

**A Boydseye View**

As one of your pastors, I live with an ongoing tension around the nature and future of Christian congregations. I care very deeply about working with you all to build a sustainable congregation in a climate where churches are closing their doors all the time. The UCC conference in Wisconsin is no different than other church traditions. We are losing member and churches every year.

In that regard, I am proud that ORUCC is growing in both numbers and vibrancy. There are many reasons for this, although I suspect some of them are beyond our control and maybe beyond our awareness. By this I mean we all work hard to build strong relationships, good programs, and lively worship. By themselves, however, these efforts are not enough. It's my deep belief that a strong sense of trust and humility and openness to the Spirit moving in our midst is just as important.

Which leads to the other side of tension for me. HOW we come together, HOW our life as a congregation is shaped and molded matters too.

My brother Drick, professor at Easter College in Philadelphia, recently turned me on to a book called *In the Company of the Poor: Conversations with Dr. Paul Farmer and Fr. Gustavo Gutierrez*. Farmer has worked for years in Haiti, and Gutierrez is a long time liberation theologian and priest from Lima, Peru. Both of these men have spent a lifetime seeking to serve the poor. Some of their writing resonates with me regarding not just our work with the Southwest Partnership in our neighborhood, but quite frankly our life with each other as well.

Gutiérrez writes, *"The deepest human, and by consequence, Christian, issue is the suffering of the innocent. When we are faced with this question daily... we need to become aware of our weaknesses and of the difficulties in sincerely responding to these questions... Even if we cannot explain situations of suffering, we can be close to the people suffering."*

Suffering abounds – within us and among us and around us. What makes a vibrant church today is the willingness to engage with such suffering authentically. As difficult as it is, I do think our willingness to acknowledge reality is part of what will keep us growing and open to the Spirit's movement in our midst.

Gutiérrez suggests that a central theme in an authentic faith is liberation, namely, *"liberation from the refusal to love. We are very creative in different manners of sinning— there are many ways to refuse to love. The...point ... is to accompany, to be close, and to mitigate the suffering of individuals. This is an expression of love, with the intention being to show that you are relevant for me."*

What makes a congregation strong over the decades is the same thing that makes our work in this neighborhood possible – the willingness to accompany others. It is not our task to change them, judge them, or demand perfection or a mistake free life. This quality makes for a strong youth ministry, it is at the core of a vibrant Open and Affirming ministry, it makes for meaningful and rich mission trips, and it is at the core of our prayer life with each other.

I give thanks for a congregation that seeks daily to keep learning how to love, to accompany, to listen, and in so doing, to witness the power of the Spirit in our midst.



**Ongoing Groups**

**Women's Book Group:** Our next gathering will be on Thursday, October 9, 7:00-9:00 pm, hosted by Jan Christian, 9018 Aspen Grove Lane. We will discuss the book *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* written by Malala Yousafzai with British journalist Christina Lamb. This provocative, timely account offers insight into the history, culture and contemporary life in Pakistan's Swat Valley. Now seventeen years old and completing secondary school in Birmingham, England, where she and her family live, Malala has become a compelling voice of protest against the social restrictions she faced as a girl. How does one gain the courage to develop her or his own voice within any society and time? Ginny Moore Kruse will facilitate our discussion. Women who enjoy talking with others about the books they've read are invited to participate. Do you plan to attend the October discussion? If so, please contact Jan at [jlchrist@wisc.edu](mailto:jlchrist@wisc.edu) or 827-0500.

**OVER 55-OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>:** Carren Corcoran and her friend Slim will be our guests at the next Over 55 meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Carren is a member of the Madison Police Department K-9 unit and Slim is her partner. They will present a most fascinating program about their jobs with the police department. Our meal will be catered again by Loretta McClure and Gary LaFleur at a cost of \$6.00 per person. Steve and Marcia Sheets are in charge of this meeting. They would like four people to help with the clean up. To volunteer, call them at 845-5667. We will look forward to seeing you, even if you have never come to Over 55 before. We will gather the usual time of 11:30.



*Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ*  
**COMMUNION**

OCTOBER, 2014 ISSUE 1

***"Spiritually Alive, Joyfully Inclusive, Committed to Justice."***

**Sunday Morning**

**October 5**

9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship, Winton Boyd preaching  
Orchard Ridge Choir

**October 12**

9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship, Rich Finger preaching  
Handbell Choir

**October 19**

9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship, Winton Boyd preaching  
Orchard Ridge Choir

**October 26**

9 am Sunday School  
10 am Worship, Tammy Martens preaching  
TRU Gumption

**Newsletters:**

**October 15 and**

**November 5**

**Articles due:**

Information to be included in the newsletter is due the Monday before the above dates by 9:00 a.m. Email items to [office@orucc.org](mailto:office@orucc.org), or drop them off at the office.

**Church Emails**

Debbie Bauerkemper  
[office@orucc.org](mailto:office@orucc.org)  
Tammy Martens  
[tmartens@orucc.org](mailto:tmartens@orucc.org)  
Ken Pennings  
[ken@orucc.org](mailto:ken@orucc.org)  
Winton Boyd  
[winton@orucc.org](mailto:winton@orucc.org)

**OUR FAITH SHARE IT  
LIVE IT**  
ORUCC 2015 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

**Stewardship Campaign**

The month of October ushers in the 2015 Stewardship Campaign. The theme of the 2015 Stewardship Campaign is Gratitude. As we enter this period, we ask you to reflect on the following words:

*"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion into clarity. Gratitude can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow."*

(Melody Beattie)

What brings gratitude to your life?  
How has being grateful shaped your path in life or had an impact or how you faced a difficult situation?  
What makes you most grateful in being a part of this faith community?

Stewardship Sunday is November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Tammy Martens will preach on Gratitude October 26<sup>th</sup> and Winton Boyd will preach on this theme on November 9<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, you will receive letters with details of the Campaign and opportunities to provide your thoughts about the role of gratitude in your life. Thank you!



**Jazz For the Jails Benefit Concert for the Dane County Jail Ministry:** Join Chance Allies as they *jazz it up* in support of the Dane County Jail Ministry. Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Concert starts at 7:30, at Orchard Ridge UCC. Suggested donation is \$20 at the door. More information is available at [www.madisonjailministry.org](http://www.madisonjailministry.org).



## SUNDAYS

### Compassion Offering

Each month our Sunday cash offerings (change and bills) are designated to a worthy mission cause. Each month a different ministry is highlighted. This is a voluntary contribution. For credit on your church statement, on your check write the ministry in the memo line. While this will not count toward your annual pledge, we will acknowledge the contribution on your statement.

### Compassion Offering for October – CROP

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by religious groups, businesses, schools and others to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. While we will not have people doing the actual walk, we will be supporting their efforts with this month's Compassion Offering.

### Joy

- For all the Interfaith Hospitality Network volunteers who gave of their time and energy to make homeless families feel at home in our church building last week.

### Concern

- For Peggy Anderson's daughter, Nancy Krueger and her family. Nancy lost her husband, Mike Carmical, to colon cancer.
- For Aaron Hitt, Lauren Amburn's brother, who is going through some deep personal struggles.
- For Carol VanKeuren at St. Mary's Care Center
- For Margaret McClung at Agrace Hospice.

**Wider Church Family:** It is important to pray for one another in times of special need or joy, and also in the "regular" times. We invite you to pray for these families. We invite you to make praying for one another a regular feature of your own prayer life.

- David & Mary Neuhaus
- Vicki & Marv Nonn
- Arpad & Suzanne Olajos & Family

## New Events and Opportunities

### Women's Bible Study Group – Come Give it a try!

Women's Bible Study meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the church. We are an informal group, taking turns reading the Bible passages, freely contributing to the discussion, questioning and seeking understanding. We especially welcome new members! Might you wish to remain after the Bible Study to assemble the church newsletter for mailing? To learn more about the history of the group and current topics of study, contact Dorothy Peterson at [bydor31@gmail.com](mailto:bydor31@gmail.com).

**Fall Worship and Work Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>:** All who are able are invited to help 'put the gardens to bed' as we join hands to work around the property and building after worship. The Ministry of Congregational Life will provide a soup and sandwich lunch free of charge. Sign ups will be available later in the month.

**Welcome Brunch and New Member Series:** If you are brand new, or fairly new to ORUCC, you are invited to a Welcome Brunch at the church on Sunday, October 12, 8:45-9:50 a.m. Come hungry and anticipate meeting others who are new to the church. Children can eat with us, then go to their Sunday School classes at 9 am. RSVP to Ken Pennings at [ken@orucc.org](mailto:ken@orucc.org).

### You may also be interested in attending the New Member Series:

- Sunday, Oct. 19, 9:00-9:50 a.m. -- Informational Class at the church
- Sunday, Oct. 26, 9:00-9:50 a.m. -- Informational Class at the church
- Sunday, Nov. 2, 4:30-6:30 p.m. -- Appetizer Social in a home

RSVP to the church office at [office@orucc.org](mailto:office@orucc.org), or 271-7212. Please attend all sessions, if possible, giving priority to the Informational Classes where you'll learn more about Orchard Ridge and the United Church of Christ (UCC). We'll discuss our history as a local church, ministries within the congregation and the wider community, and some of the church's views on important issues of faith. In preparation for this series, you may wish to browse ORUCC's website: [www.orucc.org](http://www.orucc.org).

### Educational Trip being considered to explore

#### Immigration issues in Tuscon, AZ and Mexico:

An informational meeting will be held after worship (11:15) on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> to explore interest in a 5 day trip in February to both Tucson, AZ and Mexican border cities through an organization called Borderlinks. The purpose of the trip would be to learn first hand some of the issues and people involved in immigration and border issues – from Mexican workers to US Border Patrol members, non profit and religious leaders, business people, etc. The trip has the potential to include a homestay in Mexico as well. For more information, contact Winton Boyd at [winton@orucc.org](mailto:winton@orucc.org).

## Misc. Things that are Important to Know

### Information Please, Regarding Pictorial Directories:

Last spring, we distributed new pictorial directories, one per family. We are now completely out of them, and are considering ordering more. To help in our decision, might you let us know 1) if you never received a directory, and would like one, or 2) if you ended up with more than one directory and would be willing to return extra directories to the church office. Please contact Office Manager Debbie Bauerkemper at [office@orucc.org](mailto:office@orucc.org).

## Misc. Things that are Important to Know continued



**Conference Minister Candidate Announced!** The Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Conference is excited to announce its candidate for our next Conference Minister.

The Search Committee has completed its year-long effort and recommended a candidate to the Board of Directors, who affirmed this recommendation of **The Reverend Franz S. Rigert**. He is a most faithful, gifted and creative pastor who has served as pastor of Pilgrim UCC in Grafton since 1995. Franz holds a Master of Divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. For more information go to the Conference web site at [www.wcucc.org](http://www.wcucc.org). All are invited to meet Rev. Rigert at an open house being held at Salem UCC in Verona on Saturday, October 4 from 11-12. No RSVP needed.

**Please make following changes in the church directory:** Add email for Donna Lillethun: [dlillethun@charter.net](mailto:dlillethun@charter.net)  
Change address and email for Gary DeClute to: 560 Farwell Dr., Oregon WI 53575, [gdeclute@gmail.com](mailto:gdeclute@gmail.com)  
Change address for Tim & Melissa Ruder to: 467 Basswood Ave., Verona 53593

**Change of Address OR Temporarily out of town:** Please let the office know if you have moved or will be gone for a period of time and have stopped mail service or want mail sent to a different address. Mailed newsletters and other correspondence have been returned. Thank you.

**Do you receive catalogues you don't want?** Get rid of them by going online to [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org) and "unregistering" for those you do not want to receive. As your list grows, you will see the environmental benefits grow. Your account will show the number of trees saved, pounds of greenhouse gas and solid waste saved, and gallons of water saved--by you individually and by all those using the site. (Brought to you by ORUCC's Care of Creation.)

**Please Keep Pledges Current:** Last year Orchard Ridge members generously pledged over \$370,000 to keep the ministries of our church operating. This means as of September 21, we should have received approximately \$277,000 from those pledges. Unfortunately, we have only received \$229,000. This means that we are \$48,000 behind in pledge receipts. If you have gotten behind in your pledge to ORUCC, please try to make up the difference in the next weeks. Thanks. John Day-Treasurer

**Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith:** We are a few weeks into this exciting series and finding it engaging and very helpful. We're using the DVD series "Painting the Stars" and offering several arenas for participation:

Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. (Java and Jesus)

We'll continue with the DVD and other related material through November 16th.

We meet in the Lemuel Haynes Music room each Sunday.

Sundays at 10:00 (Worship)

October 5: Winton preaches on "The Bible Through New Eyes"

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We are offering the full DVD and other small and large group exercises. This is led by members of our Adult Faith Formation Ministry. This will continue through October 30th.

Generally, the material on Thursday will be a fuller version of that which is introduced on Sundays.

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The dates are:

Leaving Madison, WI at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 19, arriving in Roanoke on June 20

Leaving Roanoke, VA on Thursday evening, 9:30 p.m., arriving back in Madison, Friday, June 26.

We will be having an informational meeting very soon! All High School youth (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) and those youth who will be going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2015 are invited to participate.

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Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith



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*Wendy*

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## Ongoing Groups continued

**ORUCC Men's Group:** The Orchard Ridge UCC men's group meets in the Oscar Romero Gathering Room on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:15 pm. If you are interested in joining the group or have questions, please contact Dave Myers at 274-0381 or [547\\_5698@msn.com](mailto:547_5698@msn.com).

**Women's Bible Study at Church September through April:** Please join us at the church at 1:00 p.m. the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. If you would like to join us or have questions call Mary Lou Peterson at 238-2380.

**Women's Breakfast Group:** We meet the first Friday of every month at 8:30 a.m. at Copper Top Restaurant off Whitney Way. The informal group is open to all women who enjoy conversation

**Weekly Meditation Group:** We meet at the church on Thursday mornings, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., for a shared time of silent meditation and reflections on our spiritual journeys. Contact Helene Nelson (259-2546 or [helenemarga-ret@gmail.com](mailto:helenemarga-ret@gmail.com)) or Sara Roberts (273-1114 or [sarie914@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sarie914@sbcglobal.net)) for more information.

**Knitting & Crafts Group:** The group will meet on the first Monday of the month at 1:30 pm at the church. All are welcome to bring some handwork and join us! If you have questions, please call Sandra Dyar at 271-2409.

## You are invited to attend and support

# Voices for Peace and Justice

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AND 8, 2014  
THE PYLE CENTER  
702 LANGDON ST., MADISON, WI 53706



A major conference providing an opportunity for you to **hear from** and **talk with** Christian, Muslim, Jewish, and secular leaders, scholars, and activists about the situation in Palestine/Israel, and what it requires from us.

This conference will examine the situation on the ground in Palestine/Israel including the U.S. role, and explore ways that we can effectively work for a just peace. Distinguished plenary speakers and workshop leaders will address the conflict from theological, political, economic and historical perspectives and invite us to be part of creative, non-violent responses. The conference is sponsored by Friends of Sabeel-North America (FOSNA) and a local organizing committee including Bright Stars of Bethlehem, Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison-Rafah Sister City Project, Madison Friends' Meeting, Mary House Catholic Worker, Memorial UCC Fitchburg, Pilgrims of Ibillin, Playgrounds for Palestine-Madison, Students for Justice in Palestine-UW Madison, The Crossing, and Wisdom's Well.

Registration at noon on Friday through 5:00 Saturday. There will be plenaries and workshops throughout the day. Friday evening there will be a Palestinian dinner and cultural program of poetry and Debke folk dancing. The cost of this event is \$85 (full) or \$50 (for one day). For more information, contact Bonnie Van Overbeke ([bonnievano@aol.com](mailto:bonnievano@aol.com)) or go to the Conference website at <https://fosnamadisonconference2014.wordpress.com>

**Orchard Ridge United  
Church of Christ**

1501 Gilbert Road  
Madison, WI 53711  
www.orucc.org  
office@orucc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Are you still interested in receiving our newsletter? If not, please mail the back (which includes your name and address), call the church office at (608) 271-7212, or contact office@orucc.org requesting us to remove you from our mailing list.

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN AND AFFIRMING OF ALL PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF AGE, RACE, CULTURE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER EXPRESSION OR IDENTITY, AND ECONOMIC STATUS.  
OUR CHURCH IS A SAFE SANCTUARY FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS		
<b>October</b>		
Saturday 4	6:45 p.m.	Jazz For the Jails Benefit Concert
Sunday 5	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday 6	1:30 p.m.	Knitting Group
	6:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
Tuesday 7	7:30 p.m.	Tuesday Night Adult Bible Study
Wednesday 8	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
Thursday 9	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
	7:00 p.m.	Painting the Stars DVD Session
Sunday 12	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal
Monday 13	7:15 p.m.	ORUCC Men's Group
Tuesday 14	11:45 a.m.	OVER 55
	7:00 p.m.	Care of Creation Meeting
Wednesday 15	1:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study at church
	5:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
	7:00 p.m.	Christian Witness & Service Mtg
Thursday 16	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
	7:00 p.m.	Painting the Stars DVD Session
Friday 17	7:30 p.m.	Movie Group at the Church
Saturday 18	6:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk

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Change address for Tim & Melissa Ruder to: 467 Basswood Ave., Verona 53593

**Change of Address OR Temporarily out of town:** Please let the office know if you have moved or will be gone for a period of time and have stopped mail service or want mail sent to a different address. Mailed newsletters and other correspondence have been returned. Thank you.

**Do you receive catalogues you don't want?** Get rid of them by going online to [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org) and "unregistering" for those you do not want to receive. As your list grows, you will see the environmental benefits grow. Your account will show the number of trees saved, pounds of greenhouse gas and solid waste saved, and gallons of water saved---by you individually and by all those using the site. (Brought to you by ORUCC's Care of Creation.)

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You can get a little flavor of this organization by going to the following website: <http://reachyouthmissions.com/>

**Ushers—Need 3 each Sunday unless specified**

- Oct 5** Carolyn Carlson, Dick & Lois Rossmiller
- Oct 12** Jim & Bernie Treichel, Jon Blanchard
- Oct 19** Jim & Bernie Treichel, Jarrett Gersten
- Oct 26** Joyce Binder, Jerry & Beth Anderson
- Nov 2** Jerry Nelson, Peter Fabian, Marilyn Arnold
- Nov 9** Bob & Carol Prugh, Chuck Kaspar
- Nov 16** Carolyn Carlson, **NEED 2 VOLUNTEERS**

**Welcomers**

- Oct 5** Joyce Pohl, Helen Horn, Heather Stevens
- Oct 12** Bob & Carol Prugh, Jan Christian
- Oct 19** John & Barb Olsen, Jack Schairer
- Oct 26** Beth & Jerry Anderson, Gretchen Forbes
- Nov 2** John & Barb Olsen, Glenn Schaeffer
- Nov 9** Ruthanne Landsness, **NEED 1 VOLUNTEER**
- Nov 16** Carol & Bob Prugh, Marilyn Arnold

**Sound                      Coffee**

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Oct 5</b> Paul Hedges      | Tom & Char Klossner        |
| <b>Oct 12</b> John Gilbert    | Annette & Brian Porter     |
| <b>Oct 19</b> Paul Hedges     | Chuck Kaspar & Jane Glaze  |
| <b>Oct 26</b> Jarrett Gersten | Chris Thomas & Judy Winkel |
| <b>Nov 2</b> Chuck Kaspar     | Jennifer & Dana Dobbins    |
| <b>Nov 9</b> Ken Psych        | Tom & Char Klossner        |
| <b>Nov 16</b> John Gilbert    | Rich Hoard & Dan Stevens   |

**Financial Secretary**

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|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Oct 5</b> Peter  | <b>Oct 12</b> <b>NEED VOL</b> | <b>Oct 19</b> Gene  |
| <b>Oct 26</b> Linda | <b>Nov 2</b> Hope             | <b>Nov 9</b> Peter  |
| <b>Nov 16</b> Meg   | <b>Nov 23</b> Gene            | <b>Nov 30</b> Linda |