

Orchard Harvester

Orchard United Methodist Church
Farmington Hills MI February 24, 2010

Upcoming Orchard Events...

Sat. Feb. 27 - Mini Olympics
Sat. Feb. 27 - Whaler's Hockey Game - MOO & Family Night
Sat. Feb. 28 - Lenten Offerings Concert
Sat. Mar. 6 - Bishop's Day Workshop at Hope UMC
Fri. Mar. 12 - Sun. Mar. 14 - Orchard Women's Retreat
Fri. Mar. 12 - Overnight "Camp-In" (for kids 1st-12th grade)
Sat. Mar. 13 - Joy Southfield Service Project
Sun. Mar. 14 - One Great Hour of Sharing
Tues. Mar. 16 - Help UMW pack Easter baskets
Wed. Mar. 17 - Funtastiks Lunch and a Movie
Sun. Mar. 21 - Children's Musical
Sun. Mar. 28 - Palm Sunday



EASTER BASKETS FOR KIDS!

TUESDAY MARCH 16TH
7:00 P.M.



Help pack 24 Easter baskets to be given to the Salvation Army for delivery... and/or donate a dozen items for the baskets.

Names A-L are asked to donate non-edibles (pencils, bubbles, stickers, spring fun, etc.); M-Z give edibles (candy, juice boxes, crackers, etc.). Donations can be left in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Janice Mitchell at (248 626-3620). Sponsored by UMW.

"Lenten Offerings" Concert

This Sunday, February 28th at 3:00 p.m. Orchard will present a concert of musical offerings for reflection on your journey through Lent. Admission is free.

Several Orchard members will be participating in the vocal and instrumental selections that will be performed. This year's performers include The Vocal Arts Ensemble of Michigan, Wexford 4, Melissa Hall, the Chancel Ringers, Faith Players, and Sarah Hume & Rachel Fox. Join us as we observe this special time for reflection. A free will offering will be taken for Haiti Relief Funds/UMCOR.



REBUILDING TOGETHER SIGN-UP IN MARCH

Rebuilding Together is a national organization designed to serve the needs of low-income, disabled and senior homeowners. On Saturday, April 24, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Orchard will join a countywide effort to improve homes throughout Oakland County. In Farmington Hills alone, 7 homes have currently been identified. There are more homes in Southfield where Orchard teams will be assigned to work. Many accidents that occur in homes could be prevented by identifying and eliminating hazards that result in injuries that prematurely send people into nursing and rehab facilities. The focus of this workday is to provide a safe, warm and energy-efficient environment for home occupants.

Orchard will be actively **recruiting volunteers age 12 and older** during the month of March. Applications must be completed and turned in to DyAnn St.Clair, or at the Connection Point desk by Sunday, March 28th. From there, you will be asked to attend a training session in preparation for the workday. You will learn more about the project at your site, the tools you will need for your team project, and some information about your homeowner.

For more information about Rebuilding Together, please visit the national website at: www.rebuildingtogether.org, or the local website for the Oakland County affiliate at: rebuildingtogether-oaklandcounty.org. Orchard's own Dan Harmon is president of this local chapter. Donations are welcome and can be made online at this website. Checks to **Rebuilding Together Oakland County** will also be accepted.

Between Sundays...

It's Lent! Yes Lent even though it looks like Christmas outside with all the snow. ☺

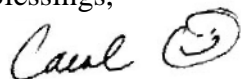
Lent provides an opportunity to look at things a little differently. It is a time for faith renewal and reflection. Jenny Cross invited us to do just that recently as she shared a story from her daughter, Kelsey, on the *Caring Connection*. The *Caring Connection* is Orchard's internet ministry that several times a week lifts up the joys and concerns of our church family. Just in case you missed Jenny's words, I wanted to share them with you:

"I got a call from Kelsey last night. She is currently in the Teach for America program and teaching Chemistry and Physics in the city of Chicago. Following up on a promise she had made to a couple of the girls she taught last year, she took them out to dinner. As it turned out, one of the girl's was pregnant, her older sister had been killed in the past year, and she had NEVER been to a restaurant in her life. Kelsey had placed an order in advance because it takes 45 minutes to make a pizza at Giordanos (Kelsey's favorite place). But the girl was still thrilled to be able to hold and look at a menu. And then she absolutely could not believe that they were going to be allowed to eat the food before they paid for it. Kelsey has decided they need to do some 'restaurant practice.' The second girl's mother had died this past year, she was living with a sister, but the sister kicked her out. She was now staying on a friend's couch and using her jacket for a pillow. So after dinner they went shopping for a blanket and a pillow.

Many of us in this congregation are dealing with job loss and uncertainty and all the stress and frustration that goes along with that. So just when I am about to have a big 'pity party' for myself, God sends something my way not only to remind me to count my many blessings, but to show me what true resiliency is all about. These girls have every reason in the world to give up, but they make a conscious decision to 'show up' for school every single day with the hope that better things are ahead. Sometimes God just gives a gentle nudge, but sometimes it seems like he has to kind of 'knock you down' to get your attention. I needed that call from Kelsey last night."

We all need a call like Kelsey's sometimes. May God continue to stretch our faith and sustain us. Open my eyes Lord. See you in worship.

Blessings,



P.S. If you would like to be on the *Caring Connection*, sign up at the Connection Point or email DyAnn St.Clair at: dynasaur28@aol.com



Orchard Women's Retreat "Created For A Purpose" March 12th - 14th

Women of all ages are invited to set aside the weekend of March 12th -14th for a Women's Retreat at the Holiday Inn Express in Monroe, MI. Cost is \$110 for 2/room, \$80 for 3/room.

This is a great opportunity to get to know more women at Orchard as you celebrate being a Christian woman. Plan to grow, laugh, relax, and enjoy yourself as you step away from your hectic everyday life for the weekend. A trip is planned to the **Toledo Art Museum** for anyone interested. Enjoy dinner together Saturday evening at the **Frog Leg Inn**. Invite your friends or family members!

Rooms are still available for this fun weekend. Contact Rev. Margo for more information (248 626-3620, ext. 27, or email Margo at: margodexter@umc.org). Sign up in the Narthex, detailed information sheets available in the office. Payment is required with registration.

OVERNIGHT "CAMP-IN"

An overnight camp-in will be held Friday, March 12th at 7:00 p.m. for all kids in 1st-12th grades interested in going to our summer church camp from July 25th-31st.

Games, camp songs, s'mores included! Bring a sleeping bag, pillow, flashlight, signed permission form and \$5 (includes an evening snack and Saturday breakfast). To register, and for more information, please contact the church office at (248) 626-3620, or email Dave at: shaveanddeli@comcast.net

Joy-Southfield Service Project Saturday, March 13 at 9:00 a.m.

The Joy-Southfield Community Development (an outreach arm of a United Methodist congregation in the Joy-Southfield area of Detroit) is sponsoring a work project at a shelter for boys who were abused by their foster parents.

Six volunteers are needed to help with this one day service project installing base and wall cabinets. Please call Dave Adams at (248 688-9899) to sign up to help.



Shannon Young and Ian Maguire
were united in marriage at Orchard
Church on February 13, 2010.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING STARTS MARCH

Included with this issue of the *Harvester* is an envelope in which you can place your gift for UMCOR's One Great Hour of Sharing. Working in more than 80 countries, including the United States, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) continues to be there and to be hope for millions of people, often the poorest in society, who suffer as a result of natural catastrophes, conflicts or wars. UMCOR responds to natural and civil disasters so massive that they overwhelm a community's ability to recover on its own. UMCOR partners with local organizations and survivors.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering is the financial lifeblood of UMCOR, United Methodism's not-for-profit, international, humanitarian-aid organization. UMCOR receives no World Service or other apportionment money. Please choose to *do good* and contribute to this special offering.



BISHOP'S DAY 2010

Called Out - Creating New Places for New Faces

On Saturday, March 6th, Hope UMC will host the 2010 Bishop's Day Workshop on evangelism and stewardship. This day is planned to inspire, encourage, and empower pastors, lay leaders and church members. Everyone is invited to attend. Registration forms and information brochures are available in the church office.

*Did You Know?

-We continue to **collect aluminum pull tabs** to support the Ronald McDonald House at Detroit Childrens Hospital, **as well as printer ink cartridges** to fund painting additional murals in our Children's Education wing. Collection containers are in the hallway table by the library. Thank you for your donations!

-**Orchard has a lending library.** Many resources are available for your use. In the Graham Chapel you'll find books on prayer and caring resources. The library has books and videos for children. Rooms 100 and 102 have reading and reference books for adults. You can find copies of weekly worship services on CD's in the office.

HOSPITALIZED/CONVALESCING / ILL AT HOME IN FEBRUARY



Rev. Clark Christian
Benjamin Gerber
Gene Noble
Jack Richards
Marion Seeber
Marion Wood

ORCHARD FAMILY MEMBERS IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS IN FEBRUARY



Anna Beavis' brother, **Raul Fernandez**
Leslie Blair's aunt, **Barbara Hayworth**, and
uncle, **Dave Ott**
Dennis Buckwalter's parents, **Betty and**
Richard Buckwalter
Mary Clark's cousin, **Greg Pyle**
Jamie Davis' father, **Jim Latimer**
Don DeGrazia's cousin, **Carl Suriano**
Jan DeOrio's mother, **Katie**
Gordon Fincannon's uncle, **Joel Schuler**
Alyson Gay's stepmother, **Renee**
Marcia Harmon's cousin, **Kathy Worthen**
Connor & Jacob Kuenzli's grandmother, **Rhea Howells**
Peggy Knuttila
Julie Larson's uncle, **Ronald Hall**
Lynne Lehmann's niece and husband, **Kari and**
James Gallagher
Mary Manier's grandmother, **Grace Hunt**, and
brother, **Mark McCallum**
Steve Mann
Lisa Olinger's father, **Tom**
Barbara & Ernie Orchard's daughter, **Peggy Roberts**
Sandra Parry's nephew, **Jacob Caverly**
Linda Paulson
Ernie and Jennifer Roode
Louise Rudnick's brother, **John Clinton**
Sue and Bob Shrosbree's aunt, **Carol and family**
Susan Stone's sister, **Jennifer Hotka**
Heather Strang's daughter, **Heather**
Bea & Glenn Ulrich's daughter-in-law, **Laurie Ulrich**
Former Orchard member, **Betsy Watson**
Former Orchard members, **Audre and Don Wilcox**
Julie Wright's mother, **Joyce Mitchell**
Sue Young

IN MEMORIAM



Barb Marks' cousin, **Shirley Murdock**,
died February 11, 2010
Oris O'Daniel, died February 11, 2010

The Orchard *Harvester* is the newsletter of Orchard United Methodist Church.
The next newsletter deadlines are March 1, 2010 and March 15 2010, with mailings on March 10, 2010 and March 24, 2010.
E-mail articles may be directed to Susan Stone at: susanstone@orchardumc.org

Pastors: Rev. Carol J. Johns, Rev. James C. Braid, Rev. Margo Dexter
9:00 and 11:00 A.M. ; 10:00 A.M. Christian Ed for all ages.

Phone 248 626-3620 Fax 248 626-6836 Web Site orchardumc.org
Samaritan Counseling Center 248 474-4701

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**SOUPER BOWL / SUB SUNDAY
UPDATE:**

Thanks to all who purchased subs or made donations on Souper Bowl Sunday. Together, we raised \$786.13 to help feed the hungry in our surrounding communities. As part of a combined national effort, we raised over \$7 Million dollars. Mountains can be moved in bite-sized pieces!

Orchard Proudly Presents:

The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit

On Sunday, March 21st, Orchard's Sonlight and Rhythm choirs will join forces to bring you a musical presentation of the story of David and Goliath. **Services will be held in the MAC** at our usual service times of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Immediately following the 11:00 service, the **Fusion Mission Team will sponsor a luncheon to benefit the youth mission trip.** Please plan on joining us for pasta, salad, bread, beverages and dessert, all for just \$5! It will be a special day to celebrate and support Orchard's children's and youth ministries.

MARCH FUNTASTIKS

Lunch and a Movie in the Parlor

Join us Wednesday, March 17th at 11:00 a.m. for lunch and a movie. Bring your own sandwich, we will provide soup, dessert and beverages. Sign up in the church office. See Rev. Margo for info.

**HOCKEY NIGHT - FAITH PLAYERS SING!
MOO OUTING & FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

After rave reviews last year, Orchard's own Faith Players were invited back to sing the national anthems at the Plymouth Whalers Hockey game Saturday, February 27th, at 7:00 p.m. at Compuware Arena. MOO will be attending this game as part of their annual hockey night outing.

All Orchard friends and family are invited to attend, support the youth, and enjoy a good evening of hockey! Tickets are available for purchase for \$11. When you purchase your ticket from the youth, a portion is donated back to the youth ministry! Please call Rev. Suzanne for more information and for tickets (248 626-3620, ext. 30).

