

# Crossings

April, 2017

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## Grief & Hope. Palm & Passion. Death & Resurrection.

As we enter April and move into spring (even though our weather has been spring-like off and on for quite some time), we also head toward the final weeks of Jesus' earthly ministry. There is no Final Four buildup. There is no fanfare. How many of us would have put Jesus in the final had there been a bracket challenge between Jesus and the various religious and political leaders of his time?

Of course, there were those who greeted Jesus with palms and shouts of "Hosanna." But after all of the people's cheering for the underdog, when the final buzzer sounded, Pilate and Herod, Anas and Caiaphas, the priests and teachers, and the mobs who shouted for his death were left standing. Jesus' teammates had all gone into hiding, past the bench into the locker room and beyond. Jesus was on the cross and breathing his last, his body shattered and his spirit given up. And the hope of all underdogs was shattered into a million pieces.

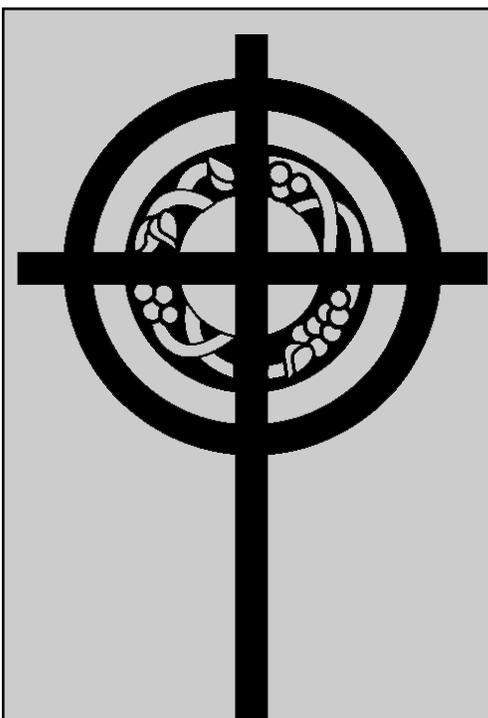
Now, we know that this is not the end of the story. But this is an important part of our story. The road to resurrection cannot get a by and go from loud hosannas to joyful hallelujahs. The road to resurrection must go through the deep darkness of Holy Week - the last meal with a community of faith and life and a deep betrayal, the unjust judgment and the shameful death, the deathly silence and the shock of grief and loss.

It is in this context that Easter morning dawns. It is in this context that the women and the disciples slowly and haltingly come to know what it means to proclaim, "He is risen!" and "He is Lord."

So, you are invited to Palm/Passion Sunday and the Holy Week services (see p. 4). You are invited to bring a friend or two who may not have a community of faith or one that is offering Holy Week services. You are also invited to a new grief support group being offered in the Easter Season (see p. 6).

My hope is that all of us will experience the resurrection anew within this community of faith and within ourselves, and that hope for all "underdogs" may be reborn and renewed.

Lenten Blessings,  
Jihyun



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**CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastoral**

The Rev. Jihyun Oh  
*Interim Pastor/Head of Staff*  
 pastor@opcbrookhaven.org

The Rev. Dr. Linda Hawthorne  
*Parish Associate*

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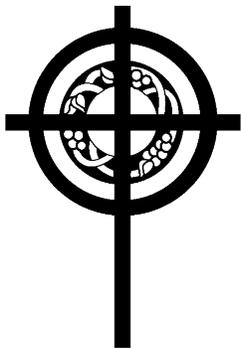
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Beverly Moon  
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 beverly@oppbrookhaven.org

Lynnette Kachel  
*Assistant Director*  
 lynnette@oppbrookhaven.org

Pastor Emeritus  
 The Rev. Dr. Fitzhugh Legerton

Ministers  
 All Members of OPC



**Next Deadline for  
 Crossings  
 April 20, 2017**

- Approved minutes from February 19, 2017 Session meeting
- Approved agenda for March 26, 2017 Session meeting
- Received March Clerk's report
- Approved brick campaign for Oglethorpe Presbyterian Preschool
- Approved giving the Preschool exclusive use of the Halfway Room for the 2017-2018 school year
- Approved painting the back hallway, including walls, trim, and sheetrock repair for \$750
- Approved contract with Fox film studio for use of the parking lot and gave Cheryl Hartman authority to negotiate with them for property usage
- Approved schedule of events for Easter Sunday

**DEACONS**

**Home Communion**

OPC's care deacons are authorized to serve communion in members' homes for those who are medically unable to attend worship. If you know of someone who might desire home communion, please contact any deacon or the church office.

**THANK YOU**

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to OPC for all your love and support while my father, William Bertolet, was ill and at his recent death. Your inquiries about him, your prayers, shared stories of your loved ones, your calls, cards and messages, hugs, tears and listening ears mean provided comfort words cannot describe. I am grateful for you, my sisters and brothers in Christ.

Donna Poseidon

**People in Our Prayers**

*Meg Hill (Tripp's sister); Barbara Pinson, Gene and John Sitton (Genie Stringer's friends/family); Andrew Blanton (Sarah Wheeler's friend); Ruth Walker; Diane Powell; The Rev. Denise Anderson and The Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston (Co-Moderator, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)); Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church during our transition. Our condolences to the family of William Bertolet (Donna Poseidon's father); at his death.*

**Prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for four weeks unless re-submitted.**

**In Memoriam**

**Al Paul**

**Mavis Tapley**  
 (Christina Cross' aunt)

**William Bertolet**  
 (Donna Poseidon's father)

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

**AMIS**

AMIS was proud to give the first International Spirit Award to Naoko "Jo" Yoshimura of St. Martin in the Field. The International Spirit Award was created to recognize a particular volunteer or community figure who embodies the essence of the AMIS mission. The Programs Committee provided guidelines for nominating individuals who embraced the AMIS mission. This recipient is a person who gives selflessly, sharing time with international students, creating bridges of understanding and friendship through the AMIS organization, fulfilling our Motto:

Walk Together, Talk Together, All you nations in the World, Only then shall we have PEACE

**The Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings and we would love to have you join the team. Extra hands are always needed. OPC will purchase hams for the clients for Easter.

**Habitat**

If not use this: Thank you for supporting the special offering which raised \$3000 for this year's Habitat for Humanity. This year's build dates are 7 Saturdays beginning May 6th and ending 6/24. More details will follow.

**New American Pathways**

Our refugee family visited OPC for the covered dish lunch sponsored by the deacons. They were thrilled with the friendliness of the congregation and look forward to returning for another visit.

**Hunger Walk**

On Sunday, March 5, several OPC members and friends represented OPC in the Hunger Walk/Run which is one of the most important



hunger relief efforts of the year. The money raised will feed hope for the 1 in 5 people who face hunger in our community.

**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 [emilytex-](mailto:emilytex-)

**EASTER LILIES**

Given By:

Rachel Isley

Rachel Isley

Diane Leyburn

Jeff & Linda Morris

Jeff & Linda Morris

Margy Jones Sr

Margy Jones Jr

anonymous

Mark Harner

Genie Stringer

Genie Stringer

Brock & Eleanor Timmons

Brock & Eleanor Timmons

Brock and Eleanor Timmons

Miriam Paul

Charles & Linda Hawthorne

Donna Bertolet Poseidon

Dwane & Pat Morrison

Dwane and Pat Morrison

Christina Cross

Virginia Quillian

Virginia Quillian

In Honor or Memory of:

In Honor of Lori and Arnold Isley

In Memory of Grant Gossling

In Memory of Boyd Leyburn, Jr.

In Memory of Lu & Harry Morris

In Memory of Nancy Freeman Patterson

In Memory of Lawrence M. Jones

In Memory of Miles and Joann Hanlon

In Honor of Cheryl Hartman

In Memory of Margaret & George Harner

In Memory of Lelia Stringer

In Memory of Al Paul

In Honor of our siblings

In Honor of our children & grandchildren

In Memory of Anne & Pat Timmons, Jr;

Anne & Pat Thompson Jr

In Memory of Al Paul

In Honor of OPC Choirs & Tim Hsu

In Memory Roberta & William Bertolet

In Honor of Worship Staff by

In Memory of Mary Ann Hartman

In Honor of My Family

In Memory of Osborne Quillian

In Memory of Sue Quillian

**WORSHIP**  
Jeff Morris

Please join us for these worship services during Holy Week:

- April 9 , 11 a.m. - Palm Sunday
- April 13, 6:30 p.m. - Maundy Thursday (dinner and worship)
- April 16, 11 a.m. - Easter Sunday



**Easter Sunday - April 16, 2017**

**Schedule**

- 7:00 am Community Sunrise Service in Chapel
- 9:45 Family Photos begin
- 9:45 am Sunday School/Fellowship
- 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt
- 11:00 am Easter Service

**PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The PNC is up and running...or rather, walking. We have met twice already and will meet again before the end of the month. Still, we want you all to understand that the process of discerning God's plan for OPC and finding the right pastor to help us with that plan is an involved one and not one to be rushed.

That being said, we do want to keep you informed about what's going on along the way. In the next few weeks we will be asking many (most?) of you to participate in a "World Cafe" in order to find out your thoughts and feelings about where you see OPC now and in the future. World Cafe is a survey process that invites and allows for meaningful dialogue among the participants as opposed to other survey methods that simply ask individuals to answer a series of questions.

Your PNC has made a commitment to be as open as possible with you throughout this process. What we ask of you is your patience and continued prayers for us as we seek to discern God's plan for OPC going forward and as we strive to find the best person to lead this congregation and to live into God with us.

**Easter Help**

Adopt some Easter Eggs and help us prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 16. Bags of eggs can be found in the entry hall. Take some home and return them before Easter filled with candy or stickers or toys. Please return the filled eggs by April 9. Thank you

Can you help by bringing some refreshments on Easter morning on April 16? We are looking for some volunteers to bring veggie trays, fruit or other goodies for our refreshment tables on Easter morning. We also need some volunteers to help staff some of the tables and hide Easter Eggs on Easter morning. If you are able to help out, please contact Cheryl Hartman in the church office.



Did you know you can give money to Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church without costing you anything more? Sign in to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://Smile.Amazon.com) and choose Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church as your charity.

Then when you want to shop on Amazon sign in through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and shop as normal.

**SANCTUARY**

The Session recently decided to explore OPC's possible participation in the sanctuary movement, which involves faith communities nationwide standing by immigrants facing deportation. Jeff Morris, Mary Ann Hawthorne, and Elizabeth Parks are looking into various logistical, legal, and theological aspects of this potential ministry. They will make a recommendation to the Session in the future. No decision on whether, or how, OPC will participate in the sanctuary movement has been made. Please contact one of the above-named individuals if you have questions or comments on this issue. We appreciate your prayers for all immigrants as our discernment process on sanctuary continues.

**THORNWELL NOTES**

OPC sent 1,406 box tops to Thornwell in 2016!

Campbell's soup labels are NO LONGER being accepted by Thornwell.

Thanks for your continued support!

# Monthly Calendar



## STEWARDS SERVING

### Stewards Serving Sunday, April 2:

**liturgist:** Elizabeth Parks; **ushers/greeters:** Jeff Chance, Mike Poley; **ushers/counters:** Brock Timmons, Amy Chance; **sound/open:** Jeff Morris; **refreshments:** \_\_\_\_\_; **nursery:** Jen Allison.

### Stewards Serving Sunday, April 9: Palm Sunday

**liturgist:** \_\_\_\_\_; **ushers/greeters:** Brett Phillips, Connie Phillips; **ushers/counters:** Julia Berry, Matt Kim; **sound/open:** Brandon Cassidy; **refreshments:** \_\_\_\_\_; **nursery:** Mark Kelly.

### Stewards Serving Sunday, April 16: EASTER

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

### Stewards Serving Sunday, April 23:

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

### Stewards Serving Sunday, April 30:

**liturgist:** Linda Morris; **ushers/greeters:** Emily and Thomas Paterson, Pat Morrison; **ushers/counters:** Mary Lee Williams, \_\_\_\_\_; **sound/open:** \_\_\_\_\_; **refreshments:** Kristi Stephenson; **nursery:** Steve Allison.

## Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Financial Summary

	<u>Feb-17</u>	<u>YTD 2017</u>	<u>YTD 2016</u>	<u>change</u>
Receipts	\$ 17,597	37,494	43,426	(5,933)
Expenditures	20,883	43,169	48,977	(5,808)
Surplus/(deficit)	<u>(3,286)</u>	<u>(5,675)</u>	<u>(5,551)</u>	<u>(125)</u>
Beginning bank balance	\$ 115,827	127,584	141,716	(14,132)
Cash increase/ (decrease)	<u>98,676</u>	<u>86,919</u>	<u>(10,135)</u>	<u>97,053</u>
Ending bank balance	<u>214,503</u>	<u>214,503</u>	<u>131,581</u>	<u>82,922</u>
Loan balance	\$ 100,000	5,859	94,141	
Reserve funds	\$ 57,289	71,166	(13,877)	
Reserves - months of budget expense	2.0	2.5	(0.5)	

OPC has an open book financial policy: for more information, contact the Treasurer, Jardon Bouska via email: [jtbouska@comcast.net](mailto:jtbouska@comcast.net)

## Regular Meetings

(except when noted elsewhere)

### Weekly

#### Sundays:

11am Worship

#### Tuesdays:

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

#### Wednesdays:

5:45pm Centering Prayer (Parlor)  
6:45pm Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

#### Fridays:

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

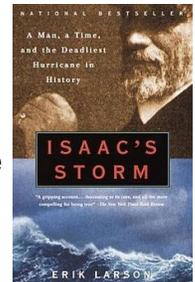
### Monthly

Fourth Sundays after Worship  
Session Meeting

## Calendar Events & Notes

Our next church workday is Saturday, April 8, from 9am to 1pm. Please join in and help keep your church in good shape.

Book club will be at Mary Ann Hawthorne's home Monday April 10th at 7:00 where we will be discussing *Isaac's Storm* by Erik Larson



If you would like information about joining the book club, contact Margy Jones at [mnjbailey@aol.com](mailto:mnjbailey@aol.com)



## A Discussion of Loss and Grief

Pastor Jihyun and Linda Hawthorne will lead a discussion for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. The group will meet in the Parlor Sunday, April 30th after worship. A light lunch will be provided.

There are no maps to guide us through the grief journey, but sharing our own experiences and learning from the experiences of others can help.

The words of an old hymn apply well to grieving:

“It’s so high you can’t get over it,  
So wide you can’t get around it,  
So low you can’t get under it,  
You must go through the door.”

OPC has new giving options! Visit [www.opcbrookhaven.org](http://www.opcbrookhaven.org) to learn more or download the GIVE+ app on your smartphone!

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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