

THE LINK

April 2019



OLD PEACHTREE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Stand or Fall

The 16th century church reformer Martin Luther said of the doctrine of justification by grace through faith alone:

If this article stands, the church stands; if this article collapses, the church collapses.

Inside this Issue:

Groups & Meetings
Nursery Schedule
RYM Youth Retreat
Middle School Retreat
New Members

I agree with Dr. Luther's assessment. However, standing behind that doctrine of justification is something even more foundational—the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. The apostle Paul put it this way in 1 Corinthians 15:17-18;

...if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

No church without justification by faith. No justification by faith without the resurrection.

RISEN™

The *bodily* resurrection. The Bible leaves no room for a symbolic resurrection, or a “spiritual” resurrection of Jesus. If his body did not come out the grave, resurrected and glorified, “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20), then we are sunk. There is no justification, no salvation, and no church (at least in the Biblical conception of the term). Paul is clear: you cannot have your non-bodily resurrection and Christianity, too.

But as Scripture affirms, Jesus did come out of the grave, triumphing over sin and death. In doing so he vindicated all his prior claims (including that he would be crucified and on the third day rise).

Christianity is not based first on an ethical system but on a historical event—the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Without that, Christianity is nothing. With it, Christianity is everything.

Because Jesus lives, the salvation of the believer is secure. Because he lives, our pursuit of holiness, our worship of him, our labor in the Lord is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:58).

So we celebrate and proclaim the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Alan Johnson

NEW MEMBERS

Mike and Becky Dennison ~ February 2019

Blaize Oliver ~ March 2019

APRIL BIBLE STUDIES

WOMEN

Monday Evening

This study meets 6:30-8:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month (6:30-8:00 p.m.) (*Reading Ephesians with John Stott*) (April 8 & 22). All women are welcome to attend! If you have questions contact Jenni Sickert (jsickerts@gmail.com) or Jane Horner (jane@outstand.com).

Tuesday

The OPPC Tuesday women's Bible study meets every week at 9:45 a.m.—11:45 a.m. The study will **NOT** meet April 2 due to Spring Break. We have finished our study of Philippians and will begin another study April 9. Our last meeting day for the spring will be May 14. Childcare is provided. Please join us.

All women's Bible studies meet at OPPC in the fellowship hall.

MEN

Tuesday

The men's Bible study will not meet April 2 due to spring break. The study usually meets every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. at Duluth Diner (3620 Peachtree Ind. Blvd., Duluth 30096). Questions? Contact Ken Larson (pro2bug@gmail.com).

JOHNS CREEK SMALL GROUP

Please join us for Johns Creek Small Group on Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Owen and Tina Malcolm. If you are interested or need information, please contact Owen Malcolm (owen.malcolm@unitedcp.com) or Tina Malcolm (tinamalcolm@gmail.com).

CHURCH WORK DAY—MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OPPC church work day will be coming up on May 11. Mark your calendar and plan to join us as we take care of our grounds and building— inside and out.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Join us for our Maundy Thursday communion service on April 18 at 7:00 p.m. A nursery is provided.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER RETREAT—JUNE 10-14

Mark your calendar! The middle schools students (grades 6-8) will attend camp Ridge Haven this summer, June 10-14. More information will follow in the April and May bulletins.

PCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY—JUNE 25-28

Registration is open for the 47th PCA General Assembly, “Press on for God’s Glory!” The Assembly will be held in Dallas, Texas this year on June 25-28.



NEW EXPLORERS CLASS

Join our next Explorers Class, beginning Sunday, April 7, at 9:45 a.m. in downstairs room 4. This six-week class, led by the pastor, is for anyone interested in membership at OPPC or who wants to learn more about us.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY GUIDELINES FORM

Some of you have not signed the Children’s Ministry Guidelines form. If you have not, please ask Joe Deighton for a copy, read through it, sign it, and return it to him. Please contact Joe if you have any questions (joe.deighton@oldpeachtree.org).

CHURCH SUPPLIES LIST/REQUEST

Please note that there is a supply request form in the kitchen on the bulletin board to be used by teachers or others who see a supply need in the church. Write your requests on the form. These items are usually purchased within one to two weeks of the request. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Johnson (bbj1988@gmail.com).

APRIL HAPPENINGS



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: APRIL 7—SUNDAY: Please join us for First Sunday Lunch on April 7 right after the worship service as we celebrate with Joe and Ashley Deighton. They are expecting baby #2 in just a few weeks. There will be a basket for cards, or if you wish, bring a package of diapers for the big “change” they will soon have in their family!

LADIES: APRIL 11—THURSDAY: WOMEN’S GATHER GROUP

Come join us at the home of Julie Grabenkort on Thursday, April 11, at 7:00 p.m. for fellowship, dessert, and sharing of a craft everyone can enjoy! All OPPC women are welcome, and bring a friend if you would like. Please RSVP at jbwg53@gmail.com so we will be sure and have plenty of treats and supplies. See you then!



YOUTH GROUP—RYM CONFERENCE—JULY 8 –13, 2019



Registration for RYM is now open! We will be attending this great conference from July 8-13 in Laguna Beach, FL. All rising 9th graders-graduation seniors are encouraged to attend.

If you are new to OPPC, this is the highlight of the year for our youth. Talk to anyone who has attended in the past, and they will tell you how the Lord has blessed this conference.



RYM stands for Reformed Youth Ministries, and they have served the church for over 40 years by providing conferences for youth that are word-driven, God-centered, and gospel-focused. In addition to the teaching and preaching (this year by Rev. Russ Whitefield), there are fun activities such as swimming (pool and ocean), paddle boarding, kayaking, gaga ball, basketball, spike ball, kan jam, volleyball, and ping pong. It’s also a great location by the Gulf of Mexico.

Link to register: <https://www.rym.org/hsfl2-registration>

The cost this year is \$475 per student, of which \$100 has already been paid. So, the total will be \$375. In addition, the first five students to register will receive \$75 off. And, as always, scholarships are available!

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call, text, or email Joe (joe.deighton@oldpeachtree.org).

YOUTH GROUP FOOD SCHEDULE

Volunteers supply food for the Youth Group on Sunday evenings (5:30 p.m.). Thank you for your help with this fellowship. Please contact Jennifer Taylor (taylorkhandan@yahoo.com) for more information.

April 14 - Hering
April 21 - Leap

April 28 - Foster

MEETINGS AND GROUPS

First Sunday Lunch

Join us for First Sunday Lunch on April 7. Please invite your friends and neighbors.

Communion Week

We celebrate the Lord's Supper in the morning service on April 14. We have communion on the second Sunday every month.

Deacons Meeting

The Diaconate meeting has been moved to Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall (usually meets the second Wednesday of each month).

Session Meeting

The Session meets Wednesday, April 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall (the fourth Wednesday of each month).

Youth Group

All 6th grade -12th graders, even college students, are welcome to join us for dinner at 5:30 on Sundays except for the first Sunday of each month. Food volunteers are the Hering Family (April 14), the Leap Family (April 21), and the Foster Family (April 28).

NURSERY SCHEDULE - MARCH 2019



DATE	11:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
4/7	Deighton, Saylor, Arabella	No Service
4/14	Appleton, Oliver, Calvin	Richards
4/18	(MAUNDY THURSDAY)	Wilson (7:00 p.m.)
4/21	Malin-Davis, Wong, Sarah	Yamazaki
4/28	Larson, Sickert, Raine	Foster, Smith

LINK DEADLINE: Please turn in articles and information for the May *LINK* by Thursday, April 25.

Old Peachtree Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God and to extend the kingdom of Jesus Christ. To accomplish this end, Old Peachtree aims to be a church that is continually growing in vital worship, in theological depth, in true fellowship, in assertive evangelism, and in deeds of compassion. The distinctiveness of Old Peachtree is in its desire to be Presbyterian in government and Reformed in theology, with the vitality that comes from evangelism and discipleship.

Old Peachtree Presbyterian Church
1756 Old Peachtree Road
Duluth, GA 30097
770-476-7945 (office)

office@oldpeachtree.org
www.oldpeachtree.org