



**Friends Together**  
November 2 at 9:00 am  
Freedom Square Diner

**Adopted Road Cleanup**  
November 6 starting at 8:30 am

**All Saints Sunday**  
November 7

**Hope Circle**  
November 11 at 11:00 am

**Oakmont's Hometown Christmas**  
November 20 from 4:00 - 8:00 pm

**Decorating for Christmas**  
November 27 at 10:00 am

## *November 2021*



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

“An attitude of gratitude” — that’s what we seek to instill in ourselves and in our family members. Thanksgiving lends itself to helping us name the many ways we are blessed. The following suggestions may enable our families to focus not just on being thankful for the food of the day, but also on true gratefulness for the many blessings experienced by our families. Stopping to identify blessings doesn’t mean that life has been easy in the past year. Everyone experiences difficulties and hardships. We can’t ignore the fact that hardships are part of life. This Thanksgiving, reflect together on families all around the world who have left their homes to move to other countries because of war, because of economic issues, or because of instability in their home countries. Many may not have the opportunities that we have to enjoy a meal with family members, to reflect together on the year, or to have a safe place to live. Yet, they too may be looking at life with an “attitude of gratitude” in spite of finding themselves in new places, with circumstances they didn’t anticipate, and with people they do not know. This year, consider using one or more of the following suggestions when you observe Thanksgiving in your home or with others:

- Create a place tag for every person who will partake of the Thanksgiving meal in your home. On one side of the tag, write the name of the person. On the other side, place a word or phrase from a verse of Scripture. Ask each person to line up according to the verse of Scripture. This determines who sits by whom during the meal. Say the Scriptures together after everyone has been seated.
- Identify family members and close friends of your family who will not be able to be with you at Thanksgiving. Create or purchase cards for each of these people. On Thanksgiving Day, invite all who are gathered in your home to sign and/or write a note on the cards to those who are missing. Don’t forget to mail the cards on the Friday following Thanksgiving!
- Make a blessing box. Ask different family members to write on slips of paper things for which they are thankful and to place the slips of paper in the blessing box. Use the box as a centerpiece on Thanksgiving Day. Pass around the box, pull out the slips of paper, and read the blessings.



***Oakmont United Methodist Church***  
419 Maryland Ave  
Oakmont, PA 15139  
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- Reflect on the past year. Ask each person gathered at your Thanksgiving celebration to share one thing that happened to him or her during the past year for which he or she is thankful.
- Take a photograph of all who are gathered with you to celebrate Thanksgiving. Label it “Thanksgiving 2021” and list on the back the names of all who are there and one thing each person is thankful for this year.
- Pray for those who have lost family members during the last year. Light a candle of remembrance and call out the names of those in the family who are no longer physically present.

God’s Blessings,  
Rev. Kathleen Schoeneck

## GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Balance	8/31	-\$9,912.69
Income		\$13,763.04
Expenses		\$12,896.62
Balance	9/30	-\$9,046.27



*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*



**Don’t forget to change your clocks!**

**Set your clocks back one hour and get an extra hour of sleep on Sunday, November 7!**

## 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

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations in memory of Barbara Arnold have been received from Elizabeth Burtnett, Jan & Jim Beiber, and Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc.

*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.*

*Did you know your purchases can make a difference? AmazonSmile donates to OUMC when you do your holiday shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1017592](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1017592).*

*Support us when you shop this holiday*

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- 2 Katie Houston
- Mason Rager
- 4 Jennifer Stapko
- 6 Thomas Lewis
- 8 Neyla Hawk
- 10 Lauren Medved
- Robert Whyte
- 14 Ella Caruso
- Brian Hawk
- Zoey Hawk
- 15 Jonathan Lewis
- 16 Deborah Casarcia
- Susan Hobaugh
- 17 Christine Davis
- 18 Jayne DiEmidio
- 20 Cindy Kircher
- James Lloyd
- 21 Kevin Trenn
- 23 Blair Biery
- Mark Harley
- 24 Robert Mitcheltree
- 26 Murphy Hawk
- Deborah Ormay
- 28 Julie Trenn

We apologize if we inadvertently missed your birthday.  
Please call the church office and let us know about your very special day!



**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 Nov. 2nd at Freedom Square Diner in Verona. No reservation is needed, just come if you are able. Laughter and lots of good coffee are guaranteed!

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Articles are due by **November 15th** for the December/January 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](mailto:oakmontumc@gmail.com)

**HOPE CIRCLE  
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, Nov. 11th at 11:00 in the Social Room to discuss *The Last Garden in England* by Julia Kelly, a poignant and unforgettable tale of five women living across three different times whose lives are all connected by one very special place.

*Present day:* Emma Lovett, who has dedicated her career to breathing new life into long-neglected gardens, has just been given the opportunity of a lifetime: to restore the gardens of the famed Highbury House estate, designed in 1907 by her hero Venetia Smith. But as Emma dives deeper into the gardens' past, she begins to uncover secrets that have long lain hidden.

*1907:* A talented artist with a growing reputation for her ambitious work, Venetia Smith has carved out a niche for herself as a garden designer to industrialists, solicitors, and bankers looking to show off their wealth with sumptuous country houses. When she is hired to design the gardens of Highbury House, she is determined to make them a triumph, but the gardens—and the people she meets—promise to change her life forever.

*1944:* When land girl Beth Pedley arrives at a farm on the outskirts of the village of Highbury, all she wants is to find a place she can call home. Cook Stella Adderton, on the other hand, is desperate to leave Highbury House to pursue her own dreams. And widow Diana Symonds, the mistress of the grand house, is anxiously trying to cling to her pre-war life now that her home has been requisitioned and transformed into a convalescent hospital for wounded soldiers. But when war threatens Highbury House's treasured gardens, these three very different women are drawn together by a secret that will last for decades.

In this sweeping novel reminiscent of Kate Morton's *The Lake House* and Kristin Harmel's *The Room on Rue Amélie*, Julia Kelly explores the unexpected connections that cross time and the special places that bring people together forever. (from the publisher)

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



### 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!



**Help Us "Spruce"  
Up the Church!**

*We will be decorating the church at 10:00 on Saturday, November 27. There will be snacks and coffee provided. Please offer a helping hand.*



### ***Oakmont UMC Adopted highway clean-up***

*we hope you can help us clean our adopted road*

***November 6, 2021***

*We will meet at 8:30 am at S&T Bank  
across from Sheetz*

*Any time you can give is appreciated!*

*bags, gloves & vests provided.*