

NOVEMBER 2023

The Monthly Newsletter



Orchard Park PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH close to home

SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP

Commitment Sunday: Founders Celebration

Please join us after worship November 12 in the Lounge for a Founders Celebration and special recognition of Becky (Blaker) Atz, our last remaining founder, picture is below.



Commitment Sunday
November 12, 2023

Bring your commitment card or
give online at:
www.orchardpark.org

Dates to Know

- November 4
 - Youth Lock In

- November 5
 - All Saints Day
 - Founders Reception after service.
 - 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (Youth Rooms)

- November 6
 - PW Miriam Circle (Lounge)

- November 7
 - All Day - Election Day (Lounge)

- November 11
 - 8:45 a.m. Mental Health Workshop (Lounge)

- November 12
 - Commitment Sunday
 - 11:15 a.m. Commitment Sunday Brunch (Lounge)
 - 11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening (Office)

- November 19
 - New Members Join
 - 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class (Youth Rooms)

- November 23 & 24
 - Closed for Thanksgiving

You're Invited to a Sweet Journey Through the Decades!

Please join us in the Lounge after the service on Sunday, November 12th, as we embark on a delightful dessert celebration!

Our gathering will be a heartwarming tribute to the sweet memories and delectable treats inspired by the cherished recipes of the saints of our church, as found in Orchard Park cookbooks.

Indulge in apple pie bars, pumpkin bread, muffins, coffee cake, and an array of fresh fruit. Savor the flavors of the season with hot coffee and locally sourced apple cider.

We can't wait to celebrate our community with you. Bring stories to share as we create new memories together! We look forward to having you join us for this delicious journey through the decades. See you there!



MISSIONS

Share the Harvest

In the Fall of 2014, members of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church and Harvest Christian Fellowship, joined together in a test kitchen in Indianapolis to cook our very first Share the Harvest Thanksgiving meal. The meals were distributed to families in need in and around the Reagan Park neighborhood of Indianapolis where Harvest Christian Fellowship is located.

The program has continued every Thanksgiving since 2014, with much enthusiasm and generosity. When the Covid pandemic struck, it was uncertain whether or not we would be able to continue this tradition. So, as a means to adapt to the challenge of not being able to prepare food ourselves, donations were collected to purchase ready-made items that could be easily prepared by the families in need of meals. Orchard Park has risen to the challenge each year of the pandemic with incredible generosity, donating funds that would not only provide Thanksgiving meals for the 30-40 families but also gift cards for local grocery stores that would be distributed with each meal.



Where did the idea come from? - For years, Orchard Park enjoyed a tradition of coming together as a congregation for a Thanksgiving meal. While the food and fellowship were lovely, it seemed more appropriate that we shift our focus to feeding others rather than ourselves when so many of us have so much to be thankful for, and others have so little. The enthusiastic response to Share the Harvest each year is a testament to our values as Christians and responsibility to feed the hungry and tend to those in need.

A family-size Thanksgiving meal with all trimmings (2 oven-ready turkey roasts, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, cornbread stuffing, pumpkin pie, whipped topping, 1 Gallon iced tea) is approximately \$50. **Any donated amount is appreciated. Donations can be given online through Realm, or a check, can be turned in to the church with "Share the Harvest" written on the memo line.**

There is also opportunity for hands-on participation if members would like to help further. The meals will be assembled in the OPPC big kitchen at 9am on Wednesday November 22nd. A sign-up sheet to help with that assembly will be posted on Main Street. Also, help handing out the meals down at Harvest Christian Fellowship at 12 noon on the same day is welcome. A sign-up for this activity will also be posted on Main Street. Thank you to all who help make this OPPC Thanksgiving tradition, a blessing to those who are in need.



PW Thank Offering

Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering is received annually in the fall. OPPC is honoring this tradition of giving on **November 19**.

This offering gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Gifts from Presbyterian Women have made possible hundreds of projects, addressing issues such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns. At least 40 percent of this offering supports health ministries throughout the world. The remaining 60 percent funds new creative ideas for mission.



Share the Light Christmas Market

Are you searching for that perfect gift? Share the Light Christmas Market will start November 26 and continue through December 17 on mainstreet.

- Alternative gifting options to Camp Pyoca, Youth Caravan, Carmel UMC Food Pantry, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Haiti College Scholarships for students and teachers.



2023 Thank Offering

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful. —Colossians 3:14-15

About the Thank Offering

The Thank Offering began in 1888 when Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, urged each woman to give one dollar over and above her usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. In the 135 years since Eliza first asked women to give a "thank offering to her Lord," more than 1,600 different projects in the United States and around the world have benefitted from grants funded by faithful and generous givers.

Respond to Eliza's inspiring call to support mission initiatives and demonstrate thanksgiving for God's blessings through giving to the Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women.

For more information on the 2023 Thank Offering recipients, read the Summer issue of *Horizons* magazine or go to presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

MISSION SPOTLIGHTS

Clothesline Ministry: Sock & Underwear Drive

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church's Clothesline Ministry provides clothing to at-risk Carmel Clay Elementary and Middle school students.

OPPC's Young Families group assembled bags containing new socks & underwear for 156 at-risk Carmel Clay elementary and middle school students on Sunday, October 22nd. Female students received a \$15 gift certificate to purchase a bra. Each student in need receives new underwear and socks, 2-3 shirts, 2-3 pants, and a sweatshirt if requested. Since the start of the school year, we have filled requests from Forest Dale, Carmel Elementary, Woodbrook, Carmel Middle School.

The bags will be distributed in conjunction with Kids' Coats and Carmel United Methodist Church on Saturday, November 2nd. Carmel Clay students will receive a winter coat, hat & mittens, as well as socks & underwear.

Thanks to all that donated clothing and time, Orchard Park once again has shown its deep commitment to reach out with love and compassion to our neighbors.

Donations don't need to stop. New and gently used clothing acceptable for school students, along with new underwear & socks, can be placed in the mission receptacle kitty corner from the small chapel. (Just look for the Hall of Fame displaying pictures of our current and former ministers and you will see the bins.)

Clothesline Ministry volunteers will sort the clothes, keep what we can use, donate what we can't, and ready the clothes for the next request.

WORSHIP

2023 Poinsettia Order for Advent

Poinsettias will be ordered by the Worship Committee for the sanctuary this Christmas Season. To order a poinsettia, please stop by or call the church office.

- Poinsettia order is open from November 1 - 26. Payment must be made at the time of order. Each poinsettia costs \$12.00 per plant. Payment can be made by cash, check, credit card.
 - Payment by check, please put poinsettia on the memo line.
 - Payment by credit card, contact Brittany Glass
bglass@orchardpark.org



ADULT EDUCATION

Sunday Adult Bible Study

The Sunday adult Bible Study will be visiting the story of two brothers...Joseph and Judah starting in November in the North Chapel Bible Study that meets Sunday's at 11:15 a.m..

- Fifty percent of Genesis (Chapters 25 through 50) is about Jacob and his dysfunctional family. Chapters 37 through 50 focus on Joseph, Jacob's eleventh son, and one of the most beloved stories of the Old Testament. Through all the births, marriages, blessings, lies, trickery, violence, and tragedies chronicled in these 25 chapters...who ended up being exalted by his brothers and became the bearer of the "scepter" and "staff" of his people? Which of Jacob's offspring was the foundation for the golden age of Israel, David, and ultimately the Messiah? Was it Joseph who was God's instrument for the protection, provisioning and growth of his family into nation? Was it Reuben, the first born of Jacob's twelve sons? Was it Levi and his descendants whom God later set apart to maintain, transport and provision YHWH's Tabernacle and later Temple? Or was it Judah who ran to Canaanite territory, married a Canaanite woman, and humiliated himself with his daughter-in-law Tamar?

YOUTH

Breakaway 2023

Join OPPC at Camp Pyoca for an incredible weekend of fellowship. If you are interested in attending Breakaway, register at www.pyoca.org or contact youth director Kristin Lehr at klehr@orchardpark.org.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Financial Reminder for 2023 Yr.

As we get close to wrapping up 2023, the Finance team would ask that if you have not done so, please review your 2023 pledge commitments or planned contributions before the end of the year. If you have stocks, bonds or investment funds to donate, please remember to contact Joe Jansen if you are interested in transferring an investment of stock or bonds to OPPC for the bank account and routing information. If you have other financial related questions or pledge questions, please contact Bari Faudree (Treasurer) or Mary Leffler (OPPC Business Administrator).

EVENTS

PW Miriam Circle

Miriam Circle will meet on November 5th at 7:00 in the coffee lounge and on Zoom. All women of the church are welcome. Contact Kathy Lewellyn at klewnew@aol.com with any questions.

Anxiety Workshop

FREE

Join OPPC for a Workshop on

Anxiety

November 11, 2023

8:45 a.m. to Noon

Register at www.orchardpark.org



This unique workshop will give you tips/techniques to help manage anxiety in the moment using anxiety reduction practices through music therapy, art therapy, and yoga. We will also incorporate topics like Protecting Your Peace, and Strategies for Panic. This event is open to ages 14+.

Instructors for the Event

Kristie Watts, LMFT - Therapist

Emily Paxton, LMHC - Therapist

Sarah Whitehouse, MT-BC

Jen Bulp - Art Therapy

Alexa Singleton - Yoga Instructor

See you at OPPC for the Anxiety Workshop

EXTRA INFORMATION

Congratulations to Albert Chen

Albert Chen to receive 2023 Sachem Award

INDIANAPOLIS – Gov. Eric J. Holcomb will honor Albert Chen, the founder and board chair for Indiana-based Telamon Corporation with the 2023 Sachem Award. A ceremony to celebrate him as the recipient of the state’s highest honor will be held at The Tarkington at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel on Thursday, Nov. 2.



“Albert came from a humble beginning as a first-generation immigrant from Taiwan, but through grit, perseverance and relentless work ethic, Albert built a \$839 million company with more than 2,000 employees,” Gov. Holcomb said. “He is an innovator and entrepreneur extraordinaire who’s long been guided by the same principles he founded the company on, namely honesty, harmony, simplicity and stewardship.” The Governor gives the Sachem annually to recognize an individual whose lifetime of excellence and moral virtue has brought credit and honor to Indiana.

The 80-year-old Chen founded Telamon Corporation in 1985. The company designs, builds and installs networks to support telecommunication networks from traditional mobile phone usage to connectivity in stadiums, hospitals and schools. The company operates 14 domestic locations, three international offices and employs more than 2,000 staff. Chen continues his leadership role with the company as board chair of Telamon Corporation and as managing director of Telamon Enterprise Ventures, LLC, which he established in 2017 to focus on renewable energy development and smart manufacturing solutions. Years before launching one of the largest Asian American businesses in Indiana, Chen immigrated to the United States from Taiwan in 1968 where his family struggled with homelessness at times. Chen arrived in Oregon and attended Portland State University and received his master of science in mathematical sciences. Shortly after graduation, he accepted a position with GTE in Indiana. After 10 years with GTE, Chen took a leap and founded Telamon Corporation.

Chen is proud of his Taiwanese heritage and has dedicated himself to being an advocate for Asian Americans in Indiana. He founded two non-profit organizations: Asian American Alliance (AAAI) and America China Society of Indiana (ACSI). AAAI facilitates and encourages more leadership positions and representation for Asian Americans in the workplace and ACSI focuses on building a better trade relationship between Indiana and China.

Chen resides in Carmel with his wife, Margaret. He enjoys spending time with his two children and 5 grandchildren.