

Plumbline

Orangewood Presbyterian Church

June 2023

PASTOR'S COLUMN

I want to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received while serving as your "gap interim" while Pastor Ken is recovering. I am enjoying getting to know you all and am grateful for this opportunity to share a bit of my life's story.

I am a native of Ohio and was raised on a dairy farm near Cleveland, the oldest of six children. Church was always an important part of our family life, as was music, and I grew up singing in and playing piano for choirs in school and at church. My sisters and I would pass the time doing dishes by singing in four-part harmony. As an undergrad I majored in music at Wheaton College (IL) and also received an MA in Christian Education.

I attended Fuller Theological Seminary (CA) where I met my husband, George Saylor. Our first date was on Valentine's Day and we were engaged two weeks later! While at Fuller I became a Presbyterian, and I was ordained at First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman, Montana, in 1984. I have served churches in Montana, Massachusetts, Indiana, and Arizona, and retired from Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in north Phoenix in 2018.

George (also a Presbyterian minister, retired from Chandler Presbyterian Church) and I have been married for 47 years and share our home with a very fine cat. My brother and sisters all live in the Valley and George and I are fortunate to see them and our nieces and nephews and grands regularly. We strive to be their favorite aunt and uncle!

In my free time I enjoy working on household projects, especially if they involve power tools. I enjoy playing the piano, reading, working crossword puzzles, and quilting. I am a PBS fan and have been known to binge-watch episodes of *Morse* and *Call the Midwife*. I keep a hand in with things Presbyterian by serving on the Commission on Ministry and the Presbytery's Reconciliation Team. These days I am grateful to be serving with the good folks of OPC and OAF.

Mary

Welcome Mary



Pam's Retirement Party

A retirement party for Pam White, our Office and Facilities Manager for the past 11 years, was held on Sunday, May 5, in Page Hall. Members of Orangewood and guests gathered to celebrate with a Mexican food buffet served, with table decorations of Mexican flags and colorful dried peppers and gourds. Two delicious cakes were served for dessert. Pam's large family was able to join us for this celebration. Master of Ceremonies Bob Wells invited members to come forward with their individual thanks for her service to our Orangewood community, and they all extended warm wishes for a happy retirement in the years ahead. Pam then thanked the congregation members for their support over the years and is looking forward to spending time with her grandkids and "taking trips!" Ron Carmichael, Chair of the Personnel Committee, thanked Pam for her assistance and willingness to help with the search and training of her replacement. Bob Wells then presented a gift from the congregation to Pam and closed the ceremony with the words "Have fun, Pam! We're going to miss you, but we welcome you to come back anytime for visits!"



Thank You!!

I want to say thank you to all of you at Orangewood. You are all like family to me, I have made many friends. Even though I was not here on Sunday I still felt like this was my church too. I will never forget the friendships I have made and the stories of all of you that I will cherish and talk about forever. I will try to come back and visit, maybe at SAGES. Love you all, Pam

Honduras Update

Our summer trip comes closer each day and the team is excited as final plans are put in place. We will be staying at a Catholic retreat center in Dulce Nombre and will need to bring our own sheets! This is a new wrinkle in our usual packing plans, along with the need to register for some of the items we will take into Honduras – like medical supplies and tools. We have learned that the community where we will be building has about 300 people and they are requesting a medical clinic that will include about 100 children. We are still making plans for visits to Trinidad and Copan, where we have worked before. Going on the trip are: Brent Upson, Christina Suarez, Elizabeth Reifsnider, Bernale Wright, Dennis Daniel, Phebe Packer, Tim Wheeler, Spencer Case, Addi Case, Sabrina Case, Bryce Swartz, our friend from Colorado Shirley Bjornseth (and her husband), and some members of a church from Minnesota – 23 team members in all!

SAGES

Orangewood's SAGES fellowship group held its final luncheon of the year on Tuesday, May 9, in Page Hall. Table decorations were provided by Jeanne Matt, and included recipe books from various Presbyterian congregations, and rolling pins of every description and function! We enjoyed a delicious salad buffet, with Orangewood's Mary/Martha Bible Study group providing many different types of salads along with tasty rolls. Members of this group included Lynda Rychener, Bernale Wright, Jeanne Matt, Judy Proffitt, Lynne Orf, Janice Schade and Joan Fenton. Kitchen support included Jackie Collier and Becky Cederquist. This luncheon happened to occur on Jeanne Matt's birthday, and the SAGES enjoyed carrot cake and bundt cake for

dessert to celebrate the occasion. Jeanne then gave a short, interesting presentation on the symbolism of the elements found in the official PCUSA seal, with a slide presentation assisted by Bob Wells. Each member and guest attending the lunch had an opportunity to take home a small Christian cross from the estate of our late friend and member Jean Lee's collection. The group was sent off with best wishes for a "cool and safe" summer, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the October "kick-off" of another SAGES program year!



Congratulation Graduates

Matthew Bladine, member and son of Janis and Charlie Bladine, graduating from Jones Gordon High school, will attend NAU studying Construction Management.

Jackson Ronald Carmichael, grandson of Ron Carmichael graduating from University of Texas in Engineering.

Spencer Case, member and son of Leeann Spangler Case & Phil Case. Graduated from ASU Barrett Honors College and Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering with a BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Sammi Innanen, member, graduated with a Masters of Divinity from Austin Theological Seminary.

Abby Kaup, member and daughter of Chris & Debra Kaup, is graduating from Boston University with a BS in Nutrition and Dietetics.

Jagat Khalsa, granddaughter of Edna & Joe Miller, graduating from ASU summa cum laude, going to work in Las Vegas in banking.

Delaney McGrath, granddaughter of Dennis & Judy Proffitt, graduating from Corona Del Sol High School and will be attending NAU majoring in Psychology.

Matthew Ramella, member of OPC

Lily Shelton, daughter of Joe & Rebecca Shelton, granddaughter of Marilyn Jacobo. Graduating from Federal Way High school in Washington and also from Highland College, Des Moines, Washington with an Associate Degree with interest in Journalism.

Shelby Wulkotte, granddaughter of Phebe Packer, graduated from ASU with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology with a minor in Communication.

Bernedette Haskins, daughter-in-law of David and Sally Haskins and wife of their son Chris, is getting a Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Session Notes

OPC Session met on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

- The Session approved a motion to accept the resignation of membership of Catherine and John Sickafoose.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - ◇ OPC has been registered with Corporation Commission for 2023.
 - ◇ A Preliminary Budget for next year has been emailed to Elders.
 - ◇ April Financial Report:
 - * Member Giving - \$269,800 (63%)
 - * Total Income - \$363,128 (68.9%)
 - * Total Expenses - \$324,750 (60.8%)
 - * Net Income - + \$38,378
- Report on the May 6 Presbytery Meeting.
 - ◇ The Presbytery affirmed a candidate to be ordained with call in Douglas.
 - ◇ Update was given about Montlure.
 - ◇ Received information that there are currently 700 openings for pastors in PC/USA and only 500 pastors seeking positions.
- Dennis Daniel expressed thanks to Becky Cederquist for her work as Deacon.
- The Session is revisiting the requirements for giving Communion to shut-ins. Rev. Saylor clarifying who can perform communion in this setting.
- Special Presbytery Meeting on May 23, to dismiss Valley Presbyterian from the Presbytery. Commissioners appointed for this Zoom meeting: Gene Nix, Bob Wells, Phebe Packer.
- The Session approved a motion from the Worship Committee to replace the electrical cable on the chancel floor. The estimated cost is \$1500.
- Joseph Lavi gave the following report for the African Fellowship:
 - ◇ Baptism planned in July for 6 people.
 - ◇ Concerned to start children's ministry. Weekly Sunday school for OAF is 12:30 – 1:30.
 - ◇ 3 new families from Zimbabwe and Tanzania. Need membership class. Requests Session participation.
 - ◇ Leadership ready to work together with OPC.
- Session approved two motions from the Personnel Committee:
 - ◇ To hire an Interim Office Manager until the permanent position can be filled. The Interim Office Manager will be part-time with hours of Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 4 pm.
 - ◇ To approve an updated job description for the Music Director.
- Session requested that Facilities examine possibilities for new outside signage for the 10th Street sign in front of the church. The current sign is outdated and cannot be changed.
- A review of church records by the Presbytery will take place on June 10, 2023, at OPC.
- The next Session Meeting will be on June 27 at 6:30 pm by Zoom meeting and/or in person in Room 11.

Mission Committee

Grace Lutheran – Our next Sunday to serve breakfast to the homeless is June 18.

Mission Table – Each Sunday morning, the Mission table on the patio has information on many of the mission projects OPC participates in, and includes sign-up sheets for volunteers to participate in our various projects.

Orangewood Presbyterian Women

Orangewood Presbyterian Women closed out the spring season with two memorable events---The Rummage Sale fundraiser and a Tea and Recognition gathering.

The **Benefit Rummage "Sale"** (Name Your Price) on April 22 brought in more than \$3000, exceeding everyone's expectations. Jeanne Matt, sale co-chair, commented This was first time in all the decades I have been at Orangewood that the Presbyterian Women had a fundraiser. Many folks, young and old, male and female, contributed to the sale's success, both on the day of sale and in the days leading up to it, receiving, sorting, setting up, staging, taking cash/checks, assisting shoppers, wrapping, boxing up, taking down, etc. And of course, this outcome would not have been realized if not for all the good stuff our members and friends donated—a win-win at both ends, your home and Page Hall. At the end of the sale, remaining items were sorted some discarded, some earmarked for Nourish Phoenix and others set aside to be picked up by the Upward Foundation.



The take down and clean up crew

The focal point of the **Tea** on May 6 was presentation of the Rummage Sale proceeds to two hunger ministries and recognition of three outstanding women in the OPC congregation. Jeanne Matt presented \$1,696 to Beth Fiorenza of Nourish PHX and Cyndie Mudd of WHEAT.

Bernale Wright served as our employee for years. Now retired, she is a willing, helpful, strong supporter of our Congregation's ministry in many ways — Mission trips, Chair of the Congregational Life committee. In March she coordinated PW's Clothes Silo donation project. She knows our history. She shares her faith and her time. Editor's Note: Bernale also successfully brokered the sale of the OPC Tool Trailer at the Rummage Sale. The proceeds, \$1000, were designated for the Dulce Nombre home building project.



Becky Cederquist faithfully responds to the various needs of folks in the congregation — utilizing a corps of volunteers. She personally does "house calls" and has taken on new friends and neighbors to care about in her home at Fellowship Square. Have you ever sent her an email? Her address is opcdeacon@gmail.com.

Jackie Collier, before her "retirement" was the "go-to" special cake creator for all sorts of occasions. Retirement came and she became even more involved with preparing for all the ways our congregation gathers — Mission trips, and gatherings on the patio, in Page Hall, or the Wright Center. She is a willing planner, a reliable organizer, provider, shopper, and helper. She

understands how to get it done!

The honorees were each presented with a token of gratitude, a "treasure" from the OPC kitchen.

OPW Summer Adventures

Many thanks for wanting to be together this summer. Each time there will be an option of carpooling from the church. Each coordinator will take reservations for that month's Adventure. Watch the OPC bulletin, Plumline and your email for details. Here are four Thursdays to note on your summer calendar:

June 15 Musical Instrument Museum

Make your reservation with Becky Cederquist before Thursday, June 8. Details for the day include the option of carpooling from OPC at 10. Tickets are \$20.00 and can be purchased on line from MIM.org or as you arrive. Browse the exhibits, gather in the café for lunch together at 11:30, and enjoy the museum as long as you wish. Becky Cederquist opcdeacon@gmail.com or 623-363-4509.

For your summer calendar here are the other Thursday Adventures planned for this summer—guests are always welcome!

July 20-Arizona State Capital Museum, Barb Digges will coordinate

August 17-Heard Museum (\$18 online prior to visit)

Sept 7-Burton Barr Library Tour (Rare Books, etc.)

Breathe

The Sunday service on Mother's Day closed with a "gift" from several members of the OAF Choir.

The moving and inspiring presentation of *This Is the Air I Breathe*, swelled as members of the congregation were invited to sing with the choir. If you missed the service or would like to replay this prayerful performance, you can find a video of the service on Orangewood's Facebook page. Their presentation begins at minute 58. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064683371808>



This is the air I breathe	Your very word
This is the air I breathe	Spoken to me
Your Holy presence	And I...I'm desperate for you
Living in me	And I...I'm lost without you
This is my daily bread	This is the air I breathe
This is my daily bread	This is the air I breathe

Join in Celebrating Our June Birthdays

Wish them a happy birthday with a card, email, phone call or prayer.

Martha Daudet	June 2	Peter Ladigo	June 23
Bryce Swartz	June 5	Dirk Oosterwyk	June 23
Joey Geary	June 5	Greg Swartz	June 24
Bev Gross	June 7	Cindy Baker	June 26
Ronald Carmichael	June 9	David Shoemaker	June 26
Mike Widener	June 10	Ginger Bennitt	June 27
Shawna Kroodsma	June 12	Marji Shepherd	June 27
Ted Hooper	June 15	Paul Lind	June 28
Paul Moser	June 15	Jeannie Oosterwyk	June 28
Dan Sherwood	June 17	Sandy Frost	June 30
Claudie Deen	June 21		

OPC Spring 2023 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

In response to questions frequently asked in our congregation, Session offers the following answers. Session encourages all members to raise questions and concerns by calling or emailing Session members. A list of Session members and their contact information is available online by request and in printed form in the narthex.

Q: Is the traditional worship service as we know it going away?

A: Session plans to keep our traditional worship with no plans to lose the style of worship so many of our long-time members count on as the foundation of their week.

Q: What is the plan for the Orangewood African Fellowship service? Will we be merging our worship?

A: Session does not plan to combine the OAF and traditional services. The OAF bilingual service is important for the OAF members who don't speak English and the style of worship is well suited to cultural traditions and welcoming to refugees coming to a new home in America. Each service serves a great need.

Q: Why does the OAF sometimes share music or scripture in the traditional service?

A: Session desires to build connections between our two cultures and worship styles and share with each other to know each other better. While we worship apart, we seek to be one in the Lord and have fellowship together. Session has identified three ways to be one in the Spirit together and increase opportunities for fellowship:

Share music in each other's services.

Work together on mission projects.

Work together on children and youth programs.

Q: Does selling the manse and asking for member feedback on the north forty mean that Orangewood is in financial trouble?

A: Orangewood has maintained a balanced budget. Session sees a long-term trend of reduced giving as our member mix has changed from more affluent families who are aging and new refugee families who are more economically challenged. Session and the congregation voted to sell the manse to improve our ability to manage through reduced giving. We currently use up to 4% of our endowments each year to keep a balanced budget.

Q: Why have so many different pastors been preaching lately?

A: Our pastor Ken has been very ill and recently underwent surgery. The surgery went very well, and Ken will need time to recover. The Session has hired Rev. Mary Saylor to work in Ken's absence, both preaching and managing staff. Her office days are Wednesday and Friday.

Q: Both Pam White, our office manager, and Sammi Burkhart, our children and youth leader, have resigned. How will Orangewood continue with so much staff leaving?

A: Both Pam and Sammi have graciously agreed to continue working to train their replacements. The Personnel Committee has been searching for our new office manager and developing the position description for our next children and youth leader. We prefer these roles be hired when our pastor is able to participate but will proceed to assure our church continues to serve our members and community. Session is in total agreement that an important element for Orangewood's future is attracting and welcoming young families.

Q: I've seen our solar panels on the church roof but heard that the system has not been connected. Did we lose money with our solar investment?

A: Session has been very disappointed in the many delays by our solar contractor, APS, and the City of Phoenix in this process. Our contractor bears major responsibility for the delay by engineering three different types of power at our three separate meters. We charged half our electricity bills to the contractor from July 2022 to December 2022 as a penalty. As of January 2023, the contractor is paying 100% of our electricity bills. Orangewood is no longer impacted by the delays and our contractor is highly motivated to complete our project.

Orangewood Presbyterian Church
7321 N. 10th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85020

June

www.orangewood.info

2023

Orangewood Staff

Interim Pastor	The Rev. Mary Saylor
Pastor	The Rev. Kenneth G. Page
Director of Music	Dr. Charles N. Sedgwick
Children's Church	Samantha Burkhart
Office & Facilities Manager	Pam White
Set-Up Assistant	Addison Case

Plumblin Contributors

Contributing Editor	Barbara Digges
Editor	Pam White
Proof Reader	Mary Jane Gregory
Mailer	Jackie Collier

Orangewood Presbyterian Church
Phone: 602-944-1508
E-mail: secretary@opc.phxcoxmail.com
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The *Plumblin*, a monthly newsletter of Orangewood Presbyterian Church, contains helpful information for members and friends. If you would like to receive this publication via e-mail (pdf file), contact the office. Issues may also be found on our website. **We will combine the July, August, and September issues into one. The deadline will be announced later in the summer.**