



The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church ~ Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor
Issue 7 | September / October 2021

"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 VISION

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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Living Our Vision -

*"This Fall we are reopening the church with a heart toward the Community of Oxford.
Let us be renewed as we share our gifts and invite/welcome all people.*

*We Are Becoming a Revived Church!
Thanks to Each of You for Believing...*



On Sundays!

10am

*Holy Communion -
First Sunday of the month*

*Join us online
anytime!*

AT WWW.OXFORDUNITEDMC.ORG



From the Minister



I am sure all of us are very much aware that the last eighteen months have been trying and stressful for everyone. We have had to change our habits and expectations of ourselves and of others. We have not been able to personally interact with close family and friends. The Pandemic took over 610,000 lives, and we are now in the midst of a fourth wave. It's all been quite exhausting, don't you agree?

In spite of these challenges, many of us persisted and kept the faith. Some decided not to travel home to the place where they were born and grew up. It's always a personal decision based upon your health, the health of who you are visiting and, of course, resources.

Once I had my COVID vaccines and checked with my Doctor, I was blessed to return home to the place of my childhood, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Returning home re-kindled feelings of safety, comfort and joy! The day I landed in Minnesota, was the same day my son Joshua arrived from Seattle. You can imagine what feelings that surfaced up in me when I saw him for the first time since 2019! Shortly after, I was able to meet with my daughter Tera and her husband Hampton for dinner one evening, and with them, the granddaughters of my heart Sydney, 16 and Reese,

11. Of course we were ecstatic to see each other! Seeing them reminded me of how God is in all the changing circumstances of life and forever faithful; we are all older and wiser, but praise God healthy, with the same spark of love for each other. Twin sister Judy and brother-in-law, Melvin generously opened up their home and hospitality.

While this was a working vacation, I had the opportunity to meet with some classmates from high school! Can you imagine that? Oh my! "How times flies" as they say. I did not recognize some of them, but that did not stop us from greeting each other with affection and happiness.

Returning home was so special this time. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, "To have a friend, you must be a friend." I soon realized that time and distance do not end friendships that are based upon memories of unconditional acceptance and mutual respect.

On Sunday August 22, Oxford UMC celebrated Friendship Sunday. People came and worshiped from all over the region. This was a day of extending hospitality at its best as we make new friends. I encourage each one of you to continue to bring long-time friends and new friends to share in God's love and build new memories! Be a good friend to others, bring the ones you care for to the waters that never run dry, the wellspring of God's love and grace moving through His cherished people!

In His Service and Love
Julius E. Del Pino



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 - if you haven't had your vaccination. It's always a good idea to wash your hands often, and please stay home if you are feeling sick.

OUMC volunteers are disinfecting high touch surfaces.

Worship Online at

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN2R96oWdXzxDqwdz8YBlrQ>
(or follow the link on our website)

Worship in your car on 87.9FM

Church Conference

September 29th at 7:30pm

(Zoom Conference)

A time for church leaders and members to review our missions and ministries, church goals, pastoral compensation, and highlights and challenges ahead.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Please note: All committee leaders are requested to submit their 2021 reports to the church office **before Monday, September 6th.**

Questions? Contact Pastor or Becky (248-628-1289)

Sept. 5 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Scripture: Galatians 5:15 "Do No Harm"

Sept. 12 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Colossians 2:6-7 "Stay In Love With God"

Sept. 19 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost /

Welcome Back Sunday

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16 "All Of Us Matter"

Sept. 26 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost

"Why Me Lord?"



Autumn Fun at Oxford United Methodist Church

"Covenant Classes"

Sundays, October 10, 17 & 24 (11:15am)

All are invited to these classes in which we learn what it means to agree to be a United Methodist Christian



Attention! Acolyte Training to be held!

September 12th & 26th after worship

[Acolyte Recognition Sunday will be October 3rd]

Questions? Contact Lynda Bertich (810)656-1629

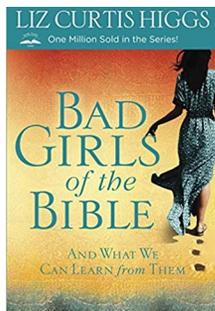
Wednesday Bible Study

Starting September 8th at 10:30am

Women everywhere marvel at those "good girls" in Scripture—Sarah, Mary, Esther—but on most days, that's not who they see when they look in the mirror. Most women (if they're honest) see the selfishness of Sapphira or the deception of Delilah. They catch a glimpse of Jezebel's take-charge pride or Eve's disastrous disobedience. Like Bathsheba, Herodias, and the rest, today's modern woman is surrounded by temptations, exhausted by the demands of daily living, and burdened by her own desires.

Let these Bad Girls show you why studying the Bible has never been more fun!

Questions? Contact Sue Rizzo (248-628-1787)



Bells & Brunch September 19th...

Once again we will be blessed with our bell choir's beautiful music and a wonderful brunch! Invite your friends, family and neighbors for this wonderful worship and fellowship time.

Experienced musicians are welcomed as substitute bell ringers. Rehearsals begin Sept. 1st at 6:30pm. See Rosemary Rumbold (248-391-0973).

Brunch help is needed. See Tony Rizzo (248-628-1787) if you are able to help.



Saturday, September 18th 11-2pm

Hotdogs, Ice Cream Social, Games and Fun!

Presentation at 12:30pm

Please come join us ~ Cost = Free!

Be Still (and silent)

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness.

God is the friend of silence.

See how nature — trees, flowers, grass — grow in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence. ...

The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life.

We need silence to be able to touch souls. The essential thing is not what we say, but what God says to us and through us.

All our words will be useless unless they come from within — words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness.

—Mother Teresa



Pray for One Another Daily -

this is one of the most important things we can do to care for one another!

Lord - we lift up these people to you by name:

Dorwin Combs - *Cousin of Emma Taylor* Bill Baby Evelyn
Rod Smith Chris - *Son of the Rumbold's* Dorothy - *Aunt of Emma Taylor*
Charlie Garrard David - *Brother of Emma Taylor* Family of Leonard Britt
Shelia Burdette - *Mother of Christy Turk* Ms. Swanson Steve Huntley
Kristina Del Pino Ron Bunker Chuck McIntyre Shirley Conner

Our Homebound - Bill Connor, Sue Enekes, Gertrude Curtis, Linda Brown

We ask your blessings upon:

All our brothers and sisters who deal with racism & hatred
First responders, caregivers, medical personnel and all affected by Covid-19
Those with mental illnesses - especially depression or anxiety
All those who live alone, are lonely or do not have someone to pray for them
All our school children, their teachers and administrators
Our local and national representatives in all three branches of government
Those in the military serving on our behalf
Those affected by Natural Disasters & Violence in the US and worldwide
Oxford UMC Church Council, Trustees, Pastor and Staff
Oxford UMC Membership, Guests, United Methodists, and Christians everywhere
Our Revived Church - that Oxford UMC may be a great source of love
for this community and that we may revive our vision

We also pray for those whose names are unmentioned, dear Lord, for you know and love them.

We ask these prayers in your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.



The Church “Revived”

- Team Notes

AUGUST 2021

The Church Revival Team met August 16th and had another productive meeting. Final arrangements were made for the Friendship Sunday on August 22, which turned into a huge success.

The Team has agreed to pursue a Youth Director. In addition, an effort will be made to attract a praise band.

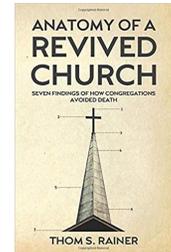
People Feeding People has been organized and is ready for kick off. It will commence every Saturday and start at UMC on September 4. We are greatly looking forward to the kickoff of this successful event.

We also put the finishing touches on the First Responder Celebration which will be held September 18 from 11am-2pm at the church.

Steve Laidlaw (Revival Team Chairperson) penned the following update...

The Team also made the decision to move Becky’s office from downstairs to the memorial room. We feel this will make the church more welcoming.

This book is still available if you are interested:
 “Anatomy of a Revived Church”
 Seven Findings of How Congregations Avoided Death
 by Thom S. Ranier



- from Patty Dennis

**THIS ARTICLE IS REPRINTED FROM CROSSWALK.COM AND IN TOUCH MINISTRIES
 BY DR. CHARLES STANLEY**

The Practices of Maturity

¹² In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!¹³ Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil. ¹² In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!¹³ Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Hebrews 5:12-14

Believers are on a continual growth track that ascends higher and higher. This side of heaven none of us ever "arrive," but we each have a responsibility to press on to maturity. Though many people think those who know a lot about the Bible are the spiritually mature ones, Hebrews 5:14 adds the element of *practice* to the growth equation. This word means a custom or habit. Christian growth requires the discipline of godly habits carried out daily.

The most important practice to cultivate is a personal devotional time. Since God is the source of all spiritual development, you can't neglect Him and expect to

become mature. Transformation begins with time in His Word and prayer.

Obedience is another essential element for advancement. When our desire to obey the Lord is stronger than our attraction to sin, we'll know we are making progress in our spiritual life.

In terms of physical development, the goal is to become more independent and self-sufficient as we age. But in the spiritual realm, the opposite is true. Those who are mature in Christ recognize their own inadequacy and rely on the Holy Spirit within them. It's His job to transform our character and empower us to accomplish everything the Lord calls us to do.

Getting older doesn't mean maturity in God's eyes. By digging into Scripture and developing righteous habits, we can use our years to grow stronger in the Lord instead of wasting time with passivity. No one accidentally becomes mature. Spiritual growth requires a diligent pursuit of God.



Dynamic Congregational Lay Leadership

Printed in "ByFaith" Magazine: July/August 2021 - used with permission
By Bishop Ernest S. Lyght

Some years ago, while serving on the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, I participated in the annual interview of candidates who were seeking approval for ordination as an elder. My attention was arrested by a bold statement of one candidate. He let the interview committee know that his goal was to become the pastor of a great church, implying that he was going to be a great pastor.

My mind replayed that interview recently while reading *The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels* by the presidential historian, Jon Meacham. The book explores periods of US history and presidential politics that grappled with the policies of fear and the policies of hope. The author assesses the leadership of several presidents and notes how they were able to provide the presidential leadership that was needed at a particular time in the nation's history, such as the Great Depression, the Civil Rights Era and so on.

Meacham shares a quote about leadership from Eleanor Roosevelt: *Great leaders we have had, but we could not have had great leaders unless they had a great people to follow. You cannot be a great leader unless the people are great.* In terms of the United Methodist Church, this statement is a tribute to the laity who make a congregation great.

The early Methodist movement in America was made up of small congregations. These local congregations were dependent upon class leaders who were lay people. There were numerous examples of the class leader serving as a lay pastor, often pinch hitting in the absence of the circuit rider pastor. The class leaders could be found making house calls among the sick, and other laity who needed a visit.

There are certain characteristics of great people who make a congregation great:

1. They are on the spiritual path with other spiritual leaders, and they are growing in Christ.
2. These gifted persons are willing to employ their gifts in the work of ministry. They are enabled to discover their own gift (one or many) and use it for the benefit of the congregation's ministry.
3. They are willing to hold up the corners of the church with their prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness.
4. Such leaders actively engage in the ministry of their local church as partners.
5. These leaders have a solid relationship with God, the Church, and God's people.

Because ministry is relational, when faithful lay people connect together in mutual partnerships, God enables them to do the work of ministry. This kind of partnering is the lifeblood of a great congregation. Effective pastors help to nurture lay people who become great leaders. These leaders in turn foster the growth of a great congregation. It

is a privilege for ministers to pastor a great congregation, one that is above the norm, because great congregations nurture great pastors. In the spirit of Pentecost may the Holy Spirit shape your local church into a great congregation.

**To read the latest from the Bishop [\(click here\)](#)
Conference [\(click here\)](#)
Or the East Winds District [\(click here\)](#)**



2021 Fall East Winds Lay Servant Classes

The Lay Servant team is offering multi-week courses at \$25.00/each, the days and times are as listed in course selection area below.

To register for a course, please complete the brief questions found on this page... [2021 Fall East Winds Lay Servant Courses \(google.com\)](#) You will receive a confirmation email with a link to the paper registration that must be completed with signatures from yourself, your pastor, and your S/PPRC or Church Council Chairperson. If auditing the class, no signatures are required. The course fees are payable to East Winds UMC. The completed form and payment must be submitted to:

East Winds District UMC
c/o Kristen LePalm
10266 E. Stanley
Davison, Michigan 48423

Questions? Contact Kristen LePalm at 810-429-3269 or lepalmkristen@gmail.com

"Introduction to Lay Ministries: The Basic Course" is a pre-requisite for Advanced Courses. A link for the registration and required signature page will be emailed with payment information and your registration confirmation.

"Introduction to Lay Ministries-Basic Course", Sundays, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 1:00-3:00 p.m., at McGregor UMC, 2230 Forester Rd., Deckerville, Bill Burgess-instructor

"Introduction to Lay Ministries: The Basic Course": Tuesdays, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at North Branch: First UMC, 4165 Huron St., North Branch, Ted Alkins-instructor

Advanced: "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts", Sundays, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Online via Zoom, instructor-Becki Brice

Advanced: "Leading Worship", Wednesdays, 9/8, 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Brown city UMC, 7043 Lincoln St., Brown City, Cindy Rossman-instructor

Advanced: "Living Our United Methodist Beliefs", Sundays, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Sandusky UMC, 68 Lexington St, Sandusky, Linda Schramm-instructor.

Advanced: "The Method of Our Mission" (Polity): TBD



Local Missions & Outreach

Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry “Neighbors Helping Neighbors”

We would like to resume 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!”



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 Outreach



COMING SOON!

The community **Free!** meal program is back at OUMC!!

We have revamped by moving it to Saturday mornings and serving breakfast. We are calling it PFP: People Feeding People! We want to not only feed people with food but also with fellowship. Lifting people up through nutrition and friendship. Starting September 4th, we will be providing a hot breakfast and most weeks a sack lunch for people. We will be serving in person (unless Covid guideline change) in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in helping in any way please contact Kathy Laidlaw (248) 701-5910. Sign-up sheets are also available at the church. We hope that you come and enjoy!!!

WHERE: Oxford United Methodist Church

WHEN: Saturdays 9:30-10:30 am

STARTING: September 4, 2021

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)



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

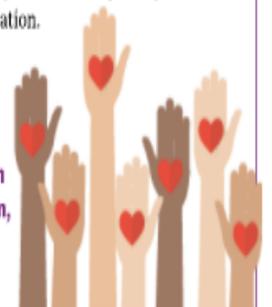
Thank you for your support...

Please prayerfully consider lending your time and your talents to these ministries:

- **Clothes Closet.** St. Mary's in the Hills Episcopal Church, 2512 Joslyn Court, next to Canterbury Village in Lake Orion.
- **Bed, Blessings & Beyond and Little Luxuries.** LakePoint Community Church, 1550 W. Drahnner Road in Oxford.

Clothing, household goods and personal products are greatly needed.
 Call the Clearinghouse for drop off information.

Financial support is appreciated at any time. Text [loveincfnoc](text:loveincfnoc) to 41444, donate at loveincfnoc.org or send your check, payable to Love INC, to Love INC of North Oakland County, P.O. Box 104, Lake Orion, MI 48361



loveincfnoc.org ♥ 248-693-HELP

2021 Church Council

Church Council Chairperson:

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545
michelleywood@gmail.com

Lay Leader: tbd

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 Chairperson(s):

Bernie Rumbold (248) 391-0973
rum708@aol.com
 or AmyBeth Fleischer
amybethfleischer@yahoo.com

Board of Trustees: David Cischke (248)863-8037
dcischke2115@gmail.com

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545
michelleywood@gmail.com

SPRC Chairperson: John Warren
jwarren061751@gmail.com

Worship Team Chairperson:

Michelle Mumbrue (248)969-9173
brueha@sbcglobal.net

Missions & Outreach: John & Devon Warren
 (248)778-8735

Adult Bible Study: Sue Rizzo (248)628-1787
rizztoe@gmail.com

Marketing: Christy Turk turk.oumc@gmail.com

Camp Ed. Coordinator - Lucinda Bellairs (on hiatus)

UMM President: Fred Nelson (248)628-9826

UMW / Rachel Circle: Carolyn Lawrie (586)925-2687
carolyn.lawrie1958@gmail.com

Revive Team Chairperson: Steve Laidlaw (248)701-5924
sklaw@aol.com

"People Feeding People" Chairperson:

Kathy Laidlaw (248)701-5910
sklaw@aol.com

Lay Member to Annual Conference: John Warren
 (248)778-8735

Members at Large - Church Council:
 John Warren (2021)

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

If you would like to be prayerfully considered for a particular ministry please contact the Pastor (248)628-1289



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

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)

Stewardship & Finance Update

Christian Stewardship is the responsible use of our time, treasure and talents to advance the Kingdom and it provides an opportunity to witness taking our faith and joy into the world - beyond the walls of the church building. In August we were blessed to be able to provide a scholarship to Thomas Cook to further his education. It is great that we can reach outside the church into the community to assist a fellow believer to pursue his goals.



Blessed to be a blessing!

We as a Finance team keep track of giving and expenses each month. Thank you for your faithfulness. Please help monthly with our General Fund.

January Giving	\$ 1,125.00
February Giving	\$ 7,540.00
March Giving	\$ 8,298.00
April Giving	\$ 10,702.25
May Giving	\$ 7,322.34
June Giving	\$ 7,128.00
July Giving	\$ 6,651.00
August Giving	\$ 15,231.00
Budget for 2021	\$ 115,934.00

Note: If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash, please use your offering envelopes. If you need envelopes, please call the office (248-628-1289) or Larry Bradford, financial secretary.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING STEADILY!

MAKE IT EASY - ELECTRONICALLY

Forms are available in the Sanctuary & Church Office - No Fees

Reading for Fun



Do you enjoy reading? We do!!!
Our Book Group is always looking for more readers who like to chat with friends about books. We meet the **second Wednesday** of the month at **1:00pm** in the new! Memorial / Prayer Room (after September)

Wednesday, September 8: *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath. September is our Read a Classis Month. The Bell Jar chronicles the crack-up of Esther Greenwood: brilliant, beautiful, enormously talented, and successful, but slowly going under—maybe for the last time. Sylvia Plath masterfully draws the reader into Esther's breakdown with such intensity that Esther's insanity becomes completely real and even rational, as probable and accessible an experience as going to the movies. Such deep penetration into the dark and harrowing corners of the psyche is an extraordinary accomplishment and has made The Bell Jar a haunting American classic.

Wednesday, October 13: *The Whisper Man* by Alex North. After the sudden death of his wife, Tom Kennedy believes a fresh start will help him and his young son Jake heal. A new beginning, a new house, a new town: Featherbank. But Featherbank has a dark past. Twenty years ago, a serial killer abducted and murdered five residents. Until Frank Carter was finally caught, he was nicknamed "The Whisper Man," for he would lure his victims out by whispering at their windows at night. Just as Tom and Jake settle into their new home, a young boy vanishes. His disappearance bears an unnerving resemblance to Frank Carter's crimes, reigniting old rumors that he preyed with an accomplice. Now, detectives Amanda Beck and Pete Willis must find the boy before it is too late, even if that means Pete has to revisit his great foe in prison: The Whisper Man. And then Jake begins acting strangely. He hears a whispering

at his window...

Wednesday, November 10: *What Rose Forgot* by Nevada Barr. Rose Dennis wakes up in a hospital gown, her brain in a fog, only to discover that she's been committed to an Alzheimer's Unit in a nursing home. With no memory of how she ended up in this position, Rose is sure that something is very wrong. When she overhears one of the administrators saying about her that she's "not making it through the week," Rose is convinced that if she's to survive, she has to get out of the nursing home. She avoids taking her medication, putting on a show for the aides, then stages her escape. The only problem is—how does she convince anyone that she's not actually demented? Her relatives were the ones to commit her, all the legal papers were drawn up, the authorities are on the side of the nursing home, and even she isn't sure she sounds completely sane. But any lingering doubt Rose herself might have had is erased when a would-be killer shows up in her house in the middle of the night. Now Rose knows that someone is determined to get rid of her. With the help of her computer hacker/recluse sister Marion, thirteen-year old granddaughter Mel, and Mel's friend Royal, Rose begins to gather her strength and fight back—to find out who is after her and take back control of her own life. But someone out there is still determined to kill Rose, and they're holding all the cards.

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



Have You Noticed Something Different?



If you have had a chance to take a look around the church recently you may have seen that a few things are different. Some of these things have been changed temporarily - But other things are being changed because we need to grow and become more welcoming to our guests. In September we will be moving the church office to the current memorial room and make the current office a nice area for meetings, memories and prayer (it is larger). The memorial tree will be moved to a place of prominence where everyone can view it. We ask your patience as we figure out what works for the best. We are not changing things just for the sake of changing things - we are attempting to live out our vision.

Take a moment to say it out loud -
*"We envision a church with a VIBRANT 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"*

Let's press on and even if it may be uncomfortable or not the way we have done things in the past, remain focused on our goal. We are headed for revival!

UM Women: Rachel Circle

Rachel Circle is a sisterhood of Christian fellowship. We support one another, we raise money to assist with missions, we volunteer for Coffee Hour Fellowship (when applicable), memorial lunches and so much more.

We meet September through June

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

Hello Ladies, as we enter into our Fall 2021 season, I want to personally welcome each & everyone back to Rachel Circle. If you have not tried our group yet, we would love to have you join us. We have an exciting Fall schedule ahead of us here at OUMC.

We have added an evening meeting time for those of you who are interested in our group, but who have been unable to join in because of the weekday morning time slot.

**The new evening meeting time will be on the third Monday of the month at 7p - 8pm.
For those of you who prefer morning meetings, they are on the second Monday of each month 10a - 11:30am.**

We look forward to seeing you!
Carolyn Lawrie
Rachel Circle President



UM Men: Band of Brothers

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Michigan Conference of United Methodist Men is inviting men over the age of 18 to a Rebuild Event on a Saturday in September 2021. In partnership with "Rebuilding Together Tri-County" UMM will make repairs on a Lansing home of a veteran, disabled or low income homeowner. "Rebuilding Together" identifies the home and provides the material and supervision, Michigan Conference of UMM provides the volunteers.

Volunteers do not need to be a member of UM or even a church member; both laborers and skilled tradesmen will be needed.

Interested? Email j.gordon.schleicher@gmail.com to get future information.

For information on Rebuilding Together go to www.rebuildtogethertricity.com

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. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons starting at 1pm.



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!

We invite you to join us on Fridays at 2pm if you feel safe doing so. If not please work on your project at home and be with us in spirit.

We are still working on lapghans which we hope to distribute to nursing homes and/or veterans associations when that becomes safe for all involved.

Questions, contact Mary Garrard (810-797-5840)

Online VBS!



For a limited time we are offering Vacation Bible School 2021 online!

All are welcome to go online and watch the "Adventure Island" VBS.

Many fun projects and adventures are there for kids of all ages.

Please note that the video

works best if you download from a Chrome browser.

Please share with family and friends!

Start at www.oxfordunitedmc.org today!

Praise Singers

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns

Rehearsals are currently on Sunday mornings

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

Excelsior Bell Choir

The Excelsior Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays (6:30pm) and start Sept. 1st and the choir plays in church September 19th.

I have been busy picking music for the upcoming season including some from each of the following categories:

1. Bell music with a Bible reading, or with a narrator
2. Music with a soloist
3. Both religious and secular pieces
4. Some of the old well known favorite hymns and some more modern songs
5. Slow pretty pieces and more dynamic arrangements that are faster paced.
6. Spirituals

The Bell Choir hopes you like the pieces chosen for this year, please let us know if you have a favorite to request.

We look forward to seeing you on the 19th.

Rosemary Rumbold
Bell Choir Director

Questions? Please contact me (248-391-0973)

BACK TO CHURCH *Sunday*

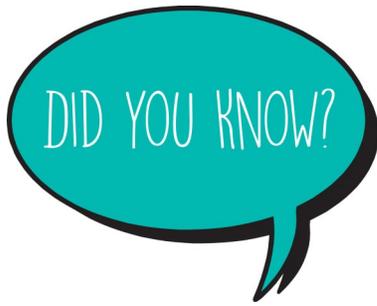
Welcome Back!
September 19th - 10am

Invite your friends and family for Bell Music during worship and Brunch following the service.

Rachel Circle Presents...
Children's
Drive-In Movie
on October 8th at
6pm

(Children will get to make their own cars!)

CVLI #504336872



Here are the items that have been printed recently...

- ◇ *That Oxford UMC is keeping up with expensive State required elevator tests?* We have approved \$3000 to pay for a new state required test on our elevator and have paid half already and will soon be scheduling that test. Meanwhile, the elevator is in good working order so please feel free to use it. [FYI - the test has concluded and at maximum weight it did not move even an inch so it has passed with flying colors!]
 - ◇ *That Sharron Patterson playing here today [8/11] is an answer to prayer?* Our wonderful pianist, Alex Wolf requested the time off (his first vacation in many years!) in plenty of time to find a replacement pianist for today and yet no matter where we looked, none were available. Yes, we started praying! Then last Sunday, Sharron's husband called the church to see what time the service started on the 11th as Sharron happened to have the weekend off and they love to visit Oxford UMC. Becky usually lets calls go to voicemail on the weekends but she picked up the phone this time and the Lord provided! It took her a few days to listen to the Holy Spirit but she then told Pastor that Sharron used to be the organist here, Pastor asked Sharron to play piano and she is glad to do so! Thank you so much Sharron! And on your day off too!
 - ◇ *That Oxford UMC requested and received a technology grant?* We have been very blessed by our East Winds District and they believe in Oxford United Methodist Church. So much so that we have been blessed with a \$1,000 grant that pays for most of the new computer we recently purchased for the pastor's office. It is wonderful that we can utilize the technology available to connect with each other and grow the ministry of Oxford UMC.
 - ◇ *Pastor wants YOU to walk with him in the community?* Who have you talked to about Oxford United Methodist Church this week? It's not hard to tell your friends how much you love your church, and love them enough to introduce them to your church family. Christy Turk (our marketing director) challenged us to talk to at least 5 people about our church family each week and get the word out about Oxford UMC. If you are on Facebook - Have you shared news about Oxford UMC? Are you willing to go with Pastor Julius and meet people in the community? How will they know we are Christians without us showing our love? We would love to welcome them every Sunday. Pastor Julius would love to have you introduce Oxford UMC and him to someone in the neighborhood or business community. Talk to him about it.
 - ◇ *Did you know that we have created a Revitalization Team to ensure the vision of the church, the guidance of Patty Dennis, and the requests of the members to change and grow is carried out?* You will see some amazing things happening in the upcoming weeks and months here at Oxford United Methodist Church. You will start to see changes in the layout and usage of rooms! You will see cleaning and organizing! You will see events happening inside and outside the church. You will see our youth and outreach programs grow! We are so excited about the passion we see in our members supporting this revitalization. *And we need each one of you to help!* We have lots of opportunities for volunteering to support our growth. Let us know if you would like to be involved by contacting Christy Turk at turk.oumc@gmail.com or calling the church office.
 - ◇ *Did you know that we have an amazing Trustee team?* Recently we had a problem with the ceiling falling just outside the elevator in the basement [and narrowly missing our Pastor Julius as he went up the stairs!]. Our Trustees were on the mark and had the problem identified, diagnosed, cleaned up, fixed, and looking pretty with minimal damage to the bank account very quickly! Please take a moment to thank them all for the great job they do for us all the time! (Michelle Wood, David Cischke, John Warren, Steve Laidlaw, Dan Mumbrue, Bob Richter ...and previous Trustee Tony Rizzo who is still such a blessing!)
 - ◇ *Did you know that Pastor Julius has performed his 1st Baptism and Communion (and possible new member) since arriving at OUMC?* How wonderful that family members are asking to come to Christ through Oxford UMC! If you have a friend or family member that may be receptive to Christ, invite them to attend anytime but we have a special focus on Friendship next Sunday! Be a disciple for Christ to your friends and family!
 - ◇ *Did you know that our banners (also known as paraments) and altar linens are based on the colors of the liturgical seasons?* Our liturgical (or public worship) seasons are the following:
 - ◆ Epiphany (1st Sunday in January until Ash Wednesday) - green
 - ◆ Lent (40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter) - purple
 - ◆ Pentecost (from the Easter season until Advent) - green
 - ◆ Advent (the 4 weeks before Christmas or the coming of the Lord) - blue
- Most special days: Easter, Christmas, Baptism of the Lord, Trinity Sunday, Christ the King Sunday, and Epiphany Sunday are white and Reformation is red to symbolize the Holy Spirit (that descended like flames in the upper room).

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

Birthdays

- September 1 - Mike Bellairs
- September 4 - Dan Mumbrue
- September 7 - Sydney Richter
- September 18 - Teddi Bradford | Jan Smith
- September 19 - Jason Dudewicz
- September 21 - Mary Dempsey
- September 26 - Bernie Rumbold
- September 30 - Laura Clancy

- October 1 - Chris Barclay
- October 2 - Gail Enekes
- October 6 - Bob Willobee
- October 7 - Charlie Garrard
- October 12 - Grace Jerome
- October 13 - Bruce Conrad
- October 16 - Pastor Julius Del Pino
- October 29 - Bruce Bunker
- October 30 - Steve Laidlaw | Sue Smith
- October 31 - Catherine Richard | Eric Richard | Mary Adekitan

Anniversaries

- September 3 - Bill & Shirley Conner
- September 12 - Bruce & Debra Bunker
- September 23 - Mark & Amy Fleischer
- September 27 - Bob & Colleen Richter
- September 28 - Kevin & Keri Kater

October 10 - Steve & Kathy Laidlaw



Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.

- party - t = **p r a y** (v. 1)
- lady + i = _ _ _ _ (v. 3)
- drab + e = _ _ _ _ (v. 5)
- rod + o = _ _ _ _ (v. 7)
- bask - b = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)
- keeps - p = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)
- define - ee = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)
- shift - t = _ _ _ _ (v. 11)
- sneaky - y = _ _ _ _ (v. 11)
- sift + g = _ _ _ _ (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

_____ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts, Holy Spirit

Bible Quiz

Hebrews 11 is called the Hall of Faith because it's a partial list of ancestors who lived out their belief in God. Who is named in this chapter?

- A. Adam, Eve and Seth
- B. Abel, Enoch, Noah and Sarah
- C. Moses' parents, Moses and Rahab
- D. Deborah, Bathsheba and Huldah
- E. A and B
- F. B and C
- G. C and D



Answer: F



Bible Quiz

How many times in the Old Testament do people cross a body of water on dry ground?

- A. once
- B. twice
- C. three times
- D. four times



Answer: C (See Exodus 14; Joshua 3; 2 Kings 2)

September 2021

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 if you have not been vaccinated, wash your hands often; if you touch something please disinfect if after use.
Oxford UMC trustees/volunteers are disinfecting high touch surfaces.
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 Bulletin Deadline 1p (CD/F/K) Quilting Projects (1st & 3rd weeks) 7p (F/K) BS Troop #366	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a (F/K) 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	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 2p (M) Knit Knack	9:30a (F/K) 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 Bell Choir Rehearsal Starts Today	2	3	4 "PFP" Starts today
5  15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY COMMUNION	6	7	8 1p (M) Reading for Fun "The Bell Jar"	9	10	11
12 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Acolyte Training (11:15a)	13 10a (F/K) Rachel Circle 7p (F/K) Worship	14 6:30p (Zoom) Revive Team 7p (Y) Trustees 7p (Zoom) Staff Mtg.	15	16 An Evening with Rev. Julius and Rev. Laurie at the Rumbold's (7p-9p)	17	18 11-2p Honoring Oxford 1st Responders Cookout & Ice Cream Social
19 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Welcome Back Sunday! Bells & Brunch	20 7p (F/K) New! Rachel Circle Evening Meeting	21	22	23 An Evening with Rev. Julius and Rev. Laurie at the Rizzo's (7p-9p)	24	25
26 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Acolyte Training (11:15a)	27 7p (Zoom) Church	28	29 7:30p 2021 Church Conference	30		

October

2021

Oxford United
Methodist Church
21 E. Burdick St.
Oxford, MI 48371
[This calendar is online at:
www.oxfordunitedmc.org]

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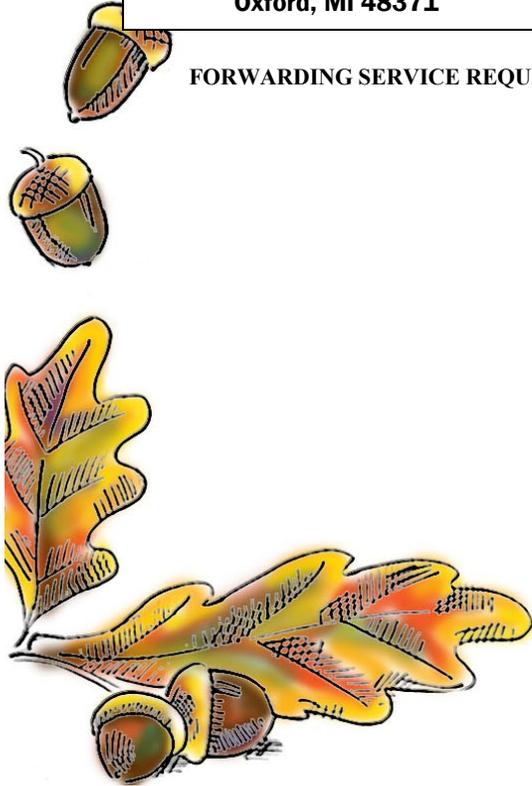
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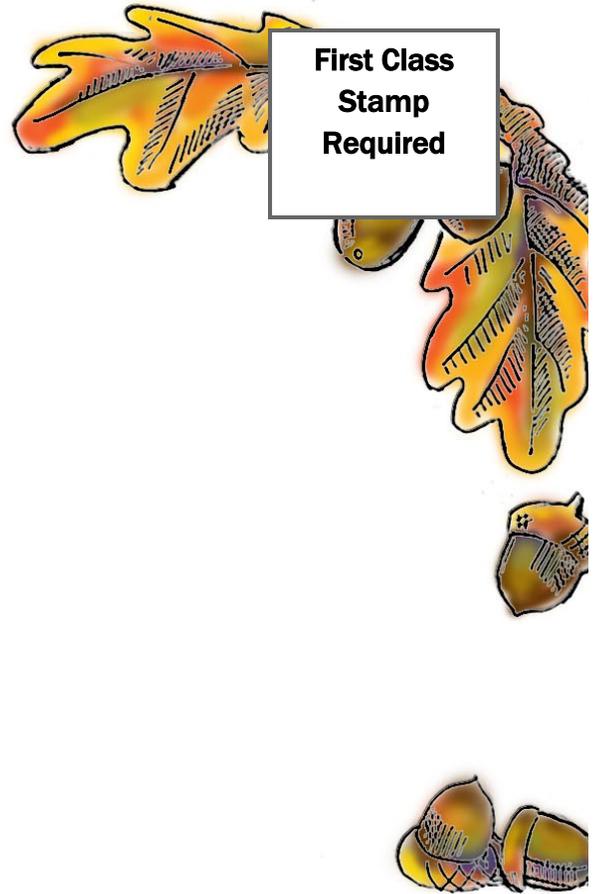
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
					1	2
 3 19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY COMMUNION Acolyte Recognition World Communion Sunday	4	5 7p (Zoom) Staff Mtg.	6	7	8 6p (S) Children's Drive-In Movie: "Cars"	9
10 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (11:15a) Covenant Classes	11 10a (F/FK) Rachel Circle 7p (F/FK) Worship	12 7p (Zoom) Trustees	13 1p (M) Reading for Fun "The Whisper Man"	14 An Evening with Rev. Julius and Rev. Laurie at the Laidlaw's (7p-9p)	15	16
17 21TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (11:15a) Covenant Classes	18 7p (F/FK) Rachel Circle Evening Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (11:15a) Covenant Classes	25 7p (Zoom) Church Council	26	27	28	29	30
31 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST / REFORMATION SUNDAY						

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

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



First Class
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The Grapevine

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Oxford United Methodist Church

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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, and read The Grapevine!



Regular Sunday Worship: **(In-person, Online and In-car)**

10:00 a.m. Worship

Nursery available by request

Coffee & Refreshments after service

All Are Welcome!