

# Welcome, we're glad you joined us!

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.



Connect with us by signing the friendship pads found at the end of the pew and passing them to your neighbors. Visitors, please scan the QR code.

Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available from ushers.

(Image on cover: The Great Ends of the Church - The shelter, nurture and spiritual fellowship of the children of God. Banners fabricated by Jane Kelly and Marge Smith.)

\* Please rise in body or spirit

Terry Smetana, liturgist

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – "Not So Sadly, Not So Troubled" J. S. Bach

\* CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Psalm 19)

One: God built the heavens, the earth, and entire universe  
All: **God calls us to be builders as well.**

Jesus calls us to build our lives:  
**To restore broken places and continue to grow.**

The Spirit calls us to build community  
**To proclaim the salvation and shelter  
Of God's love and liberation for all people!**

\* HYMN – "Let Us Build a House" (vs. 1-3) #301

### \* PRAYER of CONFESSION

**O God, whenever we come home to you,  
We realize how far we have strayed  
And how much we have forgotten  
Of your way and your love.**

**We have not loved you with our whole being  
Or loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Forgive us, heal us  
And restore our relationships with you:  
Through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. Amen.**

### \* ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news:  
Jesus unmask the idols of our world  
And frees us from bondage to all that would oppress us.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
We are at peace to love the Lord  
And serve the world.  
Alleluia! Amen!**

### A TIME with YOUNG DISCIPLES

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

**God, as we see your glory and wisdom  
Throughout creation,  
May we hear your Word for us now,  
That by the power of the Holy Spirit  
We may be drawn closer to you.  
Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE – 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 Bill Fisher

Holy wisdom, holy Word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON – "The Great Ends of the Church: Shelter"  
Pastor Lawrence

## WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

\* HYMN – "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord" #43

\* AFFIRMATION of FAITH – The Nicene Creed pg. 34

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER  
(Lord's Prayer on pg. 35 of Glory to God saying sins...sin)

MUSIC for OUR OFFERING – "One Bread, One Body"  
John Foley, arr. Mark Hayes

(Scan the QR code to the right or go to  
<https://onrealm.org/oxfordpresbychurch/-/give/now>  
to give online)



\* DOXOLOGY – "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #606

### \* PRAYER of DEDICATION

\* HYMN – "Let Us Build a House" (vs. 4-5) #301

### \* BLESSING

**The Spirit is at work among us!  
As disciples of Jesus Christ,  
We go out to share our unique gifts  
As we answer the call to bring good news  
To the poor, to be healers and a freedom force  
Against all oppression.  
We go boldly as disciples,  
Trusting in the Spirit's guidance.  
Alleluia! Amen!**

POSTLUDE – "O God, Thou Faithful God" J. S. Bach

## WE DEPART to SERVE

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The flowers on the communion table are given by Cia Beal. To a wonderful and missed lady, Prue. As Prue has often said, "Be of good courage and know that you are loved."

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### Congregational Concerns

Jim Baer, Fred & Mary Jane Brower, Steve Dana, Sandy Douglass, Amber McClelland, Peggi Stitt.

Email congregational concerns to the church office  
([office@oxfordpresbychurch.org](mailto:office@oxfordpresbychurch.org)).

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## MINISTRY NEWS

### Adult Christian Education – Small Group Bible Study

All are invited to join us in the Memorial church meeting room following worship service. The book, *Believe and Live*, guides our study and discussion of John's Gospel. This small group meets twice a month on the second and fourth Sundays.

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### OASH (Oxford Area Solutions for Housing) Meeting

Anyone from the public is encouraged to attend monthly meetings and select a "sector" (<https://oashox.org/upcoming-meetings>) to join based on your skill set or passion. The hope is to develop a coordinated approach among the many community groups already working in a variety of ways to respond to and prevent homelessness. Everyone is welcome to join us on Monday, January 27, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Seminary. Dinner is provided.

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### Youth Group Paint Night

Middle school and senior high youth group will meet on Wednesday evening, January 29, at 6:30 p.m. Gordon will lead us in a cleanup project of the upstairs youth group classroom, followed by a re-painting/updating of the illustrated ceiling tiles. Bring your creativity and wear some good work clothes! Dinner will be provided.

**Adult Christian Education - "The Chosen"**

Oxford Presbyterian Church invites you to join our discussion series on the popular program, "The Chosen," presented by the Christian Education Committee on Thursday, January 30, in the Molyneaux Room at 6:30 p.m. We will watch season 3, episode 6, of the program followed by a guided discussion. Scan the QR Code for the reading list.



This intergenerational program is appropriate for adults and youth ages 12 and up. For more information, please email the church office at office@oxfordpresby.org.

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**Caregivers Connections**

OPC's support group for people whose lives are affected by the caregiving needs of family members or other loved ones will hold its meeting on Monday, February 3, at 1:00 p.m. in the Molyneaux Room. Caregivers will receive support from others who share their challenges and find help in identifying resources that can assist them in their caregiving roles. For more information, please call the church office at 513-523-6364.

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**We Celebrate the Life of Prue Dana**

On November 19, the city of Oxford, Talawanda School District, Butler County, family and friends, and we at OPC lost a most faithful member of our fellowship, Prue Dana.

We will have an opportunity to honor Prue's memory in a public celebration of life and worship service on Saturday, February 15, at 1:00 p.m. in the Memorial church sanctuary.

\*\*\*\*\* (tear here) \*\*\*\*\*

*Please return this portion of your bulletin to the church office*

**OPC Community Meal - Wednesday, January 29**

Seminary Church – Community Room  
104 E. Church St.

Contact Bill Fisher at the office (513.523.6364).

**Volunteers needed to:**

Setup 4:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_ Serve 5:30-6:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_

Cleanup 6:30-7:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_

**I can bring:** Stew \_\_\_\_ Bread \_\_\_\_ Dessert \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Honored Woman Award**

Nominations are now being accepted for our 2025 Honored Woman Award! This award recognizes someone who has given faithful service to the church and to Oxford Presbyterian Women. She has also contributed generous time, talents and treasure to the church's outreach within and without the greater community. Please submit nominations by letter and include as much detail as possible regarding the individual's service contributions to the church. Send letters by email to the Honored Women Committee, office@oxfordpresbychurch.org, or by mail to OPC, 101, N. Main Street, Oxford, OH 45056, or place in the Honored Women mailbox at church. Deadline for receipt is Wednesday, February 26. Please direct any questions to Diane. Your participation in a project of recognizing individuals who have given, and continue to give, outstanding and faithful service to Presbyterian Women and the Oxford Presbyterian Church is greatly appreciated.

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**Community Blood Drive**

Community Room of the Oxford Presbyterian Church Seminary (white church on the corner of Church and Poplar Streets)

Friday, February 7, at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Appointments Preferred. Walk-ins welcome.**

Scan QR code to the right or call 937.461.3220



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**WEEKLY CALENDAR of MINISTRY**

26	Adult Christian Ed – Bible study of John	11:30 a.m. (Memorial church – meeting room)
27	OASH Meeting	5:00 p.m. (Seminary church – community room)
28	Full Staff Meeting	11:00 a.m. (Memorial church – Molyneaux Room)
29	OPC Community Meal	5:30 p.m. (Seminary church – community room)
29	Youth Group project night	6:30 p.m. (Memorial church – youth classroom)
30	Adult Christian Ed – "The Chosen"	6:30 p.m. (Memorial church – Molyneaux Room)
30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:30 p.m. (Memorial church – Geneva room)

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**Oxford Presbyterian Church**  
for a full ministry calendar, please visit:  
<https://oxfordpresbychurch.org/calendar/>  
**Lawrence Bartel, Pastor**  
**Marc van Bulck, Associate Pastor**  
**Kent Peterson, Music Director ~ Lynn Jacobs, Organist**

# Third Sunday after Epiphany



**January 26, 2025**



101 North Main Street | Oxford, Ohio 45056  
513-523-6364 | office@oxfordpresbychurch.org

**oxfordpresbychurch.org**

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