

Welcome, we're glad you're here!

We welcome you to join us on a transformative journey.

Seeking God, we strive to know God and love God.

Serving others, we follow our Servant Savior to help bring fullness of life to others.

Sharing Christ's love with all we proclaim the unconditional love of Christ filled with joy and hope.

If you are a Miami student, we invite you to make this your church home away from home during your time at Miami.

**Please rise in body or in spirit* Liturgist: Bill King

(Image on the cover – An image from Kim Logsdon on the Easter theme "Practicing Resurrection")

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

God Most High, we gather to honor and glorify you.

Receive our invitation to dwell with us.

Enfold us in your presence and

fill us again with holy awe and mystery.

We are yours and we claim you as our Lord. Amen.

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Robert Smith

PRELUDE "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
arr. Robert J. Powell

CHORAL INTROIT "Alleluia"
Honduran Melody

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, we gather in your presence to offer thanks and to celebrate the gift of motherly love!

All: **Your love has given birth to all of creation, supports and nurtures us, cares enough to correct us, and challenges us in a manner that both strengthens and transforms us!**

We offer you praise and thanksgiving for your sustaining presence in our lives, as well as for the generous blessings of each day!

**O God, in your tender mercy hear us as we worship you with open hearts and eager minds!
We begin in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!!
Amen.**

*HYMN - "Morning Has Broken" #664

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that our love is often short-sighted.

We strive to love our family and friends, but too often ignore those who seem irrelevant or threatening or different from us!

Therefore, on this special day, we pray that we might more earnestly love as Jesus loved.....extending a loving and helping hand and heart to the lost and the least, the poor and the broken.

Forgive us also when we choose to reject our brothers and sisters from across our community or from around the world.

Call us back to the way you intend.....

away from the ways of the world!

We will seek to be responsive as we strive to be the people you will for us to be! Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Love of God is this.....that we obey his will, which was never intended to be burdensome to us. By this we realize that we love the children of God, when we love you first.

Christ teaches us to love one another.

Do this, and live enriched by the peace that passes all understanding! Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Amy McGoldrick
(Children in Preschool through Grade 8 are dismissed to class following the children's message.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Startle us, O God, with your truth
And open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love.**

Speak your word to us;

Silence in us any voice but your own

And be with us now as we turn our attention,

Our minds and our hearts to you,

In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Proverbs 31:10-31 (see insert)

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "A Love That is Never Burdensome!" Rev. Randall Brakemeyer

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*HYMN – "Come Down, O Love Divine" #282

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (sins...sin)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Alleluia"
Adapted/arranged by John Coates, Jr.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN - "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" #546

*BLESSING

May the sun bring you new energy by day,

May the moon softly restore you by night,

May the rain wash away your worries,

May the breeze blow new strength into your being,

May you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life!

- Apache Blessing

*CHORAL RESPONSE "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"
Pedro Infante

*POSTLUDE "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" arr. Jacob B. Weber

Large-print bulletins and hearing assistance units are available from the ushers. **Please sign the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and pass them to your neighbors.**

Greeters: Arly Allen and Johanna Reinhart

Acolyte: Eric Staley

The flowers on the communion table are given by Steve and Carol Flee in appreciation of their family, Jim, Stephanie, and Courtney Willis and Travis, Katherine, Carter and Carys Flee.

Mission Partners Prayer List:

Sister Churches: The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

Congregational Concerns: Betty Barnhart, Judy Cross, John Curry, Tracy DeGood, Bob Douglass, Nancy Gates, Genee Hesse, Breanna Kinneman, Jan Reinhart, Becky Rudolph, Charles Skipper, Sarah Soika, Joan Teckman, Dave Wilson, Stacey Winn, Jean Woodruff

Email prayer requests call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by the Peacemaking Committee.

MINISTRY NEWS:

Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference: While Pastor Lawrence continues to participate in the [2018 Mosaic of Peace Conference in Israel & Palestine](#), we eagerly welcome our guest worship leader for this Sunday, the Rev. Randall Brakemeyer. He served 43 years of pastoral ministry in the United Church of Christ, including eight years of serving on the administrative staffs of church-related retirement homes in Phoenix and Newton, NC. He also studied in Pastoral Counseling at the doctoral level.

Currently Rev. Brakemeyer is a retired Teaching Elder & Member at Large in the Miami Valley Presbytery and married to his wife Catherine for nearly 50 years.

Tuesday Afternoon Circle: The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will meet in the Country Kitchen at the Knolls on May 15 at 1:30 p.m. Rosemary Fisher will lead the lesson. Visitors are always welcome.

Teacher Recognition: Please join us during worship service on Sunday, May 20, as we recognize our dedicated Sunday School volunteers.

2018 Jamieson Award: The Oxford Presbyterian Women are pleased to announce that on Sunday May 20, 2018, the S. R. and Luna Weede Jamieson Award will be presented during worship service.

It was previously announced in the May newsletter and Sunday bulletin that Valerie Green is one of the three Jamieson award recipients. We have since learned that due to her Auburn Scholarship rules and regulations she may not receive any monetary awards. Therefore, we will still present Valerie with an award certificate and recognition of her church activities, but we will not give the \$200.00 part of this award. The Green family is aware/appreciative of this change. And the Jamieson committee apologizes for any confusion this has caused.

Pentecost Offering Helps Young People: The Pentecost Offering is traditionally received on the day of Pentecost, this year on May 20. It provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults.

Sunday School News: May 27 ~ In lieu of Sunday School, "Crafts with Carol" will be held in the 3-5th grade classroom for K-8. Preschool/Nursery will be offered in the preschool classroom.

Mission Co-Worker Visit – Joshua Heikkila: In the May newsletter you may read all about the upcoming visit of Josh Heikkila to Oxford over the weekend of May 26-27. Since 2009, Josh has served in Ghana as a Mission Co-Worker and the PC(USA) regional liaison for West Africa.

Visit - <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/ghanaian-congregation-makes-gift-support-pcusa-mission-co-worker/>, to read a recent article about the investment that a Ghanaian congregation is making in this mission partnership.

OPW Retreat: Saturday, June 2, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm ~ Western College Lodge. Program presented by Rev. Melissa Tidwell, Pastor of the Xenia Westminster Presbyterian Church, Leading Discussion on "Writers, Readers, and Co-Conspirators: How we Help Translate Scripture".

Also, dedication of the PW Birthday Offering, Installation of new OPW officers, Singing & Fellowship. Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. provided by evening Circle, Box lunches delivered by Miami Catering. **Please register by calling Bridgite, Administrative Assistant in the church office at 523-6364**, \$15 covers the cost of the meals and retreat. Please turn in reservation form and fees to the church office. Make checks payable to OPW.

Choose your Lunch selection:

All lunches include potato chips, cookie, & fruit. Choose your sandwich:

1. Roast Beef & Cheddar Cheese
2. Turkey & Swiss Cheese
3. Hummus Veggie Wrap

Also choose your Beverage

1. Bottled Water
2. Pepsi Product

Reservation forms also located outside the office and in the Molyneaux. Please sign-up by May 25th. Ladies bring your friends, this will be a wonderful opportunity to share.

Calendar

Sunday, May 13
Worship Leader:
Rev. Randall Brakemeyer
9:00 Chancel Choir
Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday School
11:10 Fellowship in the
Molyneaux

Monday, May 14

Tuesday, May 15
1:30 Tuesday Afternoon
Circle (The Knolls)

Wednesday, May 16

7:00 Deacons
(Molyneaux)

Thursday, May 17
7:00 Youth Ministry
(Youth Room)
7:30 Chancel Choir
(Geneva Room)

Friday, May 18

Saturday, May 19
10:00 A.A. (Molyneaux)

Sunday, May 20
Pentecost Sunday
Teacher and 2018
Jamieson Award

9:00 Chancel Choir
Rehearsal
10:00 Worship
10:20 Sunday School
11:10 Fellowship in the
Molyneaux
VBS Registration Begins

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Mother's Day
Sunday, May 13, 2018



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on 

Pastor: Lawrence H. Bartel **Clerk of Session:** Julia R. Fisher