

Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

COMMUNION

FEBRUARY, 2017 ISSUE 1



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

Sunday Morning

February 12

10 am Winton Boyd preaching
Handbell Choir

February 19

9 am Java & Jesus

10 am Winton Boyd preaching
ORUCC Choir

February 26

9 am Java & Jesus

10 am Winton Boyd preaching
TRU Function

March 1-Ash Wednesday

5 pm Labyrinth Walk

7 pm Worship Service

March 5

Lent 1-Gospel of Mark

9 am Java & Jesus

10 am Ken Pennings preaching
ORUCC Choir

Sunday, February 12th - Breakfast Celebration of our Ministry in the Southwest Neighborhoods

8:45 Breakfast served - all our welcome

9:00 a.m. Program

In 2012, ORUCC embarked on an ambitious partnership (Southwest Partnership) with Joining Forces for Families, Commonwealth, and Madison/Dane County Public Health. Initially, we committed \$130,000 to fund a position for 2 years. That commitment was supplemented by budget funds and individual gifts and stretched into a financial stake for another 2 years. As we begin 2017, the central work of the partnership - helping neighbors find and keep jobs, continues. However, our contributions are now mostly volunteer time and energy.

At the same time, the work of building relationships over these past many years has spawned additional connections and opportunities for 'loving our neighbor.'

This breakfast (provided for by our amazing Meal Mission Team) will celebrate the work done and the opportunities that may await us in the future. We'll hear from our partner organizations, see data that speaks to story after story of changed lives, and recognize and thank our volunteers.

All are welcome. No sign up necessary. Breakfast begins at 8:45. Program will end by 9:50.

Newsletter:

February 21 and

March 7 and 21

Articles due the

Monday before

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



ORUCC Winter Film Series:
THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

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Thursday, February 9th
ORUCC Friendship Hall
Movie time: 7:00 – 8:30pm
Short discussion to follow

Directed by Avi Lewis and inspired by Naomi Klein's international non-fiction bestseller **THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING**, the film presents seven powerful portraits of communities on the front lines, from Montana's Powder River Basin to the Alberta Tar Sands, from the coast of South India to Beijing and beyond.

Interwoven with these stories of struggle is Klein's narration, connecting the carbon in the air with the economic system that put it there. Throughout the film, Klein builds to her most controversial and exciting idea: that we can seize the existential crisis of climate change to transform our failed economic system into something radically better.

Final Winter Series Film February 16 information on next page...

Ken's Pennings – Prepare Now for Our Lenten Focus on the Gospel of Mark

During Lent, we'll be exploring the Gospel of Mark in a number of ways, including a Lenten Devotional called "A Word A Day," Home Groups, Sunday Sermons, and a Dramatic Performance by Broadway, film and TV actor James Krag on March 25th called "According to Mark."

We're urging the congregation to read through the entire Gospel individually and/or with families (33 pages in the Harper Study Bible, or any version you choose) during Lent.

As we read, we may want to look for the following themes:

- A new understanding of Messiah - prophet, teacher and miracle worker, not military leader
- Suffering, serving King
- Discipleship as self-sacrificing service to God
- The unfinished ending -- What does Mark's unusual 'first' ending offer us as people of faith?

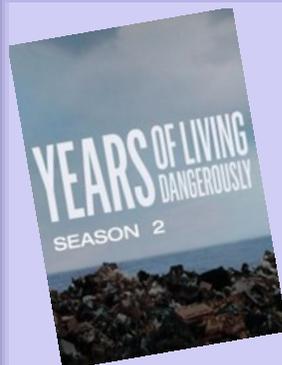
Some, who hold that Matthew and Luke used Mark as a major source, have suggested that Mark may have been composed in the 50s or early 60s. Since Mark's Gospel is traditionally associated with Rome, it may have been occasioned by the persecutions of the Roman church in the period A.D. 64-67, thus Mark's many references, both explicit and veiled, to suffering and discipleship throughout the Gospel (see 1:12-13; 3:22,30; 8:34-38; 10:30,33-34,45; 13:8,11-13).

Most scholars reject the tradition which ascribes the Gospel to Mark the Evangelist, the companion of Peter, and regard it as the work of an unknown author working with various sources including collections of miracle stories, controversy stories, parables, and a passion narrative.

Mark's Gospel is a simple, succinct, unadorned, yet vivid account of Jesus' ministry, emphasizing more what Jesus did than what he said. Mark moves quickly from one episode in Jesus' life and ministry to another, often using the adverb "immediately." There is no genealogy or birth narrative, nor, in the original ending at chapter 16, any post-resurrection appearances. It portrays Jesus as a heroic man of action, an exorcist, a healer. Jesus is also the Son of God, but he keeps his identity secret, concealing it in parables so that even the disciples fail to understand.

As we read, study, discuss, preach and perform the Gospel of Mark, remember that there is great value not only in what the text brings to us, but in what we bring to the text. Let's discover together how our lives intersect with the Gospel of Mark!

Ken Pennings



ORUCC Winter Film Series: YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY Episode 7

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Thursday, February 16th
ORUCC Friendship Hall
Movie time: 7:00 – 8:30pm
Short discussion to follow

Season 2, episode 7 of *Years of Living Dangerously* features 2 films: In the first, "West Wing" star Bradley Whitford returns to Washington to explore congressional action (or inaction) on climate change. He tells the story of Jay Butera, of Citizens' Climate Lobby, who has succeeded in bringing congressmen of both parties together to develop legislative solutions to climate change while avoiding unproductive debates about the science.

The second film features Actor **Ty Burrell** who takes to the road to see the environmental revolutions being made in electric vehicles (EVs) and autonomous vehicles (AVs). Burrell visits Silicon Valley to learn about AV advancements and hear how big automakers are pouring major capital into AV technology.

Compassion offering for February is the Rape Crisis Center:

Every 98 seconds a person is sexually assaulted in this country and 90% of these victims are female. Since 1973, the Rape Crisis Center has been providing free 24/7/365 services to victims in Dane County and educating the community to end this silent, violent epidemic. When the RCC is made aware of a victim of sexual assault—through RCC's 24/7 Helpline, hospital, college campus services or law enforcement—rigorously-trained advocates and counselors immediately begin professional, compassionate services to support the victim through the medical exam, evidence collection, law enforcement reporting, court appearances, individual or group counseling and whatever the victim needs to incorporate the crimes committed against them into their lives in as healthy or a manner as possible. All victim services are provided in both English and Spanish. More than 2,500 people per year access counseling on the Helpline, advocates go to the hospital and law enforcement with victims more than 500 times per year and roughly half of hospital accompaniments are with children.

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.

Prayers of Concern:

For Todd Lillethun, son of John & Donna Lillethun, who is beginning radiation and chemotherapy for a brain tumor.

For Marilyn Arnold who is experiencing multiple health issues and has had to slow down quite a bit.

For Bill Brunsell, husband of Thea Brunsell, who is in hospice care at Oakwood Village West.

For Mike Bjork's father who is struggling physically and emotionally with the effects of cancer treatment.

For Ellen Maurer, home after being hospitalized for congestive heart issues.

For Joanna Beilman Dulin's newborn nephew in the hospital with breathing problems.

For Peter Fabian's brother and sister-in-law, Nancy, who has just been diagnosed with stage 4 cervical cancer.

For Kasey DeWitt who is recovering from pneumonia

For Betty Day who has a bone separation in one foot and is in an air cast in the hope of avoiding surgery

Prayers of Joy:

For a fabulous Leadership Retreat last weekend at Pilgrim Center in Green Lake, WI, with members of the ORUCC Leadership Team and Ministry Chairs.

For the wedding last weekend of Christine Pasinski & Elaine Thomas.

For Carrie Nonn-Buer who is expecting her first baby.

For Paul Patenaude who is in Haiti on a medical mission trip.

ON-GOING GROUPS

Women's Book Group:

Our next gathering will be on Thursday, February 9, from

7 – 9 p.m. We'll meet at the home of Donna Lillethun, 2104 Westchester Road.

At this meeting we will choose books for the year. Each person is to bring two suggestions and spend a couple of minutes telling us about it and why you think each might be interesting for the group. After everybody has given their suggestions, we'll vote on which books to schedule.

If you plan to come, please let Donna know at dillethun@charter.net or 230-6428. Any woman who enjoys discussing books she has read is welcome to join us.

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! Questions, please call Sandra Dyar at 271-2409. **NOTE:** As you plan your knitting and crocheting projects that include prayer shawls, please plan most of your shawls to be rectangles. Think in terms of 16 to 20 inches wide and 60 to 72 inches long. These are the most used shawls and would be most helpful.

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.

Weekly Meditation Group:

We meet at the church on Thursday mornings, from 8:30

to 9:30 am, for a shared time of silent meditation and reflections on our spiritual journeys. Contact Dave Myers at 274-0381 or 547_5698@msn.com or Helene Nelson 259-2546 or helenemargaret@gmail.com for more information.

Women's Breakfast:

We meet at the Pancake Café at 728 S. Gammon Rd. (near Watts Rd) at 8:30 on the first Friday of the month. This is an informal gathering to chat on many subjects and interests. Many men have also been joining in at their "guys" table and are welcome as well.

Progressive Christianity Discussion Group:

We will meet the third Wednesday of the month at the church, 11 a.m.-12:30 pm. Bringing a bag lunch is optional. Contact Ken Penning if you'd like to attend, and he will send you the article which will be discussed – ken@orucc.org.

Movie Group to Discuss Oscar Nominees

On Friday, February 17th at 7:00 p.m. the ORUCC Movie Group will convene with delicious desserts and discussion about the current Oscar nominees. If the past is any indication this will be a spirited discussion. We will cast our votes and return in March to see how our choices stacked up against the actual Oscar winners. Consider joining us, all are welcome.

[Steve Sheets](mailto:Steve.Sheets@tds.net)
im1042@tds.net

Youth Mission Trip Fundraising Opportunities – Don't Miss Out!!!

Pilates Group Mat Class, a Fundraiser for the Summer 2017 Mission Trip:

We'll meet for six consecutive Wednesday evenings @ 5:45 - 6:45pm (February 22 - March 29) in the Bonhoeffer Room, lower level of the church building. Wear comfortable (stretchy) clothes and bring two yoga mats (one to stack on top of the other—you need the extra cushioning). All other material and equipment will be provided. Suggested donation: \$75.00. Make your check payable to Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ and mention "Pilates fundraiser" on the memo line OR pay online with a credit card—go to the Orchard Ridge website and find "Pilates Fundraiser." The instructor is Susan Watson. Call Susan: 608/698-5061 (cell) or email: susanjanepilates@gmail.com with any questions you have and to let her know you're signing up. Pilates is a series of non-impact exercises focused on core strength, overall flexibility, proper alignment, and breath. Pilates works to educate and balance the different muscles of the body so that they work efficiently as a unit, thereby easing joint and muscular pain, improving posture, and increasing strength and awareness in your body.

Who doesn't like an evening out, Panera Anyone? How about one that also serves a great purpose??

Our ORUCC Youth Mission trip group is raising funds for this year's trip to New Mexico and YOU can help just by eating dinner! Please join your fellow ORUCC friends (and invite your own friends and family) at Panera on Mineral Point Rd. on Thursday, Feb. 23rd any time between 4-8 pm. When you show a flyer (physical or on your phone), a percentage of your order will be donated back to our youth for their mission trip. Please pick up a flyer in the Crossroads and/or RSVP to the event on Facebook "ORUCC Night at Panera". (And be sure to share it on your own personal pages). THANK YOU for supporting our youth as they continue their commitment to being stewards of community and of the earth.

Help Raise Money for Youth by Working at Bratfest or Mad Run Town:

We'd love your continued help in raising money for our mission trip to Santa Fe this year. Another way you can do this is by volunteering either at Bratfest or Run Mad Town—both of these events happen over Memorial Day weekend. To sign up to volunteer at Bratfest simply go to:

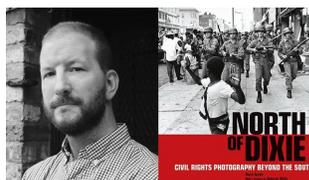
volunteer.bratfest.com and follow the instructions. Some shifts have age restrictions. Click on "Orchard Ridge UCC Youth" as the charity you are supporting.

The "Run Mad Town" occurs over Memorial Day weekend which includes a Half Mara-

thon, 10k and 5k and a kids' run. You can go to <http://runmadtown.com/volunteer/> and sign up for a shift. Some of the shifts have age restrictions—if there is a small question mark by the name of the shift, click it to see what the age restriction is. Also, if you click on a shift and it asks for a password, that means that shift is already claimed by a group and therefore is unavailable. Click on "Orchard Ridge UCC Youth Group" as the charity you are supporting. Ask Tammy if you have any questions.

Lenten Home Groups:

The Ministry of Adult Faith Formation will be offering three or more Home Groups of 8-12 people during Lent on the Gospel of Mark (the weeks of March 5th, March 19th and April 2nd). Sign-up for a Home Group after worship on Sundays, Feb. 12, 19 or 26, or contact Ken Penning at ken@orucc.org to sign up. Details forthcoming! In the meantime, if you think you may be interested in a Home Group, start reading and/or studying the Gospel of Mark in the New Testament.



February 19th

Worship service will include invitations to meditation rooted in the pictures of Mark Speltz' new book, "North of Dixie - Civil Rights Photography Beyond the South." Mark is a member

of ORUCC and currently an historian with American Girl Company.

February 28

5:30 p.m. - Partygras

March 1

Labyrinth Walk and Ash Wednesday Service

Grace Men's Breakfast Help Needed:

Please call Ann Avery 298-7587/cell 401-749-3976 if you could be on the volunteer list to bring food every other month for the Grace Episcopal Men's Breakfast mission. We have the 3rd. Tuesday morning every other month (even months). People bring the food to the church on the Sunday before or by 12 noon on the Monday before for Steve Sheets to take to Grace.

I try to call people every other time which would mean 3 times a year you would be asked to bring food. Food items needed are frozen orange juice, dry cereal, 2% milk, bread, margarine, and jam. Thanks so much!

Orchard Ridge United Church
of Christ

1501 Gilbert Road
Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 608-271-7212
Fax: 608-271-7265

**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.**

**WE'RE ON THE
WEB!**

Coffee Fund for Sunday Mornings and all Other Church Events:

Many of us enjoy a good cup of Fair Trade coffee after worship on Sunday mornings. If you can help out by donating to the coffee fund, that would be appreciated.

Church Email Lists:

ORUCC has a few email lists that you may or may not know about. If you would like to be added to or removed from any of these, please send your email to Ken@orucc.org or winton@orucc.org.

Weekly Epost which shares the events of the upcoming weekend **Bi-Monthly Newsletter** (The Communion)

Bi-monthly Eprayer list which reminds us of prayers within the congregation

Weekly Java and Jesus email that includes reading for discussion on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.. Many receive without coming to the events of the upcoming weekend

LGBTQ and allies list which is used periodically to highlight community events or issues.

Monthly Automatic Pledge Deduction (ACH) Option: Interested in monthly auto deduction from your bank account for your operating pledge, please contact Debbie at the church office 271-7212 for the auto deduction form, or for more information. Deductions are taken out the 15th of each month.

VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS

Ushers

Feb 12 Joyce Binder,
Jim Treichel, Jon Blanchard
Feb 19 Joyce Nigbor,
Phil & Judy Winkel
Feb 26 Peter Fabian,
Bob & Carol Prugh
Mar 1 Bob & Carol Prugh
Mar 5 Jon Blanchard, Jerry
Nelson, Joyce Nigbor
Mar 12 Marcia Beckett,
Bob & Carol Prugh

Welcomers

Feb 12 Charlene Gallagher,
Ruthanne Landsness, Leah
Narans
Feb 19 Jack Schairer,
Dick & Lois Rossmiller
Feb 26 Glenn Schaeffer,
Helen Horn, Joyce Nigbor
Mar 5 Barb McLeod, Kim
Kaspar, Heather Stevens
Mar 12 Barb Hummel,
Doug & Mary Loving

Sound

Feb 12 Ken Psyck
Feb 19 Andrew Backett
Feb 26 Jarrett Gersten
Mar 1 Chuck Kaspar
Mar 5 Ken Psyck
Mar 12 Andrew Beckett

Coffee

Feb 12 Rich Hoard,
Dan Stevens
Feb 19 Jerry Hagen,
Jane Glaze
Feb 26 Dolores &
Paul Gohdes
Mar 5 Jerry Hagen,
Chris Thomas
Mar 12 Greg & Barb
Louden

Financial Secretary

Feb 12 Peter Hoff
Feb 19 Mary Bucknell
Feb 26 Nancy Wettersten
Mar 5 Gene Dyar
Mar 12 Peter Hoff

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

Wednesday 8	6:00 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	ORUCC Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 9	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
	10:00 a.m.	Falls Prevention Exercise Class
	6:30 p.m.	Environmental Movie
Sunday 12	8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Celebration Ministry
		Southwest Neighborhoods
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday 13	7:00 p.m.	Financial Peace University
	7:00 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:15 p.m.	ORUCC Men's Group
Tuesday 14	10:00 a.m.	Falls Prevention Exercise Class
	11:30 a.m.	OVER 55
Wednesday 15	11:00 a.m.	Progressive Christianity Group
	5:30 p.m.	Congregational Life Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	ORUCC Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 16	8:30 a.m.	Meditation/Spirituality Discussion
	10:00 a.m.	Falls Prevention Exercise Class
	6:30 p.m.	Series Final Environmental Movie
Friday 17	7:00 p.m.	Movie Group at Church
Saturday 18	11:00 a.m.	Progressive Christianity Group
	3:00 p.m.	Yth Mis Trip Fundraiser-Chili/Games
Sunday 19	9:00 a.m.	Java & Jesus
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Monday 20	7:00 p.m.	Financial Peace University
	7:00 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal