

To Members and Friends of Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church,

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Dane County Mask Mandate is still in effect until November 5. Masks are required for everyone entering the church for worship or other inside gatherings. We also strongly encourage everyone to please get vaccinated!



“BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS”

On Sunday, October 10, we held our first “Blessing of the Animals” as a part of our worship. We had three in-person canine guests who came to receive a blessing along with their human companions. Each person who attended brought either their dog or pictures of their cats or dogs with them. Treats for humans and canines were shared after worship. It was meaningful worship service for all who attended.



**“MORNING HAS BROKEN, LIKE THE FIRST MORNING”
OCTOBER 17
10 AM
(PARKING LOT WORSHIP)**



Creation Care and the Climate Crisis

This Sunday, October 17, we will be reading and reflecting on the story of Creation in Genesis 1 while reflecting on our global climate crisis and the impact on our world and lives today and for generations to come.

Please bring a lawn chair, or if you need one, we will provide it for you. Our plan is for Karen Brunk to play the portable keyboard which will allow us to have music. We have been inviting people to sing as they feel moved to do so or to sing in their heart and head. Fellowship Time follows. If you are interested in providing refreshments for Fellowship Time, please let Mare Stewart or Pastor Scott know.

SANCTUARY SERMONS WITH PASTOR SCOTT... Many of you remember Pastor Scott offered Meditations in the Meadow throughout 2020. Instead of live-streaming the entire service, he is going to be offering a brief summary of the scripture and his sermon each week from the sanctuary. This will be no more than 10 minutes long. You can join him on Facebook Live between 9:30-10 am. This will be in place of live-streaming the entire service.

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OCPCambridgeWI>

October Worship

10 a.m.

Parking Lot

While the weather allows, we will be returning to worship in the parking lot through the end of October. Each Sunday, we will invite you to bring your own lawn chairs as we

gather outside. This will allow us to spread out and not have to wear masks. Please dress for the weather. If the weather does not allow for us to gather outside, we will move indoors and masks will be required.

October 24 – Parking Lot Worship. Rev. Hugh Drennan will be our worship leader.

October 31 – Parking Lot Worship (possibly in Lake Ripley Cemetery). We will be celebrating All Saints Day Liturgy, remembering our loved ones who died over the past year. If you wish to have the name of a loved one mentioned in the liturgy, please send us an email at office@OCPChurch.com or pastor@ocpchurch.com.

FELLOWSHIP TIME

We are once again having some fellowship time following worship. As long as the weather is agreeable, we are serving outside, providing foods that can be individually shared safely. Thank you to Cheryl Bettenhausen, Mare Stewart, Judy Schroeder, Melanie Rumpf, and Judy Pearson for providing food for our fellowship time. If you are interested in providing fellowship refreshments, please let Mare Stewart or Pastor Scott know.

NEW CLEANING PERSON

We welcome Margarita Garcia to OCPC. She will be cleaning the church every two weeks. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped with cleaning over the past months.

OCPC FINANCIAL UPDATE

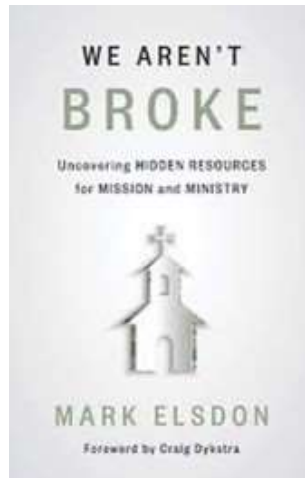
We have now endured eighteen months of this pandemic, impacting so many aspects of our lives, including church worship. The good news is that last year our church finances held strong. Giving continued even when services did not. We finished the year 2020 roughly down \$1,800 in anticipated income – a great success by just about any measure. Thank you!

We began 2021 in a similar fashion – strong giving continued. However, while other aspects of income remain strong – rental income, non-member giving, investment income – in recent months member giving has fallen off. Recent projections show that our member giving may fall \$6,000 below expectations – a significant drop-off.

Does this represent a financial crisis? Not really – not in the short run. We will cover the deficit by withdrawing money from our investment income. And it may represent a coincidence – a number of members who have forgotten to keep up with their pledge. At the worst, we will continue on. Overall, our financial picture is strong.

However, a larger deficit could possibly lead to budget cuts, a difficulty when we already have a “bare bones” budget. Or perhaps Session would feel the need to reconsider expensive improvements tentatively planned for 2022, including possibly painting the sanctuary, upgrading our video capabilities, improving the manse, replacing our signage, etc. A serious deficit would lead to very difficult decisions next year.

So if you have the ability to contribute, please do. Every little bit helps. If you find yourself unable to contribute to the church at this time, we certainly understand. And please remember, there are many ways in which you can support your church besides dollars!



OCPC Book Read for October

“We Aren’t Broke: Uncovering Hidden Resources for Mission and Ministry”

Rev. Mark Elsdon, who has been co-pastor at Pres House with his spouse, Rev. Erica Liu, has written a new book. The Session has decided to read this together. We are inviting others to join us. If you are interested in ordering a copy, please let Pastor Scott know or you can order your own copy online at: <https://www.amazon.com/We-Arent-Broke-Uncovering-Resources/dp/0802878989> . The cost is \$18.99

About Mark’s book:

“Many Christian churches and related institutions in the United States are struggling or, in some cases, facing imminent crisis, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendance is down. Funding is harder to come by. People are no longer drawn to traditional church services and programming in the ways that they once were. Often, we feel broke and powerless to do much about it. We settle for doing more with less: Less money. Fewer people. Fewer churches.

But if we reexamine our perceived limits and our assumptions about how resources are supposed to be used, then something remarkable and beautiful comes into view: we aren’t broke at all but have enormous resources at our disposal. Church and missional organizations nationwide own billions of dollars of prime property and investment assets, which, when combined with social enterprise and new expressions of mission, can be put to work for innovation and transformation. And these resources are often available to us right now.

This book is an invitation to envision a different way of putting God’s gifts to work in the world. It draws upon a remarkable story of rebirth at a Presbyterian affiliated campus ministry center at the University of Wisconsin, along with profiles of other creative social enterprises, to describe how church property and investment assets can be put to work for

innovation, transformation, and financial sustainability. Theologically rooted but practically minded, it provides guidance and tools for church and nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs, and investors of all kinds who are seeking new ways to fund and participate in God’s work in the world.”

MEALS ON WHEELS... Volunteers are needed to deliver meals from October 25 to November 5. If you can help, please contact Cheryl Stitz at 608-695-1838 to volunteer.

VOLUNTEER(S) REQUESTED – The family of Evelyn Reiner is looking for a person, or people, who would volunteer to visit her and read the E-News and/or bulletin once or twice a month. If you are interested, please let Pastor Scott know.

OCPC HAS A MISSION FUND. The Session is looking for mission opportunities who might need our support. If you have a suggestion, please send it to pastor@ocpchurch.com



FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST: Canned Meats, Rice, Cookies/Sweets, Cereal, Egg Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Cleaning Supplies, Feminine Products, Shampoo and conditioner. Donation bin is located outside of the lower level middle school/food pantry entrance and monetary donations are gladly accepted via the Food Pantry website or by mail to P.O. Box 54, Cambridge WI 53523. Thank you!

AGING AND SENIOR CARE RESOURCES [Caring.com](https://www.caring.com) is a leading senior care resource for family caregivers seeking information and support as they care for aging parents, spouses and other loved ones. They have been featured by AARP, The Administration for Community Living, The National Legal Resource Center, and Forbes, as well as referenced by many governmental agencies and organizations across the Internet.

The following is a link to their Senior Care and Assisted Living Guide for communities in Wisconsin: (<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/assisted-living/wisconsin>)

DONATE ONLINE TO OUR CHURCH, Presbyterian Church of Oakland-Cambridge, using the app, **Give+**. Search for “GivePlus Church” in your app store (Vanco Payment Solutions). Once it’s installed, find us using our zip code (53523), and set up one-time or recurring payments, OR go directly to our donor page by using the QR Code below, or the link on our webpage, www.ocpchurch.com. Thank you! (You may also mail in your offering and pledge: **OCPC 313 E. Main Street, Cambridge, WI 53523.**)



MILESTONES

Birthdays

- Trent Bettenhausen October 12
- Kelly Homann..... October 13
- Lindsey Vanderbilt October 13
- Scott Marrese-Wheeler October 21
- Linda Johnson October 21
- Abby Porter..... October 23

- Kay Lund..... October 26
- Sue Bettenhausen..... October 27
- Maggie Porter October 29

Anniversaries

None

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

- Doreen Drennan (Alden Estates, Room 419; 1130 Collins Rd.; Jefferson, WI 53549)
- Judy Pearson
- Jan & Nancy Kristiansen
- Jack & Jenine Spack
- The people and refugees of Afghanistan
- The families of the military members who were killed in Afghanistan
- The men, women and children of Afghanistan who were killed in this war.
- The people impacted by Hurricane Ida
- The people of Haiti following the earthquake

Families who are grieving the loss of loved ones.


If you would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, please leave word in the church office or contact the pastor. Permission to be included in this publicly posted list has been obtained from those listed or their families.

STANDING DATES – These are regularly scheduled events

- Pastoral Office Hours – Generally 9:00 a.m. to Noon Wednesdays
- Business Office Hours – 8:00 a.m. to Noon Monday through Thursday
- Sundays – 10:00 a.m. Worship;
Communion first Sunday of each month
- Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. – AA

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WEB: www.OCPChurch.com

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