

To Members and Friends of Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church,

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**A Matthew 25 Congregation
“Lord, When Did We See You...?”**



From a dugout basement on a hillside overlooking Lake Ripley



To a building on East Main Street



JUNE 12

WORSHIP WITH ANNUAL MEETING AND COOKOUT

10 AM

THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 12, weather permitting, we will worship outside, incorporating the Annual Meeting and cookout into the service. If it rains, we will be inside. Our accompanist is Karen Brunk. Please note, this service will not be live-streamed.

Our worship service and my sermon will be different for this Sunday. As Bob Dylan sang: “The times, they are a-changin’.” And so it is with the Church. We will be having an all-church conversation around the future of our ministry here at OCPC.

In preparation for our conversation together, I would invite you to prayerfully reflect on the following:

Mark Elsdon, the Director at Pres House, co-founder of “Rooted Good” and author of “We Ain’t Broke: Uncovering Hidden Resources for Mission and Ministry” through his research, that one estimate is over the next year, close to 100,000 churches will close. He also shares that an estimated \$3.5 billion of church property will change ownership in 2022. In his upcoming book, “Gone For Good,” Mark writes: **“As tens of thousands, and billions of dollars, of church-owned property is sold or re-purposed throughout the United States in the next decade, will those properties be gone for good (forever)? Or can church and civic leaders work together so that these properties become a new kind of social good in our communities?”** <https://www.melsdon.com/goneforgood>

This Sunday, during our worship/annual meeting, I will be inviting us to collectively reflect and discuss together Mark’s words, the following Scriptures, and the questions that follow here:

Acts 2:43-47

“Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”

Acts 4:32-37

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. There was a Levite, a native of Cyprus, Joseph, to whom the apostles gave the name Barnabas (which means ‘son of encouragement’). He sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles’ feet.

1 Corinthians 12:1-27 - “Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.”

1. What does it mean to be the Body of Christ, the “Church” in today’s world?
2. What will the Body of Christ, the “Church”, including OCPC, look like in the future?
3. How has being the “Church” changed over since followers of Jesus first gathered together? How has being the “Church” changed over your own lifetime?

4. How has your own involvement and commitment to the “Church” changed over the years?
5. How will your involvement and commitment to the mission and ministry of change in the next 3-5 years?
6. When you consider the age of our congregation and make up of membership, who do you see as the future leaders to fill the roles needed for our ministry and mission?
7. What changes in our approach to ministry might we have to make to offer a future to this congregation?
8. Are you willing to make changes in order to have a future ministry?
9. Do you/we have the energy to make the necessary changes?
10. How are the lives of the people in the Cambridge area impacted by the ministry of OCPC? How would their lives change if we were not here to provide ministry?

“What If... We Replace Churches with Apartment Complexes?”

https://hackingchristianity.net/2022/06/what-if-we-replace-churches-with-apartment-complexes-guest-content.html?fbclid=IwAR2m_sJ7Moip9UIfWiRpQWTFofYyug_ZOBFOnfqdFGHMI-iOeZCzA7dhXg4

**Banned Books and The Bible Sermon Series
Begins June 19**



“Across the country, debates about censorship, critical race theory, LGBTQ+ and Transgender issues, are giving rise to revival of book bans. Virginia Governor Glen Youngkin leveraged banning CRT as a campaign promise to win his election last November. Now the debates have reached a new height in Texas. In one small Texas town, angry

parents swarmed school board meetings. They demanded the banning of books centered around diverse LGBTQ+ or BIPOC characters or issues like sexual assault. Throughout history, people and governments have sought to censor what people of all ages can read. But should books be banned? And if so, what about a book that talks openly about rape, murder, incest, mass killings, sexuality, adultery, child abuse, domestic violence, and gay relationships? The Bible has all of those topics in it and more. Should it be banned? This summer Pastor Scott invites you to join him on Sunday mornings as we explore some of the books that have been banned, exploring the theological and biblical imagery in each of them, and connecting them to stories in the Bible. A display of banned books will be coming soon to the sanctuary. You can find a list of the books we will be exploring. Have you read any of these? Pastor Scott has, including the Bible.

June 19 - The Bible as a Banned Book (John 1:1-5)

June 26 - "Gender Queer," "Lawn Boy" "I Am Jazz" (Jonathan & David - a Love Story)
Rev. Brenda Lovick will join Pastor Scott for this Sunday.

July 3 – "The 1619 Project" (From Bondage to Freedom in the Bible -Genesis and Exodus)

July 10 – "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood (Genesis 16-22)

July 17 – "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury (Job)

July 24 – Banned Books versus Banning Guns (Isaiah 2:4)

July 31 – "The Hate U Give" (Song of Solomon 1)

August 7 – "Looking for Alaska"

August 14 – "Of Mice and Men"

August 21 – Harry Potter Series

August 28 – "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"

1ST ANNUAL
Guns to Gardens
National Buyback Day

A transformative effort to reduce gun violence

With every gun turned in, you will receive a gift card!

Receive a \$50 gift card for a rifle or shotgun

Receive a \$150 gift card for a handgun

Receive a \$250 gift card for a semi-automatic

Guns to Gardens

100% Anonymous

Exchange guns for gift cards

Saturday
June 11
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Midvale Community Lutheran Church
4329 Tokay Blvd., Madison
(the corner of Midvale and Tokay)

Please use the Tokay entrance to the parking lot.

Instructions
Bring firearms unloaded and in the trunk of the vehicle. No ammunition accepted.
Drive through event - remain in vehicle

For More Information: www.gunstogardens.org
Jeff Wild | 608.770.9453 | jwildw@mid.com

COMING TO OCPC AND CAMBRIDGE
GUNS TO GARDENS
SUNDAY, JULY 24
10 AM

“God shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore.” (Isaiah 2:4)



ON SUNDAY, JULY 23, Jeff Wild, a retired Lutheran minister in Madison, who is now doing Blacksmithing, will be our guest for worship. Like Pastor Scott, and many of us, Jeff felt like he needed to turn his prayers into action. He decided to participate in a national movement called “Guns to Gardens.” Jeff takes donations of guns, disassembles them, and then melts the metal parts down, to forge them into garden tools, using the wood for the handles. He will have enough gun parts for his demonstration, however, he said if someone wants to donate a gun they know longer use, he will trade them for a garden tool he has made from another gun.



https://captimes.com/news/forge-peace-retired-madison-pastor-hammers-guns-into-garden-tools/article_f01cc4df-59b2-5b5a-8e76-a2cca769ce43.html?fbclid=IwAR3S9z4srQeerN7tnUw7GCdq4U2rSlnP3q51kiqHDXlt1Uza-LkN7HmeB4

The following provides more information about this national Movement.

<https://rawtools.org/>

Our nation has been through a variety of horrific events surrounding gun violence, and it has brought the conversation to the forefront of our current events and “water cooler” conversations. It has largely become a binary conversation of either more guns or more laws. RAW tools wants to open a new option, a third way: What if we made a commitment

to solve our problems without guns and violence? By using weapons to make garden tools and other hand tools, we are creating a symbol for change and we're asking you to participate, to dare to use our imaginations to change our impulse. Beating swords into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks, and guns into garden tools creates a dynamic shift in our investment in time and resources. If we are no longer training for war, what else would we be doing? It doesn't mean we are all to become gardeners, but it does mean we can invest in providing life sustaining resources for our communities. RAWtools' mission to "disarm hearts and forge peace" is driven by our ability to make a choice about the tools we use to navigate conflict. As we lose more than 100 people a day to gun violence in the United States, it's becoming more and more clear that guns have no place in conflict resolution. Many folks donate their guns to RAWtools because they realize they don't need them anymore.

Our Sword to Plow program allows you to donate your gun to RAWtools and receive a garden tool from that gun for free.

RAWtools keeps any remaining parts to make more tools or items to raise money for our work. We walk you through the process of legally disabling your gun and connect you to our disarming network.

PIGGLY WIGGLY RECEIPTS: Piggly Wiggly receipts are due at the church on this Sunday, June 12. The monies received from the Piggly Wiggly receipts will be used to support the local food pantries.



OCPC COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY... This year on **Saturday, July 30**, OCPC is once again helping with the Lake Ripley Ride To Cure Juvenile Diabetes. We will be volunteering at the London Community Center Rest Stop from 9am-1 pm. If you

are interested in volunteering, please let Pastor Scott know. If you are interested in riding in this family friendly event, here is the link to learn more:

<https://cambridgecap.net/programs/special-events-2/lake-ripley-ride-4-0/>



The Sunflower is the National Flower of Ukraine

**Isaiah 2:4 God will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.**

WE CONTINUE TO LIFT UP THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IN OUR PRAYERS in the midst of this senseless war, deaths and destruction taking place. For the coming Sundays, we will take a moment in worship to light the “Peace Candle” near the pulpit and offer a special prayer for the people of Ukraine.

The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund is also receiving financial gifts to help with the refugees fleeing the war. Send your gift to OCPC; or make a check out to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and mail it to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. Be sure to designate it for DR000156-Ukraine. You may also text PDAUKR to 41444.



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: Cereal, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Granola Bars, Crackers/Saltines, Cookies, Body Wash, Laundry Soap. 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 <https://cambridgecap.net/programs/nutrition/food-pantry/> 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, **Vanco Mobile**. Search for “Vanco Mobile” 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

- Paul Anderson..... June 8
- Emily Hanson June 13
- Jamie Fieser Schauer June 17
- Julie Anderson June 21
- Lydia Meier June 22

- Marian Korth..... June 24
- Don Hawkins June 26

Anniversaries

None

PLEASE HOLD THESE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN PRAYER THIS WEEK —

- Lorin Fulton
- Don Hawkins is in the Edgerton Care Center
- Jan & Nancy Kristiansen
- Jenine Spack

The families of Jack Spack, Ken Bilstad, Doreen Drennan, and other 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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