
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

Karen Evert, Guest Organist

Liturgist: Juan Carlos Albarran

(Image on cover: Philip and the Ethiopian depicted in an icon from the Eastern Orthodox Tradition)

WE GATHER in GOD'S NAME

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Jens Bartel, Pianist

CHORAL INTROIT "Will You Come and Follow Me?"
John L. Bell and Graham Maule

*CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 19)

One: Eternal God,
whose signature we see, if we dare to look,
in the creation of the universe,

All: **help us this hour to look and to listen
for your handwriting and your voice in this place,
among we – your people.**

Connect our temporary praise to your timeless rhythms,
your ageless melodies,
your everlasting joyful noise.

**Guide us now to focus upon you,
knowing that in you,
our distractions become new possibilities for action.**

**Breathe life into our singing, our praying,
our speaking, our listening,
our sharing of your peace,
that all these activities might become
more than temporary.**

**In our worship we reach out to you, O God,
knowing that you have already enfolded us
in your arms.**

*HYMN – "Come, Worship God"

#386

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Christ calls on us to "lose our life in order to save it";
To "take up our cross and follow"
in the ways of salvation, justice and peace.
Like the disciples before us,
we are often amazed and overwhelmed by this command.
We close our ears to such challenge and
our hearts to such risk.

**Holy God, you call to us
from the depths of our hearts,
where we long for connection
with you and with one another.
You call to us from busy streets and neighborhoods,
where human pain and possibility are most urgent.**

**You call to us from scripture where your witness as
Jesus the Christ and the still speaking Holy Spirit
challenges, comforts and re-creates us.
Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope, and
help us see with your eyes
the ways which lead to the beloved community
where Christ Jesus is at the center. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God's mercy extends beyond the bounds
of even our collective imagination.
Jesus' love pours through any wall we could ever put up.
The Holy Spirit's grace holds more power
than the sum of all sin.

It is because of that extensive, pouring,
powerful and bold love—
I declare to you in the name of the blessed
and holy Trinity:
That the Lord forgives us all our sins.
Alleluia! Amen!

*SHARING THE PEACE

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children in Preschool through Grade 8
are dismissed to class following the children's message.)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**O God, the Three in One,
you draw us into your community of love
with people across the ages and around the world.
By the same Spirit that binds us together speak to us
that what we read and ponder may enliven us and
inspire us to trust and follow you;
through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

A reading from Acts 8:26-40

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON – "The World Around Us"

Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*HYMN – "In My Life"

#468

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Come and Hear"
Joseph M. Martin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN – "Lord of All Hopefulness"

#683

*BLESSING

You are the body of Jesus Christ.
**May we have the heart of Christ,
tender for mercy.
May we have the eyes of Christ
to see a world in need.
May we have the feet of Christ
to bring good news.**

Go in peace!
**And the Lord go with you!
Alleluia! Amen!**

*CHORAL RESPONSE

"Go Now in Love and Peace"
Patrick M. Liebergen

*POSTLUDE

"Ave Maris Stella IV (Amen)" from Fifteen Pieces
Marcel Dupre

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: Noel Albarran

The flowers on the communion table are given in appreciation
of their church family and friends by Cy and Diane Young.

Mission Partners Prayer List:

Presbytery of the Miami Valley: First United Presbyterian
Sister Churches: The First Church of Zlatoust, Russia
and The Seventh Church of Barranquilla, Colombia

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

Email prayer requests to Janet Holmes, holmest2@frontier.com, call Pat Roberts, 513-255-0549 or email the church office, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

Fellowship hour following worship hosted by Anne Bailey on behalf of Mission and Outreach.

MINISTRY NEWS:

The Tuesday Afternoon Circle will meet on September 18 in The Knolls Country Kitchen at 1:30. Visitors and New Members are invited to join this Circle for their first.

The CROP Hunger Walk: Sunday, September 23, 12:30 p.m. beginning and ending at the Uptown Parks. Join Greek and non-Greek student and community people in this Walk to end hunger. The signup and pledge envelopes are available after church and at the walk. Please see Prue Dana to sign up.

Church Services at The Knolls: If you are unable to attend some of our church services on Sunday mornings, we have another option for you. Becky Quay shows recent church services on DVD in the Country Kitchen at 10:00 A.M. Join us on September 25. If you would like to join us, but need a ride, just give Becky a call at 523-5747.

Bed and Breakfast for Miami Family Weekend 9/28-9-29: Our church is offering Bed & Breakfast accommodations for family & friends of Miami students, Sept. 28-29th. Please call the church office for info.

"The World Around Us": Oxford Presbyterian Church Fall 2018 Christian Education – getting to know our neighbors! Join us for 3 mini- festivals celebrating our members and friends who hail from other countries! Learn a bit about their homeland; how they connected with our church, their favorite cultural traditions, maybe even taste some food samples! **All festivals held at OPC's Seminary Bldg.** (corner of Poplar & Church Streets) ALL AGES welcome!

Thursday, October 4 – 6:30-8:30 PM
Countries: Cuba (Juan Carlos Albarran)
Scotland (Kathy Hardy)

Wednesday, October 17 6:30-8:30 PM
Countries: Camino de Santiago (Elliott Jones Boyle)
Including Blake Collins from the YAV Program

Tuesday, November 13 6:30-8:30 PM
Featured Countries: Moldova (Angela Trubceac)
Palestine and Israel (Mosaic of Peace Pilgrims)
Janet Ziegler, Greg Hughes, Angela Trubceac
& Pastor Lawrence Bartel

Coming Soon to A Seminary Near You! Showing in proprietary 3-D (no glasses needed) on Thursday Oct 11 (6-8), Friday, Oct 12 (10-3) and Saturday Oct 13 (10-12)

A doc-u-comedy-mystery-love story of epic proportions! Including a cast of thousands! Thousands of gently used shoes, kitchen items, books, clothes, toys, purses, sports items, jewelry and many extras. If you weren't Born Yesterday, you'll plan on digging through your closets, attic, basement (not at midnight or during a storm), garage, kitchen, books and kids' toy boxes (when they are at school). If you find a Treasure Island of items, donate them all to the Oxford Presbyterian Women's blockbuster, "Rummage Sale: A Star is Born." You can make Deliverance of your donations

- outside the ticket booth (Bridgite's office),
- at the Seminary
 - o Monday October 8, 10am-6pm
 - o Tuesday October 9 10am-6pm
 - o Wednesday October 10 10am-6p

Saturday, October 6 by appointment
Sunday, October 7, after worship, at the Seminary until 2pm

Dear Congregation, OPC,

We wish to extend our sincere thanks for the prayers, cards, notes, food, flowers, transportation, visits, and many other offers of help during this past summer while we recovered, respectively, from leg surgery (Anne) and knee surgery (Rick). Collectively, your efforts meant so much to us personally and, according to our doctors, we recovered more quickly and with more positive results than expected!

With gratitude, Anne and Rick Bailey

MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 16
 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00am Worship
 10:20am Sunday School
 11:10am Fellowship in the Molyneaux
 11:30am Confirmation Youth and Parent Informational Meeting (Molyneaux)

Tuesday, September 18
 1:30pm Tuesday Afternoon Circle (Knolls)
 7:00pm Session (Molyneaux)

Wednesday, September 19
 7:00pm Deacons (Molyneaux)

Thursday, September 20
 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Geneva)

Saturday, September 22
 10:00am A.A. (Molyneaux)

Sunday, September 23
 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
 9:00am Lectionary Bible Study (Preschool Classroom)
 10:00am Worship
 10:20am Sunday School
 11:10am Fellowship in the Molyneaux

Pastor: Lawrence Bartel Clerk of Session: Julia Fisher

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, September 16, 2018



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

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