



seeking:
*Can these
bones live?*

March 24, 2023

Dear Oaklands,

Last Sunday in worship, something quite precious happened as we shared our prayer concerns with each other. Quite naturally people began sharing about opportunities for connection with others. I believe we are longing for meaningful connection, and more than ever, it seems these connections are harder to find.

One thing I have learned as a pastor and as a parent, when more connection is needed, some of the most natural ways to make that happen is through "parallel play" - chatting while doing something else.

For my kids, it is often while in the car. For my neighbors it tends to be while taking the dogs for a walk or waiting for a kid.

For congregations, it is often as we do the work of the church.

A few weeks ago I shared how the leadership of Oaklands is doing a new thing, restructuring our work around 3 different teams:

- **Operations Team** - Personnel, Admin, Finance
- **Worship Team** - All things worship and Sunday morning related
- **Engagement Team** - Attentive to all of the ways people inside and outside the church engage with the community

We also talked at the annual meeting about how churches our size work well with a "co-op model" - everyone pitching in - many hands make light work. When we provide clear ways to be a part of the work of the church, we are also providing opportunities for "parallel play" - natural ways for members of the Oaklands Community to connect with each other.

This Sunday we will have a natural opportunity to connect (at least for those physically present in worship) at our spaghetti luncheon. And during worship, we will be sharing more about our 3 leadership teams and how you can engage with the work of the Engagement Team, specifically.

There are opportunities for in person and virtual worshipers to contribute in this work!

I look forward to Sunday, for the chance to connect with you, and to be the church in all of the good ways!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor LeAnn

Scripture for this Week:

John 11:1-45 (Read Here)

Oaklands' Music Playlist for this Sunday:

Lent Playlist Week 5



Easter Egg Hunt on **April 9th** following Worship.

Candy donations are accepted and can be left in the office by **April 2nd**.

Please come **April 2nd** to help stuff eggs!



Our next luncheon will be on **March 26th** following worship! A sign-up sheet will be available starting



OAKLANDS HAS DEEP ROOTS OF RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Thank you to our Oaklands Fellowship Hosts!

Hosting Sunday	Hosts
March 19	Paul Collman
March 26	Spaghetti Lunch (See Sara Littlejohn to sign up to help)
April 2	Vivian Manga
April 9	Easter (Two different hosts/families should combine on Easter)
April 16	Pam & Sam Lloyd
April 23	Carleah Fisher & Autumn Snell
April 30	Jane Pennington
May 7	Vivian Manga
May 14	Mother's Day Lunch (Vivian) for Debt free '23
May 21	Joanne Bauer
May 28	Tari Gregory
June 4	
June 14	
June 21	

If you are interested in becoming a Fellowship host (a small snack to share following worship) please contact **Elder Pam Lloyd!**

March 5th. If you are interested in helping please contact **Sara Littlejohn.**

(click Pam's name to email her)

The sign--up schedule is located next to the coffee maker in the Narthex and here ([LINK](#))



Interfaith Community Sing!

WESTMORELAND UCC
1 WESTMORELAND CIRCLE
BETHESDA, MD 20816

COME ONE,
COME ALL!

What's Next?

It's just a few days away but this Sunday at 4 pm I'll co-lead an [Interfaith Community SING](#) in Bethesda, Maryland with Cantor Rosalie Will, an inspiring Jewish song leader and teacher. We'll raise our voices in prayer for justice, peace, and healing everywhere.

Debt Free in '23" Campaign

We started this year with a mortgage pay off of March 10, 2024. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we have raised **\$14,318** and have moved the pay off to November 10. Each week we are getting closer and closer.

Please consider a donation to help Oaklands through this year to our goal of paying off the mortgage by September, if not sooner! Doing so could pull us out of the red and into a surplus!

For every extra dollar given, and designated as Debt Free '23, we will be able to tick time off of our Mortgage Countdown Calendar! <https://oaklandspres.org/give>, note "Debt Free in '23" in the note before submitting.

\$150 is one day gone!
\$1000 is one week gone!
\$4300 is one month gone!

Worship Leadership Sunday, 03/26/23

Liturgist - Suzanne Anderson

Preacher- Rev. LeAnn Hodges

Music Ministry - Karen McLaren

Tech Ministry - Jesy Littlejohn

Fellowship Host(s)- Spaghetti Lunch!

Please see the links below in order to join in for our worship services.
To call in from any phone (sound only, no video), call 1-301-715-8592
Type in the following Meeting ID when prompted: 865 6235 7110

If you are not able to log on for any reason and need help accessing the recording, please email Elder **Jesy Littlejohn**. jesy@oaklandspres.org or **TEXT** them at 4124390306

Weekly Worship Links

Reminder: The links for worship are **ALWAYS** on the Oaklands Presbyterian Church *website!*

Meeting ID 865 6235 7110
Passcode 14301

Zoom Worship

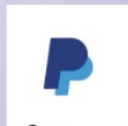
YouTube Worship

Make a Donation

Ways to Send your Pledges and Freewill Offerings



CashApp: [\\$OaklandsPres](#)



Paypal; See the giving link on the OPC Website under "Give"



Check via USPS.



Automatic Draft. You can set it up through your bank account to have money automatically withdrawn and sent to OPC

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