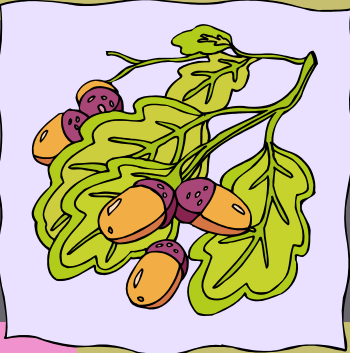


July/August 2011

Come Grow With Us!



Dear Oak Tree Friends,

It is summer and the living is easy. I hope that you all have some time to soak in the sun and rest a bit. Take some time to enjoy God's creation and the beauty of the season. I heard recently about a church that closes their doors completely for the month of August, and they've been doing so for a hundred years or more! The members simply take the month off from church! Before you get any bright ideas— let me assure you that taking the summer off was not good for that congregation and its not good for a soul's well being! Here at Oak Tree we've decided to do just the opposite! Instead of taking the summer off— we're going to try some new things! We will continue to worship at 10:00 AM each Sunday, instead of moving to the earlier summer time. We will also be offering a mid-week opportunity for a different kind of worship. Each Wednesday in July we will have our Backyard Barbeques and then move inside for a contemplative worship service. This service will not have a traditional sermon and will include times of silence, times of meditative singing, and opportunities for prayers for healing and wholeness. Why not come and try a new way of worshipping our God and listening for what God has to say to us?

Our summer seminary intern, David Shearer will help lead these Wednesday worship services and he will also be leading most of our Thursday Evening Bible Studies. I hope you can all join us for something a little new and different this summer! See you in church!

Peace and joy,

Rev. Jill

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God— what is good and acceptable and perfect.

John 14: 9-12

OTPC - July at a glance

- 12—Oak Tree @ FISH Clothing Room
- 17—Talk Back to your Pastor 11:15 AM
- 24—Ministry Groups meet 11:15 AM

Summer BBQs -Wednesdays at 6:30 PM followed by **Contemplative Worship** at 7:30 PM

Bible Study — Thursdays at 6:30 PM

OTPC - August at a glance

- 1—Session Meeting
- 4—Brighton Gardens Visit 2 PM
- 12—Oak Tree @ FISH Clothing Room
- 17—Free Spaghetti Dinner
- 21—Talk Back to your Pastor 11:15 AM
- 24—Ministry Groups meet 11:15 AM
- 31—Free Spaghetti Dinner

Bible Study — Thursdays at 6:30 PM

OAK TREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Leaves

Think Summer!



Free Dinner! The Board of Deacons and the Fellowship and Outreach Ministry Group have teamed up and decided to offer a free Spaghetti Dinner to the community on two Wednesdays in August. Dinners will be August 17th and 31st from 6:30 to 8:00 PM and are open to our members and the community. We are soliciting donations of pasta, sauce, meatballs, and bread. Bring your donations to the

church or see Madelynne Lindsey or Florence Chukwunke to volunteer. Many hands make light work— let's work together to feed the hungry and one another this summer.

Day at the Beach

Youth in grades 7 & up are invited to a day at the beach on July 19th, leaving the church at 8 AM. Cost for the day will be about \$30. If you are interested, please let Rev. Jill know.



Summer Worship will remain at 10 AM this year.

Summer is often a time of low attendance and low giving in the church. We hope that you will include God and the church in your summer plans this year. We miss you when you're not here! Please make every effort to keep your pledge current this summer.

God's House

The Yellow Brick Sidewalk

Walking to Oak Tree Church is a little risky these days. Our sidewalk is turning to rubble and needs to be replaced. Estimates to replace the sidewalk came in at approximately \$160 per square and we need about 60 squares! Won't you consider buying one square of our much-needed walkway?

Taking Care of God's House

Work on our building is never done. We did a lot on our exterior building last year, but there is still more to do. Won't you consider a donation to our Building Fund this summer to help us fund some needed improvements? We need to replace the back door, back sidewalk, and our entire front sidewalk. We are also looking to save a little money this year by

having some of our members cut the grass and do some of our yard work. If you can pull some weeds, cut the grass, or trim some bushes come on over! See Jeff Reeves if you are willing to help.



NURTURING THE SPIRIT

Thursday Evening Study

Our summer intern David Shearer says: "We are now two weeks into our Summer Bible Study and so far we have had a lot of fun. If you have been to one or both of them, I want to encourage you to keep coming so that we can continue to learn together. If you haven't been able to make it, I want to invite you for the first time. Our study is designed so that you can jump in at any point. Join us on Thursday nights at 6:30 as we continue to delve into some of the more obscure Old Testament Texts." Included in the upcoming studies will be Moses, Amos, and a look at some of the odd dietary laws. Inquiring minds want to know!

Talk Back to your Pastor

on the Third Sunday of every month after worship! We will have a light lunch in the Sunday School room and an opportunity to discuss the sermon for the day! This is for all adults who want to explore the topic further. Texts of the sermons will be provided. Talk back for July will be on the 17th and for August it will be the 21st.



Be Still and Know

During our summer worship services we will be incorporating a few times of silence into the worship format. We will also be trying a different way of beginning worship with silent meditation and occasionally some meditative music. We had such a positive response to our Good Friday Prayer Vigil and service that we decided to try some other forms of prayer and silent contemplation. After our Wednesday Barbeques we will also be offering a contemplative worship service with opportunities for silent meditation on God's word and meditative singing. Let us be still before God our Maker.

BACKYARD BARBEQUES BEGIN JULY 6TH

Join us in July for our annual backyard barbeques. The grill is ready, meat and beverages are provided—all you have to do is bring a friend and a side dish or dessert to share! We will begin with supper at 6:30 PM and will eat and fellowship together for about an hour. After that we will move inside for an informal Taize-style worship and prayer service at 7:30 PM. This worship time will

be meditative and quiet, inviting us to dwell on God's word and how it can help us in times of adversity, stress, pain, and loss. We hope to see you in our backyard every Wednesday in July!



OAK TREE CARES

FISH UPDATE

The FISH Clothing Room is a busy place these days. With our current economy there is a great need for gently used clothing. Donations of new underwear and socks are also appreciated. Why not do a little spring cleaning and bring your clothing donations to Oak tree this week? This summer we will be going to FISH on Tuesday, July 12th & August 9th from 8:30 a.m. till noon. If you can help with this ministry, please see Susan Sendelsky.



Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Christ Jesus.
Romans 12:12-13

A NOTE OF THANKS

"Thank you to all the Deacons, Knit One, Pray Too and other friends at Oak Tree for their generous support of the baby shower that we sponsored on Sunday June 26 for Shelter Mom Alicia and her beautiful 6 week old son Juan Carlos. Your collective generosity and warm welcome proved to be a great blessing for Alicia and Juan. Please join us as we pray for their smooth transition to public housing in nearby New Brunswick in the coming weeks. Alicia has expressed an interest in visiting us again to attend Sunday worship services and we will be delighted to see them both again! God Bless you all for your compassion and generosity.

In Christ's service,
Susan Sendelsky
for the Board of Deacons"

Worship Assistants

Thank you to everyone who helps with ushering and coffee hour at Oak Tree! We appreciate all you do. We have placed the list of Usher duties on the inside door of the usher's closet. Please review the list when you arrive early on your Sunday and make certain that everything is in order for the service. After the service make sure the sanctuary is ready for the next service. Helpers for the months of July & August are:

July 3: *Communion Ushers:* Karen Wallner, Mary Ellen Martin, Terry Gleason; *Communion Set-Up:* Florence Chukwuneke, Doreen Magnani; *Acolyte:* Dan Kitsko; *Coffee:* Madelynne Lindsey, Ginny Ferrante; *Nursery:* Nancy Sittinger.

July 10: *Ushers:* Joyce Biegen, Terry Landrigan, Carmello Corsello; *Nursery:* Eleanor Ternyik; *Coffee:* Len & Joanne Mesonas, Amy Bouda.

July 17: *Ushers:* Holly Weakley, Nandai Sookhoo, Laina Magnani; *Nursery:* Karen Wallner; *Coffee:* Deacons Susan Sendelsky, Carmello Corsello.

July 24: *Ushers:* Andy Haug, Florence & Terry Chukwuneke; *Coffee:* Nancy & Bob Sittinger, Stella Knill; *Nursery:* Steve Kitsko

July 31: *Ushers:* Barb & Rich Listash, Mary Ellen Martin; *Nursery:* Chris Alonso; *Coffee:* Terry Gleason, Martha Brown.

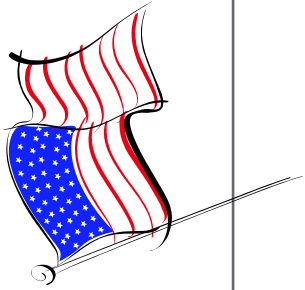
Aug 7: *Communion Ushers:* Laura Reeves, Len Sendelsky, Nancy Sittinger; *Communion Set-Up:* Loretta McGue, Nandai Sookhoo; *Nursery:* Eleanor Ternyik; *Coffee:* Andy Haug, Joe Ott.

Aug 14: *Ushers:* Nancy & Bob Sittinger, Jan Schott; *Nursery:* Joanne Mesonas; *Coffee:* Karen & Rich Wallner.

Aug 21: *Ushers:* Joyce Biegen, Ann Marie Williams, Joe Ott; *Nursery:* Nancy Sittinger; *Coffee:* Deacons Eileen Ruf, Florence Chukwuneke.

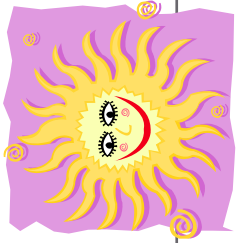
Aug 28: *Ushers:* Holly Weakley, Terry Landrigan, Nandai Sookhoo; *Nursery:* Eleanor Ternyik; *Coffee:* Ed & Joan Koenig.

July 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:00 Worship	4 	5	6 6:30 BBQ 7:30 Contemplative worship	7 6:30 Bible Study	8	9
10 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Worship	11	12 8:00 FISH clothing room	13 6:30 BBQ 7:30 Contemplative worship	14 6:30 Bible Study	15	16
17 10:00 Worship 11:15 Talk Back w/ lunch	18	19 8:00 Youth Day at the Beach	20 6:30 BBQ 7:30 Contemplative worship	21 6:30 Bible Study	22	23
24 10:00 Worship 11:15 Ministry Groups	25	26	27 6:30 BBQ 7:30 Contemplative worship	28 6:30 Bible Study	29	30
31 10:00 Worship						

August 2011



Sun **Mon** **Tue** **Wed** **Thu** **Fri** **Sat**

	1 7:00 Session	2	3	4 2:00 Brighton Gardens 6:30 Bible Study	5	6
7 10:00 Worship	8	9 8:00 FISH clothing room	10	11	12	13
14 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Worship	15	16	17	18 6:30 Bible Study	19	20
21 10:00 Worship 11:15 Talk Back	22	23	24 6:30-8 FREE Spaghetti Dinner	25 6:30 Bible Study	26	27
28 10:00 Worship 11:15 Ministry Groups	29	30	31 6:30-8 FREE Spaghetti Dinner			



**OAK TREE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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Fax: 732-549-3406

Email: oaktreechurch@optonline.net

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jill Kitsko

Seminary Intern: David Shearer

Administrator: Mary Ellen Martin

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
OAKTREECHURCH.ORG

FIRST CLASS MAIL — Address correction requested



Worship at Oak Tree

Prepare your Hearts

Some folks like to prepare for worship by reading the upcoming passages and reflecting on them. Here are the lectionary passages for the Sundays of July & August:

July 3: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; Psalm 45:10-17 ; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30.

July 10: Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

July 17: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

July 24: Genesis 29:15-28;

Psalm 105:1-11; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

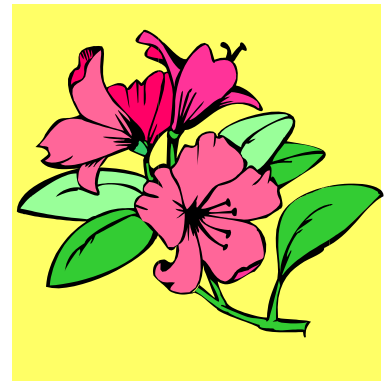
July 31: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

Aug 7: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:106, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33.

Aug 14: Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28.

Aug 21: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20.

Aug 28: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28.



Don't Forget our Wednesday Evening Contemplative Worship Services after the July Barbeques! Barbeque is at 6:30 and Worship is a 7:30 p.m.