>	<u>4,257</u>
Beginning bank balance	\$	114,751	141,716	158,067	(16,351)
Cash increase/ (decrease)		7,663	(19,302)	(30,912)	11,609
Ending bank balance		<u>122,414</u>	<u>122,414</u>	<u>127,156</u>	<u>(4,742)</u>
Loan balance	\$		0	26,077	(26,077)
Reserve funds	\$		70,343	69,233	1,111
Reserves - months of budget expense			2.4	2.4	(0.0)

- Receipts are down from 2015 primarily because the additional "ask" in 2015 yielded higher donations of \$7,750.
- Having no Pastor for the month of July yielded savings of about \$6,000.
- Receipts and expenditures do not include Capital Campaign but bank balance does.
- Reserve fund is total of designated reserve fund plus retained earnings

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

**SHARING THE GOOD NEWS  
WITH OUR COMMUNITY**

School's back in session!

On **Friday, August 19** OPC continued our long-standing relationship with Oglethorpe University. Edy DaVia and Pastor Jihyun greeted incoming OU students at OU's New Student Orientation. OPC was invited to participate along with other local organizations. We've done this for several years now. Our hope is that new students seeking a church home away from their own home will see OPC as the welcoming place that it is and come join us during their college years. OPC was started on the campus of OU and we look to continue and extend our relationship with the University every year.

**Help for flood victims**

A small group met in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday, August 28 to talk about how we could reach out a helping hand to the people of Louisiana who have suffered such devastating losses.

If you are interested in exploring or helping out with some kind of response please contact Linda & Jeff Morris or Emily Texter.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

**OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE**

**GIVE  
ACT  
PRAY**

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church  
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)

DATED MATERIAL

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

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