
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: Bella Walter

Robert Benson, Guest Organist
Jack Liles, Guest Conductor

(Image on cover: Saint Paul painted by Adam Elsheimer)

WE GATHER in GOD'S NAME

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION – Rise Against Hunger
Assoc. Pastor Nominating Committee

PRELUDE I Adagio from "Sonata on the 94th Psalm"
Psalm 94: 19b: Thy comfort enlargeth my soul
Julius Reubke

PRELUDE II Organ solo from "Light in the Wilderness"
Dave Brubeck

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

*CALL to WORSHIP

One: Jesus challenges us in today's gospel passage with the following words:

All: Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them; and taking the child in his arms, he said to them:

Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

We are still learning today what Jesus came to teach us two thousand years ago.

To change the world we must change the way we love and welcome all children! May we learn to love all children as if they were our own!

Young adults and adult, will you please greet our children and youth With a warm and hearty welcome?

Welcome, beloved children and youth!

Will all the children present please lift up your voices so all of us adults can hear you? Say your name and say "Hello!"

(Children and youth say their names and "hello" - a happy chaos moment!)

Alleluia! Amen!

Alleluia! Amen! Let us worship the Lord!

***HYMN** – "O for a Thousand Tongues" #610

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God,
We often have not welcomed the children as Jesus has commanded. Too many children in our community and world suffer from violence, abuse, neglect and poverty. We know that if we were to join together to welcome and care, to celebrate and honor our children we would bring a greater degree of your salvation in this world.

We need forgiveness. We want to make amends. We want to change. We want to learn to welcome all children, for in loving and caring for them, as we share your good news of abundant life here and now. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We give thanks for our savior and teacher Jesus Christ, who was born among us as a child needing nurture and care, and grew to reveal your power to make all things new. We give thanks and rejoice that in Christ we are forgiven and given strength to grow in discipleship. Thanks be to God! 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 9:1-20 & Galatians 1:13-24

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: Changed People Change the World" Pastor Lawrence

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

***HYMN** – "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" #182

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "In My Father's House"
Pamela Martin and Craig Courtney

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN** – "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" #32

*BLESSING

We go forth to welcome all God's children and become a servant to all. Like Jesus, we take a little child and put her among us; take her into our arms, and remember, Whoever welcomes one such child welcomes God!

We go forth to change the world as Jesus has commanded by offering welcome and Christ's abundant life to all children.

We go forth in God's welcome and love. Alleluia! Amen!

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Go Now in Love and Peace"
Patrick M. Liebergen

***POSTLUDE** "Fanfare in G Major"
William Mathias

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: Joni Marcum and Karen Shearer

Acolyte: Abbie Curry

The flowers on the communion table are given by Karen Shearer in happy celebration of Allison's 13th birthday and Katelyn's 10th birthday. Love you forever!

Mission Partners Prayer List:

Presbytery of the Miami Valley: Blue Ball Presbyterian Church

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 Mission and Outreach.

MINISTRY NEWS:

Lectionary Bible Study: Led by Mary Shinn, continues on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month in the Preschool classroom. 9:00-9:45 a.m. before church.

The CROP Hunger Walk: TODAY, September 23, 12:30 p.m. beginning and ending at the Uptown Parks. Signup and pledge envelopes are available after church and at the walk. See Prue Dana.

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. Join Becky Quay and Pastor Lawrence in the Country Kitchen at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 25.

Emotionally Healthy Spirituality: Led by Billie Maynard, begins Thursday, September 27 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. To sign up, call the church office at 523-6364.

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

The World Around Us: 3 Mini-festivals celebrating "The World Around Us". Music, food samples, children's crafts, stories and pictures from church members who hail from other countries. Each festival will be held at the Seminary building from 6:30-8:30 PM. Please join us (all ages welcome)! Thursday, October 4; Wednesday, October 17; Tuesday, November 13. If you would like to attend but need a ride, please call the church office.

Tuesday Evening Circle: The Tuesday Evening Circle will meet October 2 at Billy Maynard's house, 135 Wayside Circle, Hamilton. We will be carpooling. Anyone needing a ride should contact Karen Simpson, k.simpson2007@yahoo.com, 523-8363. Visitors are welcomed.

Mark Your Calendar: All members are encouraged to attend the congregational meeting called by Session for Sunday, October 7 following the 10:00 a.m. service. At the meeting the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee will present their recommended candidate for the position of Associate Pastor for Family Ministry and Campus Ministry; the congregation will then have opportunity to vote on that recommendation.

Chance of a lifetime to appear in Oxford Presbyterian Women's trendy, "Rummage Sale: A Star is Born." An epic of epic epicness. It's no Picnic setting it all up. We need your help. It may be Ferris Bueller's day off, but you are called upon to help price, setup, display, pop popcorn and more. High Noon is not the time to come. Show times: Monday, October 8 (10am-6pm) Tuesday, October 9 (10am-6pm) Wednesday, Oct. 10 (10am-6pm)

Rise Against Hunger: OPC's Mission and Outreach along with CE, MEF, Music and Worship and Session are hosting a Rise Against Hunger Event on Oct. 21. This is a meal packing event where meals are packed and then shipped around the world to people who are in need. Set up for the Rise Against Hunger event runs from 12:30-2:00 pm, the event from 2:00-4:00 pm with clean up after. You may sign up for one shift or both. You must sign up to participate. Sign up at <http://events.stophungernow.org/OxfordPres2018>. There are several ways that you can support, go to the link above and give money on-line, you can write a check to OPC with Rise Against Hunger in the note-field, or place cash in a pew envelope with Rise Against Hunger on the envelope. **There is an excellent video about Rise Against Hunger at the bottom of the website.**

Creating a Healthy Oxford Community: Holy Trinity is collecting gently used and clean coats for adults, youth and children until October 25. Please bring to the Chapel of St Bede entrance of Holy Trinity, 25 East Walnut St which is open 24/7.

MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 23

- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00am Lectionary Bible Study (Preschool Room)
- 10:00am Worship
- 10:20am Sunday School
- 11:10am Fellowship in the Molyneaux

Tuesday, September 25

- 10:00am DVD Showing (Knolls)
- 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Molyneaux)

Wednesday, September 26

- 6:00pm Personnel Committee Meeting (Lane Library)

Thursday, September 27

- 8:45am Nominating Committee Meeting (Molyneaux)
- 6:00pm Emotionally Healthy Spirituality (Molyneaux)
- 6:30pm Middle School Youth Group (Youth Room)
- 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal (Geneva)

Saturday, September 29

- 10:00am A.A. (Molyneaux)

Sunday, September 30

- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00am Worship
- 10:20am Sunday School
- 11:10am Fellowship in the Molyneaux

Pastor: Lawrence Bartel

Clerk of Session: Julia Fisher

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, September 23, 2018



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oxfordpresbychurch.org

Find us on 