

The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church ~ Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor

Issue 12 | July /August 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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From
the
Pastor



I want to begin this short message by stating the obvious. When we truly listen to each other, people feel respected and appreciated. So, thank each of you for making serious efforts to listen better and talk less. This awareness will promote spiritual growth and joy in our homes and here at Oxford UMC. How else can we really appreciate and value the worth of each other unless we listen patiently...and listen with our hearts and as well as with our heads?

Summer is here and with warm weather and a slower pace allowing us to take in the fresh smell of flowers and feel the cool breeze in the evening. During this season, we are reminded once again of how good and gracious God is. Many will take off to cottages and cabins up north. Others will leave the state to spend time with friends and family members whom they have not seen since the start of the pandemic. I trust all of you will spend time reconnecting by telling old and new stories, and creating new memories.

And who knows but God that there may even be a few to pray together as the reunions begin! There will be loud conversations in the midst of quiet whispers. Some will drop tears of joy while others cry profusely because of the loss and separation of people they loved and deeply appreciated who are no longer alive. And so in these summer months I hope the following for you:

1. Stay in prayer.

*Prayer will keep you grounded and connected to God. When you pray, most ask God for help, but remember God also gives you impressions of meaningful actions you may take to serve others in your sphere of experience. Spend quiet time in contemplative prayer waiting for God to put feelings upon your heart.

I encourage you to ACT on those positive impressions - act on them without expecting anything in return and not feeling as if you need to let anyone else know about it. God will bless you for your quiet faithfulness and enrichment of one of His other beloved's lives. Of course, as you well know, prayer will give you the full awareness of God's grace in these times of challenge.

2. Reach out to others.

*Reach out to strangers and invite them to worship with you and offer to take that person for a healthy meal if you can.

*Make a connection with the homebound whether they are church folk or neighbors. Share the spirit of hospitality and kindness.

*Start a Bible reading gathering at your house - invite your neighbors and let one of them choose which book or passage he/she would like the group to read and discuss.

*Take time to read the book strongly recommended by Patty Dennis, *The Outward Mind Set*. This book is a must-read not only for our Church Revive Team, but for every person

[continued on page 2]

committed to team work to share the church's vision to the Oxford community. Katherin Klein, Professor of Management, Wharton School offers this review: "This is a powerful message about really seeing. It opens a path to trust, collaboration, creativity, and performance."

3. Take time for YOURSELF. Recharge, reenergize and relax. Your body, mind and spirit need rest. Make rest a priority in your summer season.

I will be thinking of you and praying that as you reconnect with family and friends, that you will make new connections as we care for the poor, the lonely, and oppressed no matter who they are or where they are from.

Remember these words from Luke 6:20-21:

"Then he looked up at his disciples and said "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."

Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor



*for Worship!
10am / online
Holy Communion -
First Sunday of the month*

Church Conference

October 16th at 7:30pm

(@ Lake Orion UMC - 140 E. Flint St.)

[SPPRC - September 18th Zoom meeting w/the D. S.]

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 2022 reports to the church office **before Monday, September 25th.**

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



PRAY for and Encourage One Another Daily

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

Family and Friends of Charlie Garrard [6/1]
Tonya Copland Gracie Jim Brown Philip Carver Stan O Peavey Jr.
John Hauxwell Kay Boyle Chislett Family Mark Easley Katie Harris
Charene Grody Sue Smith Linda McIntyre Kent Patterson
Ron Shedlowsky Julie Imirowicz Bill & Ro Van Wagoner Ruth Patterson
Bruce Conrad Kristina Del Pino Ron Bunker Chuck McIntyre Shirley Conner

We ask your blessings upon:

Our neighborhoods and the Revival of our community
All affected by the Oxford High School and all other School Shootings
All of our brothers and sisters who deal with racism & hatred
First responders, caregivers, medical personnel and all affected by Covid-19
Those with mental illnesses, are lonely, or do not have someone to pray for them
All Families - those expecting new children; dealing with loss of a loved one
All our school children and graduates, 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 & all Violence in the US and worldwide
Oxford UMC, Pastor, Staff, 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 all these things in your name, Lord Jesus.



Amen!

**The Church is always open for prayer! Come anytime when it is open or when there is a meeting.
Need prayer with Pastor? Sign up on the sheet outside the office.**

Praying for Oxford UMC...

Dear Oxford UMC & Julius Del Pino,

Blessings on your ministry, your loved ones, and your walk with Jesus Christ!

On Monday morning a small group prays here at Delavan United Methodist Church. (Illinois)

In addition, an email with your name on it was sent to 120+ email addresses which includes other UMC pastors, GBGM missionaries, and individuals and churches who have indicated to us a desire to pray with us. We have no idea exactly just how many are actually praying but do know some churches have prayer groups like ours.

This all began for me early in my ministry (about 20 years ago) when I received a snail mail letter from a pastor in my district stating that he and his church were praying for me. What they didn't know was that I had some health issues at that time so "God's timing" had a heart-warming effect on me to do the same for others.

I began praying for our district churches and pastors (Iroquois River) and then expanded to our Conference (Illinois Great Rivers). Later, I received a letter from our Bishop Beard asking me to start a prayer group in our

Conference. At first this started small (18) but with some from every district in our conference and including part time and full-time local pastors, deacons, probationary and elders in full connection and retired pastors and lay people.

After a challenge at a seminar, we expanded to include our entire state (Illinois) and this year to our Jurisdiction (North Central) which includes 10 Conferences in all. Our goal is to pray for each and every one: pastors & churches, plus all the GBGM missionaries/workers found in the Prayer Calendar.

After I received that initial letter, about a year later, I was released from the doctor. What an amazing God we serve! Thanks be to Jesus!

Let us together remain faithful in our service to Jesus!

Pastor Charlie and Janet Graul

**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

The Outward Mindset - Get Your Copy Today!

Reflections from Patty Dennis' talk...

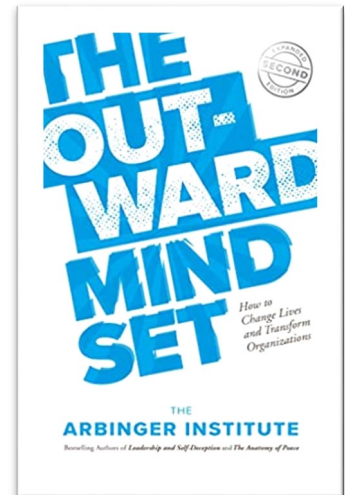
On April 24th - Patty Dennis advised us to read the book "The Outward Mindset" by the Arbinger Institute which focuses on the acronym SAM.

S – **SEE** the needs of others and the challenges

A – **ADJUST** our efforts to help each other and impacts on the greater good

M – **MEASURE** and hold ourselves accountable

We invite you to order this from Amazon or your favorite bookseller. If you have a problem getting this book please contact the church office and Becky will order this for you. Cost = ~\$15



Revival! In Our Time. In Our City

NIGHTLY
5:00PM - 10:00PM
CENTENNIAL PARK
OXFORD MI 48371

IN OUR TIME
REVIVAL
IN OUR CITY

AUG 24, 2022
AUG 25, 2022
AUG 26, 2022
AUG 27, 2022

DRAW NEAR TO GOD AND HE WILL DRAW NEAR TO YOU
JAMES 4:8

*Please pray for the spiritual awakening of this community,
Church unity, and for the salvation of our neighbors.
There are weekly prayer gatherings in Centennial Park on Saturdays at 12noon.*



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

Cultivating a Courageous Heart

By NAOMI GARCÍA | Posted on June 22, 2022
MI Conference Associate Director for Congregational Vibrancy

How are we to respond when witnessing the painful ways humans treat each other? Naomi García looks within to unlearn passive behavior and to cultivate a courageous heart and grace-filled actions.

My heart cracked.

A group of God's favs laughed together. Bonding over a cutting remark about one among them. I did my best to remain unreactive. Refusing to participate in the deprecating cruelty. I fixed my gaze on the target, attempting to convey my solidarity with the victim. My passive resistance may not have been received. I know it was painful for me. It generated an acute helplessness within.

My heart broke.

Long-time teenage friends gathered in person for the first time in two years. The jubilation suddenly turned. Insults vehemently hammered two of the "friends" with them. The two targets hung back; eyes darting between "friends," each other, the ground between them, and somewhere beyond the present in search of immediate cover. These teenage "friends" were in their late 50s.

My heart split apart.

Sometimes I find myself lulled into a deep comfort of calm and being with my peeps. People with whom I can be the real me. I know I'm loved. I'm seen. I feel open. Breathing comes easily. I'm present. More often than I care to remember, I've been surprised by offensive references to The Holy One's favs. Hearing words like "girls" (referring to women), "kids" (referring to teenagers or young adults), "those people" (because disrespect doesn't bother with names), "homosexuals" (in reference to an assumed inerrancy relationship with scripture) and "freak" (among the most stick-it-to-you insults) shuts me out. Most frequently the words are delivered with inhospitable tones of voice and disapproving body language. Together they annihilate the comfort and ease of my being.

Suddenly, I feel threatened. The safe place for being brave has evaporated. I shut down. Anger and disappointment devolve into taking cover and being defensive. It's more accurate to say, "I have left the building."

These expressions of fear and anger keep happening all around. I've witnessed many variations of these scenarios among "Christ-followers." Even the memory takes my soul back to reaching for refuge from the depths of a dark isolation. I catch myself agonizing over how could these divisive ones be favorites of The Holy One. I fear my experience of The Divine One could be next.

In my discomfort, it's often a long while before I consider the fact that maybe their divisive behavior doesn't make

them bad, wrong, or less Divinely designed than me.

The ongoing, covert, passive-aggressive bullying is unacceptable to The Holy One of Boundless Love and Generous Assumptions.

My recovery depends on my work to resist ignoring the horrors of how humans treat each other. Sometimes I'm overwhelmed with the confidence that this intentional forgetting is more common among us than our survival can bear. It's not the same as forgiving.

Unlearning is our primary task. Unlearning is cleaning away what prevents one from choosing grace over convenience, fitting in at the moment or avoiding our God-created selves. We already know and feel what needs to change inside to be perfected in Love outside. Only when we intentionally choose the center of The Holy One's intent for each one of us—and us together—will we be more like Jesus the Christ.

There are other ways to be in the company of others. I have experienced these other ways many times. I know what it can look like. How it feels. I want it to be our normal way of being.

I ache for us all to live the courage of a universal optimism credited to Ray Bradbury: "Jump, and you will find out how to unfold your wings in the fall."

Choose grace.

For yourself.

For others.

For all of creation.

Changing the world one relationship at a time is an option worth choosing.





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

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)

Finance Update

Thank you for your faithful giving each month to God's Church. 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. While you are on vacation the ministry doesn't stop!

January Giving	\$ 5,965.00
February Giving	\$ 8,003.00
March Giving	\$ 6,424.00
April Giving	\$ 6,067.00
May Giving	\$ 10,055.00
June Giving	\$ 4,075.00
Giving Subtotal	\$ 40,589.00
Budget for 2022	\$ 115,725.00

If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash please use your offering envelopes.

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.



2022 Church Council

Church Council Chairperson:

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

General Fund Treasurer: Becky Sallans (248)628-1289

Designated Fund Treasurer: Kevin Kater (248)628-7804

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 & Adam Bertich (810)656-1629

Mary Dempsey (810)797-5736

Amie Von Knorring (248)342-8051

Bob Willobee (248)628-2357

Camp Ed. Coordinator:

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.



Freedom

*Each one of us is born most free
And we alone can choose
To do what God would have us do,
To use what God would use.*

*Or we are also free to seek
The proud and selfish way –
A life where other gods come first
To reign and hold full sway.*

*But when we follow where Christ leads,
We find that freedom's place
Is really in God's will for us,
And we have chosen GRACE!*

–Peggy Ferrell, Prayers and Poems

Local Missions & Outreach



Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry

“Neighbors Helping Neighbors”

We are 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: Tuesdays - 1-2:45pm

Wednesdays - 10-11:45am

Thursdays - 1-4:45pm and 4-5 pm

3rd Saturdays 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)
Lakepoint Community (Thursdays)
from 5:30-6:30pm

and/or Oxford UMC (Saturdays)
from 9:30-10:30am



STOCK OUR CLOTHES CLOSET

NEW LOCATION

DROP OFF 10-3

Wednesdays and Saturdays in July

Please bring your Gently Used infant to teens, men's, and women's clothing



Week 1: July 13 & 16



Week 2: July 20 & 23



Week 3: July 27 & 30



Collection site: Oxford Free Methodist Church
790 S Lapeer Rd, Oxford MI 48371



Financial Donations

www.loveincfnoc.org
Text Loveincfnoc to 41444
P.O. Box 104 Lake Orion 48361

Celebrating Juneteenth & Beyond

By Bishop Ernest Lyght

United Methodist Church Guest Editorial

*We as a nation have a new national holiday - "Juneteenth"
Here is some background on this day and why it is important...*

Juneteenth commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States. Note that President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, however, two full years lapsed before this emancipation news reached Black folk who lived in Texas. There was exuberant celebration on that day, Freedom Day. There was vibrant rejoicing, clapping and singing.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun

Let us march on till victory is won.

(James Weldon Johnson, "Lift Every Voice and Sing")

The Juneteenth news enabled the newly freed Black folk to face "the rising sun of a new day begun."

The ancestors who arrived on slave ships and had endured the horrors of the middle passage were here when the Declaration of Independence was published on July 4, 1776. The Declaration reads in part: "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." Slaves were not free and Black people were excluded from the original constitution. They lived a life of slavery. They had no liberty. They were denied the pursuit of happiness.

The spiritual, "Oh, Freedom," portrayed deep meaning for our ancestors. On the one hand, this spiritual refers to freedom in the world beyond this life. On the other hand, it covets existential freedom.

Oh, freedom!

Oh, freedom!

Oh, freedom over me!

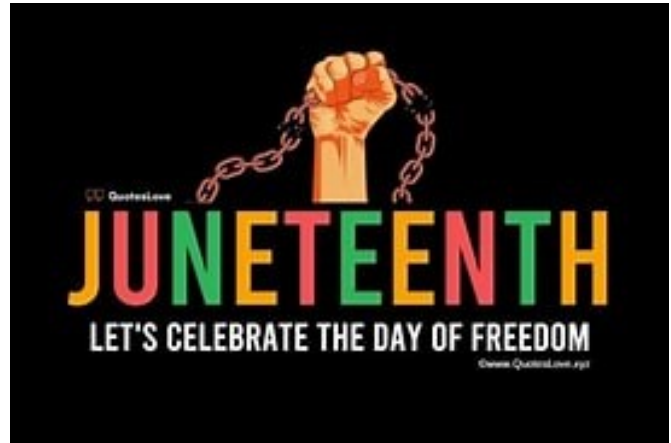
And before I'd be a slave

I'll be buried in my grave

And go home to my Lord and be free.

Couched in this text is the not-so-subtle desire to be free, both now (earthly home) and in the future (heavenly home). But "freedom delayed is freedom denied." This was a matter of justice. Because "justice delayed is justice denied."

In his "I Have a Dream" Speech (August 28, 1963), Dr. Martin Luther King addressed the matter of freedom. He envisioned the day when freedom would ring from every



mountainside. He intoned the need for freedom to ring from the great mountains and the lesser-known mountains, including hills and molehills.

Dr. King said, "...when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, *Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!*" We are still dreaming of that day.

Equality denied is freedom denied.

Economic parity denied is freedom denied.

Voter suppression allowed is freedom denied.

Lurking racism unchained is freedom denied.

Freedom delayed, is freedom denied.

We unite with the ancestors and concede the pain of our past. We are traveling a stony road, but we celebrate with hope as we hurdle the many challenges. Yet, we continue to pursue freedom and equality for all of God's children.

While celebrating Juneteenth, we are "marching in the light of God."

Think About It!

We ARE MARCHING



July 24th - 10am

PRAISE THE LORD!
*Blessed is the man
who fears the LORD,
who greatly delights in
his commandments!*

PSALM 112:1, ESV

*Join together with our brothers and
sisters in worship of the one (1) God
with special music and prayers!*



Knit Knack

Our group has been enjoying meeting together again on a regular basis. 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) during the school year.

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

Praise Singers

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns. Rehearsals are at 9am 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).



Piece Makers Quilting

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.

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!

July

- July 2 - Adam Dudewicz
- July 4 - Michelle Wood
- July 5 - Kyle Beckwith
- July 15 - Courtney Turk
- July 16 - Tony Rizzo
- July 21 - Makenna Kater
- July 22 - Pauline East
- July 28 - Bob Richter
- July 29 - Christy Turk

August

- August 2 - Kay Smith
- August 4 - Debra Bunker
- August 5 - Tom Bertich | Michelle Mumbrue
- August 7 - Harvey Acheson
- August 14 - Kevin Friesmuth
- August 15 - Cindy Vincentini
- August 18 - Chris Acheson
- August 23 - Megan Bellairs
- August 25 - Pamela Dudewicz
- August 26 - Amie Von Knorring
- August 27 - Morgan Imirowicz

- August 3 - Frank & Gail Enekes
- August 4 - Fred & Teresa Nelson
- Bill & Christy Turk
- August 23 - Mat & Cindy Vincentini

Birthdays

Anniversaries

- July 11 - Dan & Michelle Mumbrue
- July 21 - David & Amie Von Knorring
- July 27 - Todd & Carolyn Lawrie
- July 29 - Larry & Teddi Bradford
- David & Holly Cischke



UM Women: Rachel Circle

Rachel Circle members summer is here !

Officially our season is over until September. For the next two months we will continue to meet on the second Monday of the month, however no business meetings.

Everyone is invited to share a devotional or share a meaningful article you have read or scripture that has boosted their spirits. Not required, just if you have something you feel inspired to share.

Our next meeting date & time is Monday, July 11th, 2022. at 12pm noon. Location to be announced at a later date in church announcements & in the program.

It will be a Pot-Luck picnic so bring a dish to pass. Come for the fellowship & enjoy some yummy food at the same time.

As Rachel Circle members we support one another through all of life's challenges. Through prayer, texting, hugs & scripture. If you like to enjoy the *4 F's Please Join Us ! Life can be hard. Difficult at times to know the next step. God has us all here for a purpose, trust in the Lord in all you do. Rachel Circle understands all this & we lean on one another for support.

If you are interested in being a Rachel Circle member but can not fit another meeting into your schedule, let us know. We will gladly add you to our new email newsletter. Please contact me with your email.

Helpful things to know :

>We meet the second Monday of each month. For the next two months meet time will vary. Start time will return to 10am on September 12, 2022.

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

>Our next hosting of Friendship (*Coffee*) Hour is: July 24th. Please check Church Program for August date.

*(Faith, Fellowship, Friendship & Food)

Questions? Contact
Carolyn Lawrie
Rachel Circle President



(This was shared during the Rummage Sale - it has been edited for tense to share today with you all... "Letter of Faith from a Dedicated Church Servant"...)

Message for rummage sale workers: I was happy to be a part for whatever help I gave. I don't often get a chance to be involved around my work schedule, but I have been able to provide prayer over the mission. I am praying for all who are giving their time, and all who have come to shop.

This was a great undertaking! Time, physical energy, mental energy!

[During the sale] I sensed some stress that goes with wondering if things were done right. I took on some of that stress, "did I donate the right things, am I pricing things right, Holy Cow another box!"

I want to tell you everything was done right!

You did a phenomenal job getting ready.

Everything was pre-prayed over. God was/is in charge.

I reconnected with acquaintances from childhood. A woman I had never met walked in with donations that SOLD, she shopped a long time, AND asked about our church " had been thinking of attending!"

The profits were great. I told Mary the best garage sale I ever had was when I asked God to run it and prayed for everyone who walked up my driveway. Ashamed to say I kept forgetting with all the conversation. That is my part of the rest of the sale. Prayer.

You and God have this!

Have fun and watch the miracle!

Laura Clancy

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).



Our Praise Singers have expanded!



We welcome Noemy Vale (and her son!) and Carl Gilbert to the group
Shown (l to r): Pastor Julius Del Pino, Kay Boyle, Adam Bertich, Leader: Renae Shagena, Noemy & Carl

Loving Creation Across Generations



No plastic for 30 days! That's the challenge the Rev. Cary James Jr. and his 16-year-old son, Caleb, recently undertook in support of their roles as EarthKeepers, trained by the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, to address topics such as environmental justice, green technology and waste reduction in their communities. Hear about the outcome of the "no plastic for a month" endeavor along with why the James family is passionate about environmental stewardship. Listen to their interview in this 'Get Your Spirit in Shape' podcast.

[Listen and Subscribe](#)

Tour the Independence Hall of American Methodism



[You may also access the video at Barratt's Chapel: Independence Hall of American Methodism - YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRufY0zEOaQ>]

Get a drone's eye view of Barratt's Chapel, the historic site where the first truly American-born denomination came together.

Book Discussion Group



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 1pm in the Memorial Room.

Wednesday, July 13: *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure. Like most gentiles in Nazi-occupied Paris, architect Lucien Bernard has little empathy for the Jews. So when a wealthy industrialist offers him a large sum of money to devise secret hiding places for Jews, Lucien struggles with the choice of risking his life for a cause he doesn't really believe in. Ultimately he can't resist the challenge and begins designing expertly concealed hiding spaces—behind a painting, within a column, or inside a drainpipe—detecting possibilities invisible to the average eye. But when one of his clever hiding spaces fails horribly and the immense suffering of Jews becomes incredibly personal, he can no longer deny reality. Written by an expert whose knowledge imbues every page, this story becomes more gripping with every life the architect tries to save.

Wednesday, August 10: *What The Fireflies Knew* by Kai Harris. After her father dies of an overdose and the debts incurred from his addiction cause the loss of the family home in Detroit, almost-eleven-year-old Kenyatta Bernice (KB) and her teenage sister, Nia, are sent by their overwhelmed mother to live with their estranged grandfather in Lansing.

Over the course of a single, sweltering summer, KB attempts to get her bearings in a world that has turned upside down--a father who is labeled a fiend; a mother whose smile no longer reaches her eyes; a sister, once her best friend, who has crossed the threshold of adolescence and suddenly wants nothing to do with her; a grandfather who is grumpy and silent; the white kids across the street who are friendly, but only sometimes. And all of them are keeping secrets.

Capturing all the vulnerability, perceptiveness, and

inquisitiveness of a young Black girl on the cusp of puberty, Harris's prose perfectly inhabits that hazy space between childhood and adolescence, where everything that was once familiar develops a veneer of strangeness when seen through newer, older eyes. Through KB's disillusionment and subsequent discovery of her own power, *What the Fireflies Knew* poignantly reveals that heartbreaking but necessary component of growing up--the realization that loved ones can be flawed, sometimes significantly so, and that the perfect family we all dream of looks different up close.

Wednesday, September 15: *Her Hidden Genius* by Marie Benedict. Rosalind Franklin has always been an outsider—brilliant, but different. Whether working at the laboratory she adored in Paris or toiling at a university in London, she feels closest to the science, those unchanging laws of physics and chemistry that guide her experiments. When she is assigned to work on DNA, she believes she can unearth its secrets. Rosalind knows if she just takes one more X-ray picture—one more after thousands—she can unlock the building blocks of life. Never again will she have to listen to her colleagues complain about her, especially Maurice Wilkins who'd rather conspire about genetics with James Watson and Francis Crick than work alongside her.

Then it finally happens—the double helix structure of DNA reveals itself to her with perfect clarity. But what unfolds next, Rosalind could have never predicted.



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

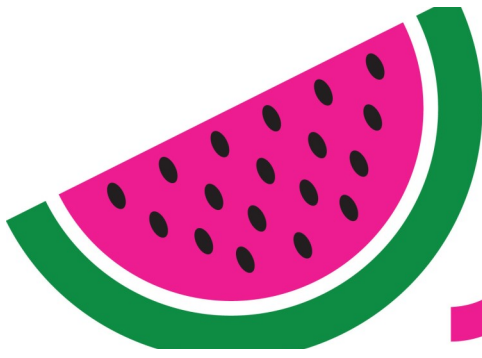
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JULY 2022

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

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

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/FK) Piece Makers Quilting Projects (1st & 3rd weeks)	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a - 3:30p (P) Pastor Julius' Office Hours (Call for apt.)	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels	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 4TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST HOLY COMMUNION	4 <i>4th of July</i> (Office Closed)	5 7p (Zoom) Trustees	6	7	8	9
10 5TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST	11 12noon (TBD) Rachel Circle	12	13 1p (M) Reading for Fun	14	15	16
17 6TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST	18 (Office Closed)	19	20	21	22	23
24 7TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST SPECIAL WORSHIP: "COMING TOGETHER TO SERVE 1 GOD"	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 8TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST						




AUGUST 2022

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	1	2 7p (Zoom) Staff Mtg.	3	4	5	6
 7 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY COMMUNION	8 7p (Zoom) Worship Team	9 7p (Zoom) Trustees	10 1p (M) Reading for Fun	11	12	13
14 10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	15	16 6:30p (U) Revive Team	17	18	19	20
21 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	29 7p (Zoom) Church Council	30	31			

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

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



Regular Sunday Worship:

(and also join us either online or via radio)

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Coffee & Refreshments after service

All Are Welcome!