

Join us for ORUCC's 30-year tradition---

Fair Trade Holiday Sale
 Sunday, November 23
 9 AM - 2 PM

There will be many handcrafted items from developing regions of the world, plus the opportunity to support organizations that promote fair trade and fight poverty. Fair trade indicates that the people who made the items were paid equitably for their products. All proceeds go to participating groups; ORUCC is pleased to contribute space and volunteers for this event.

*Clothing accessories * Food mixes * Home dec items
 Jewelry * Toys * Note cards * Cocoa and chocolate
 Olive oil * Baskets and totes * Holiday décor * More!*



Will you help? A fantastic team has done the advance work, but we'll need extra hands the weekend of the sale.

- *The day before the sale* we need quite a few people to help unpack goods from our largest vendor (you'll get a sneak preview of the items!)
 - *The day of the sale* we need people to fill in when our vendors need breaks and to help pack up at the end.
- Questions? Ask Marilyn Arnold at 274-9139.

Please sign up on the schedules posted in The Crossroads. It's fun, and it's for a great cause.

Poinsettia Orders for Christmas

Name _____ Please collect your plant after late worship on December 24th.

In Honor _____

In Memory _____ I will pick up my plant My plant can be given away

No. of plants _____ at \$15 each Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, December 7



Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ COMMUNION

**“Spiritually
 Alive,
 Joyfully
 Inclusive,
 Committed
 to Justice.”**

Sunday Morning

November 9

9 am Sunday School
 10 am Worship, Dr. Naim Ateek preaching
 Handbell Choir

November 16

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

November 23

9 am Sunday School
 10 am Worship, Winton Boyd preaching
 TRU Function

November 30

9 am Sunday School
 10 am Worship, Winton Boyd preaching
 Women's Trio

Newsletters:

November 19 and
 December 3 and 17

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, or drop them off at the office.

Church Emails

Debbie Bauerkemper
 office@orucc.org
 Tammy Martens
 tmartens@orucc.org
 Ken Pennings
 ken@orucc.org
 Winton Boyd
 winton@orucc.org



The 2015 Stewardship Campaign is in full swing. You should have received a letter with a pledge card and jigsaw puzzle piece of the campaign logo in the mail. Please send or bring the pledge card to church within the next two weeks. We will bless all pledges on Stewardship Sunday, November 16th. And don't forget to send or bring your piece of the logo jigsaw puzzle to church. Find the spot for your unique piece of the puzzle in the crossroads. If you have not received a pledge card, please contact the office, and thank you to those of you who have already returned your pledge card. To date we have received 48 pledges totaling \$104,995.

Sunday, November 9th

“The Prerequisites For Peace in Israel/Palestine”

Guest Preacher - The Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek

The Rev. Dr. Naim Stifan Ateek is a Palestinian priest in the Anglican Church and founder of the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center in Jerusalem. He has been an active leader in the shaping of the Palestinian liberation theology.

He will also host a question and answer session on the Middle East at 9 a.m.

COTTON PATCH GOSPELS this Saturday at 7 p.m.

Orchard Ridge UCC will be hosting a one-man musical called the “Cotton Patch Gospels” with Madison Mennonite Church at 7:00 p.m. It draws from the life of an amazing and groundbreaking person of faith named Clarence Jordan. In a time of racial and economic disparities, revisiting his story offers us both perspective and context in the long haul effort people of faith have given to these issues.

His was a theology of the working class, of the farm worker, the most neglected laborer in the United States, from the peasant class (often African American). Koinonia Farms, the agrarian, bi-racial Christian community he founded near Americus, Georgia, was practicing “small is beautiful” long before it was popular.

Jordan saw that finish based communities must have their birth in the rebirth of the Spirit. Suggested donation will be collected at the door.

Thanksgiving Vouchers



ORUCC will join Madison Mennonite in supporting neighbor families in need with vouchers for Thanksgiving food from HyVee. They will be \$40 a piece and we are hoping to contribute 60-65 vouchers. You may purchase one in the Friendship Hall over the next three Sundays, or send a check to the church no later than November 23.



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.

November Compassion Offering is The Millennium Soccer Club (MSC)

The Millennium Soccer Club (MSC), which was founded in 2001 to provide low cost, accessible soccer programs for youth living in low income, ethnically diverse neighborhoods in Madison. MSC is a unique not-for-profit neighborhood-based program. Its quiet success is due in part to an effective collaborative partnership with schools, local neighborhood families, area civic groups and the MAYSA (Madison Area Youth Soccer Association) community. Area High School soccer players from West, Edgewood, Verona, Middleton and Memorial are recruited as coaches. This provides eager coaches for younger kids, and a meaningful opportunity for community service for HS volunteers.

In the current 2014 Fall season, MSC has registered over 325 elementary-age boys and girls at four neighborhood sites: Lincoln, Leopold, and Heugel Schools and Marlborough Park in the Allied Drive community. Saturday morning programs for students, grades 1-5 run in both the fall and spring, while two summer soccer camps and a venue for an indoor winter league are provided. MSC provides key oversight of each program with experienced site managers, soccer coordinators, and all the necessary soccer field equipment and uniforms for each of the young players.

Dan Wood and Mike Bruce from our Southwest Partnership are active members of the Millennium Soccer Club, and Maya Kaspar and Celeste Kaspar have both participated as high school coaches. MSC offers a cooperative, intergenerational, relational, FUN way to celebrate and build community. Check them out at www.millenniumsoccerclub.org!

Prayers of Joy

For long-time ORUCC member Margaret McClung who passed away last Monday night at the age of 93. A simple scattering of her ashes will take place next Sunday after worship.

For the report that Collin Olson is cancer free!

For the marriage of Carrie Nonn to Nick Buer.

For two moving crews last weekend: 8 ORUCC volunteers who moved a neighbor into transitional housing
7 ORUCC volunteers who moved Mary White to a new apartment.

For our newly elected Wisconsin Conference UCC Conference Minister, Rev. Franz Rigert, and for four ORUCC members who represented us at the vote last Saturday in Wisconsin Rapids.

For 6 from ORUCC who are traveling to Indianapolis this week to learn more about neighborhood & community building.

For 4 from ORUCC who are being recognized by Dane County Joining Forces for Families for outstanding efforts

-- John Lemke, Kim Kaspar, Loretta McClure and Baxter Richardson.

For the birth of Tyler Timothy Andrews, Tim & Cyndy Andrews' grandson.

For Judy Winkel's sister Beth who has had six weeks of cancer treatment and is doing well.

Prayers of Concern

For Scott Ringen whose father passed away two weeks ago.

For Rob Martens who has had intensive back pain for three weeks.

For Kasey DeWitt who will have surgery next Monday - complications from a previous hysterectomy -- Kasey asks prayer for courage.

For Kathy Borkowski recovering at home from foot surgery.

For Ann Baxter who is facing the return of cancer.

For Carol VanKeuren at St. Mary's Care Center recovering from treatment for leukemia.

For Bruce Olsen's parents - Bruce's mother had knee replacement surgery, and Bruce's step father has been moved to a nursing home during her rehabilitation.

For Maryann Bast's 60 year old sister-in-law in hospice.

For Carol Prugh, whose Aunt Clara is in hospice in her home.

For Dick Rossmiller whose sister Ann lost her husband.

For Paul Hedges' Uncle Bill who has a brain tumor and aggressive cancer.

For Mike Bjork who lost his grandfather a couple weeks ago.

For Eva Fish whose son Ron Fish passed away last week.

New Events and Opportunities

BLESSED, BROKEN AND SHARED: Preparations are underway for our spring journey through Lent with a focus on the theme of **bread**. We plan to put together a book of bread recipes interspersed with reflections on the many ways bread is a metaphor for life.

We invite you to submit a bread recipe for our book that has special meaning for you. Along with your recipe, please include a 1-4 sentence statement about why you treasure this recipe. A good variety of breads will make this an interesting book, so to get your mouth watering and your ideas flowing, consider one of these: quick bread, Indian fry bread, soda bread, gluten-free bread, tortillas, cornbread, rye bread, whole grain bread, sourdough, challah, coffee cake, roti, bagels, friendship bread, scones, ciabatta, muffins, naan, pretzels, injera, popovers, matzah, panetone, croissants, lavash, biscuits, etc. Recipes can be emailed to Chris Thomas (tini@charter.net) or sent to her at 207 Falles Ct. Madison, WI 53705. The deadline is Dec. 1 – but the sooner the better. Please use the following format and type it, if possible.

Name of recipe

List of ingredients

Directions

Your name

1-4 sentences about why you treasure this recipe

With your input this book should be something our church members will treasure for years to come.

A **Progressive Christianity Discussion Group** will meet at the church Tuesday, November 25th, noon-1:30 pm. Bringing a bag lunch is optional. Contact Ken Pennings if you'd like to attend, and he will send you the article which will be discussed – ken@orucc.org.

New Opportunity! Southwest Partnership, "Circles of Support": You know that the Southwest Partnership (SWP) is building relationships and helping our neighbors living in poverty in southwest Madison. You know that SWP helps our neighbors get jobs and advance their own goals for their families' well-being and financial stability. But you may be asking yourself: "how can I help?" Here's one user-friendly opportunity – and one that can be rewarding for everyone involved.

You could be a volunteer member of a "Circle of Support" for a neighbor who wants some practical help and friendship to address barriers to good employment. We'll match 2-5 volunteers with our neighbor (the "core partner"). That group would meet monthly to build relationships and problem-solve together. In-between meetings, individual members would also connect with the core partner around particular issues. For example, a woman who's asking for a Circle would like someone to teach her to drive and help her get her drivers' license (meeting every other weekend to practice).

If you might be interested or have questions – please contact Helene Nelson. Email: helenemargaret@gmail.com. Phone: 258-2546.

2015 Immigration Learning Journey (in Tucson, Az and Nogales, Mexico)**Dates:**

February 22- 28, 2015

Cost:

\$1000 plus air fare - **Deposit of \$100 due by November 9 to secure a spot.**
(Minimum number needed: 8 people)

We'll spend 5 days learning 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 home-stay in Mexico as well. Our host organization is BorderLinks (www.borderlinks.org) For more information, contact Winton Boyd at winton@orucc.org.

Thinking about becoming a volunteer? Here are some opportunities at ORUCC (new schedules

effective January 1, 2015): **How important is an Usher and Welcomer?** Ushers and welcomers are among the first people and most important to us on Sunday mornings. Ushers hand out bulletins, take the offering, serve communion and help clean up after worship. Ushers and welcomers provide guidance, direction and welcome to visitors and guests. Did you know that most people decide within 5 minutes of entering a church building whether or not they will come back. **Ushers and Welcomers** are key in our ministry of hospitality. Would you like to be a part of either one of these ministries? If so, we can add you to the schedule that will come out in January of 2014. If you are interested in becoming an usher, please contact Debbie at office@orucc.org or 271-7212 for more information. If you are interested in becoming a welcomer, please contact Ken Pennings, kpennings@orucc.org or 271-7212 for more information.

Coffee and Sound If you are interested in volunteering to be added to the coffee and/or sound system rotation, please contact Debbie at office@orucc.org or 271-7212 for more information, or talk to the person who took care of the sound during worship, or the person in charge of the coffee hour after worship in the Friendship Hall. They will be more than happy to tell you what the job involves.

Misc. Things that are Important to Know continued**Many Thanks:**

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For an anonymous donor, who gave \$2000 to support various efforts within our Southwest Partnership For a number of ORUCC folks who have helped a neighbor pay for a hotel stay while she awaits permanent housing next week.

For all the great volunteers at our recent Worship and Work day, under the leadership of Barb and John Olson and Chuck Kaspar For our Mission Team that helped organize and lead our Evolution series this fall - Sara Roberts, Chuck Kaspar, Rich Finger, Chris Thomas, Susan Watson For four of our core volunteers with the Southwest Partnership who will be honored on November 13 as "Friends of Joining Forces for Families" at a special ceremony at the Goodman Center from 5:30-7:30. They are Kim Kaspar, Baxter Richardson, Loretta McClure, and John Lemke.

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(My new address is: 602 N. Segoe Rd, # 405, Madison WI 53705 608-204-0888) Mary White

Ongoing Groups

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.

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Ongoing Groups continued

Writing Memories: Did you ever go on a snipe hunt? Who was the naughtiest kid in your school? Did you ever run away from home? Does your family have any military stories? What was your happiest memory as a child? It's fun to remember and share earlier times as we write a 2 to 3-page memory for each "class" and read it aloud to our group. You will receive support and encouragement from your fellow writers. We will also explore ways to scan, edit, and use photos in your writing. The group will meet at church 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays (except for Over 55 days) Nov. 18, and 25. Just come, or call or email Ellen Maurer to sign up: 845-7164 or emaaurer@wisc.edu

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) or Sara Roberts (273-1114 or 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.

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.

Ken's Pennings – Embracing the Darkness (excepts from one of Ken's recent sermons)

On September 21st, the autumnal equinox, we had exactly 12 hours between sunrise and sunset. From then until the spring equinox, there will be more darkness than light each day.

Some of us, myself included, suffer from Seasonal Affective Light Disorder, and now is the time we start getting nervous about the coming darkness.

But I'm wondering if the cosmos is calling us humans to embrace the darkness* as well as the light, to accept the change in seasons and the cycle of life and death, to be authentic about the harsh realities of life as well as the pleasant ones.

At some level, ancient Israel seemed to embrace the darkness as well as the light. There are many Psalms that OT scholar Walter Brueggemann calls Psalms of orientation, equilibrium, coherence, and symmetry. But Brueggemann identifies other Psalms of disorientation, lament, protest and complaint about the incoherence that we experience in the world.

If we in our churches sing only "happy songs" in the face of raw reality, we are doing something very different from what our ancestors in the faith did.

Exploring the Psalms of lament is fascinating. Though most of them end with expressions of trust and hope in God, assurance that everything's going to work out in the end, some of them do not. Psalm 88, for example.

Psalm 88 ends without any hope or trust. All that's there is agony, misery, despair: "Darkness is all I have left."

Might these psalms of lament affirm our God-given right and privilege to bring everything to God in prayer, to bring everything to the community of faith including that which devastates and crushes us?

There's a brutal honesty about the cosmos, as much cold and darkness as warmth and light. There's a place for that brutal honesty in the community of faith. There's an insistence that we not sugarcoat calamity, that we truly grieve our losses, moan in our pain, express outrage over injustice.

In faith communities such as ORUCC, we are free to share our disillusionment over being hurt, insulted, betrayed, abandoned and abused, our agony over the calamities that befall us, because that is life as it really happens.

In our darkness, light comes into our lives through the people who love and support us in our pain.

* ORUCC holds a 'longest night' service each year at which time we attempt to embrace the darkness. This year it will be on December 20 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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		
Saturday 8	7:00 p.m.	Cotton Patch Gospels
Sunday 9	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal
	7:15 p.m.	Orchard Men's Group
Tuesday 11	11:30 a.m.	OVER 55
	7:00 p.m.	Care of Creation Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Meeting
Wednesday 12	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
Thursday 13	6:30 p.m.	TRU Gumption Rehearsal
	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
Sunday 16	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal
Monday 17	6:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
Tuesday 18	1:00 p.m.	Writing Memories Class
	6:30 p.m.	Leadership Team Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	Tuesday Night Adult Bible Study
Wednesday 19	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Christian Witness & Service Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
Thursday 20	6:30 p.m.	TRU Gumption Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Movie Group at Church
Friday 21	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	9:00 a.m.	Fair Trade Sale 9-2 p.m.
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Sunday 23	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal

Ushers—Need 3 each Sunday unless specified

Nov 9 Bob & Carol Prugh, Chuck Kaspar
Nov 16 Carolyn Carlson, **NEED 2 VOLUNTEERS**
Nov 23 Jarrett Gersten, Phil & Judy Winkel
Nov 30 Dick & Lois Rossmiller, Joyce Binder
Dec 7 Carolyn Carlson, Phil & Judy Winkel
Dec 14 Jerry & Beth Anderson, Jerry Nelson
Dec 21 Jim & Bernie Treichel, Chuck Kaspar

Welcomers

Nov 9 Ruthanne Landsness, **NEED 1 VOLUNTEER**
Nov 16 Carol & Bob Prugh, John or Barb Olsen
Nov 23 Joyce Pohl, Charlene Gallagher
Nov 30 **NEED 2 or 3 VOLUNTEERS**
Dec 7 Jerry & Beth Anderson, Jack Schairer
Dec 14 Dick & Lois Rossmiller, Scott Ringen
Dec 21 Helen Horn, Gretchen Forbes

Sound Coffee

Nov 9 Chuck Kaspar	Tom & Char Klossner
Nov 16 John Gilbert	Rich Hoard & Dan Stevens
Nov 23 Paul Hedges	Heather Lott & Lauren Amburn
Nov 30 Jarrett Gersten	Beth & Jerry Anderson
Dec 7 Chuck Kaspar	Brian & Rachael Lancor
Dec 14 Ken Psyck	Greg & Barb Loudon
Dec 21 Paul Hedges	Phil & Judy Winkel

Financial Secretary

Nov 9 Peter	Nov 16 Meg	Nov 23 Gene
Nov 30 Linda	Dec 7 Gene	Dec 14 Peter
Dec 21 Meg	Dec 28 Gene	

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