
Highlights

- Blessing of the Animals, pages 2
- Fall Festival, page 3

Inside

- Peace & Global Witness Offering, page 5
 - New Hoegger Baby Boy, page 6
-

Oak Hill News

No. 10

OCTOBER 2022

Volume 72

With Jesus as our guide and community as our goal, we worship, love, serve and grow.



Fall is perhaps my favorite time of the year. I look forward to the changing of the seasons. I especially enjoy the cooler sweater weather, and the beautiful fall foliage. The magnificent colors of the fall leaves never cease to amaze me. The hues of crimson, ocher, amber, russet, and auburn seem to stir my senses and cause me to pay close attention to my surroundings. I also enjoy all the fall activities like visiting pumpkin patches and apple orchards. I look forward to the crunch of a ripe crisp apple bursting with flavor, not to mention apple sauce, apple butter, apple crisp and apple pie. I do have a sweet tooth as well as an affinity for all things mixed and mingled with cinnamon and spice.

This year I am taking delight in making all sorts of new discoveries, both large and small as Jazzy and I explore the neighborhood and become better acquainted with the area. We have already been introduced to different kinds of barbeque and to Goopy butter cake. All I can say is: "Yum!"

My favorite thing this fall has been getting to know the members of the Oak Hill congregation. I have truly enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of you. It is hard to believe that I have only been here

one month. It has been a very busy time as all the committees have been hard at work on the fall plans and activities, including Rally Day, and the Pride Fest. Both of those events were great! This Sunday October 2 we will celebrate World Communion Sunday and at 2:00 p.m., the Blessing of the Animals. At the end of the month, we will hold the Fall Festival and the Halloween celebration. Do not forget to invite your friends, neighbors, and family members to these very special events. Please look for more information about these upcoming events throughout this newsletter

In his letter to the Philippians the Apostle Paul writes these words: "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you because of our partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion in our Lord Jesus Christ." I am very thankful for our partnership in the Gospel. I look forward to learning and sharing and growing together as we continue to share God's love with the neighborhood, and the surrounding community.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Wanda



By Matt Hanify

Worship

Welcome to Oak Hill Presbyterian Church. Founded in 1895 and originally located in a frame building on the corner of Bent and Humphrey, we boast over a century as a cornerstone in Tower Grove South, working hard to do a bunch of stuff that you can find on our website. We are very happy to see you. Our new leader, Rev. Wanda Lawry, is getting herself settled into our community and is always happy to chat with anyone and everyone who comes here to worship with us.

We also continue to offer Zoom worship if you prefer. We started Zoom worship because it was our only option at the start of the pandemic, but it has turned into a great way for people to stay connected to their church family or to get a taste for what it is we do.

Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. (prompt), in person or on Zoom (meeting ID 768 992 383)

Communion

We offer multiple (two) options for Communion. As is more traditional, we offer individual portions of bread and juice that have been prepared in keeping with COVID-19 protocols (gloves, masks, those sort of things). For those looking for a safer option, we also offer small, individual cups of juice with a portion of communion bread in the lid. If you are immunocompromised or just want to play it safe, use this. And you are welcome to bring your own communion materials from home, if you prefer (this would be the safest option).

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated October 2 and will feature breads from many different cultures, including, but are certainly not limited to, tortillas, rye bread, naan, and whatever else is available at the store.

We also offer in-home communion for our extended members. Please let us know if one of our extended members would like communion in their home, and we can schedule a time. Please reach out to Pastor Wanda or someone on our committee.

Volunteering

As a small congregation, we have a regular need for liturgists, greeters, and nursery caregivers. For our young people, we need acolytes. Do you play a musical instrument or sing? Talk to Minister of Music Susan Brown. No, you do not have to be a member to participate. If you feel called to perform any of these, please let one of us know, or you can

sign up on the website, oakhillpcusa.com (the “Worship” tab has an orange box that contains a Sign-up Genius link).

Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, October 2, will be our annual Blessing of the Animals. Bring your pets, bundle up (right now, it's 97° outside in late September, but I have to imagine it's going to get cooler), and meet on the front steps of the church.

Also, if you missed Blessing of the Backpacks in September, we still have several bookbag tags if you would like. Just let someone know.

Sunday School

Sunday School this year for adults and children is *Feasting on the Word* – same name, but two entirely different curriculums. The children meet in the Sunday School room, which is located at the end of the ground floor hallway in the Education Building. Just ask somebody – we'll be happy to show you. The adults meet in the Large Assembly Room underneath the sanctuary, which is much easier to find.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. (no Zoom option for Sunday School this year)

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday Bible study is beginning a new book, *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*. Written by Amy-Jill Levine, a professor at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, this book explores the miracles of Jesus from both a historical and theological context.

Wednesday Bible Study, 11:00 a.m. on Wednesdays on Zoom (meeting ID 259 777 226; password Disciple)

A Belated but Heartfelt Thank You

During the past nine months, Oak Hill Presbyterian has been navigating some choppy waters. It would have been easy to let go of the helm and let the church drift rudderless. But we have been blessed with some outstanding people in our church family who were happy and willing (or maybe just willing) to help us steer through this year. So I want to take a moment here to offer deep and profound gratitude to those helped captain us through the past nine months. In

WORSHIP AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE (cont'd)

particular, Pastor Alan Meyers has shown steadfast leadership, an anchor (and I think that should wrap us this whole boat metaphor), with Donna Cook and Josh Smith regularly lending a hand in the pulpit. Add to this the countless people who helped during historic rainstorms or making food for those who are less fortunate or keeping the books or answering the phones or filling candles with oil, it really has been all hands around here (apparently, I had one more nautical term to use). To all of you, sincerely, thank you.

EVANGELISM AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Stephanie Hoegger

E & M met on September 12. We were excited to discuss with Pastor Wanda the upcoming fellowship opportunities this month.



Please join us for a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 30, outside the church immediately after the service! Live music, a pet costume contest, crafts, and tasty treats will be available for this all-ages, neighborhood event. Costumes are encouraged. This festival is co-sponsored by the Worship & Christian Education Committee

and is open to everyone—please bring a friend! Keep an eye out for flyers and more details in the weekly notice.

Then, on Monday, October 31, at 5:30 p.m., join us again for our annual Halloween trick-or-treating event on the front steps! We will begin handing out candy to the neighborhood trick-or-treaters at 5:30 p.m. All ages are welcome, and costumes are encouraged. We are looking for volunteers and candy donations for this spooktacular event. Candy can be dropped off at the church office, or in the labeled box near the sanctuary. We will need help with



handing-out candy on Halloween night, and also assembling candy bags on Sunday, October 23rd after the church service. Please see Sandy Kay, Valery Welch, or Stephanie Hoegger if you can help.

In addition to these events, we are continuing work on an updated directory and member rolls, and cleaning up the Art Wall. If you have a painting that was displayed on the Art Wall and would like it back, please let anyone on the committee know as soon as possible. We are making way for a new display.

Our next meeting will be October 10 at 6:30 pm.

MISSION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

By Donna Cook

I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers
-Anne of Green Gable

Greetings from the Mission and Justice Committee. When you read this we will have already participated in the **Tower Grove Pride Fest** (yes, we got a space), and maybe...hosted a group of Boy Scouts from Independence, MO, at AMEN House. (Like all of us their plans are fluid these days.) On to October!

We'll be hosting a group from **Minnetonka, Minnesota**, repeat mission trippers to AMEN St. Louis and another group from **First Presbyterian Church, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa**. The Presbyterians will be participating in Bright Side St. Louis Daffodil Planting along the interstates on October 22. They will also cook up a storm with Dena for our assorted Food Outreach groups. The Minnesota group will be planning their own activities.

Isaiah 58 Ministries is celebrating 50 years of nourishing our community, and would love for you to join them! It's Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 6-9 p.m. at a.casa, 3723 South Kingshighway Blvd., St Louis, MO, 63109. Tickets (starting at \$25) are [available online](http://www.i58ministries.org) www.i58ministries.org or by contacting their office at 314-776-1410. Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres, decadent desserts, beer & wine and live music. Free Valet Parking. Dress: Casual to Cocktail. Contact Donna Cook with any questions.

Speaking of Isaiah 58--we have signed up (ok, Donna did) to provide **150 boxes of Jell-O** or Jell-O like products in a box. Ok, why didn't I ask earlier? I found out after the September newsletter went to press. So, I'm offering modifications to our shopping list. Our Jell-O deadline is Monday, November 14 (or in our case, **Sunday, November 13.**) We hope you can help out as your are able. So, here is the revised, but not mandatory, shopping list.

October 2022

2nd - Boxed Jell-O or Sardines
 9th - Boxed Jell-O or coffee, tea, or hot chocolate
 16th - Boxed Jell-O or canned greens
 23rd -Boxed Jell-O or cooking oil, 48 oz or smaller
 30th - Boxed Jell-O or your favorite cookies (yum)

November 2022

6th - Boxed Jell-O or facial tissues (Puffs, Kleenex, etc.)
 13th - Boxed Jell-O or pasta (your favorite)
 20th - canned fruit
 27th - peanut butter

As always, you are welcome to bring extras from your pantry or sales specials from the store if you catch a good deal. (Oh, we still need 200 - 2 pocket folders by **July 2023**, no hurry.)

We're getting ready to participate in this air quality program with MCU and Washington University researchers. (See link below) "A 2019 [report](#) by the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic at the Washington University School of Law and the Environmental Justice Roundtable found that Black St. Louisans are at a greater environmental risk than white residents. The research suggests that most of St. Louis' top pollutant sources are concentrated in neighborhoods of color. You can check out the monitoring program through Purple Air on their map found here.

<https://map.purpleair.com/1/mAOI/a60/p604800/cC0#10/38.5889/-90.3256>.

You can see from the map where our monitor will be in the next month (use your imagination, it's not connected yet), we'll be closing the circle of MCU congregations monitoring air quality through purpleair.com. We just received our monitor, and the Washington University researchers will be installing it for us. Unused local funds from past Peace and Global Witness Offerings, traditionally collected

World Communion Sunday, will be used to pay for the monitor and supplies. (It arrived the week of this writing, we'll let you know when we are connected.) More information from St. Louis Public Radio at the link below.

<https://news.stlpublicradio.org/health-science-environment/2021-10-28/st-louis-environmentalists-to-check-for-air-pollution-in-communities-of-color>

Thank you to Mission and Justice Committee Team members Toby Barrow, Heather Macarthur, Dena Roper, and Avery Smith. **Thank you to the congregation** for your continued support. And a **special welcome to Pastor Wanda!**

STEWARDSHIP AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

By Brian Heuckroth

It was a busy month for Stewardship and Property at Oak Hill.

We welcomed Pastor Wanda to Oak Hill by installing an air conditioner in her office, and getting her new computer set up.

The sanctuary's air conditioning systems were updated with programmable thermostats to automate the cooling of the sanctuary for weekend services but limit the cooling activity during the week to limit electricity costs.

We got the City of St Louis to fix the leaky water meter out in front of the entrance.

We initiated the Peace and Global Witness offering and set up online giving to facilitate it for the World Communion Sunday on October 2.

We continued to work on getting the building to leak less water and are making progress. We got our roofer to fix a leak over the Sanctuary.

Weeds were removed along the fence of the back parking lot, to make our lot look better and improve our relations with the neighbor.

STEWARDSHIP AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE (cont'd)

We approved a scholarship request for Valerie Sowell and a building use request by Kim Smith for a drama group’s rehearsals.

Thanks to Don Stanford for sanding, staining, and finishing the wooden door at the entrance to 4111 Connecticut.

The stewardship campaign has been initiated, and there will be a congregational meeting in November to review the asking budget.

We mourn the loss of Mike Hale, a respected and valued member of the Stewardship and Property Committee and offer our thanks for his devoted service and contributions.



Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ’s peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. We celebrate the truth found in 2nd Thessalonians, *“Peace at all times in all ways.”*

We will receive this offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2. You can donate online, mail your offering to the church, or place it in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary (envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary).

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The following actions were reported or approved by Session in their September 14, 2022, Stated Session Meeting.

Average Worship attendance in person and via Zoom in August was 39.

Membership as of August 31, 2022, was 95. (No change.)

Session voted to hold our September 14 Session meeting as both in-person and electronically on Zoom.

Session agreed to continue to follow the same guidelines for in-person worship. Basically, continued wearing of masks and social distancing. Communion will continue to be offered in the same, individual cups of juice with a portion of communion bread in the lid. However, individual cups of bread and small, individual cups juice will also be available.

Session approved having a Fall Festival on Sunday, October 30, following worship. Neighbors will be invited. It will be held in front of the church with music, pet costumes, snacks.

Session approved spending \$500 quarterly for small group dinners with members.

Session approved Donna Cook and Sandy Kay to serve as members of Session on the 2022 Nominating Committee. Donna will serve as chair of the committee.

Session approved to allow Donna Cook and Dena Roper to attend meetings of the 2022 Personnel Committee to discuss the AMEN Director position.

Financial Reports for August and Year-to-Date 2022

	August	2022 YTD Total
Income		
Actual	\$4,167.53	\$121,480.09
Budgeted	\$6,799.51	\$124,410.00
Over (Under) Budget	(\$2,631.98)	(\$2,929.91)
Expenses		
Actual	\$11,866.40	\$99,233.47
Budgeted	\$21,224.64	\$141,126.59
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$9,358.24)	(\$41,893.12)
Net Revenue/(Loss)	(\$7,698.87)	\$22,246.62

BOOK CLUBS

Oak Hill Book Club

The Book Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, at the Barrow residence to discuss the book, “*West with Giraffes*” by Lynda Rutledge. This is a change from our usual meeting date on the second Tuesday of the month.

The book is based on the incredible but true story of the journey of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America.

Please bring your dinner and join us. If you want to join us on Zoom, we will start discussing the book about 7 p.m.: 259 777 226. Password: Disciple (case sensitive)



Wednesday Touchy Topics Book Club

The Touchy Topics book club meets Wednesday, October 5, to discuss *Nice White Ladies*, by Jessie Daniels, which explores the role of white women in the endurance of systemic racism. November’s book is *How the South Won the Civil War*, by Heather Cox Richardson. This book examines the connection between the South and the West, where frontier expansion allowed Southern hierarchies to multiply. Touchy Topics Book Club, Wednesday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom (contact the church via Facebook for the link)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle 3 will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 20, in the Theleos Room. Please bring a sandwich -- salad, chips, dessert, and coffee will be provided.

CRAFT CLUB

Please join us on Friday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom for our monthly crafty evening. Bring your current project and provide your own favorite snack and visit with us! Please contact Dena Roper with any questions! Hope to see you there!

Under the Oak Tree



IT'S A BOY!!

Congratulations to Mark, Stephanie, Leland, and Audra Hoegger on the birth of their new son and brother, Calder Lane Hoegger, who was born on September 27, 2022. He weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and is doing great!



The sympathy and support of the congregation is extended to Kristy Gould, Miriam Hale, and their family, upon the death of Kristy’s husband, and Miriam’s father, Michael E. Hale, on September 22, 2022.



Oak Hill Presbyterian Church,

Isaiah 58 Ministries wants to thank Oak Hill Presbyterian Church for the donation of food and hygiene products that your church gave the ministries during the second quarter of 2022.

Your giving to Isiah 58 Ministries is greatly appreciated and helps the ministry provide to those we serve in this difficult time.

Thank you very much!

Peg Cooper

Isaiah 58 Board Member



LECTIONARY FOR OCTOBER

Sunday, October 2	Lam. 1:1-6 and <i>Lam. 3:19-26 or</i> Psalm 137; 2 Tim. 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10
Sunday, October 9	Jer. 29:1, 4-7 and <i>Psalm 66:1-12;</i> 2 Tim. 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19
Sunday, October 16	Jer. 31:27-34 and <i>Psalm 119:97-104;</i> 2 Tim 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8
Sunday, October 23	Joel 2:23-32 and <i>Psalm 65;</i> 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Sunday,
October 30 Hab. 1:1-4; 2:1-4 and
Psalm 119:137-144; Thess. 1:1-4,
11-12, Luke 19:1-10

**Scenes from Oak Hill
Rally Day**



Rally Day (cont'd)

**Secretary's New Helper
(If only she could type!)
She also helps the Minister of Music.**

**Jazzy**

Oak Hill Presbyterian Church
4111 Connecticut Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63116-3926 (314) 664-5525

www.oakhillpcusa.org

office@oakhillpcusa.org

We are a welcoming congregation where visitors
are always expected!

**Christian Education - 9:30 a.m.
(In Person)**

**Service of Worship
(In Person and on Zoom)
10:30 a.m.**

The ministers of Oak Hill Church are its members
assisted by:

Rev. Wanda Lawry
Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Alan Meyers
"Amicus Ecclesiae"
(Friend of the Church)

Ms. Susan Brown
Minister of Music

Ms. Carole Adams
Secretary

Articles for publication
in the
Oak Hill News
need to be
submitted in writing
to the church office by the
3rd Monday of each month.