



TRUNK OR TREAT

Join us for a family-friendly afternoon of Halloween fun! Bring the whole family, wear your favorite costume, and get ready for treats, games, and fun!

 **Sunday, October 18th**
1:00 - 2:30

If it rains, we'll move the fun inside!

Free to attend!

We'll also have drinks, hotdogs, and chips available for just a few dollars for those who would like something to eat or drink!

 **Oakmont UMC**
419 Maryland Ave.

QUESTIONS?
412-828-9499
OUMCYOUTHDIRECTOR@GMAIL.COM



Oakmont United Methodist Church

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

Greetings,

This is an exciting month in the life of Oakmont United Methodist Church. We are returning to the sanctuary for worship, and during the first two weeks of the month we will celebrate both Sacraments of the Church. What a wonderful opportunity to experience the movement of the Holy Spirit in our worship!

The first Sunday in October is observed as World Communion Sunday by many Christians around the world. As the harvest season approaches, it is good to be reminded of God's gracious provision as we share in the meal Jesus instituted so long ago. Communion, also known as the Eucharist or the Lord's Supper, is one of the two sacraments celebrated in the Methodist tradition, along with Baptism.

A sacrament is an outward and visible sign of God's inward and spiritual grace. We celebrate these two sacraments because Jesus not only participated in them but also instructed the Church to continue them. Christian traditions may differ in their theology and practice of the sacraments, but Communion and Baptism have been central practices of the Church for centuries.

Some churches celebrate Communion every week. Some use a full liturgy, while others simply offer the words of institution Jesus gave to his disciples. In the Wesleyan tradition of which we are a part, Communion was often celebrated quarterly because that was when an ordained elder was able to be present to preside. The circumstances that led to quarterly Communion eventually changed, but the tradition long outlived its original purpose. (Something many churches have experience with!) As something of a compromise between weekly and quarterly Communion, many Methodist churches eventually settled into a pattern of monthly celebrations.

In our tradition, the Sacraments are something more than mere tokens or symbols. While we do not believe that the bread and the wine—or, in our case, Welch's grape juice—cease to be bread and juice, we believe that God is truly present and at work through the power of the Holy Spirit in the elements of Communion and in the waters of Baptism.

John Wesley understood the sacraments as means of grace: ways through which God's grace is given to God's people. Communion and Baptism are places where we encounter God.

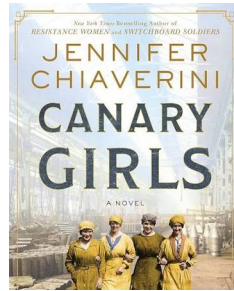
Because God's grace is freely offered, we celebrate what is called an "open table," where all who are present are invited to receive Communion. And we believe that "all" really does mean all. God's grace is open to people of every nation, age, gender, race, social status, and circumstance—to saints and sinners alike.

One does not need to fully understand Communion in order to receive Communion. I have offered the bread and cup to children who were just learning to walk and to people of very advanced age who could no longer remember their own names. And yet the same grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is offered to each one.

That is the beautiful mystery of the Sacraments: we do not come because we understand everything about God's grace. We come because God has invited us to receive it.

Pastor Jim

HOPE CIRCLE BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



Hope Circle will meet on Thursday, Oct. 8th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Adult Sunday School Room to discuss *Canary Girls* by Jennifer Chiaverini. Early in the Great War, men left Britain's factories in droves to enlist. Struggling to keep up production, arsenals hired women to build the weapons the military urgently needed. "Be the Girl Behind the Man Behind the Gun," the recruitment posters beckoned. Thousands of women—cooks, maids, shopgirls, and housewives—answered their nation's call. These "munitionettes" worked grueling shifts often seven days a week, handling TNT and other explosives with little protective gear. Among them is nineteen-year-old former housemaid April Tipton. Impressed by her friend Marjorie's descriptions of higher wages, plentiful meals, and comfortable lodgings, she takes a job at Thornshire Arsenal near London, filling shells in the Danger Building—difficult, dangerous, and absolutely essential work. Joining them is Lucy Dempsey, wife of Daniel Dempsey, Olympic gold medalist and star forward of Tottenham Hotspur. With Daniel away serving in the Footballers' Battalion, Lucy resolves to do her bit to hasten the end of the war. When her coworkers learn she is a footballer's wife, they invite her to join the arsenal ladies' football club, the Thornshire Canaries. The Canaries soon acquire an unexpected fan in the boss's wife, Helen Purcell, who is deeply troubled by reports that Danger Building workers suffer from serious, unexplained illnesses. One common symptom, the lurid yellow hue of their skin, earns them the nickname "canary girls." Suspecting a connection between the canary girls' maladies and the chemicals they handle, Helen joins the arsenal administration as their staunchest, though often unappreciated, advocate. The football pitch is the one place where class distinctions and fears for their men fall away. As the war grinds on and tragedy takes its toll, the Canary Girls persist despite the dangers, proud to serve, determined to outlive the war and rejoice in victory and peace. (From the publisher)

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

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please continue to pray for Audra Assad, Terri Aubele, Randal Burdelski, EmmaLee Crannell, Diane Dezzutti, Donald Dezzutti, Lew Ferguson, Joann Hildebrand, Julia Lenkey, Sharen Lenkey, Jonathan Lewis, Tom Murray, Marigene Nelson, Janet Parkins, Cathy Smierciak, Ed Smierciak. Sheakleyville United Methodist Church, UMC Missionary Leah Swineford, her students and their families

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles are due by **October 15th** for the November newsletter.

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

We are moving back to the sanctuary for worship beginning on October 4th!

Thank you to everyone who helped with moving items upstairs.



You are invited to join the adult Sunday school class. We meet in the parlor on Sunday mornings after church service. Currently we are studying the major prophets of the bible with an emphasis on Isaiah. There are plenty of comfortable seats and your participation is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you soon!

- Adult Sunday school class.

GENERAL FUND NUMBERS FOR AUGUST

Balance 7/31	-\$9,129.18
Income	\$13,096.00
Expenses	\$14,404.27
Transfer in from Endowment Fund	\$10,000.00
Balance 8/31	-\$437.45



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

There are dates on the altar flower calendar still available. Let us know if you would like to purchase them in honor or in memory of someone for November 1, November 22 or December 13. The cost for the flowers is \$30 and you can take them home following worship or you can leave them to be delivered to someone who needs uplifted.



Friends Together

Friends Together will meet on October 6th at Denny’s in Harmarville. Join the group for breakfast at 10:00 AM if you can!

Did you KNOW?

Did you know that our church offers Sunday School classes for all ages every Sunday at 10:15 a.m.? We have classes for nursery, children, youth, and adults, so there’s a place for everyone to learn, grow, and connect!

And we’d love to grow our adult Sunday School offerings! If you’re interested in starting or joining a new adult class, please let Katherine Burdelski, Jess Jacka, or anyone from the Education Committee know. We’d love to hear your ideas and help make it happen!

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.

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