

AUGUST 2024

OAKNOTES



Oakmont Presbyterian Church
415 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oakmont, PA 15139
412.828.5770
www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org

Dear Friends,

Summer is my favorite time of the year. Ever since that June day in 1966 when I heard the loud ring of the school bell announcing the end of first grade (!) and the freedom of summer, I've been captivated by the sun, the ocean, the flowers, baseball, fireflies, swimming pools and cool nights playing hide and seek at dusk. Fifty-eight summers later, the joy, freedom and delight of summer still captivate me, though I don't play hide and seek with the same regularity anymore. There's just something about summer: the beauty, the freedom and the slower pace of life. It may sound strange for a pastor to say this, but I enjoy the slower season of summer in the church. There are fewer meetings, fewer activities, and earlier church services that allow us to make the most of a summer Sunday. Yes, it's true, there are fewer people in the pews, too, but that means many of us are creating memories and refreshing our bodies and souls. Many of you are traveling and you wholeheartedly agree with the English Essayist William Hazlitt who said, "I would like to spend the whole of my life traveling, if I could anywhere borrow another life to spend at home." Summer is a sacred season, God's gift.

I hope you'll enjoy God's gift each and every day of this season. Travel and return home and tell us what you've seen and experienced. Lounge by the pool (but don't the SPF 50 sunscreen!). Sit on the porch or deck as the sun slowly slides out of view...and maybe read and meditate on some of God's Word (here are some verses that highlight the beauty of God's creation: Job 12:7-10; Psalm 96:10-13; Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:20; Genesis 1:21; Isaiah 42:5; Revelation 5:13). And, of course, join us in worship when you are in town!

I leave you with these words of poet Mary Oliver, who saw the hand of God in all that lives:

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean—
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?
—Mary Oliver



Chancel Flowers – In keeping with our Lenten tradition, flowers will not be needed during Lent. Please consider providing flowers in the chancel again beginning April 14 and onward. Please contact Carla Lowman for details at 412-826-5914. AVAILABLE DATES: AUG 25; SEPT 8, 15, 22, 29

Your OPC Family Cares About You! Because there are times when you are ill, in the hospital or in emotional need and we don't know about it, please remember to contact the church office (412.828.5770) or a staff member (mstecik@oakmontpresby.org) so we may support you in your time of need. You are loved!



Prayer Requests - Members of our church will pray for you and anyone in need. Please send prayer requests to: prayers@oakmontpresby.org

2024 Graduate Recognition (recognized during worship on 6/02/24)

Rachael Ammon graduated from Butler High School in Butler, where she was an Aquette for 5 years. She has served as a young adult planning team member for Trinity Youth Conference and is attending Robert Morris University in the fall, majoring in Strategic Communications.

Julie McKenzie graduated from Westminster University with a major in Early Childhood Education. PreK-4 and Special Education PreK-12 and plans to become a pre-school teacher in the New Wilmington, PA area.

Brandon Williams graduated from Riverview High School. He will be attending the University of Pittsburgh main campus in the fall.

MEMBER UPDATES

Bill Tomlinson - died 6/4/24
 Thomas Mruk - died 6/13/24
 Norma Neilly - died 6/26/24
 Martha Hamer - died 7/02/24

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

through September 1
 worship times are
8:30 and 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

Youth Update

What an amazing summer we've had! With help from volunteers and the Christian Education Committee, we hosted a very successful VBS week and a trip to Camp Crestfield. The youth group traveled to Detroit, Michigan where we served the community in tangible ways and pointed people to God. I had a front row seat to watch our students pray over those suffering and how they watched their faith move mountains in conversation with those living in hard situations. These students were vessels of hope and love. They will debrief the trip in more detail in September, but until then, look at the pictures in friendship hall and ask them about their experience! They all have stories to tell! We are excited to launch fall programming again and invite the kiddos to Children's Choir and Jesus and Me class! We will host community outreach events and ask Jesus to move us to be vessels here in our city, too. As always, thank you for your support and prayers... I love doing ministry with you all!

I would love to get coffee or meet with you about what God is doing in our church and in the lives of our younger members... please email me or call me 330-708-4713.

Ronnie

Men's Breakfast & Speaker - Tuesday SEPT 3 at 8:30 am in the Dining Room.

Loneliness - Before the Surgeon General stated that loneliness was a major health issue, our speaker, Tom Parkinson, was observing and researching the subject and writing a book on the subject. Tom will present some of the content of his book both understanding the issue and practical ideas of dealing with it.

RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS

AAs

Mondays at Noon
 Multi-Purpose Room

Saturdays at 8:30 pm
 Dining Room

Women's AAs

Wednesday at 10:00 am
 Dining Room

NAs

Thursdays at 8:00 pm
 Dining Room

EYE GLASS COLLECTION

The Lions Clubs collects used eyeglasses and delivers them to regional Recycling Centers where they are cleaned, sorted by prescription strength and packaged. Most are distributed to people in need in developing countries where they will have the greatest impact. The Lions Clubs accept prescription and reading glasses, sunglasses and plastic and metal frames. Children's glasses are especially needed. For your convenience, there is a drop box located in the church office.



AUGUST 2024

	SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
28	8:30am WORSHIP (SANC) 10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) & Livestream and children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)	29 12:00pm AA's (SGR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 & Cub Pack #137 (MPR & DR)	30	31 10:00am Women's AA (DR) 12:15pm Staff (SGR)	1 8:00pm NA's (DR)	2	3 8:00pm AA's (DR)
4	8:30am WORSHIP (SANC) 10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) & Livestream and children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)	5 12:00pm AA's (SGR)	6	7 10:00am Women's AA (DR) 12:15pm Staff (SGR)	8 8:00pm NA's (DR)	9	10 8:00pm AA's (DR)
11	8:30am WORSHIP (SANC) 10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) & Livestream and children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6) 11:00am Reception	12 12:00pm AA's (SGR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 & Cub Pack #137 (MPR & DR)	13 7:00pm Our Journey Without Them (MBC) 7:00pm Session (DR)	14 10:00am Women's AA (DR) 12:15pm Staff (SGR)	15 8:00pm NA's (DR)	16	17 8:00pm AA's (DR)
18	8:30am WORSHIP (SANC) 10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) & Livestream and children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)	19 12:00pm AA's (SGR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 & Cub Pack #137 (MPR & DR)	20	21 10:00am Women's AA (DR) 12:15pm Staff (SGR)	22 8:00pm NA's (DR)	23	24 8:00pm AA's (DR)
25	8:30am WORSHIP (SANC) 10:00am WORSHIP (SANC) & Livestream and children's JAM Classes (preK-Grade 2 & Grades 3-6)	26 12:00pm AA's (SGR) 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop #854 & Cub Pack #137 (MPR & DR)	27 7:00pm Our Journey Without Them (MBC)	28 10:00am Women's AA (MPR) 11:00am Nelly Service & Luncheon	29 8:00pm NA's (DR)	30	31 8:00pm AA's (DR)

OPC FILM SERIES

M O V I E

N I G H T

You Are Invited

Admission is free!
Everyone is welcome!
Multi-Purpose Room
(lower level)
Every other Friday Night
at 7:00 pm

Sept 6

The Boys in the Boat (2023)

PG-13 2h, 3m

A 1930s-set story centered on the University of Washington's rowing team, from their Depression-era beginnings to winning gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

Joel Edgerton, Callum Turner, Peter Guinness

Sept 20

Ordinary Angels (2024)

PG 1h, 58m

Inspired by the incredible true story of a hairdresser who single-handedly rallies an entire community to help a widowed father save the life of his critically ill young daughter.

Hilary Swank, Alan Ritchson, Emily Mitchell

Sept 27

I Can (2023)

PG 1h, 25m

An adulterous couple's daughter was born with one arm, but her softball skills reveal God's true grace.

Daniel Roebuck, Vernon Wells, John Wells

Oakmont Presbyterian Church
415 Pennsylvania Avenue
Oakmont, PA 15139

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakmont, PA 15139
Permit No. 36