

*a holy interruption*



ADVENT ~ 2016  
OVERLAKE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## pastor's letter



Dear OPPC,

We are in an exciting place. Our leadership has been tending questions about God's future vision for our church and we are spending the next several months praying, seeking, and imagining. There is no more joyful place than to have a firm foundation and the luxury of asking God what He wants of us. It is a great gift to wonder together and to trust the Spirit to intercede with plans for how we can bring love, hope, and peace to our world.

Join us in prayerfully asking God's Spirit to guide us. Our elders have brainstormed ideas and are now seeking more data to know how we may be called to develop our programs or campus to fit the needs of our community. Talk to our elders. Ask questions. Wonder with us as we imagine a new future rooted in our established faith of which so many who have gone before us built. Expect God to move us into something only God can do and invest - invest your heart, time, and resources into the work of God in our midst.

And...join us for all of the wonderful Advent happenings at OPPC to prepare your heart and your mind for the coming of our King!

Bless you,  
Pastor Becki

## advent and christmas services

### A HOLY INTERRUPTION

The knock at the door. The surprise visit from a trusted friend. The light that overwhelms the black of night. There is something significant about an interruption in our day. Although we have been celebrating Christ's birth for centuries, we often forget the unimaginable hope Christ's birth proclaims. In the mundane, we forget Christ's birth changed everything. In the dark, calm of night our Savior crashed into the world to claim humanity as His own. It was a holy interruption and nothing will ever be the same.

Join us this Advent Season as we prepare to listen anew to the interruption we all need again and again. Jesus Christ - our Emmanuel - has come.

Sunday, Nov. 27th (10:00 a.m.)  
1st Sunday of Advent: Hope (Romans 13:11-14)

Sunday, Dec. 4th (10:00 a.m.)  
2nd Sunday of Advent: Peace (Matthew 5:1-10)

Sunday, Dec. 11th (10:00 a.m.) ~ Christmas Pageant and Potluck  
3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy (Luke 1:26-38)

Sunday, Dec. 18th (10:00 a.m.) ~ Choir Cantata  
4th Sunday of Advent: Love (Ephesians 3:14-21)

Saturday, Dec. 24th (7:00 p.m.) ~ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Luke 2)

Sunday, Dec. 25th (10:00 a.m.) ~ Christmas Morning at OPPC

## children

### LET'S GO SEE THE SAVIOR ADVENT CHAIN

*Available Sunday, Nov. 27 - the first Sunday of Advent*

A great way to count the days until Jesus arrives at Christmas! Each day of Advent, this traditional chain grows longer - providing families with a wonderful seasonal decoration. Each link includes a prayerful poem about the biblical characters who journeyed to the Bethlehem manger to see Jesus. Cutting is required.

## youth

### WHITE ELEPHANT CHRISTMAS PARTY

*Sunday, Dec. 4th at 6:00 p.m.*

Our final youth group of the year will be on Sunday, Dec. 4th - and it's going to be a good one! Come from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. for our White Elephant Christmas Party! Everyone is asked to bring a \$5 gift to exchange and a dessert to share. Friends are welcome!

## all church

### DAILY ADVENT MEDITATIONS AND PRAYERS

*Peace, Hope, Light: Reflections on the Writings of C.S. Lewis, by Dr. Joel Heck*

Deepen your Advent experience this season with insights from C.S. Lewis, one of the most prolific and popular Christian apologists of the twentieth century, followed by reflections from CS. Lewis scholar, Dr. Joel Heck. The daily Scripture, quotes, reflections and prayers will serve as a faithful fellow traveler accompanying you through Advent and enriching your Christmas preparations as you await the Savior who comes offering peace, hope and light for all.

*Advent Devotionals will be available in the church narthex starting the first Sunday of Advent.*

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AND POTLUCK

*Sunday, Dec. 11th at 10:00 a.m.*

Be sure to join us on Sunday, Dec. 13th for worship at 10:00 a.m. for an morning of Christmas cheer. Our morning will begin with worship in the sanctuary with our Christmas program, "The Birthday Boy Is Coming." Following the program, we'll move to Fellowship Hall and enjoy a potluck lunch. Please be sure to sign up to bring a dish to share with everyone, and join us around the table.

If you're interested in participating in the Christmas program, contact Becca at [beccas@oppc.org](mailto:beccas@oppc.org) and mark your calendar for two rehearsals on Sunday, Dec. 4th from 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and the morning of Sunday, Dec. 11th at 8:30 a.m. Everyone is invited and welcome to participate!

### CHOIR CANTATA ~ Tapestry of Light: A Celtic Christmas Celebration

*Sunday, Dec. 18th at 10:00 a.m.*

Join the OPPC congregation for worship on Dec. 18th as the Chancel Choir shares Joseph Martin's "Tapestry of Light: A Celtic Christmas Celebration." Springing from the rich heritage of "celtic" Christmas music comes a cantata overflowing with hope and light. From seasonal songs that lift the spirits to quiet carols of reflection and peace, this work is filled with the music of grace. Incorporating Scripture readings, the lighting of candles, and expressive vocal writing, this choral tapestry richly tells the Christmas story using familiar carols and folk songs. This morning of music will warm the hearts of all who hear it.

### ALL-CHURCH GINGERBREAD HOUSE BUILDING EXTRAVAGANZA!

*Sunday, Dec. 18th at 11:30 a.m.*

Sunday, Dec. 18th is the Third Annual All-Church Gingerbread Housebuilding Extravaganza! Everyone is welcome to come to Fellowship Hall after worship from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Come for a time of fun, creative, and friendly fellowship. All we ask is that you bring a bag of "house building" candy to share.

*Graham Crackers and frosting will be provided.*

### CHRISTMAS MORNING at OPPC

*Sunday, Dec. 25th at 10:00 a.m.*

Join us at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 25th to celebrate Christmas! We will gather in the Fellowship Hall with cinnamon rolls, fruit, and coffee to share in the joy of Christmas morning together. Come as you are (pajamas, slippers, and cozy Christmas sweaters are strongly encouraged!). Enjoy time to talk, pray, and hear the story of Christ's birth with your church family before returning home to celebrate the day.



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Please join us for

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

7:00 p.m.

*Christmas Morning Gathering*

10:00 a.m.

[www.oppc.org](http://www.oppc.org) ~ (425) 746-8080 ~ [office@oppc.org](mailto:office@oppc.org)  
office hours: Monday - Thursday (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)