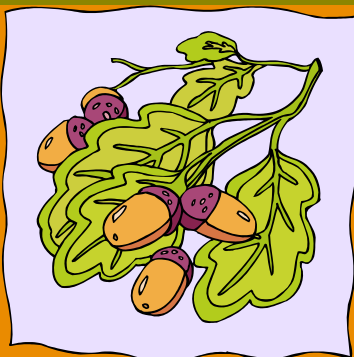


September 2011

Come Grow With Us!



Dear Oak Tree Friends,

What a wet and wild August! Rain, rain, and more rain, an earthquake followed a few days later by a hurricane! What will happen next? The hot, slow, dog days of August seemed to have passed us by! I know that some of you had some flooded basements, like me, and most had lots of branches down, like the church, and lots of hours of clean up ahead. But we can rejoice that we are all safe and that August is behind us! I hope that you will join me in looking ahead to September and our fall programs. Our Homecoming Sunday is September 18th. We will celebrate a baptism that day, begin Sunday School, and have our choir back as a part of worship. This would be a great day to invite a friend or neighbor to church! Flyers listing our programs and invitations are available on the table in narthex. Take some home and give them out to someone you know, or to someone that you think could use a community of faith to be a part of. Share with them what the church and your faith in God means to you. Your words don't have to be fancy, just heartfelt.

A story is told about two spinster sisters who lived together all their lives. One went to church where she was active in many ways, the other never went at all. The two never talked much about it. One day the church had a special service and asked everyone to invite a loved one to church. The "church lady" sister invited her sister to come. Her sister came, enjoyed the service and started coming to church every Sunday! When her sister asked her why she had never come to church before, she replied, "You never asked me!" Sometimes it's as simple as that! See you in worship!

Rev. Jill

Be devoted to each other with mutual affection. Excel in showing respect for each other. Never be lazy in showing such devotion. Be on fire with the Spirit. Serve the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in trouble, and persistent in prayer. Supply the needs of the saints. Extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12:10-13

OTPC - *September at a glance*

- 8—Knit One, Pray Too 7 PM
- 11—Talk Back to your Pastor 11:15 AM
- 12—Elder/Deacon Joint meeting 7 PM
- 13—Oak Tree @ FISH Clothing Room
- 15—Session meeting 7 PM
- 18—Fall Kick-Off
- 19—Soul Feast 7:30 PM
- 22—Knit One, Pray Too 7 PM
- 25—Ministry Groups meet 11:15 AM

Choir — Wednesdays at 7:45 PM

Bible Study — Wednesdays at 6:30 PM and Thursdays at 10 AM

Homecoming Sunday

Sunday, September 18th, is National Back to Church Sunday. Why not invite a friend or neighbor to come to church with you that day? Cut & paste the link below into your browser to watch a great video about coming back to church, then share it with a friend.

<http://youtu.be/9NK1RsItAAs>

Think Fall!



Free Dinners!

The Board of Deacons and the Fellowship and Outreach Ministry Group teamed up in August to hold two free Spaghetti Dinners. Many people donated ingredients and helped to make the dinners light work. In September we will again hold at least one free dinner, this time a chili dinner, followed by a game night! Join

us as we serve our community dinner on September 23rd at 6:00 PM. Donations of corn bread, deserts, beverages, and nacho chips and salsa are welcome! We also would like several people to bring a pot of their favorite chili. Dinners are open to our members and the community. Bring your donations to the church or see Madelynne Lindsey or Florence Chukwuneke to volunteer. Many hands make light work— let's work together to feed the hungry and one another this Fall.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS!

Oak Tree Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 18th. Students will begin in the sanctuary and leave for their classes after the children's message. Nursery care will also be provided.



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?

ON LINE!



Have you looked at our website lately?

oaktreechurch.org is our web address and the site is kept up to date by Lisa Simon. Thank you, Lisa! Oak Tree is also now on FACEBOOK! Go to your own Facebook page and type in Oak Tree Presbyterian Church on

the search bar. Click on the page in the list that has our church picture and be sure to then click on "Like". This will make you a "friend" of Oak Tree and get our latest update alerts sent to your email. A big thank you to Laina Magnani for this new way to get with the times and keep in communication with one another!

NURTURING THE SPIRIT

FALL BIBLE STUDIES

Because we believe that we never stop learning and growing in faith, we are offering two Bible Study opportunities this fall. There will be an evening Study on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM and a morning study on Thursdays at 10 AM. Both classes will be studying the Gospel of Matthew, which is our lectionary gospel for the fall. Everyone is welcome to join us for these group discussions of God's word. No former experience or knowledge is needed, just a willing spirit and an inquiring mind!

Talk Back to your Pastor

once a month! After worship once each month you will have an opportunity to discuss and ask questions about the sermon and the topic for the day. Talk Back is usually on the third Sunday of every month, but in September it is on September 11th. Join us on this 10th anniversary of 9/11 as we look at our role in God's world and in a fearful society.



WORSHIP TEAM

During our summer worship services we tried some new music and different forms of worship. If you came to the Wednesday evening contemplative services, you hopefully grew in your ability to use music and silence as a way to meditate on God's word. This fall we hope to continue to try some new ways of worship and would welcome anyone interested in helping to plan and possibly lead creative or new forms of worship. If this is an interest of yours, speak with Rev. Jill about how you might help.

FALL KICK OFF

HOMECOMING SUNDAY: SEPT. 18TH

Invite a friend to church on September 18th! There will be a baptism, choir will begin to sing again, and Sunday School will be held. Invitations and flyers are available in the Narthex for you to share. There may even be a surprise guest! We hope to see you back in church on September 18th.

Deacon's Picnic

The Deacons will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, Sept. 18th at 5 PM at Nandai Sook-hoo's home. Deacons should coordinate with Nandai about what you will be bringing to the picnic.



OAK TREE CARES

FISH UPDATE

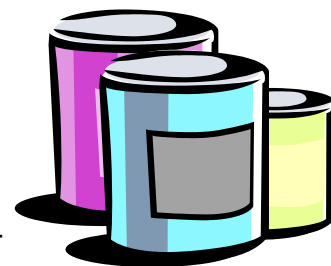
The FISH Clothing Room is a busy place these days. With our current economy there is a great need for gently used clothing. Donations of new underwear and socks are also appreciated. Why not do a little spring cleaning and bring your clothing donations to Oak tree this week? We will be going to FISH on Tuesday, September 13th 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

FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

Unemployment continues to grow, people all around us are living on the edge, facing foreclosure and wondering how to feed their families. Next time you go to the grocery store why not pick up some extra food to help refill our food pantry and the emergency pantry at Amandla Crossing. Non-perishables such as pasta, soup, canned fish and meat, canned fruit, peanut butter, and cereal are particularly welcome. Donations can be put in the bin in the back of the sanctuary.



HOLIDAY GIFT BOUTIQUE



Oak Tree will hold our annual Holiday Boutique Harvest Bake Sale on Saturday, November 12th. Unique gift items from local artisans and crafters, such as jewelry, handmade crafts, toys, candles, giftware and food, will be on sale. We will also have a great bake

sale of home-baked fall favorites! So start making your hand crafted items and save the date! Plan to come to help and to shop for unique Christmas gift items. If you would like a table to sell a craft or merchandise, please contact Mary Ellen Martin in the Church office, 732-549-4178. .

GAME NIGHT: 9/23

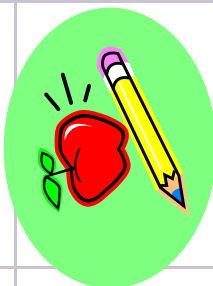


Back by popular demand! Game Night at Oak Tree!

Join us on Friday, September 23rd at 7:30 PM in the Sunday School room for food, fun, and lots of laughter! Bring a snack or dessert to share, along with your favorite board game. Friends & relatives welcome! Bring yourself, bring your neighbor, and let the games begin!

September 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	7:00 Session			1	2	3
4 10:00 Worship	5 <i>Labor Day</i>	6	7 7:45 Choir	8 2:00 Brighton Gardens 7:00 Knit One, Pray Too	9	10
11 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Worship * Church School 11:15 Talk Back	12 7:00 Joint Elder/Deacon meeting & Jeremiah Jour- ney info meeting	13 8:00 FISH clothing room	14 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Choir	15 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Session	16	17
18 FALL KICK-OFF 10:00 Worship & Church School	19 7:00 SoulFeast at the Mesonas'	20	21 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Choir	22 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Knit One, Pray Too	23 9:00 Sabbath Day Retreat @ Camp Johnsonburg	24 6:00 Free Chili Supper 7:30 Game Night
25 5:00 Deacon's Picnic	26 10:00 Worship & Church School 11:15 Ministry Groups	27	28 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Choir	29 10:00 Bible Study	30	



**OAK TREE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

445 Plainfield Road
Edison, NJ 08820

Phone: 732-549-4178
Fax: 732-549-3406

Email: oaktreechurch@optonline.net

Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jill Kitsko

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 month of September:

Sept 4: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

Sept 10: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35.

Sept 18: Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16.

Sept 25: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32.

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 month of September are:

Sept 4: *Communion Ushers:* Len & Joanne Mesonas, Madelynne Lindsey; *Communion Set-Up:* Susan Sendelsky, Carmello Corsello; *Acolyte:* Terry Chukwuneke; *Coffee:* Barb & Rich Listash; *Nursery:* Eleanor Terynik.

Sept 10: *Ushers:* Chris & Joey Alonso, Joe Ott; *Acolyte:* Blessing Echie; *Nursery:* Karen Wallner; *Coffee:* Holly Weakley, Mary Ellen Martin.

Sept 18: *Ushers:* Nandai Sookhoo, Stella Knill, Mary Ellen Martin; *Acolyte:* Alexa D'Alessandro; *Coffee:* Deacons Joyce Biegen, Doreen Magnani.

Sept 25: *Ushers:* Len & Susan Sendelsky; *Acolyte:* Dan Kitsko; *Coffee:* Men's Assoc.; *Nursery:*

