Welcome Brunch & New Members Series:
If you are brand new (or fairly new) to our church, we hope you’ll attend a Welcome Brunch on Sunday, Sept. 30, 8:45 am, at the church, to become acquainted with other newcomers! RSVP to Ken Pennings at ken@orucc.org. You may also be interested in a New Members Series with the Pastors and Leadership Team of ORUCC! Please attend at least three of the four informational classes at the church:

- Sunday, October 7, 9:00-9:50 a.m.
- Sunday, October 14, 9:00-9:50 a.m.
- Sunday, October 21, 9:00-9:50 a.m.
- Sunday, October 28, 9:00-9:50 a.m.

At the Informational Classes, 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. You may participate in the New Member Series even if you decide not to join the church at this time. If interested, RSVP to the Ken Pennings at ken@orucc.org, or 271-7212.

Update from the Search Committee:
We are making progress on gathering information for what is known as the Church Profile. To date, we’ve met with most of our Ministries and held five small group conversations to learn what is important to members about the church and how that might inform our search for a new Senior Pastor. We have also met with both Associate Pastors.

There will be a final morning for small group discussion this Sunday, September 23rd. We’ll have a group at 8:45 and 11:15, both in the Swan Room. It is necessary to sign up ahead of time. Please contact Sara Roberts to sign up (sarie914@sbcglobal.net). We will also be meeting with middle and high school youth, and completing our discussions with our Ministries.

In September, we will begin work on the narrative section of the Church Profile, with a plan to complete it by November or early December. We will share it with Associate Conference Minister, Joanne Thomsen, for her input and suggestions. When it is posted publicly on the UCC Opportunities website, we will share it with the whole congregation.

As always, if you have questions, feel free to contact any member of the Search Committee. We are Mary Bucknell, Dana Dobbins, Barbara Stretchberry, Brian Lancor, Chris Thomas, Doug Piper, Kim Kaspar and Sara Roberts.

Future Events:
October 14: After worship, our mission trip youth and families will serve a lunch as they share reflections and photos from this past summer’s work trip to Greensboro, North Carolina.
October 21: REALLY FREE MARKET. After worship. More details to come.
October 28: Worship and Work Sunday. We’ll offer a lunch and invite all who can to help with close of the season yard work.
November 18: Fair Trade Sale. More details to come.
Compassion offering for September is for the Family Resource Centers (FRC) at both Orchard Ridge and Falk Elementary Schools:

Orchard Ridge has a Family Resource Center. They have a Family Liaison and Bilingual Resource Specialist that support families in connecting with community resources regarding basic needs and advocacy. The Orchard Ridge Family Center serves 300 students attending the School serving students in the Meadowood and Orchard Ridge Neighborhood. Funds will be utilized to meet families needs and provide students with the necessary resources they need at school daily.

Falk FRC is a school-based food pantry and parent resource center that aims to help Falk parents meet their families’ basic and school-related needs of food, clothing, hygiene, shelter, backpacks and school supplies.

Falk FRC serves approximately 360 students attending the school. Because 75% of Falk students are low income and 11% are homeless, many families struggle to meet their children’s needs. Funding from this month’s Compassion Offering will be used to purchase school supplies to support our Interactive Homework initiative, allowing equal access for all Falk families to support their children’s learning at home.

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 Doug Loving who is recovering from spinal fusion surgery at UW Hospital.
For Vicki May who is being treated for breast cancer -- surgery this Thursday, and then radiation in a month.
For Betty Swanson who fainted last week and was hospitalized for observation. She is doing well, but would appreciate prayers regarding recent changes in her health situation.

For Tim Andrews recovering at home following lung surgery.
For Char Klossner recovering at home following a mastectomy.
For Joyce Waldorf recovering at Oakwood West following knee replacement surgery.
For the Walker family grieving the loss of Marc’s grandmother, Beverly Walker, last Friday.
For Bruce Gladstone grieving the loss of his mother 2 weeks ago.
For the Vash family grieving the loss of Francesca’s grandmother 2 weeks ago.
For Jane Danley’s cousin Chris who recently lost her sister Sue to bone cancer, and now has pancreatic cancer herself. For the victims of Hurricane Florence.

Prayer of Joy:
For Jill Westberg whose husband Jim is finished with his work assignment out east, and is returning home to stay. For our Meals Mission Team and the many in our congregation who prepare and deliver meals to people in times of need.
For our Catering Mission Team which provided such a delicious lunch on Sept. 9th for the Welcome Back Bar-B-Q.
For Barbara Stretchberry who is overseeing ministries for children and teens while Tammy Martens is on sabbatical.
For the marriage of Tim & May Pamplin three weeks ago. Tim is the grandson of Dianne & Paul Stevens.

Exercise Class at ORUCC:
The class activities can be adapted to all levels and are designed to help reduce risk of falls and injuries. Classes are held on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Bonhoeffer Room. If you are unable to make all classes, please come when you can.
There is no charge for the class but a donation to the Heart Room of $2-$5 per class is recommended. Contact Joyce Pohl at japohl@gmail.com or 206-5697 if you have questions.

Women’s Book Group:
Our next gathering will be on Thursday, October 4, from 1:30-3:30 p.m., at church in the Alfred Swan Room.
We will discuss Code Girls: the untold story of the American women code breakers who helped win World War II. The library’s website states: “Recruited by the U.S. Army and Navy from small towns and elite colleges, more than ten thousand women served as codebreakers during World War II. While their brothers and boyfriends took up arms, these women moved to Washington and learned the meticulous work of code-breaking. Their efforts shortened the war, saved countless lives, and gave them access to careers previously denied to them.” The library system has this book in traditional hard copies, large print, e-book, and sound recording formats.
If you’re a woman who likes to discuss what she has read, join us! Please let Jan Christian know you plan to attend (827-0500 or jlchrist@wisc.edu).

OVER 55:
Our next Over 55 meeting will be on October 9th. Our speaker will be Dr. Robert Jeanne, a member of our church and a professor at the University of WI. His topic will be "The Amazing World of Insects." He has lots of tell us about insects and their behavior. It should be an interesting and informative program. We gather at 11:30 and plan to eat our meal around 11:45. As usual it will be served by our Catering Mission Team and the cost is $8.00. Our program will follow. If you have never been to an Over 55 meeting, we urge you to come to this one. Give this group a try for information and fun, too.
**Art Show Pieces by Chris Thomas and others will be on display in the Friendship Hall through September 30th:**

Chris Thomas writes much of my latest fiber art work has been inspired by ORUCC’s revering & caring for all of creation and our place within it; offering dignity for people experiencing hard times; walking in solidarity with each other through life; and striving for racial equity & closing the gaps. My work will be among that shown by my art group - The 3150 Studio Artists - in the Friendship Hall.

**NEW Bible Discussion Group Forming:**

As your time and schedule permits, come join a one-hour discussion on the book of JOB in the Hebrew Bible, the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 2 pm, facilitated by Matthew Westfox and Ken Pennings. Our first discussion will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 26th at 2 pm at the church. We currently have a core of 12 people planning to attend, but are happy for more! Please contact Ken at ken@orucc.org to be added to our email list! In preparation for our discussion on Sept. 26th, please read whatever background information you might find on the book of JOB.

**Movie Group on Friday, September 21st:**

Yes, the fall season is upon us, and that means the ORUCC Movie Group will be back into full swing on Friday, the 21st at 7 p.m. Baxter Richardson will facilitate our discussion. We are suggesting “Three Identical Strangers”, which is still playing at Market Square; or "Eighth Grade", or BlackKKlansman”.

All folks are welcome, you need not be a regular attendee. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

**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.

**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. Join Jeanne Garnett and others for a delicious breakfast and great conversation.

**Weekly Meditation Group:**

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 47_5698@msn.com or Helene Nelson 259-2546 or helenenmargaret@gmail.com for more information.

**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.

**Your Leadership Team at work:**

Over the summer, the Leadership Team has been busy with several tasks related to our upcoming staff transitions. They are supporting our pastoral search committee with a small group that is discussing financial implications of the change.

They have assembled a small team to explore ways to replace Debbie Bauerkemper. Debbie will be retiring as our office manager in early 2019. This team will be bringing recommendations to the Leadership Team this month.

They are preparing for upcoming an upcoming nominations process, as well as a search process for an interim senior pastor to begin on our near Winton Boyd’s final Sunday in January, 2019.

**Thanks You!**

**Monthly Compassion Offerings:**

- January—The Wisconsin Medical Project $2106.65
- February—Theas-Table $1847.07
- March—One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) $3640.47
- April—The Crossing $2140.65
- May—Madison Urban Ministry (MUM) $1253.25
- June—Community Health Initiative in Haiti (CHI Haiti) $3214.16
- July—Habitat for Humanity $1885.56
- August—Book & Breakfast (Freedom Inc.) $2015.00

Thank you for your generosity.

**Secrets From the Garden Greeting Cards:**

- Autumn themed and general blank photo greeting cards are available in the Crossroads. All proceeds go to Eviction Prevention for needy neighbors. To order specific photo cards go to dianneandpaul.net.
- Price: $4 per card or $20 for 6.

Checks to ORUCC/cards in memo.
Boydseye View

Fall Sermon Series (Winton Boyd)
Throughout the fall, we’ll have a sermon series titled *The Puzzle We Call Faith: Stories to Guide Us*. As I come down to the final months of my time as your senior pastor, I will be drawing on stories from my experiences here at Orchard Ridge over the last 20 years. I hope to use these stories as a way of putting some of the frame around the often confusing journey of faith (i.e. the puzzle). Some of the stories will be familiar to many of you, some will be new to all of you. By the time I finish the series, just before Advent, the puzzle of faith won’t be complete. It never is. But I hope it will help me, and you, make sense of the faith I’ve tried to live and share as your pastor. I am looking forward to it. I hope you will enjoy it too. And maybe even see yourself in the stories.

September 23: Beautiful, Complex, and Mysterious
September 30: Don’t Look Away: Love of Neighbor in All Its Beauty, Pain and Confusion.
October 7: The Power of an Alternative Community is Real. And Fragile.
October 14: What We Need is Here.
October 21: Disagreement and Conflict are Inevitable. Love is a Choice
November 4: Stepping into the Stream of Faith
November 11: Grace Redefined Again and Again
November 18: Experiencing Our Mortality Opens Us to Transcendence

UCC Bethlehem Partnership Trip:
Bonnie Van Overbeke will be leading a UCC Bethlehem Partnership trip to Israel, Palestine, and Jordan September 30 - October 13, 2019. Bonnie is a local retired UCC pastor who has led many of these trips, partnering with Bright Stars of Bethlehem. In order to gain an understanding of the cultural, religious, and historical landscape, there will be a balance between seeing holy and historical sights and meeting and talking with people. If you have any questions or would like to see a complete itinerary, email Bonnie at BonnieVanO@aol.com.
MUSIC ON THE LAWN

Jazz performance by "Chance Allies" in support of the Madison Area Jail Ministry

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018
4:00 - 6:00 PM
RAIN OR SHINE

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4100 NAKOMA RD. MADISON, WI 53711

$10 suggested donation

Food Carts and Just Bakery will offer great food options
Thinking about becoming a volunteer? Here are some opportunities at ORUCC:

How important is an Usher and Welcomer? Ushers and welcomers are among the first whom people meet on a Sunday morning. 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, Welcomers, Coffee and Sound** are key ministries of the church and hospitality. Feel free to 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, the ushers and welcomers on Sunday. They will be more than happy to tell you what the job involves.

If you would like to be a part of any one of these ministries, please contact Ken Pennings at ken@orucc.org for more information. Schedules run January through December.

**Web:**

www.orucc.org

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**VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENTS**

**Ushers**
- Sept 9 Phil & Judy Winkel, Peter Fabian
- Sept 16 Larry & Sharon Goss, Jon Blanchard
- Sept 23 Jarrett Gersten, Joyce Binder, Jerry Nelson
- Sept 30 Carolyn Carlson, Bob & Carol Prugh
- Oct 7 Bob & Carol Prugh, Jon Blanchard

**Welcomers**
- Sept 9 Charlene Gallagher, Heather Stevens, Barb Hummel
- Sept 16 Mary Loving, Dick & Lois Rossmiller
- Sept 23 Ruthanne Landsness, Hope Soroos, Leah Narans
- Sept 30 Helen Horn, Joyce Pohl
- Oct 7 Barb McLeod, Hope Soroos, Mary Loving

**Sound**
- Sept 9 Jarrett Gersten
- Sept 16 Chuck Kaspar
- Sept 23 Ken Psyc
- Sept 30 Paul Hedges
- Oct 7 Andrew Beckett

**Coffee**
- Sept 9 8:30-9:45 Brian & Rachael Lancor
- 9:45 Char & Tom Klossner
- Sept 16 Jerry Hagen, Marty Bero
- Sept 23 Jerry Hagen, Dan Stevens
- Sept 30 Chuck Kaspar, Rich Hoard
- Oct 7 Annette & Brian Porter

**Financial Secretary**
- Sept 9 Peter Hoff
- Sept 16 Gene Dyar
- Sept 23 Hope Soroos
- Sept 30 Nancy Wettersten
- Oct 7 Mary Bucknell

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