



*October 2021*



**Friends Together**  
October 5 at 9:00 am  
Freedom Square Diner

**Hope Circle**  
October 14 at 11:00 am

**Fall Festival**  
October 17 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

**All Church Meeting**  
October 24 at 12:00 pm

**Church Conference**  
October 28 at 7:00 pm

**Bake Sale**  
October 31 following both services

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is hard for me to believe that we are coming into our second charge conference together. The time and date of this annual charge conference is Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00PM.

As I prepare for this conference, I would like all of you to know that your nominating committee has been busy discerning who has the God given gifts and people skills to lead our committees and also to serve on our boards.

Many of our committees still have open spaces to be filled by those who want to serve God and the Church:

Nominations Committee

SPRC/PPRC (Staff and Pastor Parish Relations Committee)

Worship Support Committee

Local Missions Committee

Oakmont UMC is also very grateful to our church treasurer; Liz Rajkowski; for the hours and energy that she puts into her calling. As you all may or may not know, Liz does this as a volunteer and as part of her discipleship walk as an offering to Christ and her church. After and additional 20 years in the position, she is planning to “retire” for reasons that many could appreciate.

Because Liz has volunteered her time, finding a replacement comes under the Nominating Committee’s duties.

Liz has graciously put together a “job profile” that is available in the church office. This job includes working knowledge of Church Windows software, payroll and end of year W2s.

Please pray for the right persons to step forward for all of our committees. Pray for God’s grace of cover Oakmont United Methodist Church.

Through Christ,

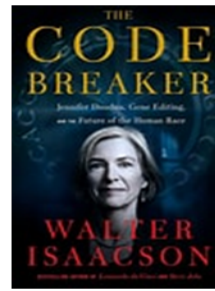
Rev. Kathleen Schoeneck



***Oakmont United Methodist Church***

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

## HOPE CIRCLE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, Oct. 14th at 11:00 in the Social Room to discuss *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race* by Walter Isaacson.

When Jennifer Doudna was in sixth grade, she came home one day to find that her dad had left a paperback titled *The Double Helix* on her bed. She put it aside, thinking it was one of those detective tales she loved. When she read it on a rainy Saturday, she discovered she was right, in a way. As she sped through the pages, she became enthralled by the intense drama behind the competition to discover the code of life. Even though her high school counselor told her girls didn't become scientists, she decided she would. Driven by a passion to understand how nature works and to turn discoveries into inventions, she would help to make what the book's author, James Watson, told her was the most important biological advance since his co-discovery of the structure of DNA. She and her collaborators turned a curiosity of nature into an invention that will transform the human race: an easy-to-use tool that can edit DNA. Known as CRISPR, it opened a brave new world of medical miracles and moral questions.

The development of CRISPR and the race to create vaccines for coronavirus will hasten our transition to the next great innovation revolution. The past half-century has been a digital age, based on the microchip, computer, and internet. Now we are entering a life-science revolution. Children who study digital coding will be joined by those who study genetic code. Should we use our new evolution-hacking powers to make us less susceptible to viruses? What a wonderful boon that would be! And what about preventing depression? Hmm...Should we allow parents, if they can afford it, to enhance the height or muscles or IQ of their kids?

After helping to discover CRISPR, Doudna became a leader in wrestling with these moral issues and, with her collaborator Emmanuelle Charpentier, won the Nobel Prize in 2020. Her story is a thrilling detective tale that involves the most profound wonders of nature, from the origins of life to the future of our species. (from the publisher)

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

## GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR AUGUST

Balance	7/31	-\$4,177.64
Income		\$12,477.06
Expenses		\$18,212.11
Balance	8/31	-\$9,912.69



*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*

***\*\*\*\*\*An all church meeting will take place on October 24th immediately following the 11:00 service to discuss the possible use of Endowment funds to help with the current deficit. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Members may vote.***

## 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, Janet Parkins, Cathy Smierciak, Julie Trenn, Betty Wilson, Leanna, Micaiah, Susan

## IN SYMPATHY

**Our sympathy and prayers** go out to the family and friends of Barbara Arnold who passed away on September 1, 2021.

*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 Rhianna Mechesney
- 4 Donna Maggio
- 6 Katherine Burdelski
- 7 Jeff Allen  
Cindy DiCocco
- 8 Mark R. Dicocco  
Jill Hall  
Donna Medved
- 9 Cathy Smierciak
- 11 Victoria Burdelski  
Alica Mechesney
- 14 Cindy Chapa  
Cameron Marzullo
- 15 Megan Minyon
- 17 Jan Beiber
- 22 Sharen Lenkey
- 23 Rob Jackson  
Nancy Standifur
- 27 Janet Delchambre  
Eric McCall
- 28 Jacqueline Kaminsky
- 29 Owen Szallay
- 30 Alexis Ferguson  
Sean Provenza



Myla Rager was baptized in the sanctuary on September 26. Myla is the daughter of Alyssa & Joshua and sister of Maddox and Mason.



*Save the date for  
Church Conference!  
October 28, 2021  
7:00 PM*

## UMW NEWS

Dear OUMC Members

It seems like the Oakmont United Methodist Women have been jumping through hoops for the past 20 months trying to observe the various limitations caused by Covid 19. Every time we think we have a plan, a new obstacle pops up and we have had to reverse course. Luckily, we squeezed in the Indoor Yard Sale between obstructions, and we donated our profits to the General Fund of OUMC.

We recently decided that it is not possible to make caramels this year, considering the large number of volunteers required and the inability to social distance and wear gloves and masks to complete the task. Now, with the Delta variant making headway and considering how few of us will have a third vaccine before the November date due to eligibility, we sadly announce that there will be no Annual Christmas Bazaar again this year.

Dawn Whyte and Sherry Lauffer have been busy in the kitchen making Vegetable Beef Soup and Stuffed Pepper Soup which will be on sale on an individual basis. There will also be jams, jellies, pickles available and Nancy Standifur has been busy keeping us supplied with scrubbies! Just give Dawn a call at 412-849-6834 and she can meet you at church.

We look forward to a time when we don't have to worry about restrictions and can resume working as a team and enjoying the fellowship of providing for our church. In the meantime, everyone stay safe and healthy.

Your in Christ,

Julie Whyte Trenn

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

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



Sunday, October 17

2:00 - 4:00 PM

All kids are welcome!

Bring a friend, wear a mask and  
come have fun!

If anyone is interested in helping  
with this event please let Jess  
Jacka know!



The Hand Chime Ensemble will  
meet Sundays at 6:00 pm starting  
October 3rd. Everyone ages 10  
through adult is welcome to join,  
no experience necessary!

### ***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 Oct. 5th at Freedom Square Diner in  
Verona. No reservation is needed, just  
come if you are able. Laughter and lots of  
good coffee are guaranteed!



### ***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.*

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Articles are due by **October 15th** for the November 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)

**OCTOBER 31**

**AFTER THE 9:00 & 11:00 SERVICES**

# **BAKE SALE**

**FUNDRAISER for  
the general fund**

**Please bring items pre-packaged for sale**



## **The beauty of stewardship**

Stewardship has to do with how we manage our time, talent, resources — basically our entire lives. It's a beautiful concept when properly understood. Here are the basics of good stewardship:

God is the source of all creation, including our lives. God is the primary owner of all that exists.

We are blessed by being given the task of managing well all that we have influence over: our lives, our abilities, our minds and bodies, our time, our part of the earth, our finances, our children, our church buildings, our automobiles, etc.

Although we can make decisions regarding each of the above, ultimately we are responsible to God. Sooner or later, we must give an account of our management of God's creation and of God's gifts.

When we properly use the talents, resources and property that God allows us to manage, we find great joy. Think of planting a garden which soon overflows with colorful flowers, wonderful vegetables and flavorful herbs, etc. God gave us the plot of ground, God gave us the seed, God gave us the wisdom and strength to bring forth such beauty, such good things to see or eat, or smell. Yet we did the work, with God's help, to make it a reality. Like Adam we tilled it and kept it. But God gave the increase. God's provisions and our labor brought the garden to its fulfillment.

Good stewardship enables us to do something positive and wonderful with the money God has allowed us to have. What feels better than knowing one has managed money well? Our bank account, our checkbook and our portfolio tell the story. When money is handled well, we have enough for ourselves and are still able to give to God's work.

That is the beauty of stewardship.



(taken from *The Newsletter, Newsletter* October 2003)