

“But You Are the Body of Christ”



“I do not ask you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.”

This prayer, spoken by Jesus in John 17, recently caught my eye. Jesus prays for his disciples – for you and I. He knows that hard times will come, but he does not ask God to spare us from the troubles of the world. He asks that we might be kept from evil.

Jesus knows that when times are hard, evil lurks. Perhaps you’ve noticed that the stress of the present moment has brought forth parts of ourselves we’re not too proud of: anger and impatience; fear and anxiety; boredom and aimlessness. When the world is at its worst, it’s hard for us to be at our best.

But Jesus’ prayer for us continues: *“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.”* Jesus is giving us a tool and a task. The tool is his word. Scripture is a mighty weapon against hard times, instilling truth that lifts us up above the present darkness. The task is to be sent into the world just as he was sent: as light, and life, and hope. Jesus came into a broken world to be the living embodiment of God’s redeeming love. He now sends us out to be the same.

Our world is hurting. The upcoming election season will only deepen the partisan bitterness and mud-slinging we see. Shootings and protests continue. As I write this, a devastating hurricane is making landfall in Louisiana. The pandemic is a long way from over, and the economy is faltering. Everywhere we look, we see trouble, and if you’re like me, it’s tempting to want to hole up and shut it all out. But Jesus didn’t pray for our escape. He gave us a tool and a task: his sanctifying word to uphold us, and his own mission as our model.

So I’ve started praying different kinds of prayers. I’m praying less for protection, and more for purpose. I’m praying less for escape, and more for impact. Not “Lord, deliver me” but “Lord, use me.” Jesus looked out into the future and saw his disciples – you and I – carrying on his own work. This is the calling of the church, and of every Christian, in hard times. Not to join in with sin, not to seek escape, but to engage our broken world as the body of Christ.

St. Theresa of Avila once wrote these profound words: *“Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”*

Friends, Jesus has prayed for us. He knows what we’re up against, and he’s gone to the Father on our behalf, asking that we be kept from evil, sanctified in his word, and sent out as he was sent. I’m thankful that we do not go alone. We are a fellowship – the body of Christ together. In this hard time may we recommit to one another, and to our calling, as Christ calls us forward.

Yours in Him,

Jeremy



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

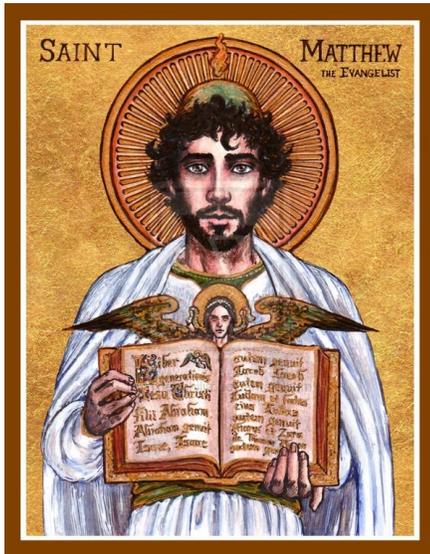
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OAK HILLS
ACORN



September
October
2020

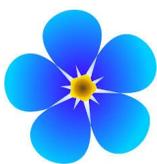
Volume 18, Issue 5

...According to Matthew



At the very heart of the Bible stands the story of Jesus: his life, his ministry, his words and parables, his fulfillment of ancient promises, his victory on our behalf. It's a story like no other, and its all true. This September, we dive into the first gospel, the Gospel ("good news") according to Matthew. In a time when the world is in flux, we find our anchor in the unchanging story of our savior. Settle in – we'll be taking our time with this book, verse by verse, chapter by chapter. Join us as we move with him through first century Palestine, uncovering the timeless relevance of his teaching, and discovering the whisper of his living presence, here and now.

September 13	"Who Is This Man? Genealogy"	Matthew 1: 1-17	Communion
September 20	"Who Is This Man? Preparation"	Matthew 3: 1-12	
September 27	"Who Is This Man? Declaration"	Matthew 3: 13-17	
October 4	"Who Is This Man? Temptation"	Matthew 4: 1-11	World Communion Sunday
October 11	"Who Is This Man? Proclamation"	Matthew 4: 12-17	Communion
October 18	"Who Is This Man? Invitation"	Matthew 4: 18-22	
October 25	"Who Is This Man? Restoration"	Matthew 4: 23-25	



Thank you to the church family for your Prayers, the food, flowers and cards. You made my recovery so pleasant. Stay safe and well. Maxine Zobrist

OAK HILLS

PURPOSE

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.

CORE VALUES

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

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



Red Cross Blood Drive

September 8th
2:00-7:00 pm

@ OHPC

~Liz Nelson



Women's Association

Watch for announcement—our first meeting should be Thursday, September 10th. Details of where and how we meet are yet to be determined.

~Louise Anderson

Backpack Buddies

Thanks to all who have donated peanut butter! Hopefully, our first packing session will be in time to go home for Thanksgiving. We pray for our teachers in the Oak Hills congregation, as well as the students who want to be in school. ~Louise Anderson

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth Ministries



Back to (VIRTUAL!) YOUTH GROUP!!!



Yep, that's right! The Oak Hills youth group is finally returning with virtual ZOOM youth group meetings!

WHEN? EVERY SUNDAY EVENING STARTING ON

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH.

MIDDLE SCHOOL: 6:30-7PM HIGH SCHOOL: 7:30-8PM

WHERE? IN FRONT OF YOUR COMPUTER/PHONE OF COURSE!

WHO? YOU! (BUT ONLY IF YOU'RE IN 6TH GRADE -12 GRADE, SILLY)

So, what's the plan?!

OHPC Middle and High school students will be getting a "welcome back to youth group" care package in the mail in early September. You can look through the contents, but please save everything for our special first meeting! Then, keep an eye out for the Zoom invite via email, text message, or both. If you don't have Zoom yet, please download the program/app, with a parent's permission and help. When its time for youth group to start, just click the link and join! Be sure to try and make it to the first meeting so we start with energy and excitement! Also, at the first Middle School meeting we will be welcoming our new 6th graders with some special games and activities! Youth group meetings will be half an hour to start, but we can make them longer eventually if 30 min seems too short. I can't wait to see everyone!!!

-PASTOR CHRISTY

Children's Ministries

Mail's Here!



Many kids are tired of online learning, but you know what they're NOT tired of? Getting REAL mail! OHPC Children's Ministries is bringing Sunday school back this fall through the mail. Families of Pre-K through 5th grade students will be receiving mail each week with Bible stories, games, memory verses, and teacher notes for their kids. Mail contents will be age-appropriate and will also occasionally include some personal notes for your child from Pastor Christy, Christian Education Elder Joan Spencer, and more! Look for the first mailing in early September! As much as possible, we will also be posting the same Bible stories, games, etc. online in case you need another copy, or want to share the content with friends who don't attend. Look for online content coming soon at www.oakhillspres.org under Children's

Ministries.

Mighty Memorizers

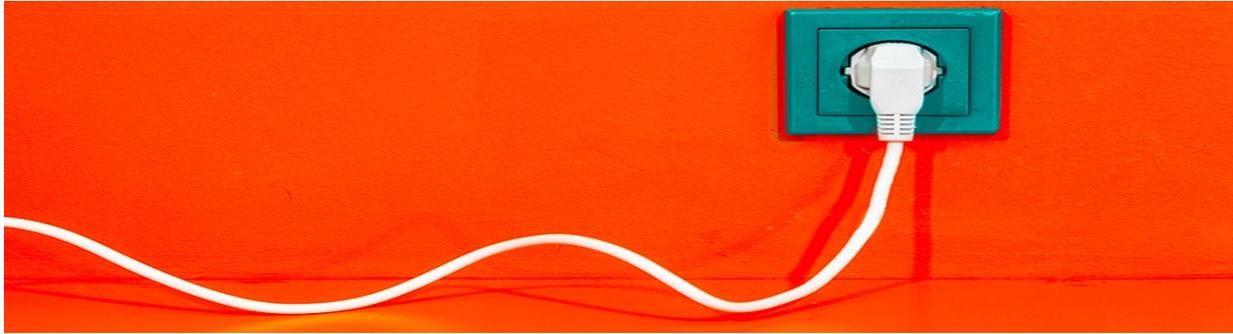
As a fun way to get kids learning scripture, and to help OHPC Children's Ministries keep in touch with our students, we are starting a Mighty Memorizers program! Each week, Kindergarten through 5th grade students will receive a Bible verse in the mail to memorize. When a child has the verse memorized, parents can either: 1. Take a video recording of them reciting it and text or email it to Christy Polk christypolk@oakhillspres.org; or christy@oakhillspres.org. OR 2. Call Joan Spencer at [419-235-1234](tel:419-235-1234) and have your child recite it directly to Teacher Joan! For every 3rd verse they memorize, children will receive a prize—yay!! Weekly verses will also be posted online at www.oakhillspres.org under Children's Ministries.



-Rev. Christy Polk, christy@oakhillspres.org

-Joan Spencer, joan Spencer@gmail.com

Hey Oak Hills... It's time to PLUG BACK IN!!



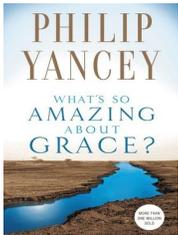
For too long, many of us have been in crisis mode, stalled in our spiritual rhythms due to COVID 19. As we move into the fall, we're challenging our whole church to PLUG BACK IN... choose at least one way to connect and grow beyond the Sunday worship service. Here are some options!



“Post-Church Coffee Talk” – join other worshippers via Zoom after each Sunday service (Sundays at 11:30am) to say hi, chat and catch up! This is a “digital fellowship hall.” Stop in for a minute or fifteen! *Check the church website for Zoom link – begins Sunday Sep. 13th.*



“Mid-Week Moment” with Pastor Jeremy – Wednesdays at 12pm. This online (Zoom) gathering is open to all. Pastor Jeremy will lead a brief time of reflection, discussion and prayer based on a weekly scripture passage. Come with an open mind and a desire to “refuel” mid-week! *Check the church website for Zoom link – begins Wednesday September 9th.*



“What's So Amazing About Grace” – Ten-week video-based study. This modern classic by Philip Yancey unpacks the subject of grace in a powerful way. Participants are invited to use the book, video or both. Each week, the group will meet online (via Zoom) to discuss the week's chapter/topic. (Time TBA. *To sign up or for more details contact Larry Totzke, ltotzke46@gmail.com.*)



“Eve to Mary: The Women in Jesus' Lineage” – Join Christy Polk and Sarah Sanderson for a nine-week series looking at the biblical women who form Jesus' lineage. This inspiring study shows the power of women's roles in God's great plan of redemption. Online study will meet weekly via Zoom. (Time TBA. *To sign up contact Sarah Sanderson, 2315sanderson@gmail.com.*



“The View from the Pew” – a weekly video interview featuring a member of the congregation. Tune in to see your fellow Oak Hills worshippers reflect on the week's sermon and other timely topics, or sign up to be interviewed! Videos air Thursdays on our church YouTube page. (Series ongoing. *To sign up to be interviewed contact Larry Totzke ltotzke46@gmail.com.*)



In-Home Devotions – for those looking to supplement the worship service, we will be providing questions and prompts for in-home devotions based on each week’s sermon passage. We will also be providing kid-friendly questions and activity suggestions for those needing a family friendly alternative to the worship service. Look for these in your inbox each week ahead of the Sunday service. (*Starting after Labor Day*).



Connect Groups – Several of our groups will be continuing this fall online, and new groups are forming. Let us know if you’re interested in joining or leading a group. These can be bible-focused, social, or strictly for fun (anyone want to start a weekly trivia group?). (*To be placed in a group or sign up to lead, contact Larry Totzke ltotzke46@gmail.com.*)



“Porch Time with the Pastor”: Individuals needing conversation, counsel, prayer or just a listening ear are welcome to sign up for a physically-distanced “porch sit” with Pastor Jeremy. In case of inclement weather we will sit physically distanced in the sanctuary. Times available Tuesday-Friday, 9-2pm. *Please call a day ahead to make arrangements, (503.654.4321)*

What About Worship...?

As we move into the fall, many have asked about our plans for weekly worship. It’s been a joy to capitalize on the beautiful weather for our outdoor services the past two weeks. We may continue as weather permits, although the enormous task of weekly sound set-up and takedown makes this hard to sustain. Stay tuned for updates, and consider volunteering to help with sound (call the church office).

Beyond outdoor worship, various options are being weighed by the Worship Task Force. Our sanctuary ventilation system is being evaluated for the risk associated with air circulation, and we are contemplating the disinfecting and other measures that would be needed to accommodate a small number of in-person worshippers in the sanctuary were we to move back inside. We are also investigating a parking lot/livestream option with preaching and music done under the portico roof of the church’s main entrance. There are no perfect solutions, but we are grateful for your prayers and patience as we seek to balance the need for safety with our calling to worship. We are committed to maintaining worship in some form each week without interruption. Stay tuned for details!

Thanks to all who have brought donations of canned food and/or new shoes for our community ministry partners.!

It is time to "Lace Up" with **Love INC** during the month of **August** for our annual shoe drive.



All the shoes donated are given to low income/homeless youth so each child has a pair of **new shoes**. We will collect them into early September to make sure the children have good shoes before the weather gets cold.

~Cathy Searles

Wichita Center ask for help with stocking their Food Pantry, which was almost empty. They were so appreciative of our quick response to their needs! I spent about \$250 shopping for items they desperately needed. I feel so fortunate to be part of our team and congregation as we help to meet a variety of needs at this time in our community. Bless you, Cathy Searles, Elder—Missions & Caring Committee,



“The Family Room”



"Greetings from The Family Room! We have missed seeing your faces around the church over the past months and think of you often. We know the shutdown has been tough for so many, but God has continued to be faithful, and has granted us moments of joy and celebration during this time. A major joy was that we were able to walk alongside and support two families as they reunited while our doors were closed! I also share with a grateful and excited heart that on June 15, we were able to re-open TFR, the doors of OHPC, and offer a safe and supported space for children and parents to begin visiting in person again! This summer, we have found creative ways to have fun, build connections, and even start serving some new families! Thank you for your continued support and prayers as parents and children work hard to reunify within the walls of OHPC."

The Family Room (www.familyroomoregon.org) is a local ministry that exists to strengthen relationships between foster children and their birth parents. They partner with area churches to create space for children and their birth parents to connect in a casual setting, share a meal, and move toward family reunification. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesdays 1:00-5:30 pm, our youth room will serve as the space for this program, allowing several families to enjoy a meal and supervised parenting experience. We are thrilled to partner with this worthy ministry, and look forward to deepening our connection with them through volunteer support. For those interested in assisting, please contact our program liaison Susan Teague (susanandrobbie@gmail.com).



SEPTEMBER



2020

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

SUNDAYS

Contemporary Worship 9:15am | Traditional Worship 11am

Nursery, Children's and Adult Classes 9:15 & 11am

Youth Class 11am | Youth Group 6pm

Iglesia Shalom (Hispanic Worship) 2-5pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 10am Worship	31 Office Closed 12-6:00pm TFR	1 12-6:00pm TFR	2 12-6:00pm TFR	3	4	5
6 10 am Worship  6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	7 Office Closed Labor Day	8 12-6:00pm TFR 2:00-7:00pm Blood Drive	9 12-6:00pm TFR 2:00pm Mission & Caring Meeting	10 Women's Assoc, (to be announced)	11	12
13 -Worship- 11:30am "Coffee Talk" (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	14 Office Closed 12-6:00pm TFR	15 12-6:00pm TFR 7pm Session Mtg	16 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	17	18	19
20 -Worship- 11:30am "Coffee Talk" (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	21 Office Closed 12-6:00pm TFR	22 12-6:00pm TFR	23 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	24	25	26
27 -Worship- 11:30am Coffee Talk (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	28 Office Closed 12-6:00pm TFR	29 12-6:00pm TFR	30 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	1	2	3



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)

2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 -Worship- 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	28 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6:00pm TFR	29 12-6:00pm TFR	30 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	1	2	3
4 World Communion -Worship- 11:30am Coffee Talk (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High	5 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6:00pm TFR	6 12-6:00pm TFR	7 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	8	9	10
11 -Worship- 11:30am Coffee Talk (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6:00pm TFR	13 12-6:00pm TFR	14 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR 2:00pm Mission & Caring Meeting	15	16	17
18 -Worship- 11:30am Coffee Talk (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6:00pm TFR	20 12-6:00pm TFR 7pm Session Mtg	21 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	22	23	24
25 -Worship- 11:30am Coffee Talk (zoom) 6:30-7pm Middle School (zoom) 7:30-8pm High School (zoom)	26 <i>Office Closed</i> 12-6:00pm TFR	27 12-6:00pm TFR	28 12pm "Mid-Week Moment" (zoom) 12-6:00pm TFR	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN