

THE VISITED PLANET

With the arrival of November, we launch once again into what is affectionately known as “the Holiday Season.” Soon our calendars will fill up, our shopping lists will grow, and our energy will get poured into all the festivities and traditions that make this a magical (and hectic!) time of year.

Underneath all the bustle, though, is a message. A strange and wonderful truth that can easily get lost in the noise of holiday festivities. In fact, it sometimes feels as though the bustle of the season is designed to distract us from the startling truth at the heart of Christmas: *we live on the visited planet.*

The visited planet. It’s a phrase from a short story written by JB Phillips back in 1957. In the story, Phillips imagines two angels in conversation. Together they look out across the vast universe, at endless galaxies and stars and suns, until the senior angel points to one small, insignificant planet. “That,” he says, “is the visited planet.” He goes on to tell his young colleague the shocking story: the Prince of Glory – ruler of all the universe – chose tiny, grubby earth to pay a personal visit.

Little Angel: “Do you mean to tell me, that He stooped so low as to become one of those creeping, crawling creatures on that floating ball?”

Senior Angel: “I do, and I don’t think He would like you to call them ‘creeping, crawling creatures’ in that tone of voice. For, strange as it may seem to us, He loves them. He went down to visit them to lift them up to become like Him.”

The little angel looked blank. Such a thought was almost beyond his comprehension.

Beyond comprehension. The arrival of God – Maker of all things – in the flesh. The Author of history, writing himself into the story. If we’ve never noticed how shocking the Christmas message really is, its only because we’ve never truly contemplated it. Why would God – the eternal “Prince of Glory” – stoop to visit our planet, taking on our weak humanity? Is it really true? And if so, what does it mean?

This Advent, we set aside the usual holiday platitudes, focusing our gaze instead on the holy mystery of God’s visitation. Why did he come?

He came to show us who he is. History demonstrates that when we human beings guess about God, we tend to get him wrong. Jesus came as God’s own “self-introduction” to the world.

He came to show us another way. Jesus came to demonstrate, by his own life, what it looks like to live out God’s true intentions for humanity.

Finally, he came to save. The term “messiah,” (Luke 2:26), refers to the long-awaited king who would one day deliver God’s people – from injustice, from sin, and from death itself.



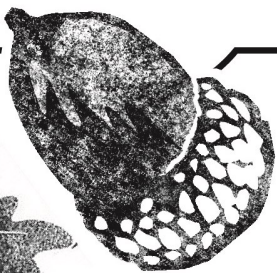
We live on the visited planet! I pray that our Advent worship this year moves us beyond the usual holiday noise, revealing instead the life-altering good news of God’s visitation. Come join us!

Yours in Him,



Jeremy Sanderson
Jeremy@oakhillspres.org
503-654-6173 (Pastor’s study)

the
OAK HILLS
ACORN



November
December
2018

Volume 16, Issue 6

SUNDAYS

November & December Sermon Series

ACTS: Church on the Move

November 4 Stewardship Sunday	“A Lesson About Money”	Acts 8:17-24
November 11 Communion	“A Convert’s Joy”	Acts 8:26-39
November 18 Pledge Commitment Sunday	“A Terrorist Bows the Knee”	Acts 9:1-19
November 25 (ACTS: Church on the Move, series continues in January 2019...)	“A Great Big Gospel”	Acts 10

Advent 2018: The Visited Planet

December 2	“He Comes to Be Known”	Exodus 33:12-18, Colossians 1:15-20
December 9	“He Comes to Flip the Script”	Isaiah 40:3-5, Luke 1:39-55
December 16	“He Comes to Save”	Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 1:14-17
December 23 10:00am Service	<i>Children’s Pageant and Carols</i>	
December 24 6:00pm & 11:00pm	<i>Candlelight Worship with Communion</i>	
December 30	<i>Year end Service of Testimony</i>	

November is Birthday Month for Oak Hills Church Staff and their families!

Sarah Sanderson—November 7th (40 years old!)
 Christy Polk—November 16th (40 years old!)
 Sue Howard—November 20th
 Sophia Stojanovic—November 25th (1 year old!)
 Jeremy Sanderson—November 30th (40 years old!)
 Stasia Van Buskirk—November 30th



A Birthday invitation from Pastor Jeremy:

For my 40th birthday, I am challenging myself to run 40 miles the week of Nov. 25-30. I am inviting you to help me celebrate by sponsoring my run, at any level (10 cents per mile = \$4, etc.). Then, take the money you’ve set aside, and *send it to an organization or cause of your choice*—something you care about personally. *Send me a card or note letting me know what your gift went to.* I can’t imagine a better birthday present than to see the many worthy causes we invest in as a church. Thanks for helping me celebrate!



Gather... Grow... Glorify

To be gathered by the Spirit as a community of faith, to grow into the likeness of Christ, and to glorify God every day in all we do.

Purpose

Bible-Centered, Prayer,
 Missional,
 Generosity,
 Hospitality,
 Sabbath, Empathy,
 Wholeness

Core Values



To receive *the* OAK HILLS ACORN via email, contact the office, 503.654.4321 or ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH

OHPC Youth Youth Group Holiday Events:

Carols and Cocoa

Sunday, Dec. 9th @ 6pm
(OHPC event: all-ages)

Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, Dec. 16th @ 6pm to 8pm
(Youth only)

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 23rd @ 10am
(One Sunday worship service)

Don't Forget:

Christmas Eve Candlelight
Services
6pm & 11pm

OHPC Children & Youth

ANNOUNCING THE 2018 OHPC CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:



Sunday, December 23rd
@ 10am

2 Rehearsals required:

Saturday, Dec. 15
&

Saturday, Dec. 22
9:30-11:00am



Youth Sponsored Coat, Blanket & Sock Drive

Month of November

It's getting frosty again. The Youth of Oak Hills want to help those in need. Please donate new or gently used blankets, coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks of all shapes and weights! Collection bins will be in the Fellowship Hall throughout the month of November.

~Pastor Christy, or Kevin Gates

Ladies Christmas Tea

December 6th, 7:00pm

Please bring a friend to enjoy the evening and a dessert to share.

~Michelle Emra



THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO

Carols & Cocoa

Sunday, December 9, 6pm

Caroling, Cookies, Hot Cocoa & Holiday Sweater Contest!

You are invited to bring a nonperishable food item for the King's Cupboard food pantry.

~Susann Smith



Hymn Sing

Join us for an evening of singing your favorite hymns.



November 11th

6:00pm potluck dinner

6:45pm Sing

Christmas is Coming!

Watch for information about **Alternative Giving options** for Christmas about Thanksgiving time.

Saturday, December 1, 10am, Greening of the Church

Sunday, December 9, 6pm, Carols & Cocoa for all ages in the sanctuary.

Sunday, December 16, 6pm, Youth Christmas Party.

Sunday, December 23, 10am, our Christmas Pageant

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve, 6pm and 11pm,

Christmas Eve Candlelight services with communion.

Sunday, December 30, 10am, Worship time of Testimony



Christmas Wreath Fundraiser



Orders due and paid by 11/19

Pick up wreaths at church
Saturday Dec 1 10am-2pm and
Sunday Dec 2 9:30am—noon

Only \$26

Proceeds benefit the Women's Retreat

High-quality, fresh-smelling mixed greens wreath.

Great gift idea!

Questions? Barbara Miller

2018 OHPC Crafter's Marketplace

Saturday November 17, 2018
9am—4pm

Perfect for Holiday Shopping!

Volunteers and
Donations needed, sign
up on the bulletin
Board.

~Katie Cummings,
or Susann Smith





Women's Retreat

Beautiful Oregon Coast weather welcomed 30 women to the Women's Retreat with good food, fellowship, games, and learning about our own gift of creativity.

Rev. Christy Polk and Joan Spencer presented, "Creativity, God's

Creation" with Joan sharing her creativity through her journey with beautiful, unique quilts. Rev. Christy guided us through our journey with her meaningful presentation. Join us next October! ~Cathy Searles

Backpack Buddies Quilt Raffle

Tickets are available now—\$5 for One or \$10 for Four.

Winning ticket will be drawn November 18.

Benefits Backpack Buddies at Lot Whitcomb & View Acres Schools.



Backpack Buddies

We are now providing weekend food for 52 students at Lot Whitcomb, 15 at View Acres, and 5 at Oak Hills Head Start. Thanks to Cronettes for TWO beautiful quilts being raffled off. The winning tickets will be drawn on November 18th. Thanks to everyone who buy raffle tickets, everyone involved in Crafter's Marketplace and to those who donate time and food to feed the children. Next packing sessions are Saturday, November 3, 10am; Tuesday, November 27th, 7:00pm; and Saturday, December 8, 9am. ~Jim & Louise Anderson

Small Group Ministry



The importance of a vibrant small group ministry cannot be overstated in a church like Oak Hills. Small groups allow members to study the Bible in an intimate informal setting. They also enable members to pray for one another and get to know one another more deeply than they can in larger, more formal worship services. On **Sunday, Nov 18** we will offer a small group "café" in the fellowship hall between services. After the second service, you can talk with small group leaders about their groups and sign up to join a group. In addition, to our ongoing small groups, we will be launching at least two new groups very soon. We will also be publishing a pamphlet describing our small group ministry and listing the times and locations where our small groups meet. This information will be posted on our website, as well. ~ Larry Totzke

Community
Ecumenical
Thanksgiving
Worship Service



November 20th, 7:00pm at

King of King's Lutheran Church
(5501 S.E. Thiessen Rd.).

Bring a dessert item to share!

Renovation Update

Thank you to the many who worked hard renovating our Youth room! We now have new exterior siding, windows and a new exit door. Those who contributed included Hank Brown, Norm Smith, Dean Rigdon, Mike Corless, Tom Heimburger, Kevin Hallenback, Clay Teel, and Kirk Nelson.

Way to go guys!



Please sign the Thanksgiving Cards for our Homebound members. They are on the bulletin board in the hallway. ~Barb Garrett



Clackamas Service Center Christmas Dinner

The Clackamas Service Center (8800 SE 80th Ave.) has completed its remodel after last year's fire. On **Wednesday, December 19th; 5-6:00pm** we will once again be hosting Oak Hills annual Christmas dinner at the center. A volunteer sheet will be placed on the bulletin board for volunteers to donate turkeys and help with the dinner.

~Cathy Searles

Greening of the Church will be Saturday morning December 1st, after the Men's Breakfast.



Alternate Christmas Giving:

Watch for the bookmark with 'alternate gift' suggestions in the bulletin on November 25 and December 2.

Pick up a Stocking to fill for Girls in Transition, Love, INC. Return by Dec 2nd.

~Carolynn Wattenbarger



MEN'S BREAKFASTS

**FIRST SATURDAYS
BREAKFASTS**

**NOVEMBER 3RD &
DECEMBER 1ST
@ 8:30AM**

~Larry Totzke

Come support LaHash International's Servant Team! Eat at the *Panera Bread* at Clackamas Town Center on Saturday, **November 10th**, 4-8:00pm, show our promotional printed or digital flyer, and the Servant Teams will receive 20% of your purchase! See Esther Carey for a flyer or further information.

*COMMUNION SERVICE

~Hank Brown, Sound Coordinator

~Tom Miller, Worship Elder

DATE	SOUND	WORSHIP LEADER
Nov 4	Loy William	Cris Wright
Nov 11*	Randy Maine	Jim Anderson
Nov 18	Loy William	Tom Miller
Nov 25	Eben Polk	Carolita Feiring
Dec 2	Loy William	Betsy Holzgraf
Dec 9	Randy Maine	Dave McGowan
Dec 16	Loy William	Eddie Mensinger
Dec 23	Eben Polk	Linda Mensinger
Dec 24*		
Dec 30	Loy William	Eben Polk

INTERESTED IN SERVING ON OUR AV OR MEDIASHOUT TEAM?

- Be a back-up *MediaShout* preparer or presenter for worship service. Training involves two one-hour sessions to learn the software, and rotating presence at rehearsals.

~Pastor Jeremy, 503.654.4321

- Be on a sound board rotation team.

~Hank Brown

CAN YOU HELP WITH SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR!



All it takes is some of your time before and after one of the services. **THE FOOD IS PROVIDED** and you will have excellent support with any questions you may have. Sign up on the bulletin board and take one of the "Coffee Tasks" bookmarks.

Please contact me with questions.

~Carrie Walker

Prayer Chain

You are invited to join our telephone or email Prayer Chain, to commit to pray for those who have requested prayer for themselves or their loved ones.

~Joann Devlin

Women's Association

All women are welcome to join us for Bible lessons and fellowship. **Thursday, November 8, 9:30am and December 13, 10:00am.**

~Louise Anderson

Art for the Heart

Let your spirit rest, reflect, renew. Join us at the church on **Tuesdays from 10am-noon**. Bring whatever art or craft you are working on and be a part of this time of fellowship and prayer.

Bring a friend and join our fun.

~Stasia Van Buskirk

Prayer Walk

Around the neighborhood.

November 17th, 9am

December 15th, 9am

~Jim Anderson

NOVEMBER



2018

Oak Hills Presbyterian Church

5101 SE Thiessen Road | Milwaukie, OR 97267
 503-654-4321 | ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org
 www.oakhillspres.org

SUNDAYS

Contemporary Worship 9:30am | Traditional Worship 11am
 Nursery, Children's and Adult Classes 9:30
 Nursery, Children's Choir, Adult Classes 11:00am
 Youth Class 11am | Youth Group 6pm
 Iglesia Shalom (Hispanic Worship) 2-5pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28: 9:30-11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 5-8pm Youth Halloween Party	29 <i>Office Closed</i>	30 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	31 Halloween 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA	1 6pm Praise Team	2 9-10am Mom's in Prayer 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	3 8:30am Men's Breakfast 9-2:30pm FSC 10am Backpack Buddies 3-5pm Piano Recitals
4  9:30-11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6pm Youth Group	5 <i>Office Closed</i>	6 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	7 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	8 9:30am Women's Assoc 6pm Praise Team	9 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	10
11 9:30-11am  Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6:00pm Potluck 6:45pm Hymn Sing	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 8am-3pm Wycliffe	13 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	14 1:30pm Mission & Caring Team 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	15 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal	16 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	17 9am Prayer Walk 9am-4pm Crafter's Marketplace
18 9:30-11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6pm Youth Group	19 <i>Office Closed</i>	20 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	21 7:30pm AA	22  THANKSGIVING Office Closed	23 Office Closed 6:30pm Ig Shalom	24 8:30am—Noon Quilt Group 7pm Ig Shalom Youth
25 9:30-11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom No Youth Group	26 <i>Office Closed</i>	27 9:30am piano tune-up 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal 7pm Backpack Buddies	28 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	29 6pm Praise Team	30 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	1 8:30am Men's Breakfast Greening of the Church

December



2018

Gather ... Grow ... Glorify

OAK HILLS

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5101 SE Thiessen Road | Milwaukie OR 97267



503.654.4321 | www.oakhillspres.org

Rev. Jeremy Sanderson, Pastor (Jeremy@oakhillspres.org)

Rev. Christy Polk, Associate Pastor, Christian Ed.

(Christy@oakhillspres.org)

Sue Howard, Administrative Assistant (ohpc_admin@oakhillspres.org)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 9:30-11am Adult SS 9:30-11am Worship 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6pm Youth Group	3 Office Closed	4 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	5 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA	6 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7pm Women's Christmas Tea	7 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	1 8:30am Men's Breakfast Greening of the Church 8 9am Backpack Buddies
9 9:30am & 11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6:00pm Carols & Cocoa	10 Office Closed	11 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal	12 1:30pm Mission & Caring Team 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	13 10:00am Women's Assoc 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal	14 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	15 9:00am Prayer Walk
16 9:30-11am Worship & Class 2-5pm Ig Shalom 6:00pm Youth Christmas Party	17 Office Closed	18 10am Art for Heart 6:30pm Ig Shalom Rehearsal 7:00pm Session Meeting	19 10:00am Staff Mtg 5:00pm Clackamas Svc Center Dinner 7:30pm Choir & AA	20 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal	21 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	22
23 10am Christmas Pageant 2-5pm Ig Shalom No Youth Group	24 Office Closed 6:00pm & 11:00pm Candlelight Services 	25  CHRISTMAS DAY	26 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	27 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal	28 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	29 8:30am Quilt group 7pm Ig Shalom Youth
30 10:00am Testimony Service 2-5pm Ig Shalom No Youth Group	31 Office Closed New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day! 2019 6:30pm Ig Shalom	2 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm AA	3 6pm Praise Team Rehearsal	4 6:30pm Ig Shalom Worship	5 8:30am Men's Breakfast