



Mark Your Calendar

Youth Advent Service

December 5 at 6:30 pm

Friends Together

December 7 & January 4 at 9:00 am
Freedom Square Diner

Combined Services

December 19 & 26 at 10:00 am

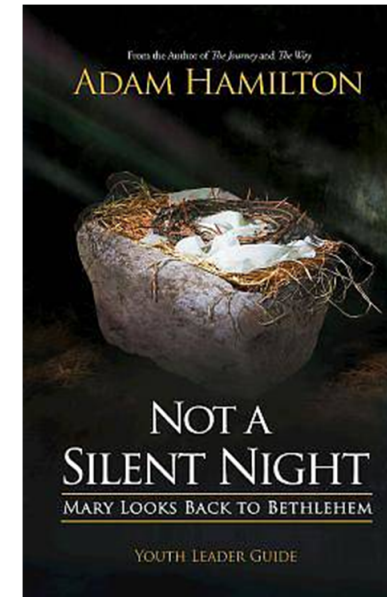
Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 7:30 pm

Hope Circle

January 13 at 11:00 am

December 2021 / January 2022



Advent Study for 2021

Not A Silent Night by Adam Hamilton

Tuesday Mornings: November 30-December 21 @ 10:00AM

Wednesday Evenings: December 1-December 22 @ 7:00PM

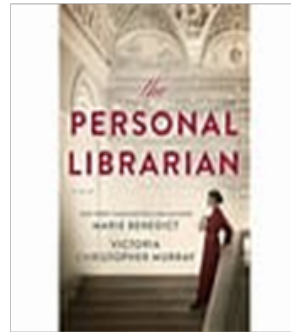
Books are available at Cokesbury.com and Amazon



Oakmont United Methodist Church

419 Maryland Ave
Oakmont, PA 15139
412-828-9499

**HOPE CIRCLE
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, Jan, 13th (no meeting in Dec.) at 11:00 in the Social Room to discuss *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. In her twenties, Belle da Costa Greene is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps create a world-class collection. But Belle has a secret, one she must protect at all costs. She was born not Belle da Costa Greene but Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. Belle's complexion isn't dark because of her alleged Portuguese heritage that lets her pass as white—her complexion is dark because she is African American.

The Personal Librarian tells the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit, and shares the lengths she must go to—for the protection of her family and her legacy—to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives. (from the publisher)

Please consider trying Hope Circle for an hour of fellowship and book discussion.

GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR OCTOBER

Balance	9/30	-\$9,046.27
Income		\$26,869.00
Expenses		\$16,777.18
Balance	10/31	\$1,045.55



Thank you for your continued support of the Oakmont United Methodist Church during this difficult and challenging time. Your offering can be sent by mail to:

*Oakmont United Methodist Church
419 Maryland Avenue
Oakmont, PA 15139*

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to pray for Edna Beglin, Charlene Brunner, Randal Burdelski, Barbara Charlton, Emma Lee Crannell, Robert Davis, Bill Deitch, Lou Ferguson, Bonnie, Beth Harley, Mark Harley, Joann Hildebrand, John Hildebrand, Eleanor Hitchak, Lynn Kittner, Bill Mechesney, Rose Miller, Megan Minyon, David Null, Cathy Smierciak, Julie Trenn, Betty Wilson, Leanna, Micaiah, Susan

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family and friends of Bill Moore who passed away on November 26.

The purpose of the Oakmont United Methodist Church is to grow in our dedication to the worship of God, the teaching of God's word and the caring ministry of Christ. We do this through Jesus' grace, mercy, and love which we share with the world through our daily living.



- 3 JoAnn Hildebrand
Jessica Jacka
- 5 Cory Kircher
Aiden Sciullo
- 6 Becky Houston
Maggie Kate Steimer
- 8 Jim Anderson
Terri Aubele
- 9 Gwyneth Fichte
Leah Lacey
- 13 Duncan Jones
- 15 Ashley Rajkowski
- 16 Barbara Charlton
Jennifer Binkley
- 18 Bonnie Allison
- 20 Randal Burdelski
Matthew Rajkowski
Marcus Shaffer
- 21 Derek Banas
James Denny
- 25 Colleen Briggs
- 26 Cheryl McClain
Angel Steimer
- 27 Donald Dezzutti
Gregory Gaughan
- 30 Joy Cottrill
- 31 Genevieve Casarcia



- 4 William Ashbaugh
Alex Caruso
- 7 Carol Ovamio
- 10 Terry Kaminsky
- 11 Julia Lenkey
Diane McCutcheon
Jason Smierciak
- 12 Bo Anderson
Lynn Kittner
- 16 Christine Smith
- 19 Kylie Briggs
- 20 Ryley Handyside
- 22 Jim Beiber
Chris Chapa
- 26 Gladys Fichte
Beth Harley
- 27 Michelle Walsh
- 28 Candice Ashbaugh
Bruce DeTurck
Steven Hein
- 29 Taylor Kennedy
Don Stoner, Sr.
- 30 Marty Kennedy
Beth Orbin
Arika Simmers
- 31 Catherine Rosfeld
Edna Beglin

The Caring Ministry of Oakmont UMC

The Caring Ministry seeks to reach out to members of Oakmont UMC who may have permanent, long, or short term situations that require some special help or attention. While COVID-19 restrictions have disrupted some outreach efforts, the ministry team has been faithful to its task. A different volunteer is responsible for coordinating each month of the year. Additional volunteers are available to help as needed. THANK YOU to each of these special people. THANK YOU to those who donated cards and/or stamps for mailings, rides to appointments, and meals. A special THANK YOU to the UMW for providing their delicious soup for 26 shut ins and those who have been ill or recently hospitalized.

Telephone calls, cards, and/or visits are made once each month to about 25 members who are unable to attend services without some special assistance. While visits (6) were down this year due to COVID restrictions, the number of outreach telephone calls soared to over 120. 86 copies of The Upper Room, generously provided by UMW, were mailed to shut ins this year with special assistance from Michele Handyside. THANK YOU, Michele, for all of the many things you do to help this ministry run smoothly. Cards are also sent in cases of hospitalization or loss of a loved one, as well as meals being provided if there is a need. In all, more than 260 cards were sent this year! 51 bouquets of altar flowers were delivered to shut-ins or others in need of cheering up. THANK YOU to Julia Lenkey for faithfully preparing the flowers for delivery. Special thanks to Donna Jacka and Dawn and Bob Whyte for all of the little things they do to assist the Caring Ministry.

Please contact Nancy Standifur (412-999-2990) or the church office (412-828-9499) if you or someone you know has a need that can be helped by The Caring Ministry. Also, please consider what you might do to assist this outreach ministry and contact Nancy about helping by making a phone call or a meal, sending cards, delivering flowers, or providing a ride. You can make a difference in someone's life!

We apologize if we inadvertently missed your birthday.

Please call the church office and let us know about your very special day!



A NOTE FROM SPRC

The holiday season is a time for giving, and for showing the people that we love and care about that we appreciate them. Please consider showing the OUMC staff that we appreciate all their hard work and contributions to our church. The SPRC committee will collect money and then will purchase gift cards for all the staff as a Christmas present from the OUMC. Please deliver your contributions by December 19th to either the church office or to any SPRC member. Thanks very much for your consideration of this request!

FRIENDS TOGETHER

Friends Together is an informal small group that is open to all who enjoy a meal with friends and good conversation. The group will meet for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on December 7th and January 4th at Freedom Square Diner in Verona. No reservation is needed, just come if you are able. Laughter and lots of good coffee are guaranteed!



Bakers needed!

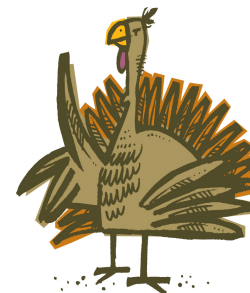
We will be delivering cookies to our homebound friends for Christmas. Please call the church office if you are willing to make some cookies. Donations should be dropped off at the church by 11:00 am on December 13.



Congratulations to Ashley and Matthew Rajkowski on the birth of their son! Connor Thomas Rajkowski was born on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. He is the grandson of Cindy & Tom Gaughan and Liz & Matt Rajkowski.



The 2022 Altar Flower Calendar has been posted in the hallway. Sign up for dates that you wish to purchase the altar flowers. The cost for flowers is \$25. Please mark a "T" or "L" by your name on the flower chart indicating if you are **Taking** them with you after the traditional service or **Leaving** them to be delivered to shut-ins.



Please take a turkey bag home to fill with non-perishable items for local food banks. Return your bags no later than December 19th. If you would like a bag delivered to your home please call the church office. Arrangements can also be made to pick up your donations.



"Your holiday shopping can help make a difference, at no additional cost to you!"

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, or in the Amazon app with AmazonSmile turned on within Settings, you'll find the same products and same low prices as the Amazon you already know - plus, they donate a portion of your purchases to your chosen charity.

*You can select us as your AmazonSmile charity by visiting:
smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1017592*



Youth Advent Service
Sunday, December 5, 2021
6:30 PM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles are due by **January 15th** for the February newsletter.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail, please call the church office or send us a message at oakmontumc@gmail.com

Combined Worship Services
December 19 & 26
10:00 AM

POINSETTIAS
FOR CHRISTMAS



Poinsettias to surround the altar on Christmas Eve must be ordered and paid for by **December 6** at a cost of \$10.00 each. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office with your check made payable to OUMC. **You may take your poinsettias following the Christmas Eve service.**

_____ RED _____ WHITE

Ordered by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

You also have the option of making donations toward the purchase of Giant Eagle gift certificates for the local food bank. Your name will also be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin with the names of those who order poinsettias. Donations must be received by **Dec. 6.**

Amount donated for the food bank _____

By _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____



Angel and Shepherd Tree

It's easy!

1. Take a shepherd/angel
2. Sign the sheet on the clipboard
3. Happy shopping and wrapping!
4. Return to church by December 19



Share the gift of warmth this Christmas by donating new gloves and mittens for children and adults through the Verona Food Pantry.

Please bring your donation to the Church by Sunday, December 19.

The Local Missions Committee is collecting new socks for Light of Life Mission in Pittsburgh throughout December. Socks for women, children, and men are needed. Please drop them off in the designated basket near the Angel and Shepherd Tree.



ON MY WAY TO BETHLEHEM

