

September 2022

# Orchard Harvester

Newsletter of Orchard United Methodist Church

*Transforming the world by growing in faith, serving others, and sharing Jesus.*



Hello friends,

It's been a little over a year since I came to Orchard. One of the questions I frequently get asked is, "So how are you adjusting here?" The short answer is "it's been great!" The longer answer is best expressed by the following poem:

Traveler, there is no path.  
The path is made by walking.  
Traveler, the path is your tracks  
And nothing more.  
Traveler, there is no path  
The path is made by walking.  
By walking you make a path  
And turning, you look back  
At a way you will never tread again  
Traveler, there is no road  
Only wakes in the sea.

— Antonio Machado, *Border of a Dream: Selected Poems*

Whether it be a new appointment or a familiar one, churches typically follow cyclical rhythms and traditions. But the pandemic has changed the way we do things and even familiar routines have required precautions, adjustments, and even radical new methodologies. We've seen these changes in the way we worship, have meetings, gather for fellowship, and organize missional work. While it's been a challenge constantly rethinking, adjusting, and making plan B's, it's also given us the opportunity to make changes and innovations as well.

As we begin the new program year, the staff, ministry teams, and I are preparing for a full slate of groups, programs, services, and missions. With each year being different from the previous and a large turnover of staff, Orchard is still making a path by walking forward into new frontiers. So I ask for each of you to pray for a spirit of adventure, patience, and the obedience to say "yes" when God presents a new opportunity for ministry.

Grace and peace! *Pastor Paul*

**fall**  
**KICK-OFF**  
**SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**  
**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**AT 10 AM**  
FALL FUN AT 11 AM (AFTER WORSHIP)

On Sunday, September 11, we'll be gathering at one service at 10am and celebrating the return of Fall programming. We'll meet together in the sanctuary for worship, then enjoy a lunch in the MAC (Ministry Activity Center). The bounce house will be up for the children and there will be a 9 hole putt-putt course through the church and grounds to play and learn about programs and events at Orchard. The church will provide fried or broasted

chicken, drinks, and paper products. If you'd like to, you can contribute to our potluck-style meal according to the first letter of your last name: A-H salad or veggie, I-Q side dish, P-Z dessert or fruit. Don't feel obligated to bring anything—just show up and spend some time with friends—old and new! Come and find out what's happening this Fall!



## Staff Talk



### Director of Discipleship

For those of you returning from a summer hiatus, I announced a few weeks ago that I would be attending seminary in the Fall with the ultimate goal of becoming a Deacon in the United Methodist Church. I've also accepted the position of Director of Discipleship at Orchard.

I am incredibly grateful for all your well-wishes. The outpouring of support has fed my soul and given me fortitude as I peruse my fall class syllabi and assignments.

We have a long tradition at Orchard of our members hearing the call to ministry. I am in the early stages of my call and am excited to see where my journey leads me. Many of you may be thinking, "Kelly is following right in the footsteps of \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank with Margo Dexter, Suzanne Goodwin, or Nick Bonsky)."

As I continue to discern my call into ministry, I know I am not simply filling Pastor Nick Bonsky's position and am eagerly approaching my call to ministry with an open heart and mind. As my journey progresses, my position with Orchard will continue to take shape and evolve.

My primary focus for the upcoming year will be middle and senior high youth groups, youth programming, and the youth mission trip. After the anxieties and disappointments of the pandemic, attention to the youth is imperative. In addition, I will work closely with Colleen Aben and Tracey Huber to create a seamless Christian education experience for our Orchard children—preschool through high school.

I look forward to the coming year.

[Kelly Sheckell](#)

*Disciple* : "For me, to be a disciple in its simplest form, it means to be a follower of Christ...  
[and] being able to share your faith." Rev. Junius B. Dotson, Discipleship Ministries

### Music Ministries

Whether you are from the "Leave it to Beaver" generation, the "Saved by the Bell Generation," or the "Hannah Montana" generation, you know that September means the return of school! And with that also begins another season in the music ministries at Orchard UMC!

On **September 7**, the **Chancel Choir** and **Praise Band** will resume their Wednesday night rehearsals, complete with a special dinner on that date. The regular rehearsal time for Praise Band is 6:15pm on Wednesdays and the Chancel Choir is at 7:30pm on Wednesdays.

The adult bell choir (**Chancel Ringers**) will resume on Thursday, **September 15**, at 7pm. This group meets on an as-needed basis, most Thursdays with a few breaks here and there. If you would be interested in ringing with us, please contact me and we will get you on my list.

The **Kids Bells** will start up later in September, after everyone has had a chance to settle into school routines a bit more. Kids Bells rehearses on Wednesday evenings, 5:15-5:45 (which is convenient timing to join us for dinner on Wednesday Nights Together!). If you have a 2nd grader or older child who would like to ring, be sure to let me know. Parent helpers or beginner adult ringers are also welcome to ring along with the kids! Send me an email, call the church, or catch me on a Sunday morning after service.

I'm looking forward to these and many other opportunities to make music in worship together this year. I hope you will join us!

[Jantz Black](#), Director of Music Ministries



# Growing in Faith, Serving Others, and Sharing Jesus

Wherever you are on your faith journey, there's always room to grow. These fall classes and other activities offer an opportunity for you to continue growing in faith and to share Jesus. Check the individual descriptions for start dates and times.

## Sunday Mornings...

Faith, led by Dr. Mary Clark. Our vision statement for Orchard UMC includes, "growing in faith." Faith — what is it? How does it function? Just like so many words we use, it is often more complex than we think. We will explore "Faith" with lessons and lots of discussion. Attend whenever you can. *Sundays at 10am, Room 202, beginning on October 16.*

## Midweek...

Men's Mall Walkers, led by Dan Harmon. Men gather at the lower level food court entrance to walk together around the Twelve Oaks Mall on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. The group then travels to the Panera on 12 Mile Road at Halstead for coffee and discussion. Contact [Dan Harmon](#) for more information.

Tuesday Book Discussion Group Join Pastor Paul on Tuesday mornings from 10 to 11am starting on September 20 in Room 200. We'll begin this season by reading "[Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life](#)" by Richard Rohr. (Click on the book title to purchase the book from Amazon.) There will be a concurrent Zoom class led by Tracey Huber and Mari Anne Wilcox. You can join virtually by clicking on this [Zoom link](#). For more information please contact [Pastor Paul](#). *Tuesdays at 10am, Room 200 or online at [Zoom link](#).*

Lunch Bunch, led by Dan Harmon. Men are invited to lunch and chatting at the Great Lakes Coney Island located at 38425 Grand River Ave in Farmington Hills. This group meets year round on Wednesdays at 11am.

Heart Sisters, led by Colleen Aben. Heart Sisters is a group of women who meet weekly to support one another and have a good book discussion at the same time. Open to new members for the first couple weeks. *Tuesdays at 6:30pm, Parlor, beginning September 13.*

Knit & Crochet Ministry, led by Ellen Cogsdill. We meet to knit and crochet. We share patterns and ideas, support one another in fellowship, and make items for the Mitten Tree and to fulfill other congregational and community needs. *Thursdays at 1:30pm, Parlor, beginning October 6.*

Living and Thriving, led by Teresa Bowers and Dr. Mary Clark. This ministry fellowship is for people who struggle with chronic illness, and for their family and caregivers. *3rd Friday of the month via Zoom.* Contact [Teresa Bowers](#) for Zoom information.

## Coming Up—Look for more information to be published soon!

- Wednesday Nights Together starts on October 5 with dinner at 5:30 and programming for all ages at 6:30.
- Pub Theology, a men's ministry of faith discussions will be starting back soon—watch for that information!

**Opening Soon:** *Connie Mendoza has been working all summer long to ready the opening of the Orchard Library which will be located in the Chapel. Be sure to check it out!*



## SEPTEMBER MISSIONS BOX

The September Missions Box provides an opportunity for Orchard to once again support SOS (South Oakland Shelter)/Lighthouse. We will be collecting items to make up "Welcome Baskets" for SOS clients as they leave the program and move into their own apartments/homes (which is the ultimate goal of the program).

Personal Hygiene items include:

Deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, pads/tampons, soap (bar or body wash), razors, wipes, lotion, shampoo, and conditioner.

In addition, the LAF (Life After Fifty) group and MOO (Men of Orchard) are coordinating efforts to create Welcome Baskets with bed linens and towels, as well as buckets with cleaning products.

Check out the bulletin board full of envelopes and information in the narthex for needed items and instructions on where to bring them. Many of the items can be purchased online and sent directly to the church address (30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334).

## Blessed to Be a Blessing

Items for SOS/Lighthouse

September Missions Box Collection

# Opportunities

## BOOKS OVER LUNCH

Starting Wednesday, September 14 @ Noon, Room 200

Pack your lunch and beverage, and join us for our discussion on the book "Cold Sassy Tree" by Olive Ann Burns. Come find out what this group is all about. New people are always welcome. If there isn't time to finish, or even start, the book, please come anyway. For additional information please contact Nancy Howland at 404.660.9015.

## OOPS!

Saturday, September 17 @ 3pm

The Orchard Open Perennial Scramble (OOPS) is open to all skill levels—teens to adults and is on Saturday, September 17 @ 3pm at the Farmington Hills Golf Course. \$21/golfer; fee payable at the course. **Saturday, September 10 is the deadline for signing up.** Click [here](#) to sign up.

## TAI CHI FOR BETTER HEALTH, MEDITATION

Mondays from 7 to 8:30pm

Tai Chi is an invigorating exercise for health and peace of mind. With practice, better health, coordination, and concentration improve. Benefits are increased relaxation and dealing with stress more efficiently.

NEW BEGINNERS class begins September 19. You will be learning the new Beginner's 12 Posture Form as well as Tai Chi warmups for engaging the body.

The cost is \$10 per class or \$40 for five attended classes. Beginners and ongoing students are welcome. Contact Marcia Harmon for more information @ 248 346-1184.

*Just thinking about Tai Chi? Join us on September 19 to see what Tai Chi is all about.*



### THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!

The pumpkins have been ordered! The gorgeous "gourds" will arrive on Thursday, October 13. The pumpkin sales benefit our missions outreach so that we can provide ministry both locally and out into the world.

- TRUCK UNLOADING – The pumpkins are scheduled to arrive on Thursday, October 13, around 3:30pm. We'll need many hands to get the pumpkins unloaded and onto the lawn to begin our sales. Remember to bring work gloves!
- TEND THE PATCH – The pumpkin patch will officially open on Friday, October 14. Watch for a signup link in future weekly online news, in the bulletin, and on the Orchard website. For more information, feel free to send Maddy Jenkins an [email](#).

## Get Excited for these Upcoming Events!

*We're highlighting some of the events we've planned for September, October, November, and December. More details will be available in electronic communications through online weekly Church News and in future Harvesters.*

<b>9.11</b> Fall Kick-Off	<b>10.1</b> Hands with Detroit (more details soon)	<b>11.21-28</b> Picture Directory Photos
<b>9.12</b> Tai Chi—Beginners Welcome! @ 7	<b>10-5-11.16</b> Wednesday Nights Together @ 5:30	<b>12.2</b> Cookies & Ornament Exchange @ 10
<b>9.13</b> Heart Sisters @ 6:30	<b>10.14-10.31</b> Pumpkin Patch	<b>12.3</b> Breakfast with Santa
<b>9.14</b> Praise Band/Choir Rehearsals	<b>10.22</b> Trucks, Treats, and Tales @ 2	<b>12.6</b> Santa's Workshop
<b>9.15</b> Chancel Ringers Rehearsal @ 7	<b>11.1</b> Cass Pumpkin Painting	<b>12.11</b> Advent by Candlelight
<b>9.17</b> OOPS Golf Outing @ 3	<b>11.5</b> Mini-Olympics @ 9am	<b>12.17</b> Christmas Cantata
<b>9.18</b> Youth Groups Start	<b>11.13</b> Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon	<b>12.24</b> Rockin' the Manger
<b>9.20</b> Book Study w/Pastor Paul @ 10am	<b>11.20</b> Day of Blessings after worship	<b>12.25</b> Three services (times TBD)
		<b>12.25</b> Christmas Sunday @ 10am

# News for Children and Youth



by [Colleen Aben](#)

*“Autumn is as much a season of the soul as it is nature.”*

- Anonymous

When thinking of new beginnings, Spring often comes to mind for many. For me, as a former teacher, I mark the passing of time at the start of a school year as we head into Fall. My kids and I have been talking about how this Fall feels the most normal it has in awhile. At OUMC I'm really excited to see faces that have been traveling over the summer and to return to our regular routines with programming. We have upcoming programs and events for all ages, so hopefully there's something just right for your soul and social needs.

**Sunday School:** Starting on September 18, we are resuming Sunday School classes from the 10-11am hour between services. The youth will be grouped by age and we have some fabulous teachers waiting to help them grow in faith.

**Wednesday Nights Together:** Kicking off on October 5, we'll begin Wednesday Nights Together with Painting with a Kid Twist. In past years, our focus for Wednesday Nights Together has typically been doing mission projects for various organizations. However, I have a different idea in mind for this season. Stay tuned—your only clue is that it involves Lego!

November 5<sup>th</sup> will be the Mini-Olympics!! This is a favorite event of mine spearheaded by Donna Young. Each family decides on a team name and rotates around the MAC with all kinds of goofy games from scooter racing to ping pong toss. It's a great time for all ages and I hope you will join us. Look on or page 7 for more information.



## COMING SOON!

The office next to the nursery is getting a much needed update. Instead of office space, it will be a Parent-Baby quiet space complete with a crib, changing table, glider, arm chairs, and soft lighting. We're hoping that parents will feel a sense of calm as they feed and care for their little ones. Just inside the adjoining door to the nursery, we're creating a soft play area for babies who aren't walking yet. Please keep an eye out as this space is transformed to meet the needs of our youngest members.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUPS

Youth parent informational meeting is Sunday September 11 at 9:15 in the youth room (for parents of 7th- 12th graders).

Youth group will begin on September 18:

- 7th-8th grade will be 5:15-6:15
- High school will be 6:30-8:00

Sunday school for youth begins on September 18 at 10am:

- 6th-7th grade is in room FH 5
- 8th grade and up is in the youth room

Contact [Kelly Sheckell](#) with any questions.



# In the Life of Orchard



Our friends from Cass Community Social Services came to Orchard for a picnic and BINGO. There were plenty of hot dogs, smiles and fun! Pictured are just a few of the middle school kids and others who helped make this day a success!



On Sunday, August 28, Orchard was privileged to host the Installation Service for the Rev. Dr. Darryl Totty as District Superintendent of the Greater Detroit District. Here are just a few glimpses of the day that was filled with music and praise!

*In the life of Orchard, we believe in the power of prayer. Join us in intercession, thanksgiving, celebration, and remembrance. Let us pray...*

## **WE PRAY FOR...**

Sandra Cagle's mother Ruth Cagle, and Sandra's cousin, Debbie Newberry  
 The Cogsdills' son-in-law, James Damron.  
 Sasha Cole  
 The Cooks' son-in-law Shen Yeh, friend Tina and her friend Michael  
 Kristin Crosty's parents Dave and Sharon Hingst  
 Alyson Gay's newborn nephew  
 Jeanie Graham's friend Bob  
 Dwight & Mary Hale's friends, Doug Mac and Sandy Reyser  
 Tracey Hammaren's brother, Chris Griffin.  
 The Hicks' family friends, Seneca Williams, and granddaughter of Norma Miller  
 Diane Holden  
 Kari Hume's aunt, Marilyn Martin  
 Gabrielle Kosiba  
 Greg Kosiba  
 Barbara Lee's brother Gene  
 The Lloyd family's friend, Fred Glass, and friend Sharon Fordyce

Jim Lowe's Uncle Bud  
 Maryalyce Lupher  
 Hilary Mahon's sister-in-law Tricia  
 Marcia Mark's cousin, Margaret Mark Diener, and friend Jim Semegen  
 Friends and family of Kim Marlinga  
 Todd Morell's friends, Herb Oberg and his family  
 The Rowley Family  
 Brenda Schultz  
 Barbara Ulman  
 Karen Wagner's mother-in-law, Kathleen Wagner  
 Evan Whitaker's fiancée Lilly and her mother Najat  
 Young Jake

## **WE REMEMBER...**

David Cripps (June 6)  
 Kerry (Fazio) Chaness' wife Andrea (August 2)  
 Alex Rowley (August 11)  
 Kim Marlinga (August 28)

## **WE GIVE THANKS...**

A great time was had by all at this year's Cass Picnic and BINGO gathering. The smiles on the faces of all the guests were infectious. Over a dozen Orchard Youth served and assisted our guests, topped off by the cheerful OUMC volunteers, who assisted and prepared delicious food and drink. Volunteers were also utilized earlier in the week to erect the tent. It was a beautiful day to enjoy food and games under OUMC own tent in our court yard. Thank you to all who helped make the picnic a success.

*Jeannine Hales*

We would like to thank our church family for the wondrous outpouring of support after Alex's death. We are just amazed by how many lives he touched at Orchard and will be forever grateful for all of the love you showed him over the years.

*The Rowleys*



You can find the list of September birthdays by clicking [here](#)\* (unpublished link) to find out who has a birthday in September and who you might bless with a card or small note.



## Three "Save the Date" Highlights!

### #1 TRUCKS, TREATS, AND TALES

Saturday, October 22 at 2pm

Fall at its best at Orchard. Watch for details on this fun-filled day in the Orchard Pumpkin Patch! The parking lot will have Trunk 'r Treat and Touch-a-Truck, and over in the pumpkin patch there will be Story Time and crafts! Get excited and spread the news for this afternoon of Fall Fun at Orchard!

### #2 ORCHARD MINI-OLYMPICS

Saturday, November 5 at 9am—Noon

The Mini-Olympics are coming! Yay! "What's all the excitement about?" many who are new to Orchard and have never experienced a Mini Olympics are asking. Here's the scoop and your chance to get in on the excitement!

This is family event. All who attend need to wear sneakers and comfortable clothes. The Ministry Activity Center (MAC) will be set up with many events which will have official Olympic Event Titles\* but will have a twist to them so that all our families will be able to compete without having to be in TOP shape!

- Families need to create a poster or banner which represents each member of the family. This poster or banner will then be carried in the Olympic parade.
- In addition, families are asked to bake either a cake, cookies, or cupcakes—made with an Olympic theme—which will be judged for "most original," and then these will be enjoyed for our snack, mid-morning.

This is a FREE fun family event, but pre-registration is necessary so that the family competitive event cards can be made up. Please fill out the registration form found on the table outside the WOW room by Sunday October 23, 2022.

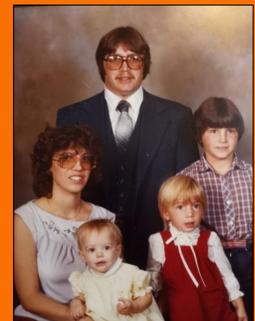
\*Our luge, skeleton, triathlon, and curling await you, just to name a few of the special events. Don't miss being a part of this fantastic morning at Orchard. Any questions, please see Donna Young or call her at 248-408-5636 , and she will help you.

***Start limbering up now, Moms and Dads... you will be glad you did!***

### #3 NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



It's been quite a while since our last pictorial directory and we just can't wait any longer! We'll be smiling pretty on November 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, or 28. Watch for ways to reserve your time for a new photo in the directory celebrating our 75th year as Orchard!



*The Hall Family*

#### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday from 10am-4pm  
Friday from 9am to Noon  
248.626.3620 [www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org)

The *Orchard Harvester* is the newsletter of Orchard United Methodist Church. **The deadline for the October 2022 Harvester is September 20, 2022.**