

The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church ~ Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor
Issue 9 | January / February 2022

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them, bear much fruit..." John 15:5

OUR MISSION

Uniting in Jesus Christ
we spread God's love

OUR FOCUS

We envision a church with a vibrant Christian spiritual life where we welcome and value all God's people... Where we grow, discover, and share our gifts in the church and in the world.

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LOVE
YOUR neighbor
AS YOURSELF.
Mark 12:31



Prepare YOUR Heart and Mind for Easter

In just a few weeks we will turn our attention to the extraordinary season of Lent. It begins on



March 2, 2022

Yes, we all look forward to Lent, but just what is the purpose of Lent? Lent is a sacred observance in the Christian liturgical year that prepares us to meet the risen Lord on Easter Sunday morning. It is a journey meant to transform and heal our brokenness. As I mentioned above, Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent. Our tradition on Ash Wednesday is to smudge a black cross on the center of the forehead.

The ashes symbolize our remorse and pain for the words and deeds we have done to separate ourselves from God's will for our lives.



April 14, 2022

is the day before Good Friday. It brings to our attention what happened to Jesus the night before he died, when he shared in the Passover meal with his friends and disciples.



GOOD FRIDAY

April 15, 2022

is the day people all over the world remember the death of Jesus and the horrendous pain He experienced on our behalf. Good Friday services are held in most communities. Some churches hold noon day services to intentionally include the business community. I sincerely hope that every effort will be made by Oxford UMC to invite merchants and friends to come to one or all these special services during this most sacred Christian season.



April 17, 2022

is the culmination of Jesus defeating death and gives us hope to embrace and believe in life eternal. While people still die, Jesus, through his life and ministry made it possible to have a relationship with God now while on earth, and also to spend eternity in heaven with our Creator.

Many of you have asked "what can I do to make this season of Lent truly meaningful and to help our church continue to change and grow for the better?" I offer these suggestions to you to include in your journey...

(continued on page 2)

- 1 Pray to be more merciful.
- 2 Attend worship regularly and invite a friend or neighbor to come with you.
- 3 Practice fasting by giving something up (related to the sacrifices of Jesus).
- 4 Give generously more resources to your church for its ministries as we grow more in the likeness of Christ and in commitment to growing a healthier stewardship foundation.
- 5 Serve and greet people at the front door with the Pastor on Sunday mornings.
- 6 Visit a person who is homebound, if health allows, or send a card of love and concern.
- 7 Take time to tell someone about your church's Lenten services and the children and youth ministries that are in development.
- 8 Make a commitment to usher for a month or more.
- 9 Make a concerted effort to sing with the Praise Team before Easter Sunday.
- 10 Read daily the devotional provided by the church - "Drawn to the Cross" by Henri J.M. Nouwen. It will be available shortly and may be found in the Sanctuary and on the kiosk.
- 11 Offer to do the Word for Children after Easter. (Notify Michele Mumbrue (248)969-9173)
- 12 Attend and possibly help out our People Feeding People team.
- 13 Bring food and/or personal items for the FISH food pantry. Please note that monetary gifts are also appreciated as it allows them to purchase fresh foods for the pantry such as meat and milk.
- 14 Join the prayer team in remembering those who are having health issues or other concerns.
- 15 Be intentional in developing new relationships with families and their children.

May you and your loved ones feel the presence of the **Holy** as we prepare to go deeper into the heart of God!

Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor



Worship in person, online or in your cars! Please follow these in person guidelines: Wear a face mask please and social distance 6 feet apart - even if you have had your vaccination. It better to be safe with the illnesses around. It's always a good idea to wash your hands often, and please stay home if you are feeling sick.

**February 6 - 5th Sunday after the Epiphany /
Special Holy Communion Presentation**
Matthew 18:25-35
"Forgiveness"

February 13 - 6th Sunday after the Epiphany
Matthew 13:44-46
"Joy"

February 20 - 7th Sunday after the Epiphany
Matthew 20:1-16
"Staying Consistent"
Bells & Brunch Sunday

February 27 - Transfiguration Sunday
Matthew 25:1-13
"Don't Stop Anticipating"

March 2 - Ash Wednesday
Worship and/or Ash distributing times to be determined

March 6 - 1st Sunday in Lent / Holy Communion

News from the Education Team

Mark your Calendars:



Starting February 6th Youth Church will be happening every Sunday! Attending children will leave the Sanctuary with a Youth Church Leader after Word for The Children. They will go to the newly designated "Youth Education Room" (previously the Family Room/Cry Room). Please invite other families with children to the **Youth Education Kickoff Day on February 27th**



March 18th - Game Night hosted by the Education Team - 6:30pm

- Bingo will be the main game. Children can bring their own games.

More info to follow.



Week of April 10th (dates/times TBD) - Confirmation Classes

- Open to 6th graders (entering 7th grade in Fall 2022) and up

- Our Pastor and Mary Dempsey will be leading this class



Our Children's Education team had a very busy 2021...

We started working together that fall with acolyte training and were blessed to have 5 youth (Natale Vincentini, Dominick Vincentini, Courtney Turk, Kayleigh Von Knorring and Emma Von Knorring) that are now trained to be acolytes and have been bringing God's light into the church. What a joy to see!

We and the Pastor coordinated UMC Student Day and had 8 High School and College students be part of a special service. It was so wonderful to welcome these students into worship.

We organized a children's Christmas pageant. Oh, what fun they had putting on a version of Charlie Brown Christmas, A Real Christmas.

Sincerely,
the Education team - Lynda Bertich, Adam Bertich,
Mary Dempsey and Amie Von Knorring

Hopes and Dreams for 2022 "Thank You!"

Hello,
As a chairperson on Trustee, this year has changed a lot. We have a new pastor that turned things around and got the positive into the church and not negative, bringing a new outlook in bringing life back into the community. I also see potential still to come as the years progress, I believe that if we continue to educate people and do what we will as leaders, we will strive stronger and brighter in the future to come. My hope is to continue to see growth and see more youth come to the church. My dream is to see us have filled the church to its capacity and continue in the right direction with the team we have now.

Thank you,
David Cischke
Trustee Chairperson

The Pastor and Staff really appreciate the kind and generous gifts we received this past Christmas season! We were also very appreciative of the rest and restorative time with the office being closed for the holidays. You may not be aware but Christmas and Easter are the most hectic and busiest times we have here. Much planning and preparing go into these seasons with the help of many of you. Without our unofficial "staff" of volunteers [Rosemary Rumbold, Fred Nelson, John Warren, Renae Shagena, and Christy Turk] along with the Worship Team (chaired by Michelle Mumbroe) we would have so much more stress and it would not allow us to also enjoy the season with our families and friends.

Much love and blessings to you
our Oxford UMC family,
Pastor Julius Del Pino
Becky Sallans
Alexander Wolf

Church Spiritual Growth

As I sat visiting with Pastor Julius at Brunch a few weeks ago, he asked me what I thought OUMC needed to do to grow spiritually. My immediate response was more commitment to daily Bible reading. His reply, "Will you please write a brief article about that?" So here are my thoughts.

Spiritual growth is a lot like physical growth. One good way to stay physically healthy is to eat the right foods. I consider one of the best foods for spiritual health is God's Word, reading the Bible every day. As Timothy states, "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God want us to do." (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

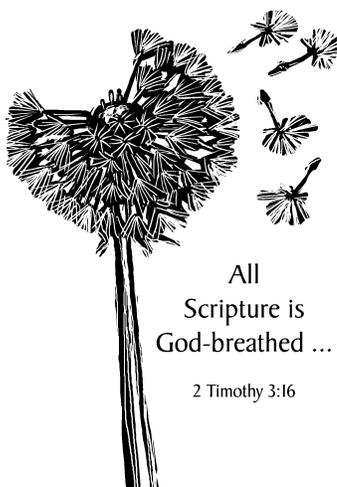
Now, this may sound quite easy, but it takes a definite plan and true commitment. Where to start?

- ◆ Pick up a copy of The Upper Room; read it every day.
- ◆ Download one of the many Bible apps on your cell phone/computer, such as In Touch Ministries or Turning Point.
- ◆ Use a notebook to write down Bible verses that are especially meaningful to you. Reread them every day.
- ◆ Are you reading the Scripture verses which the Pastor emails? Open your Bible and reread them in your translation.
- ◆ If you already have a daily Bible reading program, consider adding a plan to read-the-entire-Bible-in-a-year. Just Google it.
- ◆ Join one of the Bible Studies offered at OUMC.

No matter what plan you choose, begin and end each devotion with prayer. Also, allow for some missed days. Life can get away from us at times. It may help to use a calendar to keep track of your daily devotions.

Spiritual growth takes time – a lifetime. Spiritual growth means making our relationship with God of utmost

importance in order to become more like Christ. God wants us to live passionate spiritual lives every day. One excellent way to do this is with an honest commitment to daily Bible reading so that as we grow spiritually as individuals, we will also grow spiritually stronger as a congregation.



Mary Garrard

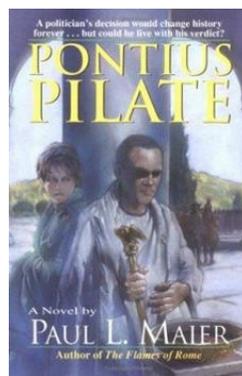
Visit Us ONLINE 

We are always updating and keeping our website current

Did you know there are daily scripture readings?
Have you seen it lately?
Join us - oxfordunitedmc.org

Oxford UMC Book Studies

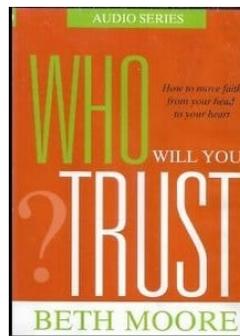
All Are Welcome!



Starting mid-February...
Wednesday Mornings
Book Study
10:30am
Led by Sue Rizzo & Rosemary Rumbold

The dramatic, behind-the-scenes story of an ambitious Roman politician whose fateful decision changes the course of history.

Starting Again...
Thursday Evenings
Bible Study
6:30pm
Led by Shawn Gross



you will discover the principles of trusting God in every day life. We must move our faith from the head--just knowing about God and His ability to work in our lives--to the heart where we experience the fullness of a new life in Christ.

Lenten Devotions "Drawn to the Cross" will soon be available - pick yours up on Sunday mornings!

Local Missions & Outreach

Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors”

We have resumed collecting FISH donations on the first Sunday of each month. You may also make out a check to Oxford UMC and put “FISH Food Pantry” in the memo line and we will make sure that your donation gets there. “Thank You!”

LET’S SHOW THEM OUR LOVE IN FEBRUARY!!!



FISH Location: 1060 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford
Website: www.oxfordorionfish.org

**To receive food from FISH:
(248) 628-3933**

Current Hours -

Office: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9 to noon

Pantry: Tues 1-2:45pm; Wed 10-11:45am; Th 1-4:45pm and 4-5 pm; Sat - 3rd Sat of month 9:45-11:30am

Any questions, contact Julie Langley (248-628-9619) or John & Devon Warren (248-778-8735)

Remember, FISH is a 100% volunteer organization and they need your help.

All donations are tax deductible.

Oxford UMC Meal Outreach



ALL ARE WELCOME!

All are invited to the community

Free! meal program at OUMC!!

On Saturday mornings we are serving breakfast at PFP (People Feeding People)! We encourage you to attend and not only be fed by food but also with fellowship. We are lifting people up through nutrition and friendship. We are providing a hot breakfast and most weeks a sack lunch for people in the Fellowship Hall (the 3rd week is carryout). If you are interested in helping in any way please contact Kathy Laidlaw (248) 701-5910. We hope that you come and enjoy!!!

WHERE: Oxford United Methodist Church

WHEN: Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 am

Community Free Meals

If you or someone you know would like a **Free!** hot meal please invite them to visit:

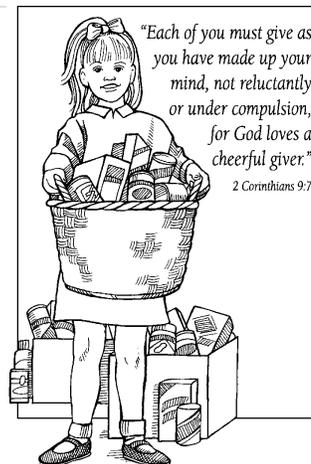
Lake Orion UMC (Mondays),

Immanuel Congregational
(Tuesdays and Wednesdays)

and/or Lakepoint Church (Thursdays)
from 5:30-6:30pm



Love In the Name of Christ (INC) - North Oakland Co.



Love in the Name of Christ (Love INC) of North Oakland County is a non-profit network of churches in the area, including Oxford UMC. The mission of Love INC is to mobilize local volunteers and churches to help those in need and transform lives in the name of Christ. They try to provide any help that is beyond the scope

of the churches on their own. If you would like to donate your time or money to help your neighbors in need please contact them:

Website - www.loveincfnoc.org or
call 248-693-4357 for more information.

Our Missions & Outreach Groups

UM Women: Rachel Circle

May 2022 be filled with good health & joy. Rachel Circle members are inviting **you** to join in as we share, support, plan & schedule events for the new year. Rachel Circle is a true sisterhood of Christian women. We support one another through all of life's challenges. If you like to enjoy the 4 F's* Come Join Us !

The past couple of years have been rough, emotionally exhausting & stretched our faith to the max. We have all heard the phrase "it takes a village..."

Well, it takes Faith, Fellowship & Support from our Christian Sisters. Starting a new year & turning the page on your 'outlook' is a choice.

Rachel Circle might just be the place to start. If you are interested in being a Rachel Circle member but can not fit another meeting into your schedule, Let us know you would like to be in on our events & our church support. We will gladly add you to our new email newsletter.

Things to know :

We meet the second Monday of each month
Sept. through June at 10am.

The February meeting will be Feb. 14th

You do not need to be a member of this church to attend, everyone is welcome.

Our next hosting of Friendship (Coffee) Hour is: Feb. 27th.



Carolyn Lawrie
Rachel Circle President

*(Faith, Fellowship, Friendship & Food)

UM Men: Band of Brothers

The United Methodist Men focus on Evangelism, Missions, and Spiritual Development.

Questions? Please contact
Fred Nelson, UMM President
(248-628-9826) or
John Warren (248-778-8735).



Piece Makers

You are invited to attend the Piece Makers group and help with our prayer quilts. They usually meet on Tuesday afternoons (1st and 3rd weeks) starting at 1pm. However, they are taking a break until March.



QUILTING GROUP

Do you know someone who would like the comfort of the prayers woven into a quilt during its creation? These quilts are intended for *anyone* who could use a hug and a prayer during challenging times.

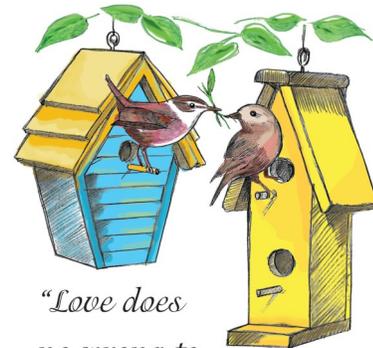
If you have any questions, please contact Linda McIntyre (248-245-7898).
Please keep praying!

UMC Camping



It's the time of year to think about signing up for Camp!

There are many choices at our Michigan United Methodist Camps for all ages and interests. Be sure to go online [www.umcamping.org] to find out the schedule for this year. Our church, and the camps, can also help you pay for camp. Email Lucinda Bellairs [lucindabellairs4@gmail.com] or call the church office [248-628-1289] for more information.



"Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10, NRSV

2022 Commitment Card

[Please cut out and mail to the church]



*"Do all the good you can,
in all the places you can,
to all the people you can."*

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)



2022 Commitment Card (Estimate of Giving)

We thank God for our blessings!
I/We commit to giving our
_____ prayers
_____ volunteer service

My/Our Financial Commitment

\$_____ weekly (for 52 weeks)
\$_____ monthly (for 12 months)
\$_____ Electronic Giving
*[Please include authorization form
and submit with voided check]*

Offering Envelopes Request (check one):

Weekly envelopes (52) Monthly envelopes (12)

Name(s) (print): _____

Signature: _____

Stewardship Moment

Stewardship is all about the faithful use of our time, talents and treasures to make a difference.

So how did we do in 2021?

We did amazingly well! Take Christmas Eve services for instance; we had over 100 people in attendance for the 7pm Service (and approximately 20 for the 10pm service).

We collected over \$1300 for our neighbors in need in our community which we gave to the FISH food pantry to distribute. Further, we met 100% of our 2021 pledged goal, paid approximately \$2000 in District Apportionments (100%) and just over \$9000 in Ministry Shares to the Conference (60% of the assessment). These monies are used for Missions, Outreach Programs, catastrophic needs as well as provide for Administrative costs and Pension amongst other expenses. Ministry Shares together with Apportionments make up 10% of our budget. We are truly blessed to be a tithing church! We are really making a difference!

Now to 2022

We still have work to do as we strive to be a Church Revived. We have received many pledges for 2022, but are short of our 2021 goal. Covid affects getting pledge cards, receiving giving envelopes etc. but we're in good shape. Our Budget for 2022 is realistic and achievable.

All the congregation needs to do is to continue being faithful. 2022 Ministry Shares are less than 2021 by almost 15%, a savings of \$2500 for the year. (For those interested in such things, this amount is calculated based on our Budget, attendance, membership and the Conference Budget). We will continue to reach people with our Saturday breakfast program (PFP), there are many new planned initiatives including an expanded children's church and a High School youth group. Please get involved in any of the many opportunities that are available (or help develop new ones!) and pray that the church succeeds in these endeavors.

Best for 2022,

Amy & Bernie,
Stewardship Co-Chairs

If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash please use your offering envelopes (now available). If you need envelopes, please call the church office or Larry Bradford, financial secretary.

Please consider giving your donation electronically!

It will be paid as you decide and directly deposited into the church account.

It is so easy! And no more check writing!

There is no fee to join. Safe and secure.

Forms are available from the office.

*"For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also."*

Matthew 6:21

*It's not too late to make a
financial commitment to
Oxford UMC for 2022!*



Love is *patient,*
love is *kind.*
It does not *envy,*
it does not *boast,*
it is not *proud.*

1 Corinthians 13:4

UMC Podcasts

Have you ever heard of a podcast? Some people are really into it and some don't have any idea what it is. If you know what books on tape are, it's a cross with that and a radio show. Essentially, it is an audio file made available on the internet for downloading to a computer or your smart phone, typically available as a series. New installments can be received by subscribers automatically. Sometimes they are used to tell a story, a point of view, or to teach.

The UMC has some incredible examples, take a minute and check these out: (*note: nothing is hyphenated. If there is a dash, include it.*)

UMC Affiliated Podcasts:

<https://www.umc.org/en/rethink-church/compass-podcast>

<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/agencies/communications/church-and-conference-resources/podcasts/digital-parish-podcast>

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/get-your-spirit-in-shape>

<https://www.la-umc.org/podcast>

<https://www.defininggrace.com/artofthesermon/>

Storytelling Podcasts:

<https://99percentinvisible.org/>

<https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/anthropocene-reviewed>

E. Stanley Jones, Prophet of Peace



[When E. Stanley Jones arrived in what was then the Belgian Congo, he made popular a saying shared with three fingers raised. "Jesu ni Bwana." (Jesus is Lord) That greeting is still used in United Methodist churches today.

~ photo courtesy E. Stanley Jones Foundation]

Once called, "the greatest missionary since St. Paul," the life and ministry of E. Stanley Jones offer important lessons in the midst of global tensions over faith, ethnicity, and race.

Does a preacher from the previous century have anything to say to this generation? Yes!

His clarion call to justice and loving community was shaped by his friendship with Mahatma Gandhi and influenced the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In one of his famous appeals, E. Stanley Jones wrote: "Let us go out to stimulate everybody and throw open the doors of equal opportunity to every single person. We must galvanize beaten down people with a faith in God, in themselves, and in the future. ... And this faith in humanity would apply to people outside our own borders."

In his day, E. Stanley Jones (1884–1973) was described as the "greatest missionary since Saint Paul." More than an evangelist, he was the author of 27 books that sold millions of copies. He also was a statesman, the founder of Christian ashrams, an interfaith leader as well as a spokesman for peace, racial inclusion, and social justice.

He was a confidant of presidents Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman. Twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize,

Trusted Resources Podcasts:

<https://www.akimbo.link/>

<https://www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/audio/podcasts>

The Q&A Show Podcasts:

<https://www.premierchristianradio.com/Shows/Weekday/Ask-NT-Wright-Anything>

Teaching the Bible podcasts:

<https://bibleproject.com/podcasts/the-bible-project-podcast/>

Prayer and Contemplation podcast:

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

Kids and Family podcasts:

<https://www.yourclassical.org/podcast/yourclassical-storytime>

<https://www.highlightskids.com/listen>

<https://tinkercast.com/shows/wow-in-the-world/>

For more about podcasting including how to make your own podcast or one for the church, check out last month's episode. If you feel led to making one for Oxford UMC please contact Christy Turk and the Pastor. **Enjoy!**

Jones' ministry in India brought him into close contact with that country's leaders including Jawaharlal Nehru, Rabindranath Tagore, and Mahatma Gandhi. His writings from India influenced Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s own nonviolent approach to injustice.

The crystal clarity and the warm hospitality of Jones' Christian message formed working relationships with leaders of other world religions and often startled his own American evangelical colleagues, especially when he prophetically condemned racism as "spiritual treason against God."

As challenging as his preaching sometimes was in confronting injustice, Jones was best known for inspirational Christian messages of hope and refreshment for the millions of people from every walk of life who he addressed either in person or through his writings.

The Rev. Dr. John E. Harnish remarks, "From Jones' life and work, we can hear a word which is as relevant today as it was 75 years ago. In a day when tensions between races and religions are on the rise globally and the message of the Christian faith seems to be either weak or aligned with a political agenda, the voice of a true World Christian needs to be heard once again."

~ The Rev. Dr. John E. Harnish has authored, "30 Days with E. Stanley Jones." These short, inspiring true stories from Jones' life and the people that he touched illustrate the timeless, loving wisdom that he believed lay at the core of Christianity. The stories can be read as daily devotionals or could be discussed in small groups.

To read the latest from the Bishop ([click here](#))

Conference ([click here](#))

Or the East Winds District([click here](#))



Birthdays

- February 4 - Barry Moser
Emma Taylor
- February 6 - Tom Riley
Ro Van Wagoner
- February 9 - Abigail Mumbroe
Mathew Vincentini
- February 13 - David Von Knorring
- February 19 - Carolyn Lawrie
- February 22 - Bill Van Wagoner

Anniversaries

- February 8 - Ed & Carolyn Hepp*
- February 18 - John & Kim Pearson*



2022 Church Council

- Church Council Chairperson:
Michelle Wood (248)969-2545
- General Fund Treasurer: Becky Sallans (248)628-1289
oumc.office@sbcglobal.net
- Designated Fund Treasurer: Kevin Kater (248)628-7804
KKater@att.net
- Financial Secretary: Larry Bradford (248)628-5759
- Finance Co-Chairpersons:
Bernie Rumbold (248) 391-0973
and AmyBeth Fleischer
- Board of Trustees: David Cischke (248)863-8037
Michelle Wood (248)969-2545
- SPRC Chairperson: John Warren (248)778-8735
- Worship Team: Michelle Mumbroe (248)969-9173
- Missions & Outreach: John & Devon Warren
(248)778-8735
- Adult Bible Study:
Sue Rizzo (248)628-1787
Rosemary Rumbold (248)391-0973
- Education Team:
Lynda or Adam Bertich (810)656-1629
Mary Dempsey (810)797-5736
Amie Von Knorring (248)342-8051
- Camp Ed. Coordinator - (on hiatus)
Lucinda Bellairs (248)417-0214
lucindabellairs4@gmail.com
- Marketing: Christy Turk turk.oumc@gmail.com
- Revive Team: Steve Laidlaw (248)801-5924
- UMM President: Fred Nelson (248)628-9826
- UMW / Rachel Circle: Carolyn Lawrie (586)925-2687
- Lay Member to Annual Conference: John Warren
(248)778-8735

Church Council meets the last Monday of the odd month at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Beyond Candy Hearts and Roses

The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people need love — and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind. Author Leo Buscaglia, who became known as “Dr. Love” for writing about the topic, said, “Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”

Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (Matthew 22:37-40), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (1 John 4:12). There are so many ways to do that — beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine’s Day is as good a reminder as any.

[reprinted by permission from the Newsletter Newsletter]



Fellowship, Music & Service Groups



Knit Knack

Our group has been enjoying meeting together again on a regular basis. We finished our lapghan project and delivered a number of them to Beehive Assisted Living of Oxford and to Grace Senior Living in Lake Orion. We still have some left

which are looking for owners. If you know an organization that might need some, please let Mary Garrard know.

This fall we also completed 25-30 cage pads which we will be donating to several animal shelters in the area. This Snuggles project helps us use up extra yarn from our personal stashes and from donated yarn, which we always appreciate.

We finished 2021 with supplying the Giving Tree with a number of hats, scarves, and children's sweaters. We haven't selected our first project for 2022, but watch for updates in later Grapevine articles.

We meet every Friday from 2-4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us if you enjoy any type of needle work. We are always willing to teach anyone who would like to learn. If you have any questions, please call Mary Garrard, 248-613-4505.



If you have experience with music, please consider joining one of these groups...

Bell Choir

The Excelsior Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays (6:30-8pm)

If you have any questions please contact Rosemary Rumbold (248-391-0973)

Praise Singers

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns. Rehearsal days and times are midweek.

If you have questions or if you would like to be a part of the Praise Singers please contact Renae Shagena (248-969-2225).



Reading for Enjoyment



Do you enjoy reading? We do!!! Below is our winter reading list. We will **not** be meeting in person for the months of February and March. Come April, we hope to meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm at OUMC.

See you in April.

Wednesday, February 12, 2022: *Deacon King Kong* by James McBride. In September 1969, a fumbling, cranky old church deacon known as Sportcoat shuffles into the courtyard of the Cause Houses housing project in south Brooklyn, pulls a .38 from his pocket, and in front of everybody shoots the project's drug dealer at point-blank range. In *Deacon King Kong*, McBride brings to vivid life the people affected by the shooting: the victim, the African-American and Latinx residents who witnessed it, the white neighbors, the local cops assigned to investigate, the members of the Five Ends Baptist Church where Sportcoat was deacon, the neighborhood's Italian mobsters, and Sportcoat himself. As the story deepens, it becomes clear that the lives of the characters--caught in the tumultuous

swirl of 1960s New York--overlap in unexpected ways. When the truth does emerge, McBride shows us that not all secrets are meant to be hidden, that the best way to grow is to face change without fear, and that the seeds of love lie in hope and compassion.

Wednesday, March 9, 2022: *The Girl Who Came Home* by Hazel Gaynor. Fourteen members of a small village set sail on RMS Titanic, hoping to find a better life in America. For seventeen-year-old Maggie Murphy, the journey is bittersweet. Though her future lies in an unknown new place, her heart remains in Ireland with Séamus, the sweetheart she left behind. When disaster strikes, Maggie is one of the few passengers in steerage to survive. Waking up alone in a New York hospital, she vows never to speak of the terror and panic of that fateful night again. Inspired by true events, *The Girl Who Came Home* poignantly blends fact and fiction to explore the Titanic tragedy's impact and its lasting repercussions on survivors and their descendants.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Bogus (248 747-7544). Hope to see you at Book Discussion!



Our Sunday Servants

	February 6 Holy Communion 5th Sunday after Epiphany	February 13 6th Sunday after Epiphany	February 20 7th Sunday after Epiphany	February 27 Transfiguration Sunday
Liturgist	Christy Turk	Jon Gross	Michelle Wood	Cindy Vincentini
Minister of Children's Word	Christy Turk	Keri Kater	Michelle Mumbroe	Michelle Wood
Acolyte	Courtney Turk	Nate Vincentini		Dominick Vincentini
Ushers (2)				
Greeters (2-4)	Pastor Julius	Michelle Wood & Millie Solon Pastor Julius	Pastor Julius	Pastor Julius
Youth Room (2)	John Warren	John Warren		
Tech Team	Tom Bertich	David Gischke	Fred Nelson	Tom Bertich
Friendship Hour (Team)	People Feeding People	Bells	Brunch	Rachel Circle

	Ash Wednesday March 2	March 6 Holy Communion 1st Sunday in Lent	March 13 2nd Sunday in Lent (Daylight Savings Time begins)	March 20 3rd Sunday in Lent	March 27 4th Sunday in Lent UMCOR Sunday
Liturgist					
Minister of Children's Word					
Acolyte					
Ushers (2)					
Greeters (2-4)					
Youth Room (2)					
Tech Team					
Friendship Hour (Team)		Revive Team		Brunch	



**Please contact Michelle Mumbroe or a member of the Worship Team to be a Sunday Servant in the open areas.
We very much appreciate your service!**

february 2022

Oxford United
Methodist Church
21 E. Burdick St.
Oxford, MI 48371

[This calendar is online at:
www.oxfordunitedmc.org]

Please Note: We ask all to wear a mask even if you have been vaccinated,
wash your hands often; if you touch something please disinfect if after use.
Please stay home if you are feeling sick.

Usual Events :

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
10a (S) Worship	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 12p Program Deadline 1p (CD/F/K) Quilting Projects (1st & 3rd weeks After February)	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a (F/FK) Wednesday Book Study 10:30a - 3:30p (P) Pastor Julius' Office Hours (Call for apt.) 6:30p (S) Bell Choir Practice	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 6:30p (MM) Women's Bible Study with Shawn Gross	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 2p (U) Knit Knack	9:30a (F/FK) People Feeding People

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
		1	2	3	4	5
 6 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY HOLY COMMUNION	7	8 6:30p (U) Revive Team 7p (Y) Trustees	9	10	11	12
13 6TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>  10a (F/FK) Rachel Circle 7p (Zoom) Worship Team	15	16	17	18	19
20 7TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY <i>Bells Ring Today</i> Brunch	21 <i>President's Day</i>	22	23	24	25	26
27 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY	28 7p (Zoom) Church Council					

PUZZLE



The heart of a friend

Big-hearted friendliness comes from generously serving others.

Directions: Start with the first D and move according to the arrows beneath the blanks. Then fill in the letters to complete 1 Peter 4:8-10.



Above all, love each other D _____, because love
 _____ over a multitude of _____. Offer
 _____ to one another without
 _____. Each of you should use whatever
 _____ you have received to _____ others, as faithful
 stewards of God's _____ in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:8-10, NIV

Answer: deeply, covers, sins, hospitality, grumbling, gift, serve, grace



Bible Quiz

In the book of Revelation, who or what is "prepared as a bride, adorned for her husband"?

- A. The church
- B. The Spirit
- C. Mary Magdalene
- D. The new Jerusalem



Answer: D (See Revelation 21:2.)

Puzzle!

Answer each statement (based on Matthew's gospel) True or False by circling the letter in the correct column. Then write each circled letter on the appropriately numbered line below to discover why Jesus died.

- | | TRUE | FALSE |
|---|------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Jesus healed Peter's wife (Matthew 8:14). | E | <input checked="" type="radio"/> N |
| 2. Jesus fed the 5,000 with two loaves and five fish (14:17). | R | A |
| 3. At Jesus' Transfiguration, Peter saw Jonah and Elijah (17:3). | M | S |
| 4. The rich, young ruler decided not to follow Jesus (19:22). | T | C |
| 5. Jesus said the temple had become a "den of robbers" (21:13). | I | G |
| 6. Famines and earthquakes are signs of the end of the age (24:7). | V | D |
| 7. Jesus tells a story of the six wise and six foolish maidens (25:1-13). | F | A |
| 8. Judas betrayed Jesus with a secret handshake (26:48). | P | L |
| 9. The Roman governor Polonius interrogated Jesus (27:11-14). | W | O |

N

3 2 8 6 7 4 5 9 1

Answer: N, A, S, T, I, V, A, L, O, salvation

Oxford United Methodist Church
21 E Burdick Street
Oxford, MI 48371

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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Church office: 248-628-1289 Fax: 248-628-9411

Website: www.oxfordunitedmc.org

Facebook: Oxford UMC

The Reverend Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor
oumc.pastorjdp@gmail.com

Becky Sallans, Office Administrator / Editor
oumc.office@sbcglobal.net

Alexander Wolf, Pianist

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The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space

LARGE PRINT EDITION available upon request

We thank all who create, fold, mail and read The Grapevine!



Regular Sunday Worship: **(Currently online only)**

10:00 a.m. Worship

10:20a.m. Sunday School to classes
(during Worship Service, Sept - May)

Nursery available

Coffee & Refreshments after service