



Beloved Church Family,

May God's all-sufficient grace sustain us all as we remain steadfast in faith, fervent in love, and filled with hope.

This is my final contribution to this newsletter, and I thank God for the opportunity to share these reflections with you over the past two years. In my first article, I wrote that ministry often means entering into the labors of others, as our Lord reminds us in John 4:38. I also acknowledged the unique nature of my cross-racial and cross-cultural appointment, as this was the first time your church had received a pastor from the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Today, I remain deeply grateful for the privilege of serving as your pastor. Thank you for the many ways you have helped me grow, not only as a leader but also as a person. Over these years, I have come to know more than your names. I have come to know your faith, your families, your joys, your struggles, and your hopes. Thank you for the conversations we shared and for allowing me the privilege of praying with you and for you.

As you enter a new season, you will experience changes not only in pastoral leadership but also in worship and other aspects of ministry within this church and beyond. Yet one truth I have held onto throughout my time as your pastor is this: God is trustworthy, and God's grace is sufficient.

I believe that wholeheartedly, and I commend that truth to you today. We serve by God's grace, and we continue because God equips us for every good work. Hold firmly to that promise.

Continue to love one another, encourage one another, and remain faithful to the mission God has entrusted to this congregation. Trust that the God who has guided you in the past will continue to lead you into the future.

Thank you for the honor of serving among you and for embracing my family with such kindness, love, and generosity throughout these years. Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and for the ministry of this church.

May the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

With prayerful thoughts and God's blessings,

Rev. Natoya Thomas-Smith



KINGDOM KIDS

THE KINGDOM KIDS GROUP IS A FUN PLACE FOR KIDS TO PLAY GAMES, MAKE CRAFTS, AND HEAR BIBLE STORIES. KIDS WILL LAUGH, LEARN, AND GROW AS THEY DISCOVER HOW MUCH GOD LOVES THEM!

MAY 3 **JUNE 7** **JULY 5**

Who:
Pre K - 5th Grade

We will divide into age groups at times throughout the night!

One Sunday a month!
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

5:30 - 6:30pm
419 Maryland Ave, Oakmont PA

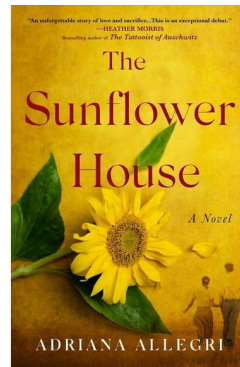
More Information: OUMCyouthdirector@gmail.com



Oakmont United Methodist Church

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

HOPE CIRCLE
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, June 11th, at 11:00 in the Adult Sunday School room to discuss *The Sunflower House* by Adriana Allegri. In a sleepy German village, Allina Strauss’s life seems idyllic: she works at her uncle’s bookshop, makes strudel with her aunt, and spends weekends with her friends and fiancé. But it’s 1939, Adolf Hitler is Chancellor, and Allina’s family hides a terrifying secret—her birth mother was Jewish, making her a Mischling.

One fateful night after losing everyone she loves, Allina is forced into service as a nurse at a state-run baby factory called Hochland Home. There, she becomes both witness and participant to the horrors of Heinrich Himmler’s ruthless eugenics program.

The Sunflower House is a meticulously-researched debut historical novel that uncovers the notorious Lebensborn Program of Nazi Germany. Women of “pure” blood stayed in Lebensborn homes for the sole purpose of perpetuating the Aryan population, giving birth to thousands of babies who were adopted out to “good” Nazi families. Allina must keep her Jewish identity a secret in order to survive, but when she discovers the neglect occurring within the home, she’s determined not only to save herself, but also the children in her care.

A tale of one woman’s determination to resist and survive, *The Sunflower House* is also a love story. When Allina meets Karl, a high-ranking SS officer with secrets of his own, the two must decide how much they are willing to share with each other—and how much they can stand to risk as they join forces to save as many children as they can. The threads of this poignant and heartrending novel weave a tale of loss and love, friendship and betrayal, and the secrets we bury in order to save ourselves. (From the publisher)

Please consider joining the group for an hour of discussion and fellowship.

GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR APRIL

Balance	3/31	-\$6,658.96
Income		\$16,327.00
Expenses		\$16994.00
Balance	4/30	-\$7,325.96



Did you KNOW?

Did you know there are two funds the Trustees have that you can donate to in addition to your regular offering? As you are aware there are many repairs needed to our building and we need to save toward those repairs. In addition to your regular weekly/monthly offering which supports the operation of the Church, you can donate to the Major Maintenance Repair Fund or to the Trustees Special Projects Fund. There are already members who donate weekly or monthly to those funds. Accumulating money in these funds allows us to make repairs to the building as needed and prepare for the bigger expenses such as the roof, plaster repairs and the air conditioning in the sanctuary. Simply make a note on your check or the envelope if you use one, the portion of your donation you wish to give toward either of these funds. Thank you for your consideration and God bless.

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.



Molly Lou Maguire was baptized during the 9:00 service on May 31st. Molly is the daughter of Kelly and Patrick and she is the sister of Hadley.

Congratulations to the newest confirmands of Oakmont UMC. On May 24th, we celebrated the confirmation of Sterling Fichte and Abasilum Smith.



Welcome New Members!

We welcome Kelly Maguire, Rose Miller, Kim Murray and Thomas Murray to the membership of Oakmont United Methodist Church.



SPRC will be hosting a farewell reception for Reverend Natoya on June 14th between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. June 14th will be her last day in the pulpit.. Please consider contributing a gift of appreciation for Reverend Natoya. We will be presenting her with this monetary gift at her farewell reception on June 14. Please place your gift in the offering plate or bag, or deliver it to the church office by June 11. Please write "Reverend Natoya" on the envelope or in the memo line of the check. We look forward to seeing everyone on June 11.

TWIN BOROS HEALTH MINISTRIES NEWS

Many years ago a group of volunteers met and established two goals:

- Provide programs promoting healthy life styles; and,
- Provide community assistance free to all.

Although operated out of Verona United Methodist Church, members came from many local churches, businesses and local community groups, including the Verona Police, the Verona Borough Council, and the Verona Chamber of Commerce. This assistance is provided in Verona and Oakmont through:

- The Summer Lunch and Fun Camp
- Monthly Community Dinners
- The Verona UMC Food Pantry
- The Verona UMC Clothes Closet
- Blessings in a Backpack

All of these programs need volunteers and monetary donations.

The Twin Boros Health Ministries and Verona United Methodist Church will sponsor a fund raiser on July 11 from noon to 7 p.m. in Railroad Park in Verona. There will be music, food, fresh baked desserts, games, and basket raffles. All proceeds will support the Summer Lunch and Fun Camp for 2026.

This year's Camp will be held at Verona United Methodist Church, 798 Herron Avenue, Verona, PA. Camp starts June 15 and runs through July 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday for children in 1st through 6th grade. Breakfast and lunch will be provided every day courtesy of the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank and Allegheny County Health Department. Each camp day features planned activities by paid staff who organize the program, including crafts and a weekly program provided by the Oakmont Carnegie Library.

Donations of money or supplies are welcome throughout the Camp's run. Children may register by completing the form provided by their school teachers.

If you have questions, you can call the Verona United Methodist Church at 412-828-8844 or send an email to VUMC1915@gmail.com. You can also call Shirley Davis at 412-828-3412. The Oakmont Missions Committee hopes you can attend the July 11 event.



- 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
- 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!



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 oakmtumc@gmail.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to pray for Audra Assad, Terri Aubele, Randal Burdelski, Emma Lee Crannell, Diane Dezzutti, Donald Dezzutti, Lew Ferguson, Beth Harley, Joann Hildebrand, John Hildebrand, Julia Lenkey, Sharen Lenkey, Jonathan Lewis, Tom Murray. Marigene Nelson, Janet Parkins, Cathy Smierciak, Ed Smierciak, Samantha Woods

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family and friends of Bob Whyte who passed away on May 13, 2026.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Donations to the general fund in memory of Bob Whyte have been received from Barbara Marcus, Susan Benedek, the Garden Club of Oakmont, Karen & John Jacobs, Michele & Bill Handyside, Tracy & Matt Provenza, Bill Charlton, Nancy & Dick Williams, Jeanne & J.H. Hackworth, Jean & Matt Wimer, Ruth & Paul Brown, Mary McFarland, Mary Joan & John Brown, Sherry & John Lauffer, Sharen Lenkey, Jan & Jim Beiber, Jim Jamieson, Gerald Pears and the neighbors of Bob Whyte.



Services will continue to be at 9:00 AM for the Contemporary Worship Service and 11:00 AM for the Traditional Worship Service up until July 5th when we move to one service at 9:00 AM.