



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
9:00 AM

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
10:30 AM



Upcoming Combined Worship Services
June 29 & August 31
one service at 10:00 AM



Oakmont United Methodist Church
419 Maryland Ave
Oakmont, PA 15139

June 2025

Oakmont United Methodist Church

Beloved Church Family,

May the God of Pentecost set our hearts ablaze and reignite our love for Christ.

On June 8, Christians around the world will celebrate Pentecost. Though Pentecost was not a new occurrence in biblical times, it has become synonymous with the birth of the Christian Church. For us as Methodists, our roots run deep into the season of Pentecost. It was on Whitsunday, another name for Pentecost, in 1738 that Charles Wesley experienced his born-again encounter with Christ. Just three days later, his brother John had his own profound conversion.

Because of these life-changing events, Methodists around the world observe May as *Methodist Heritage Month* and commemorate *Aldersgate Day* as a high spiritual moment in the lives of the Wesley brothers.

Recognizing the spiritual struggles and eventual breakthroughs of the Wesley brothers is pivotal to our identity as Methodists. Their journeys remind us of the importance of personal conversion and the public declaration of our faith. John Wesley's powerful words continue to resonate with believers:

"I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me, that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

Though John was already an Anglican priest, he lacked the joy and assurance of salvation he saw in his Moravian brothers, until he surrendered his will, his ways, and his works to the Lord. Out of this spiritual awakening on Aldersgate Street, Methodism was born.

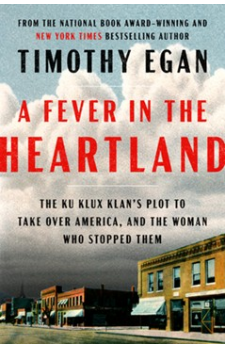
Each time we celebrate Pentecost, we are reminded that the work of the Holy Spirit cannot be contained. The Spirit makes relationships with Christ possible, sustains our faith, leads even the vilest sinner to believe, transforms hearts, reforms wills, reshapes values, and makes holiness our deepest desire. The Holy Spirit is the very lifeblood of the Church.

This Pentecost let us embrace the full manifestation of the Spirit. Let us rejoice in God's marvelous grace, so vividly at work in the lives of John and Charles Wesley, and in our lives, too. Above all, let us remember our own encounters with Christ and celebrate the grace of God that still saves, still calls, and is still freely given to all.

In Christ's love,

Rev. Natoya Thomas-Smith

HOPE CIRCLE
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, June 12th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Adult Sunday School Room to discuss *A Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan. The Roaring Twenties--the Jazz Age--has been characterized as a time of Gatsby frivolity. But it was also the height of the uniquely American hate group, the Ku Klux Klan. Their domain was not the old Confederacy, but the Heartland and the West. They hated Blacks, Jews, Catholics and immigrants in equal measure, and took radical steps to keep these people from the American promise. And the man who set in motion their takeover of great swaths of America was a charismatic charlatan named D.C. Stephenson.

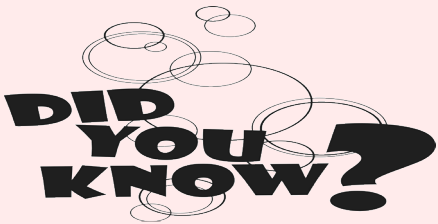
Stephenson was a magnetic presence whose life story changed with every telling. Within two years of his arrival in Indiana, he'd become the Grand Dragon of the state and the architect of the strategy that brought the group out of the shadows – their message endorsed from the pulpits of local churches, spread at family picnics and town celebrations. Judges, prosecutors, ministers, governors and senators across the country all proudly proclaimed their membership. But at the peak of his influence, it was a seemingly powerless woman – Madge Oberholtzer – who would reveal his secret cruelties, and whose deathbed testimony finally brought the Klan to their knees.

A FEVER IN THE HEARTLAND marries a propulsive drama to a powerful and page-turning reckoning with one of the darkest threads in American history. (From the publisher) Though the group mostly reads historical fiction, this is the true story of a mostly unknown part of this county's past.

Please consider Hope Circle, a place to enjoy fellowship and conversation.

GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR APRIL

Balance	3/31/2025	-\$10,840.65
Income		\$16,007.00
Expenses		\$19,599.73
Transfer from Endowment Fund		\$20,000.00
Balance	4/30/2025	\$5,566.62



After requesting and receiving donations for the Church gas line repair, we were made aware of an emergency grant through The Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church by our superintendent. With his help the grant was secured, and it covered most of the gas line repair cost. All those who donated were contacted about the grant and gave their permission to let the Church keep those donations for future emergency building repairs. We appreciate this benefit from the Conference and for being part of the connectional ministry.

Once again thank you to those members who responded to our request for donations to repair the gas line and for their generosity and commitment to Oakmont United Methodist Church.

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.



2 Sarah Kelley
4 Chuck Haught
10 Tom Parkins
Ray Rogers, Jr.
11 Ed Smierciak
12 AJ DiMatteo
David Orbin
13 Charlene Baker
14 Kara Klinsky
16 Elizabeth Delay
Tom English
17 Gigi Collins
18 Elise Jefferis
21 Andrew Huha
Raymond Myers
22 Helen Crawford
Paige Fichte
23 Angela Ashbaugh
Jane Foster
Hannah Lowe
25 Giovanna Delay
26 Nikole Martini

**We apologize if we inadvertently
missed your birthday.**

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

HELP WANTED - CUSTODIAN

Please consider this opportunity
to help our church

We have an immediate need for a custodian to clean the
church and set up for meetings and events.

Between 10 – 20 hours a week

If interested or if you know of someone who is interested,
please contact either Jim Ashbaugh at 412-607-7996 (cell)
or call the church office at 412-828-9499

Please respond by June 4, 2025

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles are due by June **15th** for
the July/August 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

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 Tuesday, June 3rd, at Freedom Square Diner in Verona. No reservation is needed, just come if you are able. Laughter and lots of good coffee are guaranteed!



PRAYER CONCERNS

Audra Assad, Terri Aubele, Randal Burdelski, Barbara Charlton, EmmaLee Crannell, Diane and Donald Dezzutti, Lew Ferguson, John Froehlich, Beth Harley, Joann Hildebrand, John Hildebrand, Julia Lenkey, Sharen Lenkey, Marigene Nelson, Cathy Smierciak

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family and friends of Ron Standifur who passed away on May 8.