OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The One Hundred and Twenty Ninth Annual Meeting Sunday, February 11, 2018
11:30 AM

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Agenda

Meeting Convened with Prayer

Pastor Bruce Gillette

Confirmation of Quorum (1/10th of Active Members)

Sara K. Davis, Clerk of Session

Review of the Work of the Session and Its Committees

Rachel Carnahan, Worship & Music Committee
Jason Sheau, Christian Education Committee
Aimerie Scherluebbe, Mission & Outreach Committee
Raelyn Harman, Congregational Life
Ron Homer, New Members Committee
Will Schick, Stewardship Committee
Bob Kothari, Finance Committee
Edelene Carroll, Personnel Committee
Ted Dillon, Property Committee

Review of the Work of the Board of Deacons

Mike Rottinger, Board of Deacons

Terms of Call

Edelene Carroll, Personnel Committee

Recess to Reconvene as the Corporation

Sean Whalen, Board of Trustees President

Treasurer's Report

Kate Shackelford, Treasurer

Adjourn as Corporation and Reconvene as Congregation

Remarks of the Co-Pastors

Pastors Bruce and Carolyn Gillette

Baptisms and Necrology

Pastor Carolyn Gillette

Adjournment with Prayer

Pastor Carolyn Gillette

Church Officers

The Session

The Rev. Bruce P. Gillette and the Rev. Carolyn W. Gillette, Moderators
Sara K. Davis, Clerk of Session
Sean Whalen, President of the Corporation
Kate Shackelford, Treasurer

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020
Edelene Carroll	Jeffrey Bowker	Rachel Carnahan
Bob Kothari	Raelyn Harman	Kevin Davis
Jane Rozmiarek	Deborah Rottinger	Becky Lazo
Aimerie Scherluebbe	Kate Shackelford	Will Schick
Sean Whalen	Eileen Wiggins	Karen Wong

The Board of Deacons

Mike Rottinger, Moderator Brad Biedermann, Treasurer Jill Van Rawley, Secretary

Class of 2018	Class of 2019	Class of 2020		
Terri Hunter	Artia Benjamin	Peju Adebanjo		
Stephanie Morris	Suchita Fiorillo	Brad Biedermann		
Davorka Sabljak	Angie Goodall	Sabrina Johnson		
Carol Tulba	Michael Rottinger	Alan Sigler		
Ellen Valudes	Nickie Stokes	Jill Van Rawley		

The Church Staff

Pastors Bruce and Carolyn Gillette, Co-Pastors
The Rev. David K. McMillan, Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Christopher Gage, Director of Music
Lois Randel, Mezzo-Soprano Iris Fairfax, Soprano
Matthew Lulofs, Bass Toffer Mihalka, Tenor
Lisa Faso, Office Manager
Carol Rozmiarek, Financial Secretary
Leonard Robbins, Custodian

Session Report

In 2017, the Session welcomed our new pastoral leadership, the Reverends Bruce and Carolyn Gillette, and said farewell to the Rev. Dr. Drew Mann, our interim pastor and moderator since the fall of 2015.

There were three congregational meetings called by the Session in 2017: the 128th Annual Meeting on February 12, a special meeting of the congregation held March 12, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Pastoral Nominating Committee, at which the congregation voted to elect the Reverends Bruce and Carolyn Gillette as co-pastors; and a special meeting of the congregation on December 10, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Representative Nominating Committee, chaired this year by ruling elder Sean Whalen, and electing ruling elders/trustees, deacons, and members at large of the 2018 Representative Nominating Committee.

In January, the Session welcomed returning ruling elders Jeffrey Bowker, Raelyn Harman and Kate Shackelford and incoming ruling elders Deborah Rottinger and Eileen Wiggins, both returning to the Session after previous service. During 2017, the Session held twelve stated meetings, continuing to meet during the summer months because of the press of business. There was one special meeting, to receive new members and discuss the results of an environmental inspection report.

At its last stated meeting of 2017, thanks were expressed to the following ruling elders who had completed their terms and were ineligible for re-election or did not wish to serve a second term: Ronald Homer and Jason Sheau. At the December 10 congregational meeting, ruling elders Rachel Carnahan, Will Schick and Karen Wong were re-elected to second three-year terms and Kevin Davis and Becky Lazo were elected to three-year terms.

Church membership at the beginning of 2017 was 403, and we finished the year with 405 members, for a net increase of two. We received 11 new members by transfer or reaffirmation of faith. Three members transferred to other churches, and there were six deaths, for a loss of nine members. The Roll of Baptized Members went from 102 to 97, with seven baptisms of children and 12 removals.

The annual review and examination of the Church Register for the year 2016 took place on September 16, 2016 at the Church on the Mall. The records were approved with one exception, because an audit planned for 2016 did not take place.

In the unicameral system used at Overbrook and in many other Presbyterian churches, the Session is also the Board of Trustees, and all ruling elders also serve as trustees, dealing with matters such as property in addition to issues related to the mission of the church, such as worship and music, stewardship, mission and outreach, personnel and Christian education. These varied functions are reflected in the committees of the Session, whose reports appear on the following pages.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara K. Davis Clerk of Session

Necrology & Baptisms

NECROLOGY

Date of Uniting with this Church Date of Death

Savage, Lavinia (Binnie)
VandenBerge, Mary
Wallace, Wallace H.
Roth, Jeffrey A.
Owens, Barbara
Warne, Phyllis M.

December 6, 1953
October 24, 1971
April 25. 1943
May 10, 2005
April 1, 1984
April 25, 1943

January 24, 2017 February 25, 2017 April 18, 2017 May 1, 2017 October 11, 2017 November 20, 2017

BAPTISMS

Date of Baptism

Carter, Zion David
Johnson, Liam Oneil
Bell, Nehemiah Mahasin
Gracia, Yvenelly Carla
Ziemba, Lucas Owen
Adabia, Laura Esse
Pagbaya, Norah Leann
Baker, Theodore Lewis

April 23, 2017 June 25. 2017 August 27, 2017 August 27, 2017 September 17, 2017 September 24, 2017 September 24, 2017 December 10, 2017

Pastors' Report

Report of the Pastors for 2017 Bruce and Carolyn Gillette

With great joy we began our work as your pastors on April 24, 2017. As we reflect on our first eight months of ministry here in this wonderful congregation, we are reminded of some of the words of the hymn, "Called as Partners in Christ's Service," written by Jane Parker Huber (a hymn writer who also wrote OPC's Centennial Hymn):

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministry of grace, we respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace. (verse 1, lines 1 and 2)

Called as Partners: We are very thankful that we received a call to OPC to serve as your pastors— as partners in Christ's service with you. Thank you for the ways you have welcomed us into this congregation and for a joyful installation service and reception on May 28. Thank you for welcoming us into many of your homes for small group "Get to Know the Pastors" meetings, with food, conversation, and new friendships. Thank you for the many ways, large and small, that you have helped us to feel welcome here. We are grateful for your commitment to Jesus Christ, your commitment to his church, and your willingness to welcome us as your new pastors.

Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold. (verse 2, lines 3 and 4)

All God's People: Overbrook Church is known for its wonderful diversity that brings people from different socio-economic and racial-ethnic groups together. OPC also has a delightful diversity in terms of people's ages, interests, hobbies, work, life experiences, and denominational backgrounds. We experienced the richness of this diversity at A Taste of Overbrook in the Fall. We have also seen it as many of you have shared your vision of what the church should be. We have enjoyed getting to know some of you at the Bible studies we have taught, and at last Fall's Parenting Class. We enjoyed your commitment to justice and love as you shared your many, varied gifts on the Martin Luther King Day of Service at the beginning of 2018. Some of you grew up at Overbrook Church; others have come from other denominations and congregations, bringing your own expectations and vision. God's call is for us to blend together our skills, and our understandings of "church" so that God can use our gifts together for the good of all. This year, as we listened to and learned from one another, God was at work in this church.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense, help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. (verse 3, lines 1 and 2)

New Patterns for Christ's Mission: We are reminded of this part of Jane Parker Huber's hymn for a couple of reasons. First, it talks about newness— new patterns of Christ's mission. As we have been in conversation with many of you we have been reminded how much newness there is here and now. OPC has experienced tremendous change in the past few years— with new pastoral leadership, new Christian Education leadership, a new music director, an office manager who has been at OPC for just a year and a half, and a new financial secretary. More than one person has remarked that Leonard Robbins, OPC's custodian, is the longest serving staff member! We are grateful for staff members who served faithfully for many years, and for those, like us, who are just beginning their service. Thanks to paid staff members,

Dr. Christopher Gage, Lisa Faso, Carol Rozmiarek, and Leonard Robbins, and to elders, deacons, and all church members who have worked faithfully and lovingly during a time of great change.

Help us bear each other's burdens: We all need to acknowledge the grief and anxiety that comes with so much change in a church in such a short amount of time. People ask the question: "Will this church be the same as it always has been, for me and my family?" There is grief as the inevitable changes happen. Even if many programs remain the same, new staff members bring new personalities and new ideas. As your pastors, we have sought to listen to your concerns, your grief, your hopes and your dreams. We have asked a lot of questions of many people in leadership and in the pews, in order to continue many of the wonderful traditions at OPC. In planning Vacation Bible School, the Youth Mission Trip, Adult Forum, weekly worship services, the Messiah Sing, the Christmas Eve Family Service, the Service of Lessons and Carols, and many other things, we have sought to celebrate the best of OPC traditions. A strong emphasis for us has been visiting many of you in homes, hospitals and nursing homes— and working with the Deacons and others—to provide loving pastoral care to "bear one another's burdens," because we love and care for all of you.

Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge said with care, Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair. (verse 3, lines 3 and 4)

Words: Communication is the key to breaking down each wall or fence. There have been times when people at OPC have had different understandings of the church's ministry; there are challenges in every growing relationship. In each worship bulletin, and in each church newsletter and pastoral note, there is an invitation to come and talk with us. We are grateful to the many OPC members and friends who have shared joys, concerns, new ideas and affirmations. In any family, including in our church family, we grow closer to each other when we listen to each other and spend time together. We invite you to give us a call or drop us a note and suggest a time you would like to get together— maybe for a meal or simply for a conversation at the church office. We look forward to this New Year and to getting to know each one of you better, as we continue to celebrate the best of what OPC has been, and as we move forward together.

So God grant us for tomorrow... (verse 4, line 1)

Tomorrow: Our faith in God gives us all hope, as a church. As your pastors, we look forward to the new year of serving with you. When we all look at God's church and at the world around us, we see both joys and challenges that lie ahead. We are grateful for new and developing friendships at OPC, and we look forward to serving with you in 2018 and beyond. We pray that God will "make us partners" (verse 4, line 3) in ministry together. We are excited and humbled by the possibilities that lie ahead, as we serve together with you in love.

Grace and Peace, Bruce and Carolyn Gillette

Director of Music's Report

2017 was a year of change and growth for the music program at Overbrook Presbyterian Church. On Sunday, July 30, Dennis Elwell was honored for his forty-four years of service to this church's music ministry, and the tenure of the new Director of Music began on Monday, August 28.

The Overbrook Choir and Quartet provided anthems, solos, and musical leadership throughout the year: the full choir sang for most worship services except during June, July, and August, when our soloists sang in worship. We continue to express our gratitude for the members of the Overbrook Quartet: Iris Fairfax, Lois Randel, Toffer Mihalka, and Matthew Lulofs.

On Sunday, October 29, a hymn festival was held to celebrate five hundred years of the Protestant Reformation; robust attendance allowed us to make a sizable contribution to the food ministry at Calvin Presbyterian Church. The Choir and Quartet were joined by violinist Johnny May and cellist Elizabeth Mendoza. The Messiah Sing, which was held on Sunday, December 3, was another successful event with over 230 people in attendance; Paul Fleckenstein once again accompanied the soloists and congregation.

The Overbrook Junior Choir, accompanied by Victor Fiorillo, and the Overbrook Westminster Handbell Choir each performed approximately once per month, including the 4:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.

The Director of Music appreciates the warm welcome given by the congregation of Overbrook Presbyterian Church and looks forward to another wonderful year of music-making.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Christopher Gage Director of Music

Worship & Music Committee

<u>Committee Members</u>: Rachel Carnahan (chair), Jane Krumrine, Alyce Marsh, Sharon Parker, Trudy Sheau, Nickie Stokes, Eileen Wiggins, Dick Williamson, Beulah Wilson

Associated Staff: Pastors Bruce and Carolyn Gillette, Director of Music Chris Gage

The committee welcomed Bruce and Carolyn Gillette, our co-pastors, on April 24; their first worship service was on April 30. Chris Gage began as our new music director on August 28 with his first service on September 3. The committee met throughout the summer to continue getting to know each other and working to provide meaningful worship for the congregation.

We accepted with regret and thanks the resignation of Calvin Marshall from the committee. We welcomed Eileen Wiggins who serves as scrivener.

The committee participated in the farewell activities for Interim Pastor Drew Mann, and the many tributes and farewells for Dennis Elwell as he retired after 44 years of service as Minister of Music at the end of July.

This was a year of change, as we adjusted to having two pastors on the dais every Sunday. Lay leaders have adjusted well. Additional prayer was added before the Scripture readings, and other minor changes were made in the role of the lay leader.

The *Gloria Patri* was reinstated as the response to the Assurance of Pardon. This is the traditional response sung in Presbyterian churches. The bulletin was changed back to the previous format; no complaints were received.

Two new sets of Paraments were obtained. The White arrived in time for Easter, and the Green, which are used much of the year, arrived in early summer. The lovely Blue hand-crafted paraments were enjoyed during Advent.

Nickie Stokes continues to supervise Communion and the Acolytes. Alyce Marsh continues to recruit Lay Leaders. Dick Williamson continues to work with the ushers. Laurie Geers joined the ushers this year. Volunteers are always welcome for any of these ministries.

Chris Gage arranged and held a concert to celebrate 500 years of the Reformation, during which we were able to hear his wonderful skill as an organist. A Thanksgiving Service was held on Tuesday, November 21, with the choir participating.

In December, the Service of the Longest Night was held for those grieving or otherwise unhappy during the Christmas season. It was well received and attendance was better than in past years. The annual *Messiah* sing was well attended and appreciated by the larger community.

Through all our transitions, weekly attendance has held steady at an average of 142.

We look forward to another year of working toward satisfying and meaningful worship through music and the Word.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Carnahan

Christian Education Committee

The mission of the Christian Education Committee is to assure educational ministry is accessible, inviting and relevant to the needs of the Overbrook Church family, and most especially, true to God's Word. Throughout 2017, the CE Committee, with the support and inspiration of the congregation, worked to fulfill this mission. As students and teachers of faith, and celebrants of lifelong Christian learning, we continue to provide and give thanks for the following opportunities:

Sunday School: Throughout the school year, Bible-based instruction is provided for children in preschool through sixth grade. Grades 9-12 met after listening to the sermon for a time of Bible-based discussion on topics related to service and personal spiritual growth. In 2017, we resumed collecting offerings during Sunday School to be sent to St. Vincent School for the Handicapped as voted by the kids.

Children and Youth in Worship: The children and youth of OPC continued to learn by serving in worship leadership. In September 2017 middle and high school students led worship and shared inspirational accounts of their experiences during the youth mission trip to City Service Mission in Philadelphia.

Vacation Bible School: The Bible-based, summer learning program is designed for our pre-K through fifth grade students. In 2017 our theme was *Clean Water for All God's Children*, where the students heard Bible stories about water and participated in hands-on experiments and fun with water. We had about 30 students participate in VBS.

Confirmation Class: there are eight students exploring their faith in the confirmation class which finishes up in the spring of 2018. With the help of a personal mentor, they will complete a personal Statement of Faith. The Confirmation Class meets prior to worship with Rev. Carolyn Gillette and participates in the entire worship service.

OPC Youth: Service learning and Christian fellowship programs support the faith formation of our middle and high school students. In the Fall of 2017, Rev. Carolyn Gillette alternated between the Junior High and Senior High Groups each week to meet for fellowship, mission and service. 11 OPC Youth participated on the summer mission trip in Philadelphia under the direction of CSM with the help of 3 chaperones.

Adult Education: Sunday Adult Forum continued to meet at 9:15 am in the Chapel, with shared learning and shared faith serving as a foundation for discussion. Bible Study was offered on Wednesdays and offered an exciting and informative examination of the scriptures which drew a diverse group of participants. In the Fall of 2017, two additional Bible Studies were offered on Sunday Morning and Monday Evenings where participants studied *The Bible from Scratch – New Testament*, for 8 weeks which was an introductory course into the Bible. Another offering provided was a 6 week – 2 hr Parenting Course focusing on children 5-12.

Cross-Generational Ministry: In 2017, the Christian Education Committee continued to sponsor several Prayer Breakfasts which offered opportunities for members and friends to gather around the OPC breakfast table in prayer and fellowship. The free-will offering supported aspects of the Christian Education program like the Youth Mission Trip or other ministries of the Church.

This past year, after returning in December 2016 under a restructured interim DCE position, Sharon Parker resigned in April 2017 with the hiring of the Reverends Bruce and Carolyn Gillette. Under their shared duties as new Pastors, they assumed the role and responsibility of the DCE and direction of the Christian Education programs. This year, under the recommendation of Rev. Carolyn Gillette, the CE Committee started the distribution of "Splash!" by Augsburg Fortress to children baptized at OPC. This curriculum is for infants to the age of 3 and their parents providing them with readings, music and stories to connect families with young kids, celebrate milestones and events, and help develop their faith.

In 2015, PA Act 153 went into effect which mandated all volunteers working with the children under 18 to get background checks clearances and mandatory reporters training. This requirement limited the number of adults to teach Sunday school, chaperone youth events and other events working with the children. Looking forward to 2018, we hope more parents and adults would take to time to get the required clearances and training so we can expand our pool of resources and events for the children of the church.

Committee Members: Artia Benjamin, Charlotte Carpenter, Rebecca Lazo, LaToya Ritchie, Phil Sheau, Trudy Sheau, Kadie Whalen, Judy Williamson

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Sheau
Chair, Christian Education Committee

Mission & Outreach Committee

2017 was an extraordinary year for Overbrook Presbyterian Church Mission and Outreach Committee. The M & O committee's mission and service work is rooted in compassion, love and to serve one another. Our chief criterion is that our giving should reflect the words and example of our Lord Jesus Christ, particularly his emphasis on caring for "the least of these" – those who are most in need.

Feed My Starving Children was a new program this year. FMSC is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals for thousands of malnourished children in areas around the globe including the US. Organizations support FMSC by hosting "MobilePacks" to prepare and pack meals for shipment. We partnered with Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast High School. On April 22, we brought together 459 volunteers and packed 104,976 meals and raised over \$24,000. Those meals were shipped to two destinations: 3,888 individual meals were sent to Sierra Leone feeding 10 children for a year. 101,088 meals were sent to the Dominican Republic to feed 276 children for one year! The 2018 MobilePack will be Saturday, April 28th. Leading the 2017 FMSC initiative at OPC were Janet Bowker, Nancy Gilhool, Becky Lazo, Deb Rottinger and Jim Vagnoni.

Broad Street Ministries is a social justice ministry that welcomes, serves, shelters, supports and befriends the poorest of our community regardless of faith commitments or lack thereof. BSM provides for basic subsistence needs of food, clothing and shelter as well as spiritual nurturing through creative worship to hundreds of homeless individuals. OPC provides volunteers and significant cash support to Broad Street Ministries to achieve its mission. Deb Rottinger serves as OPC liaison with BSM. She led the Family Soup Making effort for BSM January through March an effort particularly enjoyed by the children that participated. Last summer the Youth Mission Trip worked through BSM as our OPC youth helped people in need in Philadelphia. Gardeners can help tend the new vegetable gardens at Carousel House a new BSM initiative to help feed their guests.

The 2017 theme of **One Great Hour of Sharing,** "Overflowing Generosity", focused on the need for safe drinking water. The OPC congregation responded to the 2017 appeal with noteworthy generosity contributing \$3,737.00 to OGHS. Emily Amerman coordinated the 2017 collection.

The Women's Dining Circle, Church members nominate prospective recipients to attend a dinner at the home of an OPC member. Women who attend hear a presentation from the featured charity and respond with their personal donations. OPC through the Mission and Outreach budget then matches the amount donated. The programs supported in 2017 were: Dignity Housing, the OPC Youth Mission Trip, Paws and Affection and the Please Touch Museum.

The meal prepared for the **Delaware County Life Center** is another ongoing OPC effort that serves the least of our brothers and sisters. The Life Center is a ministry that serves destitute people in West Philadelphia and Delaware County. The Center is located at 63rd and Market Streets, on the border of West Philadelphia. Nancy Gilhool coordinates OPC members and other volunteers who plan, prepare and serve dinner to more than 150 people. Overbrook Presbyterian Church is responsible for the meal four times a year.

The Hunger Store is open monthly for OPC members to contribute to a food bank by purchasing specific food staples for people in need. Mike Rottinger runs The Hunger Store after Sunday Worship during Fellowship hour. The food is donated to the Food Cupboard at Calvin Church in West Philadelphia.

Heeding God's Call to Reduce Gun Violence is a grassroots organization that raises awareness of the lives lost to gun violence in Philadelphia. 2017 marked our second "Memorial to the Lost" and the first time we

combined it with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. We were sad to include a t-shirt for Leonard Robbins' son, which received a special blessing. Jeff Bowker and Jane Rozmiarek led the project.

OPC has been helping **TheVillage** (formerly Presbyterian Children's Village) for decades and continued to do so in 2017. In addition to a generous donation, Nancy Gilhool led "The Book Bag Project - Back to School! TheVillage". OPC collected back packs, school supplies, and cash to make sure the children are ready for the first day of school. Twenty-six stuffed backpacks were delivered to the Village in August.

Christmas Giving 2017 consisted of OPC's two traditional efforts. The 2017 Fair Trade Market, led by Janet Bowker, Deb Rottinger and Jane Rozmiarek to provide a market for artisans who are paid a fair price for their work and allow consumers access to gifts from around the world. Over \$4,000 of goods were sold. The Adopt a Family project had another outstanding year. Thirty-three Overbrook families participated, contributing gifts for 16 children and parents, to make their Christmas brighter. Puzzles, books, clothing, remote-controlled cars, Star Wars toys, a punching bag, balls, games and two bicycles are only a partial list of what was generously given in the true spirit of Christmas. Emily Amerman and Jim Vagnoni managed this year's Adopt a Family.

Overseas Missions were a highlight. In April, a video conference with the Rev. Sirarit Pusurinkham, our contact at Overbrook Hospital, was held as an introduction to an OPC delegation visiting the hospital in Thailand, in February 2018. This summer, Barry and Shelly Dawson, two PCUSA missionaries from Southeast Asia, shared their mission work with photos and stories. They offered an overview of the challenges and joys experienced by Christians in South East Asia at the Adult Form, from the pulpit and during an evening of fellowship and learning highlighted by a delicious multi-cultural meal. To further encourage overseas missions, Jason Duckworth established a scholarship fund to honor his mother Sharon Parker. This fund is to be used to support mission work and requests for scholarships will be evaluated by a board that includes Christian Education and Mission & Outreach. Sharon Parker is off to Myanmar and Mission & Outreach presented her with a check to show our support for her mission.

A special appeal in September to help families victimized by Hurricane Harvey via a donation to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. In October, members of the congregation participated in the CROP Walk a unique and enriching experience to raise money to support disaster relief and refugee ministries. Overbrook Church joined members from Ardmore Presbyterian Church, Penn Wynne Presbyterian Church, and the Japanese Christian Church on the fundraising walk through the Wawa gardens in Middleton, PA.

DONATIONS

The Mission and Outreach Committee makes donations, as well as services. The list of recipients of Overbrook Presbyterian Church donations for 2017 are as follows. Ardmore Presbyterian Church's First Place Refugee Program, Bread for the World, Broad Street Ministries, Cease Fire PA, Dignity Housing, Chosen 300, Feed My Starving Children, Heeding God's Call, Hosts for Hospitals, Life Center of Delaware County, Matthew 25:35 Project, Moms For Gun Safety, Overbrook Hospital, OPC Missions, OPC Youth Mission, Outreach To Haiti, Paws and Affection, Please Touch Museum, PCUSA Southeast Asia, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Presbytery of Philadelphia, Samaritans/Southside Presbyterian Church, Syrian Refugee Relief PCUSA, TheVillage, Women Against Abuse.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Another major Mission and Outreach transition in 2017 was the succession of leadership from former chair Jane Rozmiarek to new committee chair, Aimerie Scherluebbe. The 2017 Overbrook Presbyterian Church Mission and Outreach Committee included: Emily Amerman, Janet Bowker, Jeff Bowker, Elizabeth Cosgriff, Kristan Davis, Nancy Gilhool, Becky Lazo, Deborah Rottinger, Mike Rottinger, Jane Rozmiarek, Aimerie Scherluebbe (Chair), Laura Toy and Jim Vagnoni. Please speak to any current member about being involved in Christian Service and joining the committee.

Congregational Life Committee

The purpose of the Congregational Life Committee (CLC) is to develop a sense of community among the OPC community by planning, executing and/or providing support for church-wide events that in general are related to hospitality. The Congregational Life Committee is an amalgam of different OPC community activities loosely organized under the umbrella of a single committee. The size of the committee has grown to include: Artia Benjamin, Raelyn Harman (Chairperson), Sharon Parker, Latoya Richie, Aimerie Scherluebbe and Amarilis Stricker. Following is a list of activities that fall under this umbrella:

<u>Christmas Eve Dinner*:</u> Organized by Raelyn Harman and executed with the help of many church "elves". Provide dinner to all present after the Christmas Eve Family Service. A free will offering was collected totaling \$306 which covered most of the expenses which were \$387 this year. The balance was paid by CLC budget.

<u>Gingerbread Houses:</u> In 2017, Artia Benjamin purchased 20 houses but recommends that 25 be on hand for the event in 2018. This is a very popular event that involves all ages.

<u>College Student Luncheon</u> Over winter break. Artia, Deja Stokes and Nickie Stokes were the point people for this event. This year the group met with the new pastors to get to know each other and exchange ideas. They expressed interest in going on an outing this summer together as a group of young adults.

<u>Coffee Hour*:</u> Organized by Amarilis Stricker, provided by volunteers who sign-up to prepare and serve it. Church openers start the coffee and hot water upon arrival on Sunday mornings. Any costs are paid for via the Congregational Life Committee budget. On several occasions when no one family or individuals signed up to host an ad hoc group contributed edibles and pitched in for set-up and clean-up or we've gone without it. In 2018, we would like to see the sign-up board have more than one line to help remind people they should be doing this with a group of people or more than one household. When no one signs up for a week the committee will take responsibility to insure there is a coffee hour. Bonnie Miller regularly makes generous donations to the stock of items served during coffee hour and faithfully serves tea every Sunday.

<u>Game Nights:</u> Organized by Jason Sheau. It is scheduled approximately 4 times per year. Participants contribute to the cost of take-out pizza and other miscellaneous expenses.

<u>Narberth Community Theater Concession:</u> Organized by Trudy Sheau and staffed by the volunteers she recruits. Pays for its own costs and surplus revenue contributes to OPC's general fund. In 2017, it raised \$2611. Trudy is coordinating the purchase of disposable plates, plastic ware, napkins, etc. to save cost and to have them on hand for all who need these supplies.

<u>Interim Pastor, Drew Mann's</u> farewell luncheon and collection for a gift was coordinated by CLC. Session members primarily underwrote the cost of the luncheon. A collection from the congregation was taken which covered the cost of two restaurant gift certificates and a framed collage of photos from OPC as a thank you gift for Drew.

An Appreciation Luncheon for Sharon Parker, Director of Christian Education was planned and executed by the CLC. \$2,000 was raised in donations from the congregation to fund something on Sharon's "wish list" for CE. It appears the donations will cover the cost of purchasing some audio-visual equipment and make WIFI available on the 2nd floor in and near the room where the Youth Sunday School convenes.

* Additional coffee carafes were purchased for these events and for the use by all OPC fellowship events. Expenses related to hospitality can be paid for via the CLC budget.

Respectfully submitted, Raelyn Harman, Chairperson/Liaison to Session

New Members Committee

Committee Members: Adepeju Adebanjo, Caroline Skinner, Charlotte Carpenter, Dornell Guthrie, Jill Van Rawley, LaToya Richie, Shirley Clifford, Terri Hunter, Ken Carroll, Ron Homer, Chair

The New Member Committee hosts an annual dinner for those who have joined OPC in the past year and those who may be interested in joining. This past year the dinner was held in March at the home of Ron and Bette Homer. There was good food, good companionship, and the chance for all to get to know Overbrook people and programs in informal surroundings.

At the end of March the committee provided lunch for an Inquirer's class, briefly shared their OPC, experience, and got to meet those interested in joining. In 2017 the committee joined the entire congregation in welcoming eleven new members to Overbrook Presbyterian church.

We work with the pastor in following up with visitor cards, and we provide "welcome bags" to those who eventually join.

In May the (first) annual Share a Sundae Sunday, when all were invited to enjoy ice cream, bring a friend, or make a new friend in our congregation, was enthusiastically received. Food, and especially ice cream, puts everyone in a friendly state of mind. Our committee plans to host the event again this year.

The Narberth Theater performance series here at Overbrook presents a great opportunity for the wider community to get to know us. To that end our committee provides a tri-fold poster of photos highlighting our current church life. The poster is placed on performance nights so that theater-goers can view it as they enter, exit, or snack. The photos are also on display at coffee hour for all to enjoy.

We thank those who post on social media; they are our main source of photos. Karen Wong has been especially diligent in documenting OPC special worship and service events.

The New Member Committee will continue to look for ways to encourage visitors to become a permanent part of Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

Submitted 1-29-2018 Ron Homer, Chair

Personnel Committee

The Overbrook Presbyterian Church Personnel Committee is a small committee whose members are charged with building and maintaining a healthy and safe work environment for the staff and ministries of our church.

We are advisors to our Pastors; we work closely with the Pastor to provide an open, caring climate that counsels and supports the staff and provides oversight for the paid staff positions.

We also ensure that OPC is compliant with Federal, State and Local employment laws.

The Personnel Committee's job is largely invisible and the discussions we have with various staff are held in utmost confidence. In the past years, we have hired, interviewed, guided, recruited and counseled staff.

The responsibilities of the Personnel Committee include meeting with the Pastor to discuss important concerns regarding the staff; encouraging professional growth and development of staff; ensuring proper staffing of the nursery to provide child care during church activities; developing, retaining and updating job descriptions for all staff; writing, updating and recommending personnel policies to Session; completing biannual evaluations and feedback reviews for our staff and submitting staff budget and compensation.

Exit reviews were done for our past Interim Pastor, Drew Mann and our past Christian Education Chairperson, Sharon Parker.

Earlene Ford, our Financial Secretary, left in July. A new Financial Secretary, Carol Rozmiarek was hired in September.

The Music Director's job description was updated.

Work reviews were done for Lisa Faso, our Office Manager and Leonard Robbins our Custodian. They were excellent reviews.

Changes are still being adjusted in the office manager duties to facilitate the rental process.

Office volunteers are still needed. We hope to work with a coordinator to help this process along.

The church staff has gone through many changes and challenges this past year. We welcomed Co-Pastors Bruce & Carolyn Gillette who started in April, and our new Music Director Chris Gage who started in August.

Our Code of Conduct is still posted on our website.

We wish to thank members of the Personnel Committee: Nathalie May, Olga Hoggard, Emily Amerman, Bob Harden Jr., Phil Sheau, Ken Carroll, Eileen Wiggins.

A special thanks to Nathalie May who kept me on point this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Edelene Carroll Chairperson - Personnel Committee

Stewardship Committee

We are blessed to have received 84 pledges for the 2018 church year totaling \$339,366. This compares to 99 pledges that added up to \$391,677 in total pledges for 2017. Twenty-seven pledge units increased their pledge by a cumulative amount of \$23,401. Thirty-two pledges remained the same from 2017. Fourteen pledges decreased by a cumulative amount of \$12,487. Twenty-eight pledge units who pledged in 2017 have not pledged for 2018. Together the 2017 pledges from those 28 units totaled \$77,710.

The 2017 Taste of Overbrook social/fundraiser raised \$5,260.37 for the church. Thanks to all those who cooked, who attended, who donated or bought auction items, and who helped organize this year. This was another wonderful event featuring the best of the church community--fellowship, food, and generosity.

We are blessed here at The Crossroads to have a very generous congregation with a warm and giving culture. Thanks go to the Stewardship Committee members who work hard every year on the pledge drive--Karen Wong, Kate Shackelford, Janet Bowker, Jason Sheau, Keedra Carroll, Davorka Sabljak, and Will Schick.

Thanks also to all our members and friends who contribute so we may continue building God's Kingdom here on Earth.

Respectfully submitted, Will Schick

Finance Committee

Greetings:

This past year was marked by an investment in our leaders, ensuring the protection of our health and wellness, and securing our future. We remain blessed that our church family continues to grow both in numbers and in its commitment to support these investments:

- Investment in our Leaders: our leadership was significantly enhanced with the addition of our new co-pastors and our Director of Music. The respective search committees did phenomenal work in recruiting top talent and leaders for our congregation. The Finance committee responded to this opportunity by creating additional budget to demonstrate our commitment to our new leaders
- Protection of our Health and Wellness: this past summer we were made aware of both lead and asbestos related issues at the church. The Property committee expertly navigated us through the many complex issues related to assessing these problems, developing cost effective options to address them, and remediating them in an expedited manner. The Finance committee funded these needed remediation efforts without significantly impacting our operating budget. As a result, our members and our children remain in a safe environment to worship and gather
- Securing our Future: this year we truly saw the gratitude and commitment that our members have for OPC. We received a meaningful increase in our Endowment because of the foresight many of our members exhibited by including OPC in their estate plans. Each gift secures OPC's future. Each contribution also serves as a testament of the commitment our members to their faith and to OPC. We are extremely blessed by the generosity and the acts of faith that these members have shown

The Committee continues to vigorously monitor our budget and remains committed to maintain an operating budget that breaks even and does not need to be supported by withdrawals from our Endowment Fund. Given our investments and some extraordinary expenses this year, however, we were challenged to maintain budget neutrality. This year we generated a slight deficit of \$1,400. Fortunately, because of a surplus from last year, our members' commitment to their Stewardship pledges, and rental income we could absorb this deficit.

As noted, we were exceptionally blessed with gifts to our Endowment from the estate plans of our members. This influx of capital and a strong stock market has bolstered our Endowment Fund significantly. Our Endowment has increased by over 50% this past year and we have finally returned to over \$1 million is assets. It has been almost 10 years since we were at this level. We are very pleased with our progress, but as Haverford Trust, the manager of our Endowment reminds us, we need to target an Endowment of approximately \$2,000,000. We appreciate the continued consideration for including OPC in your estate plans.

Finally, the committee continues to be well supported by several committee members and staff. We are pleased to have Carol Rozmiarek assume the position of Financial Secretary. In a short period of time, Carol has made valuable contributions to the functioning of the committee. Kate Shackelford has been

serving as Treasurer and will be transitioning duties to Stephanie Morris in 2018, In addition, I will be transitioning the Chair role to Lainie Blodgett. The committee has been blessed to have Kate support us for so many years in so many ways. We owe Kate a debt of gratitude. Both Stephanie and Lainie have been quite active in the Finance committee for several years so we expect a seamless and successful transition. Other committee members include Sara Davis, Solomon Hunter, and Amos Paul.

In closing, OPC remains strong financially. Despite a small operating deficit, we funded needed expenses and invested and continue to secure our future. The Finance Committee remains encouraged that our congregation will continue to show its support for the Church at the Crossroads.

Blessings,

Bob Kothari,

Chair, Finance Committee

Property Committee

The Property Committee consists of four members of Session, and six members of the congregation at large. The Pastors serve on this committee ex officio. We are a very active committee, meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, except during the summer months, when we meet only as necessary.

The committee is responsible for handling building issues regarding use, cleaning, maintenance and improvement, which includes major concerns around heating and cooling systems, lighting, grounds maintenance and landscaping, building integrity (roof, walls and windows), security, and support of shared users (rentals).

In serving the Session and congregation in this way we count on the support of the Pastors, and other church staff. We could not function without the help of Lisa Faso and Leonard Robbins, whose service is invaluable.

We work with the Session and Finance Committee in developing a yearly budget which will be adequate to finance projects relating to all our areas of concern, and bring in additional revenue from rental groups to support the whole budget of the church. Our budget is not intended to be austere, but still we are always looking for ways to produce economy in building operation, maintenance and utilities.

We recognize our service to the congregation as a mission. When dealing with a building like OPC, parts of which are 125+ years old, we do sometimes get bogged down in details that would put the most alert person to sleep! Yes, there is always something to talk about, and decisions to be made (and money that needs to be spent); but we do try to remember why we are doing it, and for whom we are doing it.

Projects of Note:

- This year we had a special concern relating to the arrival of new pastoral leadership last spring. Our Interim Pastor, Dr. Drew Mann suggested (emphatically) that the Pastors' Office area, which also includes the Williamson Room were shabby and needed work. We realized that he was right, and that no major work had been done in those rooms since the office addition was completed around 1960! With the help of Session and the Finance committee, a special fund was established to pay for the renovations. We painted and installed new ceilings and upgraded lighting in both rooms, bought new furniture, sealed and insulated an unused outside door, and are in the process of installing interior storm windows.
- ◆The beautiful stained glass in our Sanctuary was surveyed by experts, and many windows were found to need repairs and refurbishing. The "Christ in the Garden" window was near collapse even though in had been worked on in the 1990's. All were straightened and sealed, and structural repairs were done where needed. The firm we employed did very high quality work, and we are now in good shape. Regular surveys of window condition will be done in the coming years.

The members of the Property Committee are: Ted Dillon, Larry McGhee & Jeff Bowker Co-chairs; Bill Baker; Susy Brandt; Rachel Carnahan; John Nathaniel; Jane Rozmiarek, Phil & Jason Sheau.

Submitted:

Ted Dillon, Larry McGhee, Jeff Bowker Co-Chairs

Board of Deacons

"What's wrong with you?"

That's the question I would get from my loving family. My wife, two daughters and female dog would all be crying while watching the latest emotional TV drama while I sat there stone-faced. "It's not real!' I would exclaim in my defense.

Conversely, here at Overbrook I get the "What's wrong with you?" stare (church people are too nice to say it out loud) because I look like I'm ready to cry for no reason. It's usually when I'm trying to explain what the group of people listed at the bottom of this page do for this church community.

- ◆Celebrating, supporting and praying for new gifts Leo Anthony Mihalka and Lucas Owen Ziemba.
- •Remembering Trudy Sheau's mother Frances Louie, Dorothy Burton, Mary Vandenberge, Binnie Savage... sharing with families during their most sad and their most joyful life events. Jason Sheau's wedding!
- ◆Responding to car accidents Gloria Justin and Andrea Gosfield.
- ◆Gaining the trust of members so that they share their most personal issues.
- ◆Celebrating the 90th+ birthdays, delivering the flowers, meals, cards, plants...
- ◆Coordinating and running a Blood drive and the congregational picnic.

My email send folder is filled with requests for deacons to give up parts of their weekends and other "free time". My inbox is filled with "I'll be there!", "Count me in!", "I can cook a few dinners!", "She is in my prayers.",...

Of course, we're not doing this by ourselves. Our pastors have spent their time in prayer, in hospitals and in people's homes along with so many in the congregation whom we count on drive, cook, visit or pray with us.

"It is the duty of Deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who have been in distress both within and beyond the community of faith". Book of Order

Thanks to all of you who have supported us and this fantastic community!

Mike Rottinger, Moderator

2017 Board of Deacons:

Brad Biedermann, Elienne Paul, Nicole Stokes-Robinson, Larry McGhee, Sabrina Johnson, Suchita Fiorillo, Artia Benjamin, Davorka Sabljak, Angie Goodall, Nickie Stokes, Ellen Valudes, Stephanie Morris, Terri Hunter, Carol Tulba

Deacons Treasurer's Report

Board of Deacons

Treasurer's Report -2017

Citizens Bank January 1, 2017	\$	4,234.10
Deposits Deacon's Offering/Donations Total Deposits	\$ \$	2,939.00 2,939.00
Expenses Benevolence/Loans Congregational Picnic Flowers/Vases/Supplies Total Expenses	\$ \$ \$	1,202.48 1,140.49 82.62 2,425.59
Balance as of December 31, 2017	\$	4,747.51

Respectfully Submitted, Brad Biedermann, Treasurer

Account Balances

Account	December 31, 2016	December 31, 2017	Difference
Checking (Wells Fargo)	\$ 92,340.52	\$ 70,985.68	\$ -21,354.84
Deacons (Citizens Bank)	4,234.00	4,747.51	513.51
Endowment Fund	682,491.00	1,050,791.00	368,300.00
Manse Fund	72,738.00	77,397.00	4,659.00
West Lampe Fund	30,787.00	36,016.00	5,229.00
Christian Education	29,434.00	32,125.00	2,691.00
Gift Fund (stock gifts)	0.00	34,814.00	34,814.00
Maintenance Reserve Fund	2,023.00	2,209.00	186.00
Faith in the Future II	16,363.78	13,019.08	-3,344.70
Womens Association Funds (Account closed. Funds applied to church bldg needs.)	14,739.80	0.00	-14,739.80
TOTAL	\$945,151.10	\$1,322,104.27	376,953.17

2017 Financial Report & 2018 Budget

Income	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Pledged	\$395,000.00	\$381,840.85	\$345,000.00
Recorded contributions pledged in advance Non-pledged Recorded contributions by those who do not pledge	35,000.00	35,578.65	50,000.00
Plate Anonymous contributions in the offering plate	7,000.00	6,918.14	7,000.00
Easter Offering Special seasonal offering	5,000.00	3,786.00	4,000.00
Christmas Offering Special seasonal offering	5,000.00	9,027.00	5,000.00
NCT Benefit Fundraiser Benefit performance for church	1,500.00	1,920.00	1,500.00
NCT Concessions Income from concessions at performances	1,500.00	1,559.85	1,500.00
Church Fundraising Income from The Taste of Overbrook, etc.	3,000.00	5,260.37	4,000.00
Mission Fundraising Women's Dining Circle, Souper Bowl (CE)	0.00	2,805.00	0.00
Apportionment Gifts given to offset the congregation's PCUSA per	4,000.00	3,159.00	5,000.00
capita apportionment Performing Arts Income from concerts, special donations for music	4,000.00	6,685.58	4,000.00
Pre-School Building use fees from Overbrook Pre-School & Kindergarten	55,944.00	55,944.00	56,000.00
Building Use Fees from building users (e.g., Narberth Community Theatre, German Society, Overbrook Farms Club, AA, Al-Anon, OA, and other renters)	36,000.00	37,958.34	36,000.00
Investments Income from the endowment and other funds	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
Prior Year Surplus/Cash Reserves Allocating a portion of the prior years' surplus	22,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
Other Income Miscellaneous	1,000.00	1,255.53	1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$575,944.00	\$553,698.31	\$560,000.00

Expense	2017 Budget	2017 Actual	2018 Budget
Ministerial Pastor salary and housing, insurance, pension, expense account, study leave, auto allowance. Added 2nd pastor as of May 2017. Pastor Nominating Committee (2017 only)	\$140,392.13	\$160,421.88	\$168,064.00
Christian Education Director of Christian Education salary and other expenses only through April 2017; Ongoing: children, youth, and adult education programs	29,352.08	15,163.97	8,500.00
Worship & Music Director of Music: salary, payroll tax, insurance, continuing education; Overbrook Quartet; Music Program; Performing Arts; worship supplies; guest preachers	91,558.18	94,577.22	92,979.48
Mission & Outreach Presbytery of Philadelphia; Presbyterian Children's Village; Broad Street Ministry; Women's Dining Circle; Shelter Meal; Life Center of Delaware County; Heeding God's Call; and others	43,700.00	45,286.20	40,200.00
Congregational Life PCUSA per capita apportionment; child care; fellowship activities; coffee hour; Session; New Members Committee	19,300.00	17,988.98	20,400.00
Administration Office Manager: salary, payroll tax; office supplies; telephone; postage; office machines; worker's comp. insurance; communications	63,352.10	52,049.14	58,580.15
Financial Management Financial Secretary: salary, payroll tax; payroll service; financial review fees	40,761.72	29,690.36	26,928.80
Property Custodian; maintenance and repairs; supplies; grounds maintenance; snow removal; utilities; heating oil and gas; insurance; security	146,933.60	139,950.31	151,281.19
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$575,349.81	\$555,128.06	\$566,933.62
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	\$594.19	\$ -1,429.75	\$ -6,933.62

Pastors' Terms of Call

	2017**			2018			Notes
	Rev. Bruce Gillette	Rev. Carolyn	Total	Rev. Bruce	Rev. Carolyn	Total	
Calam	¢35 000	Gillette	¢50.000	Gillette	Gillette	¢50.000	
Salary	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$25,300	\$25,300	\$50,600	
Housing Allowance	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$70,000	\$35,300	\$35,300	\$70,600	
Effective	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$120,000	\$60,600	\$60,600	\$121,200	1% increase
Compensation (EC)							
SECA Tax	\$4,590	\$4,590	\$9,180	\$4,636	\$4,636	\$9,272	7.65% of EC
Board of Pensions: Medical Insurance, Death & Disability, Retirement	\$21,900	\$7,200	\$29,100	\$22,422	\$7,272	\$29,694	For 2018: BG: 37% of EC; CG: 12% of EC
Study Leave Allowance	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000	
Car Allowance	\$750	\$750	\$1,500	\$750	\$750	\$1,500	
Expense Account	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000	
TOTAL	\$90,240	\$75,540	\$165,780	\$91,408	\$76,258	\$167,666	

PAID LEAVE	2017	2018
Vacation	4 weeks each	4 weeks each
Study Leave	2 weeks each	2 weeks each

^{**}Does not reflect additional amounts paid to the interim pastor, Rev. Andrew Mann or to Sharon Parker, DCE

OPC SESSION MEMBERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Sara Davis, Clerk of Session, Pastors Bruce & Carolyn Gillette, Moderators

Jeff Bowker, Co-Chair-Property, Rachel Carnahan, Chair-Worship/Music, Edelene Carroll, Chair-Personnel, Kevin Davis, Raelyn Harman, Chair-Congregational Life, Anil "Bob" Kothari, Chair-Finance, Becky Lazo, Deborah Rottinger, Jane Rozmiarek, Kate Shackelford-Treasurer, Aimerie Scherluebbe, Chair, Mission & Outreach, Will Schick, Chair-Stewardship, Sean Whalen, President, Board of Trustees, Eileen Wiggins, and Karen Wong.

OPC Deacons:

Mike Rottinger, Moderator-Board of Deacons, Brad Biedermann, Treasurer, Jill Van Rawley, Secretary Adepeju Adebanjo, Artia Benjamin, Brad Biedermann, Suchita Fiorillo, Angie Goodall, Terri Hunter, Sabrina Johnson, Stephanie Morris, Mike Rottinger, Davorka Sabljak, Alan Sigler, Nickie Stokes, Carol Tulba, and Ellen Valudes, Jill Van Rawley.

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6376 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19151 Phone: 215-877-2744 Email: office@overbrookpresb.org www.overbrookpresb.org

The Revs. Bruce and Carolyn Gillette - Co-Pastors
The Rev. David McMillan - Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Christopher Gage - Director of Music
Lisa Faso - Office Manager
Carol Rozmiarek - Financial Secretary
Leonard Robbins - Church Custodian
Every Church Member - Minister

The Overbrook Quartet
Iris Fairfax, soprano; Lois Randel, mezzo-soprano;
Toffer Mihalka, tenor; Matthew Lulofs, bass

Overbrook Presbyterian Church
is a welcoming and diverse Christian community
that actively seeks to love and serve God,
each other and the world.