

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

News from the Crossroads

May 2019

Letter from our Pastor

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

—Mission Statement

Overbrook Church Staff

Adam Hearlson
Designated Pastor

Rev. David K. McMillan
Pastor Emeritus

Dr. Christopher Gage
Director of Music

Sharon Parker
*Director of Christian Education
& Administration*

Lisa Faso
Office Manager

Carol Rozmiarek
Financial Secretary

Leonard Robbins
Church Custodian

When I lived in Boston, the Boston Marathon course ran through my neighborhood. On Patriot’s Day (a made up Massachusetts holiday), everyone in the neighborhood would walk to the route and cheer on the runners. Specifically, people would make these wonderful signs of encouragement as the runners prepared themselves for heartbreak hill. Heartbreak Hill is the final hill of three consecutive hills twenty miles into the course. After this last punishing hill, it is all (literally) downhill. Some years, I would position myself at the bottom of the hill to watch people steel themselves for the difficulties ahead. I loved the mix of courage, pain and fear on their faces. Some years, I would wait at the top of the hill to see the runners’ faces as they crested the summit and saw the city waiting below them in the distance. Pain transformed to joy. Fear converted to triumph.

Easter morning at Overbrook Presbyterian Church felt like waiting at the top of Heartbreak Hill. Lent is long. It asks us to live sacrificially into the world so that our arrival at the empty tomb will make sense. Lent’s length is designed to cost more than we expected to give. The Lenten season always feels a week longer than we’d like. But after the final Holy Week Heartbreak Hill, we arrive to Resurrection Sunday and our determination fades into joy and our joy transforms to gratitude. As I looked out upon the congregation on Easter Sunday I saw a sense of joy that made me so thankful to be your pastor. I saw your resilience and courage lead finally to celebration and celebration then turn to thanksgiving.

But the thing about heartbreak hill is that something so difficult actually empowers people to finish the race. Completing that hill and seeing the city reassures the runners that they can finish. I can’t imagine how many runners would have stopped were it not for that view from atop that hill.

Similarly, our race isn’t finished on Easter. On Easter we see the promised end and are empowered to keep going. Our race is emboldened by the empty tomb. We are inspired again to seek justice, sow mercy, and embody compassion. Easter is a gift. A taste of the finish before the finish. A small sample of the celebration that we will all experience when we finish. So having climbed a tremendous hill, we return joyfully to the work that God has set before us. We set foot in front of foot as we pursue God’s mission for us and for the world. Thank God for the view atop the hill and thank God for the race yet to run.

Adam

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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Music



About This Month's Organ Recitalist

We are thrilled to welcome David Baskeyfield for the second installment of the **Dennis Elwell Organ Recital Series**. This year's concert might be something a little out of the ordinary for most people—a silent movie with live organ accompaniment. Before the advent of “talkies,” moviegoers enjoyed piano, organ, or even orchestral music alongside the moving pictures, and the tradition of improvising a soundtrack continues to this day.

Just a small sliver of David's biography is included below. As you can see, he is a world-renowned organist with the credentials and awards to solidify his reputation as one of the organ world's newest stars. I promise you that this experience will be an unforgettable one and encourage you to attend this wonderful concert.

David Baskeyfield

Phantom of the Opera

Friday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.

Suggested donation: \$20 (but give what you can—all are welcome!)

David Baskeyfield has earned a reputation for creative programing, showcasing an astonishing facility tempered by intelligent interpretation, authoritative command of registration and informed above all by intuitive musicality. *“The youthful energy with which Baskeyfield negotiates the transitions is complemented by expressive maturity which, frankly, many musicians with considerably more years to their credit do not exhibit.”*

Mr. Baskeyfield was an organ scholar at St John's College, Oxford, where he read Law and studied organ with John Wellingham and David Sanger. On the encouragement of David Higgs he crossed the Atlantic to begin graduate work at the Eastman School of Music. His doctoral research explored the boundary between written composition and improvisation among the Parisian organist-composers taught by Louis Vierne and Marcel Dupré. Between Oxford and Eastman he spent a year as organ scholar of Christ Church Cathedral and St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, accompanying or directing the choirs of professional mixed voices, and men and boys respectively. He is currently Director of Music at Christ Episcopal Church, Pittsford, outside Rochester, NY. The recipient of an unusual number of first prizes in playing competitions, he was most recently the winner at the Canadian International Organ Competition 2014 (incidentally taking three other prizes including audience prize); earlier competition success includes first prizes at St Albans, Miami, and the AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation, all with audience prize.

Upcoming Worship Service

May 5, 2019

Communion Sunday/Third Sunday of Easter

Lectionary: Rev. 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Dick Williamson

May 12, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Lectionary: Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Kate Shackelford

May 19, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Lectionary: Rev. 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Emily Amerman

May 26, 2019

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Lectionary: Psalm 67; John 14:23-29

Preaching: Adam Hearlson

Lay Leader: Trudy Sheau



Christian Education



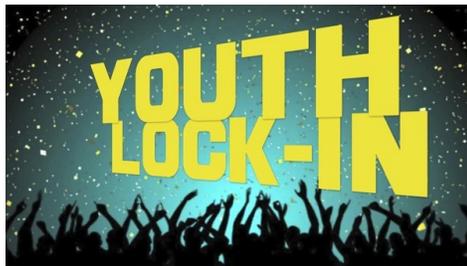
Sunday, May 5

OPC Youth will worship at Unionville Presbyterian Church. Following the service, they will attend the Cinco de Mayo parade and festival in Kennett Square.

Summer Activities for Children and Youth

- ◆ Youth Mission Trip: July 7-13 Blue Knob, PA (Penn State Altoona Campus) Grades 6-12
- ◆ PC-USA Triennium: July 17-21 Purdue University Grades 9-12
- ◆ Vacation Bible School: July 28-August 1 5:00-7:00 PM Ages 4- Grade 5 "Bible Super Heroes!"

Please see Sharon Parker for additional information.



May 31-June 1: Youth Lock-In and Car Wash

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to bring their sleeping bags and spirit of adventure

for a church lock-in. Arrive for dinner at 6:00 PM on Friday, May 31 and plan to stay until 3:00 PM on Saturday, June 1. We'll enjoy an evening of fellowship, games, and flashlight tours of the hidden hallways of OPC! Following Saturday morning's breakfast, we'll set up a benefit car wash in the parking lot. All proceeds will go to support the youth mission trip and Triennium. RSVP: Sharon Parker.



Community News

The Farmers Market is Back!

Begins May 25th

Every Saturday, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the church parking lot

About the Market: Established in 2008, this market is located at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church, and has a loyal following of residents in the neighborhood who make this market a regular part of their Saturday mornings.



Look for:

- ◆ Forest View Bakery - (Breads, sticky buns, moon pies, jams, jellies, relishes)
- ◆ Walnut Springs Farm - (Early berries and asparagus, in season sweet corn, peaches and more)
- ◆ Homestead Gardens - (Seasonal fresh vegetables)

Payment accepted: Cash, ACCESS cards, Philly Food Bucks and WIC and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) vouchers

The OPC Prom is coming!



The rumors have been swirling...and yes, they are true! We ARE having a congregational Prom on Friday evening, May 24, from 6:00-9:00 PM. Fellowship Hall will be transformed into the Stardust Ballroom for this special event. Unpack your prome-

nade finery and join us for an evening of fellowship, music, dancing and small plate servings of authentic prom food (yep, pigs in a blanket and Hawaiian punch with sherbet!) The DJ will help us turn the clock back to whatever time we want to remember. Whether you plan to dance the night away, or sway in your seats, it will be a fine evening of moving to the music. For those who have happy feet and a competitive streak, there will be a "Dancing with the Stars" component. A mirror ball trophy awaits the lucky contestants. Come claim your corsage and boutonniere and pose for a prom picture. Plan to be delighted!

Prom tickets are \$5.00 per person. If that seems ridiculously inexpensive, it's because it is! The Prom is a *fun* raiser, not a fundraiser. This is a multi-generational event to which guests are most welcome!

If you have a way with streamers and twinkle lights, a flair with punch and finger food preparation...or a high-spirited sense of humor, consider joining the Prom Committee. Contact Sharon Parker at (sharon@overbrookpresb.org) ...all volunteers welcome!



Spring Prayer Breakfast and Plant Sale – Saturday, May 4, 9:30-11:00 am. All are welcome to the Spring Prayer Breakfast. Please join us in the Wistar Morris Room for the breakfast buffet

and time of shared prayer. While there is no charge to attend, those who wish may share a free-will offering. The offering and plant sale proceeds will benefit the youth mission trip to Blue Knob, Pa.



Narberth Community Theater is ready for its last production of this season, *California Suite*, a comedy by Neil Simon, with five scheduled shows: May 3, 4, 5, 10, and 11. If you are planning to attend the shows? Remember to purchase tickets through Jeff Bowker for NCT shows. All proceeds from sales of tickets and concessions benefit OPC's operating budget.



Coffee Hour Ministry

Coffee Hour - We are still in need of hosts for the upcoming months. Let's keep this beloved ministry going for 2019. Signups for coffee hour are available on the OPC web site and in the church kitchen (on the door). For more information, please contact Peggy Kaercher at 610-642-2906 or Pat Ogundele at 610-668-1309. Thank you!

Our book for May is:

"*Becoming*" by Michelle Obama

The meeting will be Tuesday May 21, 2019, 12 noon at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church Please remember to bring your lunch.



This is a book club of diverse membership involving members of several Presbyterian churches, including Overbrook. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Alyce Marsh at 215-472-7886.



Overbrook Presbyterian Church has teamed up with the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas and Fellowship Christian



Church for Overbrook Gun Violence Awareness Day. On Sunday, May 5, we will gather at Fellowship Christian Church at 3:00pm for a brief educational forum and begin our procession to the African Episcopal Church of Saint Thomas. The T-shirt Memorial to the Lost will be on display for a remembrance service. There will be letter writing to legislators and refreshments. On Saturday, May 4 at 1:00pm, OPC will host sign making for people who would like to carry signs during the procession.

Thank you to Nancy Gilhool and Janet Bowker for coordinating volunteers, preparing the meal, and serving dinner at the Life Center of Delaware County. Through their efforts, people in crisis were able to have a warm meal prepared with care and served with love.

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We are planning to be part of the June build for Rebuilding Together on June 7-8, 2019. Get your gardening and construction tools ready and help us rebuild a block in the Haddington area of Philadelphia. We will help you to log onto the website and sign up to be part of the build.



The women of OPC got together to hear about the wonderful work that is being

Please feel free to join us on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at 12:00 in the Chapel. We would love to hear your ideas and share our plans for the coming months.

done by Laurel House. We were able to contribute \$1500 to their programs to combat domestic abuse in all its forms. They continue to battle abuse with shelters and hotlines, but they are working towards preventing abuse with education. Watch your bulletin for the next Women's Dining Circle.

Aimerie Scherluebbe
Mission & Outreach



Thank you to everyone who came out to pack meals! We are thrilled with the work accomplished to feed thou-

sands of God's most vulnerable of children. Your contributions and hard work made this possible. We are still collecting funds to pay for all of the meals that were packed. We could not do this without your support.





SUN., MAY 5TH ~ 3 – 5 PM OVERBROOK GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

EVENT PROGRAM

3:00 pm ~ Fellowship Christian Church, 6101 W. Oxford Street, Philadelphia. Educational forum and call to action

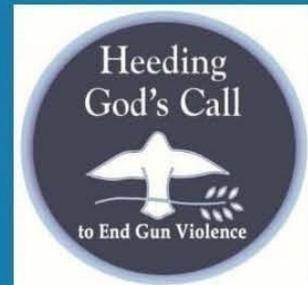
3:30 pm ~ Witness Walk through Overbrook to African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, 6361 Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia,

4:00 pm ~ Remembrance service at Memorial to the Lost tee shirt display on front lawn.

4:30 pm ~ Opportunity for advocacy activities, including letter writing to legislators, and refreshments.

**Honor those lost to
gun murders and
demand stronger and
more effective gun
laws and regulations**

Questions?



Contact Heeding@gmail.com
251-238-8550



**Year of
Faithful
Witness**

A Program of
the Anti-Gun Violence
Commission for the
Episcopal Diocese of
Pennsylvania



**AECST
FOUNDED 1792
The Very Reverend
Canon Martini Shaw, Rector**

Deacons

Happy May Birthdays

5/1	Adam Shah	5/18	Emily Partridge
	Spencer Shah		Joanna Scherluebbe
5/3	Gail Kaercher	5/20	LaToya Richie
5/4	Pat Ogundele		Nancy Gilhool
	Andrea McGhee		Becky Lazo
5/5	Kristan Davis	5/21	John Baker
	Edith Lank	5/26	Hannah Trindade
5/8	Dick Williamson		Rachel Trindade
5/9	Liam Clifford	5/27	Bob Harden, Jr.
5/11	Bob Harden, Sr.	5/30	Keedra Carroll
	Bob Kothari		
5/12	Jane Krumrine		
	Caroline Skinner		
	Christopher von Andreae		
5/13	Daniel Biedermann		
5/17	Nora Whalen		



Prayer List

- ◆ Nell Ezequelle, friend of Mary Lou Ryce, has recently been diagnosed with cancer.
- ◆ Ed Harvey is now home following his hospitalization with pneumonia.
- ◆ Suchita Fiorillo's mother is recovering from a fall injuring her knee.
- ◆ Lillian Carnahan is scheduled to have hip repair surgery on April 30.
- ◆ Don Carver is now in rehab at Saunders House following knee surgery.
- ◆ Artia Benjamin's cousin, Dolores Harrison, is showing signs of improvement after suffering a stroke.
- ◆ Joe Duckworth, father of Jason Duckworth, is currently hospitalized.
- ◆ Eric Long's father, Bill Long, is recovering from his surgery for cancer removal.
- ◆ Judy Kelly Johnson, Danielle Long's mother, is recovering well from a partial hip replacement.
- ◆ Wayne Gage, Chris Gage's father, has received new treatment for his heart condition.
- ◆ John Nathaniel continues to recover from a stroke.
- ◆ Ellen Burr is experiencing ongoing medical concerns.

*Please contact Mike Rottinger to add names or concerns to this list.
Mike can be reached by email, mike.rottinger@comcast.net.*



Congregational Picnic-Sunday, June 9th- following worship hosted by the Deacons There will be food, fellowship, music and games.

Other News.....

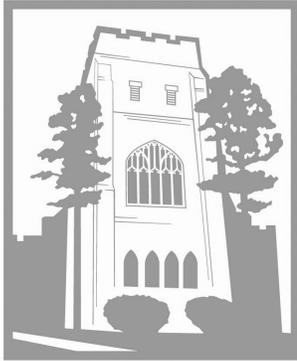
FIRST AID AND EMERGENCY SUPPLIES



A NEW First Aid kit and other emergency supplies are located in the Service Room, which is on your left as you exit the sanctuary going toward the Wistar-Morris room. New additions include professional tourniquets, special dressings to stop bleeding, and detailed instructions in both the new kit and in the box that holds additional supplies. In the event of an emergency, DO NOT wait--tell an usher who will then obtain appropriate help. There are several physicians, nurses and emergency responders in the congregation who will know what to do. If you call 911, please use the telephone in Chris's office or behind the screen next to the organ. Cell phones are not as reliable in giving location data to 911 dispatchers as are land lines. We have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which is located on the wall just inside the Service Room. This is for use in a suspected heart attack. Vince Gilhool maintains it, but anyone can use it, following the voice prompts. Other emergency preparedness includes fire safety. Please be aware of the exits from the sanctuary, particularly those other than the one that most of us use to enter and leave. In an emergency, one should go to the closest door, and assist those around you if necessary.

We will have a fire procedure for the sanctuary written soon, and a fire drill shortly thereafter. If you have ideas about this, please contact Rachel Carnahan, Jeff Bowker or Sharon Parker.

News from the Crossroads



Overbrook Presbyterian Church

6376 City Avenue ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19151

215-877-2744 ♦ office@overbrookpresb.org

www.overbrookpresb.org

May 2019 - OPC Church Events

Thursday, May 2

6:30 pm-Congregational Life Committee

Saturday, May 4

8:00 am-Men's Group

9:30 am-Spring Prayer Breakfast/Plant Sale

1:00 pm-Gun Violence Awareness -Sign Making

Sunday, May 5

12:00 pm-New Member Committee

Tuesday, May 7

1:00 pm-Worship Committee

7:00 pm-Finance Committee

Sunday, May 12

12:00 pm-Deacons

12:00 pm -Personnel Committee

Tuesday, May 14

7:00 pm-Session

Wednesday, May 15

5:00 pm-Property Committee

Friday, May 17

7:00 pm-Organ Concert/Silent Movie

Sunday, May 19

12:00 pm-Christian Education Committee

Friday, May 24

6:00 pm-OPC Prom

Saturday, May 25

9:00 am-Nyani O'Leary -Memorial Service

Sunday, May 26

12:00 pm-Mission/Outreach

Friday, May 31

5:00 pm-OPC Youth Lock-In -extends into June 1

- ❖ Every Sunday - 9:15 am -Christian Education
10:30 am-Worship
11:30 am-Coffee Hour
- ❖ Every Monday -5:15 pm -Junior Choir Rehearsal/
Dinner
- ❖ Every Wednesday -10:00 am -Adult Bible Study
- ❖ Every Thursday - 7:30 pm -Adult Choir Practice
- ❖ Every Saturday starting May 25-Nov- 9:00-1:00 pm
Farmers Market—OPC Parking Lot

Community Support Group Meetings @ OPC

- ❖ Every Sunday beginning at 8:00 pm—AA (Wistar Morris Room) and Al-Anon (Chapel)
- ❖ Every Monday beginning at 8:00 pm—Overeaters Anonymous (Chapel)
- ❖ Every Wednesday beginning at 8:00 pm—AA (Wistar Morris Room)

Coming up in June:

- ❖ June 8- Shredding Event sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
- ❖ June 9- Deacons' Annual Congregational Picnic