

November 2019

# ORCHARD HARVESTER

Monthly Newsletter of Orchard United Methodist Church

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



Sitting with your head down for several days gives you a lot of time to think. If you hadn't heard, on Wednesday October 16, I was diagnosed with a detached retina and sent right to the retina specialist for a procedure that would hopefully result in reattachment. Following the procedure, I had to sit with my head down so that the gas bubble inserted into my eye would position itself to reattach the retina. It did, and my retina reattached.

But I still had to keep my head down for a while, and would be out at least a week and unable to drive. I admit I got bored. But, I also felt this feeling of overwhelming gratitude. The staff sprung into action—Linda taught my class, Deanna called and cancelled appointments, Jantz developed the order of worship. I was quickly met with offers of help, meals, and prayers. Pastor Bea offered to teach my Tuesday morning class and my husband, Mike, started writing a sermon for Sunday. Calls and texts and messages, most of which I couldn't respond to, or attempted to voice text, came in. I was overwhelmed by you. By your generosity. I am so grateful for this church, for our shared ministry, for all we do in the community, but right now, I am especially grateful for the love and support you show each other, and to me and my family.

In his sermon on October 20, Mike spoke about how we are created in the image of God. That still amazes me—

that God would choose to create us to be like him. But I know it's true, because I have seen God's face in you. You are proof that we are created in God's image.

- We are created to love extravagantly—you show that love all of the time. From your open doors and hospitality, to the way you care for God's people in and out of these doors—you love with full hearts.
- We are created to be creators—the ideas and classes and programs and activities that you all make happen astound me! You are constantly creating ways to serve God and God's people!
- And we are created to be generous. I have seen your generosity in so many ways. Your generosity has truly expanded our ministry this year, and I am so grateful. Thank you for praying the prayer, "God, how are you calling me to give?"

As we begin a new Generosity Challenge, I put faith in God and in this amazing congregation who has generosity in its very fabric of being. I know God has great things in store for us this year. I hope you'll join me again in praying, "God, how are you calling me to give," as together we take the next step in generosity.

I am so grateful for Orchard United Methodist Church and for the privilege of serving you. Be blessed this Thanksgiving season. Know that you are one of my greatest blessings.

Faithfully, *Pastor Amy*

The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29



Remember to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2

## STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM

Often, when driving down I-75 to Florida, we stumble upon a traffic jam or two. In these situations we often pull out the ATLAS (yes, we travel with one) and start to bushwack our way around the pending jam. At first this is very exciting, seeing new sights and landscapes, zig zagging around the countryside. Alas, eventually we find ourselves back on I-75 heading for our destination.

It must have been an exciting time for Moses and the people he was leading out of Egypt. Without a map, I bet there was some zig zagging around to the promised land. But they made it! Here at Orchard with so many wonderful programs and opportunities it's sometimes hard to see our destination.



**What is the legacy of OUMC? How are we getting there?** A strategy team is meeting to develop a 5-year strategic plan for Orchard. We will examine high level ministry plans and connect it with the mission and core values of our church. This plan will also connect the operational structure for staffing and leadership, program implementation and funding.

**What can you do to assist?** Members of the strategy team will be seeking information on many aspects of OUMC. Be open to our questions. Pray for us and God's guidance in this endeavor. Seek us out if you have questions. Together we will design a "map" that will guide OUMC for years to come.

On behalf of your strategic planning team, Jeannine Hales

**Strategy Team members:** Tim Aben, JoAnn Andrees, Pastor Nick Bonsky, Jeannine Hales, Maddie Jenkins, Steve Kohl, Pastor Amy Mayo-Moyle, and James Rowley.

*inclusivity · hospitality · worship · discipleship · mission · stewardship*

**SMILE!** You still have time to sign up to have your picture taken for our new pictorial directory. It's a great tool to use to know who you are praying for when the Caring Connection comes out or who to look for when wanting to sign up for a class or event. Picture dates are November 21, 22, 23, 25, or 26. Go to [www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org) and click on the link for easy step-by-step signup. You can also sign up on Sunday mornings in the narthex, or call Deanna Kohl at 248.626.3620.

## HANGING OF THE GREENS

*Sunday, November 24 @ 12:15*

It's always a delight to see Orchard all dressed up for the Christmas season! Wreaths and trees and twinkling lights... all of these beautiful decorations uplift us and serve to remind us that something holy and special is being celebrated.

We will be decorating the church after the second worship service on Sunday, November 24. Help is needed between services to bring items up from storage. Decorating help will take place after the second service. If you are willing and able to help out, please see [Betsy Stanis](#) and she will let you know specifically what is needed.

## CHRISTMAS MISSION GIVING

This year the Mission Team is trying a new way of giving presents for Christmas. We will be partnering with the homeless student liaison office of the Farmington Public Schools and the FPS Foundation's Operation Common Ground to sponsor families for Christmas. They will provide us with wish lists from the families. Each wish item will be placed on a tag and you can choose as many tags as you'd like. Shop for the tag, and bring the item in. Dates and some details are still being worked out. We are excited to offer this new opportunity for Christmas giving. Questions? Please see [Karen Porter](#), [Cheryl Morell](#), or [Pastor Amy](#).

## TRUSTEES CORNER

*Update on Church Security*

In early 2019 I wrote about what the trustees were doing to provide church security. Since that time, many staff, ushers, and trustees have attended ALICE training—active shooter preparedness. Trustees have further prepared a plan to keep our congregation safe in the unlikely event of an active shooter at Orchard (.006% likelihood). Joe Lawrence, one of our trustees, will be holding meetings with several key personnel in the church, including office staff, ushers, and our Sunday School staff. He will also be speaking to the congregation at some point on what safety measures and plans are in place to remove the congregation from danger. In the event of an emergency, police have also assured us that they will arrive within 5 minutes of being notified.

It is the responsibility of the trustees to care for our congregation and our church. We are working on providing for the safety of everyone. Of course, God is also on the job and He is amazing!

Barbara DeGrazia, Chair of Trustees

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Evacuate

## PRAY FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CLASS AND THEIR JOURNEY COMPANIONS

It's confirmation year! We have a class of 10 seventh and eighth graders who are taking their journey. Please keep them and their Journey Companions in your prayers. Confirmation Sunday is May 3, 2020.

### Confirmand

Julia Bussone  
Lucas DeMont  
RJ Hicks  
Tobias Huber  
Christian Karres  
Kali Karres  
Ben Mayo-Moyle  
Aidan Sharp  
Vicky Sohn  
Joshua Sonnenberg

### Journey Companion

Jeannine Hales  
Tillman Dozier  
Jim Ragland  
Gale Frazee  
Paul Runyan  
Diane Runyan  
Jim Schuur  
Randy Hall  
Margie Tatem  
Thom Parker

## ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

*Sunday, November 10 at 12:15 pm*

This annual church meeting is a review of the previous year of function and ministry at Orchard, and a look ahead at our goals and plans. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this celebration of ministry. District Superintendent, the Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr., will be preaching at both the 9 and 11 am worship services.



*Sunday, November 17 from 5-8 pm*

Join your church family on Sunday, November 17, 5-8 pm, for a night of blessing 1,000 people. The evening begins with dinner at 5 pm. Our high school youth group will be preparing and serving dinner for the cost of a donation. Please arrive at 5 pm, as it is a one seating event. Your donation will go to support their mission trip to Appalachia this coming June.

After dinner, you will have ten different opportunities to bless others. You might make a gift to be included in a stocking to be given to a boy living at the Methodist Children's Home; you can write a letter to

a vet serving our country; you might assemble a jar of soup or cookie mix for those who live in the Cass Tiny Homes; or maybe you'll assemble an Agape Bag\*. The impact of our projects will bless over 1,000 people.

There is something for all ages, and all of us together can bless others. We had a wonderful time with this event last year and hope to see you this year! Please sign up at the Welcome Desk to give us a rough idea of how many to expect.

### \*Items needed for Agape Bags

McDonald's gift certificates (\$5 or \$10) • Socks (large) • Lip gloss • Toothpaste\*\*  
• Toothbrushes • Snack bags of chips, pretzels, crackers • Hot hand warmers  
• Granola bars • Sandwich crackers with peanut butter • Gloves • Underwear/  
Undershirts • 8 oz. water bottles • Shampoo\*\* • Hand cream/ body lotion\*\*

\*\* (travel size)

# OPPORTUNITIES

Check out these calendar-friendly periodic and special programming opportunities

## BOOKS OVER LUNCH

Wednesday, November 13 at Noon

Books Over Lunch will meet on Wednesday, November 13 in the parlor from 12:00-1:30 to discuss *The Girl in the Glass Box* by James Grippando.

Pack a lunch, bring a beverage, and come join this group of book enthusiasts. New people are always welcome. There is a chair ready and waiting for you. If you haven't had the time to finish, or even start, the book, please come anyway. For additional information please contact [Nancy Howland](mailto:Nancy.Howland@stjohns.org), 404.660.9015.



## TRY OUT A NEW FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY IN NOVEMBER

- 11/4 **1st Mondays**—An opportunity for women to have some meaningful Bible discussions in a relaxed setting. Craft Brew City is located at Orchard Lake and 12 Mile Roads. Begins at 8 pm.
- 11/8 **Pickleball**—meets in the MAC at 7 pm.
- 11/14 **Pub Theology**—An opportunity for men to have some meaningful Bible discussions in a relaxed setting. Craft Brew City is located at Orchard Lake and 12 Mile Roads. (Not meeting on 11/28.) Begins at 8 pm.
- 11/15 **Euchre**—A friendly game or two of euchre takes place on the second Fridays of the month. Rooms 200-202 at 7 pm.
- 11/18 **Current Events in the Café**—Bring a Bible, a news article of a current event, and grab a coffee in the café. Meets at 7 pm.

## DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### FUNTASTIKS

Join our active seniors group, Funtastiks, at their fantastic Funtastik Christmas luncheon. It's become tradition to head to the American Harvest Restaurant, part of the Schoolcraft College culinary program, to enjoy a delicious lunch together to celebrate the Christmas season. The lunch is scheduled for Thursday, December 12 at noon. It's not too soon to get those reservations in!

Find the sign up sheet in the church office. Contact Linda Hall at 248.626.3620, ext. 103, for more information.



### LAF (LIFE AFTER FIFTY)

LAF, our social Life After Fifty group, has two December events on the calendar.

**Christmas Celebration Dinner**—On Tuesday December 3 at 6 pm, the LAF group will be at the Uptown Grille found on Maple just west of Haggerty. There will be a buffet dinner at a cost of about \$30 per person (beverages are separate). RSVP due by November 27.

**Christmas Production**—There's room for at least 25 at the Christmas production at Brightmoor Church on Thursday, December 12 at 8 pm. Brightmoor Church is located on 13 Mile Road west of M-5. Please RSVP to Donna Young by November 12 to ensure getting enough tickets for all. It's a first come, first served seating basis, so plan on gathering there by no later than 6:30 pm in the hopes of us all getting good seats together.

For more information, or to make your reservation for either or both of these great LAF events, please contact [Donna Young](mailto:Donna.Young@stjohns.org) as soon as you can!

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TOGETHER

This season of Wednesday Nights Together is coming to a close, with two more dinners to be in fellowship with one another. Make sure you stop by the Welcome Desk to sign up for dinner!

- **November 6**—We'll be having an "Old World" dinner of fried cabbage and Polish sausage. This meal is gluten free.
- **November 13**—Join us for a Thanksgiving Dinner complete with turkey, stuffing, and mashed potatoes. The gluten free option is ratatouille.



## Tis' the Season...To Plan Ahead

### LOOKING AHEAD TO EARLY DECEMBER OPPORTUNITIES...

Many of our Orchard opportunities in December happen at the beginning of the month. Here are some details so you can start your holiday planning now! Check out the back page for more December events and activities.

#### Friday, December 6

**Cookie & Ornament Exchange** Join in on both exchanges, opt for one, or just enjoy yuletide fellowship and light brunch on December 6 at 10 am in the church parlor. Cookie exchangers are to bring a "batch" of their favorite cookies and an additional container for the exchanging fun. No individual packaging of cookies necessary. Ornaments for exchanging should be brought wrapped. Childcare will be provided upon request. For more information, contact Michelle Bianco at 248.624.6592. *The Heart Sisters Bible Study will not take place on this Friday; all are invited to the Cookie & Ornament Exchange!*

#### Saturday, December 7

**Ho! Ho! Ho! Breakfast with Santa** What could be better than an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast, followed by a personal visit with Santa? Have your picture taken with Santa\*, and take home a special keepsake! *\*Pictures will be emailed for each family to print at home.*

**Santa's Workshop** After sharing wishes with Santa, the children can head down the hall to do a little Christmas shopping at the Santa Workshop! (See page 7 for ways you can donate items for the workshop.)

This is the PERFECT event to invite friends, neighbors, loved ones, or someone you know who has children to come to and enjoy Orchard's hospitality!

#### Monday, December 9

**Advent by Candlelight** Advent by Candlelight is a night of worship and fellowship for women and their guests. The evening begins in the narthex with wassail and fellowship, and then moves into the sanctuary for a special time of worship. Immediately following the brief service, women will move down to the MAC for tea and dessert, where they will find the room beautifully transformed with soft candlelight and festively adorned host tables. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends from outside the church! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the narthex to make your reservation or to sign up to host a table.

### GIFT CARD SALES SUPPORT YOUTH MISSION TRIP

*Thinking About Holiday Shopping Yet?*



Support the youth mission trip by shopping the way you always do! There are a few ways to do this: (1) Buy a gift card now to use at stores where you normally do your Christmas shopping. (2) Buy a gift card to a restaurant to help recuperate from your Christmas shopping. (3) Buy the gift cards you use for presents from the hundreds of gift cards available to stores, services, and restaurants. Every gift card you buy automatically pays a percentage to the youth group without you having to pay a dime extra. Shop and dine as you always do and the youth group retains 2-15% of the value of every card you purchase. Great for holiday shopping, great for all year round! Please contact [Pastor Nick](#) for more information.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Did you know you can get the latest Children's Ministry News every Sunday? Sign up for the Children's Weekly Update by going to <http://bit.ly/2z314gI> and signing up at MailChimp. Or, let Colleen Aben ([colleenaben@orchardumc.org](mailto:colleenaben@orchardumc.org)), Children's Ministry Director, know that you'd like to receive the e-newsletter.

## FEEDING OF THE 5000

Found in Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:31-44; Luke 9:12-17; and John

On October 13, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Sunday School class discussed the story of Jesus using the lunch of a young boy, about their age, to create a miracle in feeding more than five thousand people—not counting the women and children. These people had spent all day listening to Jesus teach and had grown hungry. So Jesus used an ordinary child and his lunch to create a miracle. We learned that God uses ordinary people even today to help others and perform small miracles, like helping the homeless during SOS week.

To help the Sunday School children see what 5000 of something might look like, aluminum tabs collected in

the Children's Education office over these past 2 years, were used. In the top two pictures on the left, you see the children with these 5000 pop tabs before donating them to the Ronald McDonald House at Children's Hospital in Detroit (see information below for information on this ministry opportunity). The class weighed the 5000 tabs plus the additional tabs left to figure out approximately 22,000 tabs (weighing 32 pounds) will be donated to the Ronald McDonald House to be recycled for money. Thanks Orchard people for your donations; thanks Sue Scott for taking these tabs to the Ronald McDonald House for donation; and thanks Carole Parker for your always interactive learning lessons!



## SUNDAY HAPPENINGS



## POP TAB PROGRAM FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

**What is a pop tab?** Pop tabs are the little aluminum tabs from all kinds of cans: soda, some pet food, canned fruits, vegetables and more. **How do pop tabs help the Ronald McDonald House?** Once the pop tabs are collected, they are taken to be recycled in exchange for dollars, which support the children and families served at the Houses. Bring your pop tabs into the Children's Education office—there's a plastic container by the door to deposit them in. Let's see if we can get another 32 pounds (or more!) of tabs to help support this worthy cause.

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

We've surpassed our 50th year of offering Breakfast with Santa to the community and some of the elves have been helping almost since the time we began. This year's Breakfast with Santa is with being held on Saturday, December 7, but the elves are busy before and after the event to make things are special for the holiday season. If you're able to help with decorating, setting up, and tearing down for Breakfast with Santa, please contact [Betsy Stanis](#), Chief Elf, at 248.661.5654.

## SANTA'S WORKSHOP

During Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 7, Santa's Workshop will be open for kids to do their own Christmas shopping. This is such a fun time for the kids, as they put a lot of thought into their purchases for family and friends. Please consider helping by donating new or gently used items—like toys, purses, games, books, toys, etc. There will also be a wrapping station available with elves helping. If you don't have items to donate, please consider donating a roll of gift wrap, gift bags or gift tags! Items will be collected in [Kristen Tesauro's](#) office, right next to the Nursery in the Children's Education hallway.



# IN THE LIFE OF ORCHARD



Men's Retreat 2019 in Monroe



Pumpkin Patch 2019



First Mondays—a new women's ministry



Sunday morning snapshots



*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...

**Rowena Adamowski**  
**Kristen Ahern** and her partner,  
**Michael**  
**Cathy Albery**  
**Jantz Black and family**  
**Bob Busser**  
**Ruth Cagle**  
 Valerie Costello's friend, **Diane**  
**Don DeGrazia**  
**Kerry Fazio**  
 Bob Jewell's former co-worker,  
**Rose Calleja**  
**Erina Kassouf**  
 Harmons' son, **Matt Harmon**  
 Tracey Huber's friend, **Diana**  
 Lynn Lehmann's brother, **Don Little**  
**Bill and Maryalyce Lupher**  
**Hilary Mahon's grandson**  
**Debbie Mayer**  
**Pastor Amy Mayo-Moyle**  
 Carol Money's sister, **Laura Broschay**  
 Todd Morell's boss, **Amy Kelley**  
**Debbie Newberry**  
 Nancy Passfield's grandson,  
**Taylor Janssen**

**Regina**  
**Lynn Rice**  
**The Smith family**  
**Brian Snider and family**  
 Sohns' friend, **Ed Cwirka**  
**Brenda Schultz**  
**Steve and Patty**  
 DyAnn St. Clair's parents,  
**Jean and Maury Schlasner**  
 Margie Tatem's nephew,  
**Ricky Velasquez**  
**Mary Ann Trenkle**  
 Mari Anne Trenkle's friend, **Robert L.**  
**Ellen Voss**  
 Voss's granddaughter, **Shelby**  
 Mari Anne Wilcox's grandmother,  
**Sylvia Judd and her Aunt Marty**  
 Donna Young's mother, **Dorothy Folkes**

## WE REMEMBER...

Bill Lupher's brother, **Edward** (October 3)  
 Jantz Black's grandfather,  
**Jimmie Leon Black** (October 15)  
**Gary Snider** (October 17)

## I Thank Thee

- Jane Crewdson (1860)

O Thou whose bounty fills my cup,  
 with every blessing meet!  
 I give Thee thanks for every drop—  
 the bitter and the sweet.

I praise Thee for the desert road,  
 and for the riverside;  
 for all Thy goodness hath bestowed,  
 and all Thy grace denied.

I thank Thee for both smile and frown,  
 and for the gain and loss;  
 I praise Thee for the future crown  
 and for the present cross.

I thank Thee for both wings of love  
 which stirred my worldly nest;  
 And for the stormy clouds which drove  
 me, trembling, to Thy breast.

I bless Thee for the glad increase,  
 and for the waning joy;  
 and for this strange, this settled peace  
 which nothing can destroy.





The *Orchard Harvester* is the newsletter of Orchard United Methodist Church.  
**December 2019/January 2020 Harvester deadline is November 14, 2019.**

E-mail articles may be directed to [Linda](#) Hall, Editor,  
 or [Deanna](#) Kohl, Church Secretary.

Pastors: Rev. Amy Mayo-Moyle and Rev. Nicholas Bonsky  
 Worship Services at 9:00 & 11:00 am

Phone 248.626.3620 Web Site: [www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org)

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

*Highlights of some of the events taking place in November and December. Find a full list of events on the calendar insert, in upcoming publications, on our online calendar, and on our website—[www.orchardumc.org](http://www.orchardumc.org). Check it out!*

- 11/10 Church Conference after second service
- 11/17 Night of 1000 Blessings with Dinner
- 11/24 Hanging of the Greens
- 11/28-29 Church Office Closed
- 12/3 LAF Christmas Dinner
- 12/6 Christmas Brunch & Ornament Exchange
- 12/7 Breakfast with Santa and Santa's Workshop
- 12/9 Advent by Candlelight
- 12/12 Funtastiks Christmas Lunch @ Schoolcraft  
LAF to Brightmoor Christmas Production
- 12/14 Pastor Amy's Open House
- 12/15 Christmas Cantata
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Services at 5, 8, and 10 pm
- 12/25 Christmas Day—Church Office Closed  
(through 1/1/20)

### ALL SAINTS' DAY—JANUARY 5, 2020

We will be celebrating All Saints' Day on January 5, 2020, the first Sunday of the new year. This is a change, as we've traditionally celebrated it on the first Sunday of November. A celebration on the first Sunday of January will enable us to celebrate the lives of all who have passed in the year before and begin our new year remembering their legacy.

It feels fitting to begin the new year giving thanks for those who've lit the way for us and planted seeds of faith that continue to bloom because of their love. In December, families of our members who've passed since November of 2018 will receive a letter and invitation to the service. If you've lost a family member, you can send their photo along with their relationship to you and date of death, to [Linda Hall](#), or drop off that information in the church office by January 2, 2020.

**NOTE: The next edition of the *Harvester* will include information for December 2019 AND January 2020. Please plan ahead for any submission due by November 14, 2019.**

