



Campaign News

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church

3016 Lanier Drive
Atlanta, Georgia 30319

Church Office:404.233.5469

www.opcbrookhaven.org

Capital Campaign Report

The following report is current as of February 13, 2013.

Pledges from OPC Members and Friends

Number of pledges	73
Amount pledged	\$309,278

Pledges/Donations from OPP Parents and Staff

Number of pledges	53
Amount pledged	\$29,994

Campaign Revenue and Expenditures

Total pledges/donations	\$339,272
Amount received	111,510
Campaign expenditures	38,062
Cost of roof	17,000
Cash on hand	54,872
Pledges due	\$227,762



A Message from Marthame

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4



Dear Friends,

We have persevered through many trials here at OPC. Last year we took on the challenge of a capital campaign and brought that to a successful conclusion. (Please note: we are still accepting pledges to the campaign.)

We have already completed the first capital-funded project, the roof, and work has begun on the new entrance doors, security

system and updating the HVAC. We have been able to move ahead quickly with these projects since one-third of pledges have already been fulfilled. More details about the campaign and our plans are available in this newsletter.

I know I have said it many times, but let me say "Thank You" again to all who have worked so diligently on the campaign and

Continued on page 4

JOURNEY

OPC has been serving people in need for many years. Journey (formerly Druid Hills Night Shelter) is among the important ministries we support. Through Christ, those who have passed through Journey on the road to self-sufficiency have been blessed with our love, support, and prayers. They know that they are not forgotten and that they are loved. And we, in turn, know that we are loved.



Between **January 21 and February 17**, OPC has focused on this ministry by teaming up with OPP to collect the following items:

Toiletries, disposable razors, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, washcloths, towels, blankets, first aid supplies (including band aids, aspirin, etc.).

Additionally, we will deliver the donated items as we serve dinner and enjoy fellowship with the guys on **Saturday evening, February 23**. It is a perfect opportunity for the whole family to serve together. Thanks to everyone who made a contribution.

OPC Deacons Service as Faithful Stewards

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

When someone breaks a hip, has a hospitalized child, loses a parent, is diagnosed with cancer, is depressed or lonely, or has other needs or concerns, the deacons are available to provide support and help. OPC has six commissioned deacons who are specifically called to minister to those in need.

Our deacons are Emily Texter, Paul Reynolds, Marilyn Peatman, Carol Moore, Margy Jones (Jr.), and Mark Kelly. Each deacon is assigned specific members and friends of OPC to serve.

The deacons meet monthly with Marthame



and Linda Hawthorne to discuss the needs of which they are aware and to pray for those in need. They plan how to address the identified needs—with visits, food, calls, cards or whatever seems most appropriate. Almost daily, e-mails flow among the deacons, ministers, and Cheryl about needs that have been identified and support that is being provided or is needed.

Many times, the deacons simply serve as coordinators, calling upon other church members to provide assistance and then coordinating those efforts. In fact, often times other members of OPC are already

providing support and assistance before the deacons even hear of the needs.

One of the most meaningful services provided by the deacons is an annual healing service. Since we are all in need of healing, be it physical, mental, spiritual or emotional, all are encouraged to attend. The service includes communion, hymns, and prayer, as well as the laying on of hands and anointing with oil as described in scripture.

If you are aware that a church member or church friend who is in need of support, please contact one of the deacons or leave word with Cheryl in the office.

Two Capital Projects in the Planning Stage

We are moving ahead with installation of new entrance doors and a security system. The doors are currently being fabricated, and we are taking bids on the security system.

We have also signed a contract with Phelps,

who has already started removing the old HVAC system for the sanctuary and office wing and installing the new one.

We are also working to secure a line of credit in order to pay for construction costs while your commitments come

in to cover those costs. This allows us to move ahead in a timely manner with our projects.

Session and OPC Members Address Budget Challenge

After several meetings in which Session looked at projected revenue and trimmed expenses as much as possible, they presented the 2013 budget to the congregation at a Town Hall meeting on February 10.

Revenue:

Pledges	\$178,150
Other Giving	34,000
Building Use	46,000
Other	5,880
Total Revenue	\$264,030

Expenses

Mission	\$ 19,934
Buildings & Grounds	16,500
Worship	6,200
Administration (Staff, Utilities, Office)	259,593
Other	15,830
Total Expenses	\$318,057

Shortfall (\$54,027)

Session has made it our priority to have a balanced budget this year. That kind of change will not happen without commitment and planning. We have outlined the following five ways to reach our goal. We will keep you updated, reporting back very regularly on our progress.

A zero-deficit budget has been a goal for some time. Our capital campaign enables this in many ways: fewer repairs, lower utilities, less water damage. And so, this is a unique time to embark on such a plan. The bottom line is that we need your help in reaching this goal.

Session voted to have a more fiscally responsible, balanced budget in 2013. And in evaluating our budget a conservative yet realistic leaves us with a \$54,000 shortage against our planned spending. We know that balancing our budget this year is a courageous move, but one we can accomplish together.

At the Town Hall meeting, Session presented several suggestions for addressing the gap between revenue and expenses. These ideas include:

- ◆ **Increasing pledges:** Your pledges are critical so that we can better anticipate the balance of in-



coming revenue and outgoing expenses.

- ◆ **Donating a one-time “Mind the Gap” gift:** When you give, please be sure to note if your donations are for annual stewardship or the capital campaign.
- ◆ **Volunteering to reduce costs:** We pay for a number of services that the church provides. Seek out a Session member if you are able to provide these service yourself or have other means of reducing these expenses.
- ◆ **Taking OPC to the community:** Our church has great capacity for loving, caring and supporting members of our community. The infrastructure that we support financially can serve many more families at the same cost.
- ◆ **Fundraising:** We are looking for ideas that will build community while delivering modest revenue for the church. We welcome your ideas.

We also welcome other ideas. If you have a suggestion, please fill out the form below and drop it in the offering basket, or mail it to the church office.

My Idea for Generating Additional Revenue...

Name (optional)

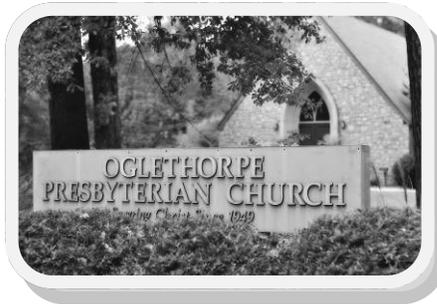
A Message from Marthame

continued from page 1

made a commitment to support it. The capital campaign was coupled with our Annual Stewardship Drive which culminated in an increase in the number of pledges and the amount pledged for the annual support of our mission and day-to-day expenses. We also experienced an increase in volunteers for our various ministries.

As most of you know, we have been in the position of drawing on our reserves to balance our annual budget. So this year we have challenged ourselves with ending 2013 with a balanced budget. Again, you will find more information in this newsletter about these efforts.

This year I invite all members and friends to become good and faithful



stewards of OPC. Many of you pledge and give of your time, talent and treasure. If you have not yet made that decision, please reflect and pray upon it, especially during this season of Lent. Consider how you can give back to God in return for the blessings you have received and the gift of Christ our Lord.

During these forty days of Lent, consider how much time you can share

in our OPC ministries. During these forty days, how much extra can you give to support our church?

We are in the process of renovating our building. At the end of this year, I look forward to saying that we also revamped our annual budget!

In Christ,

Pastor