

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!*



Poinsettia Orders for Christmas

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

In Honor _____ I will pick up my plant

In Memory _____ 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 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

December 7

9 am Sunday School
 10 am Worship, Tammy Martens preaching
 Orchard Ridge Choir

December 14

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

Newsletters:

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



A Word Of Thanks: Stewardship Update:

Is not gratitude a journey from suspicion to trust, from proud isolation to a humble give and take, from enslavement to false independence to self-acceptance in that dependence which liberates?
 (David Stendl-Rast)

With joyful hearts, we can share that at press time we have received \$274,620 in pledges from 123 households. With a goal of increasing our budget approximately 2% from 2014, our pledge target for this is year is approximately \$384,000. We invite those who have not yet responded to the pledge drive to do so as soon as you can. Follow up letters and calls will begin after Thanksgiving. As always, we ask that you make your intentions clear so our budget team can plan accordingly. If you have questions or need a pledge card, please contact Debbie Bauerkemper at office@orucc.org or 271-7212.

A Boydsseye View: By The Power Vested In Me By The State Of Wisconsin...



Since I began serving ORUCC in January of 1999, I've officiated at 34 traditional weddings, 4 same sex weddings and 4 renewal of vows services. Saturday morning, as I presided at my (and our) first LEGAL same sex wedding in the state of Wisconsin, I declared "by the power vested in me by the State of Wisconsin" for the first time. While I have signed all 34 of those licenses as an agent of the state, I've never claimed that authority in a service. I vowed to not utter those words until I could utter them for all couples I was marrying. Instead, I've claimed the blessing of God and the affirmation of the community of those gathered as sufficient to honor and legitimize the vows a couple of any sort shares with one another.

The theme of Sara Roberts and Carolyn Carlson's wedding was quite simple, "it's about time." What they have known for 35 years and what many of us have affirmed for some or all of those years, is that their love has been honorable and inspiring. They are both unique and not unique. They are unique in paving a way for many others to understand the beauty and power of commitment. They are not unique because there are so many couples here - of all kinds and ages and personalities - that provide inspiration, support and guidance to others in their lives.

So, while I was proud and grateful to claim the power of the state, and plan to do so moving forward, I'm also grateful for a community of faith that balances legal recognition with a deep and powerful honoring of all couples. I give thanks for a community that appreciates marriage is hard, love is complicated and support is critical for any of us. May we continue to be such a community.

Wint

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) 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 soccer community.

Area High School soccer players from West, Edgewood, Verona, Middleton and Memorial are recruited as coaches. This provides eager coaches for our kids, and meaningful community service for our HS volunteers. Celeste Kaspar shares, "After 12 years of being coached, it is fun and rather rewarding to teach what I've learned to someone and then cheer them on when they use those new skills."

Providing opportunities for all children to play sports offers pathways to physical strength and health, old-fashioned fun without electronics, team work, new friends, lessons on how to handle challenges and defeat, and a positive way to release pent up emotions. Life skills which serve a child on the soccer field as well as in the classroom.

Millennium Soccer is a bargain! Here's a small sample of how contributions go a long way:

\$10 Provides a scholarship for one player's school-year fee
\$25 Buys a uniform set (jersey, shorts, shin guards, socks) for one new player
\$50 Purchases insurance coverage for 6 players

MSC offers a cooperative, intergenerational, relational, FUN way to celebrate and build community. Check them out at www.millenniumsoccerclub.org!

Prayers of Joy

For the birth of Paul and Nancy Evan's grandson, Logan Paul.

For Julie Mazer's engagement to Mark Sipovic.

For Sara Roberts and Carolyn Carlson who were legally married in our sanctuary last Saturday—the first same-sex legal wedding in this space.

Prayers of Concern

For Kasey DeWitt who is recovering at home after laparoscopic surgery this past Monday.

For Kathy Borkowski recovering at home from foot surgery.

For Rob Martens with ongoing back pain.

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 Baxter Richardson recovering from abductor surgery last week.

For John Wroten, Southwest Partner Community Advocate, for prayers for his aunt who had a stroke last week.

For Michael and Johnny Walsh of Madison, brothers who have lost most of their vision and much of their hearing as a result of Usher Syndrome, and for their family including their sister Molly who was recently discovered to be a carrier. Molly is married to Jeff Olsen, son of John and Barb Olsen who also offer a prayer of gratitude for the Walsh family's inspirational strength and determination despite their challenges. Their story was featured on the front page of the WI State Journal on Sunday, 11/9 - Brothers bound by blindness.

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.

- Don & Bonnie Orr
- Jim & Susan Osen
- Gale Pankratz

New Events and Opportunities

BLESSED, BROKEN AND SHARED: 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. Also, 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, panettone, croissants, lavash, biscuits, etc. Recipes can be emailed to Chris Thomas (tini-t@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.

Parents' Night Out!! Saturday, December 6: The Youth will be hosting another Parents' Night Out on **Saturday, December 6** from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Parents—get your Christmas shopping done or simply take a breather and enjoy a relaxing evening. The money earned will go to help the youth on next year's mission trip to Roanoke, Virginia. More details coming soon!

All Church Retreat—January 16-18, 2015: Our 5th annual Church retreat will be held at Pilgrim Center January 16-18, 2015. The retreat begins at 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening and runs through Sunday morning breakfast and worship. We will end our time together at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. For those who can arrive early on Friday a Soup Bar will be served from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The cost for two nights and four meals, programming and supplies is as follows: Adult--\$90, Youth (12-18)--\$90, Child (4-11)--\$70, Infant--\$20. If you would like to come for just the day on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. through the evening the cost is \$35.

ORUCC subsidizes the cost by 20% for each participant. If you are able to contribute to this subsidy that would be very helpful. Details for registering will be available in the next 10 days. But for now please put the date on your calendar.

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.

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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

Menno Works Celebration: Madison Mennonite Church has been developing Menno Works. It is a library and resource center whose mission is to make available books and other resources on issues of peace and justice, and Anabaptist and Mennonite history. The primary location of the Menno Works library is the Swan Room. On December 7, Menno Works will host its inaugural event, a celebration of the expected new shelves in the Swan Room installed by Amish craftsman Samuel Bontrager. A special guest for the occasion will be novelist Evie Yoder Miller. In Christian Education at 5:00, Miller will talk about and read from her new novel, *Everyday Mercies*, a story of three generations of Mennonite women in Wisconsin. Following the 6:00 pm worship service, Miller will have copies of the novel for sale and autographing. ORUCC members are warmly invited to any segments of the evening: CE at 5:00 with Evie Yoder Miller, worship at 6:00, book tables at 7:00. ORUCC authors with books for display or sale are welcome to join the book table.

J. Denny Weaver, for the Menno Works committee

Trip to Holy Land Sponsored by the Southwest Association Bethlehem Partnership

The next trip to the Holy Land sponsored by the Southwest Association Bethlehem Partnership Committee will be April 23-May 4, 2015. This will be the 8th such trip led by Bonnie Van Overbeke and Nancy Baumgardner. Since 2004 Bonnie and Nancy have developed contacts with Palestinians and Israelis who seek peace in the midst of conflict and occupation. Therefore, this trip will provide participants with the unique opportunity to have intimate conversations with such persons, in addition to visiting some of the holy and historic sites.

The Guest House of our partner, Christmas Lutheran Church, will be their home base, enabling them to share in the life of that community. They will worship on Sundays at Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem and at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Jerusalem. In between they will see religious sites and meet with people on both sides of the conflict.

The group will do a lot of walking (as much as a couple of miles a day on unsteady ground in warm temperatures). Participants also need to carry their own suitcases up stairs. Therefore, they need to be in good physical condition.

If you are interested or have any questions, contact Bonnie at bonnievano@aol.com (608) 274-1859 (home), (608) 770-5714 (cell); or Nancy at nancybaumgardner@gmail.com or (608) 274-6211 (home), (608) 320-0977 (cell).

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

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One-a-Week Club news: Thanks to the following members who donated blood in October: David Heise, David Myers, Jennifer Eggerling-Boeck (apheresis). Our total stands at 48, which means we should make our 52-pint goal this month. I would encourage all club members to donate one more time this year. Then you can eat a few more cookies.

College Student Care Packages: If you are interested in having a care package sent to your college student before final exams, please send their name and mailing address to Ken Pennings at ken@orucc.org by **November 23**. Packages include snacks and an ornament. There is a budget for care packages, but due to increased shipping costs, small donations designated for care packages are welcome.

Ongoing Groups

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.

Women's Book Group : Our next gathering will be on Thursday, December 11, from 7 – 9 p.m. We'll meet at the home of Ginny Kruse at Capitol Lakes, 110 S. Henry, Apt.1007. We will discuss the novel THE DOG YEAR by Ann Garvin, a Stoughton author who participated in the recent book fair. In her second novel, Garvin brings together unique people who are stuck in messy lives but struggle, as they can, to make them better. Kirkus Review says that Garvin "is insightful about grief and the pervasiveness of denial. With humor and compassion, (The Dog Year) is hopeful but not saccharine. This novel offers a deeply sympathetic view of recovery from grief." The author will be present for this conversation. The library system has copies. It is also available as an e-book and as a sound recording. If you plan to come, please let Ginny know, either at gmkruise@wisc.edu or 238-9225. Any woman who enjoys discussing books she has read—or just this one in particular—is welcome to join us.

OVER 55: The next Over 55 meeting will be held on December 9th. Our speaker will be Angie Schoeneck and she will be talking about LIBRARIES. They sure aren't like they used to be. She will tell us about the South Central Library System and its programming, as well as some of the things that are going on in other libraries around the country. She is very enthusiastic about libraries. It should be a great program for all. We will have another luscious meal catered by Loretta McClure and Gary LaFleur. The cost is \$6.00. We will, however, continue with our traditional Christmas dessert of ice cream, chocolate sauce and Christmas cookies. Contact Dorothy and Byron Peterson at 845-8412 to volunteer to bring cookies. Set up will be done by Char Klosner. As usual, we will gather at 11:30 and begin eating at 11:45, with a program to follow. Everyone is welcome at our Over 55 Christmas event.

Movie Group: The movie group will meet at church on Friday, November 21st at 7:30. Baxter Richardson will lead us in a discussion of the movie "Fury" with Brad Pitt. He will also share a bit of history on other movies of that genre. Join us for conversation and dessert in Friendship Hall. All are welcome! RSVP to Bruce Olsen at olsens.madison@gmail.com".

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.



**Orchard Ridge United
Church of Christ**

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

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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		
November		
Friday 21	7:00 p.m.	Movie Group at Church
Sunday 23	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
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal
Monday 24	6:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
	7:15 p.m.	Orchard Men's Group
Tuesday 25	1:00 p.m.	Writing Memories Class
	12:00 p.m.	Progressive Christianity Group
Wednesday 26	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
Thursday 27		Happy Thanksgiving-Office Closed
Sunday 30	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal
December		
Monday 1	1:00 p.m.	Knitting Group
	6:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
Tuesday 2	6:30 p.m.	Youth Faith Formation Meeting
	7:30 p.m.	Tuesday Night Adult Bible Study
Wednesday 3	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Pastoral Partners Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Orchard Ridge Choir
Thursday 4	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
	6:30 p.m.	TRU Gumption Rehearsal
Saturday 6	4:00 p.m.	Parent's Night Out 4-8
Sunday 7	9:00 a.m.	Adult and Youth Programming
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	11:00 a.m.	TRU Function Rehearsal

Ushers—Need 3 each Sunday unless specified

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
Dec 24 4 pm Jim & Bernie Treichel
Dec 24 9 pm Peter Fabian, Phil & Judy Winkel

Welcomers

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
Dec 24 4 pm Glenn Schaeffer, Scott Ringen
Dec 24 9 pm Jerry & Beth Anderson, Helen Horn

Sound Coffee

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
Dec 24 4pm John Gilbert	—
Dec 24 9 pm Ken Psyck	—

Financial Secretary

Nov 23 Gene	Nov 30 Linda	Dec 7 Gene
Dec 14 Peter	Dec 21 Meg	Dec 28 Gene-includes Christmas Eve

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