Spiritually Alive,  
Joyfully Inclusive,  
Committed to Justice

Sunday Morning

January 5
9 am Java & Jesus  
10 am Epiphany  
Laura Crow preaching  
“Home by Another Way”  
Music: ORUCC Choir  
11 am Fellowship

January 12  
9 am Care of Creation  
10 am Laura Crow preaching  
Music: Handbell Choir  
11 am Fellowship

January 19  
9 am No programming  
10 am Ken Pennings preaching  
Music: ORUCC Choir  
11 am Fellowship

January 26  
9 am Racial Justice-Helene Nelson  
10 am Laura Crow preaching  
Music: TRU Gumption  
11 am Fellowship  
Chili Cook Off

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IN THE INTERIM by Laura Crow

Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,  
Acts 9:18

Every New Year brings with it the feeling that something is about to be revealed or made new—that's why we make those lists of resolutions! Maybe it is the beginning of a new decade, or a reference to physical eyesight, but this “2020” year, especially, has people thinking about vision, and anticipating this year as one in which we seek clarity or purpose and direction.

Scripture often employs the imagery of blindness to describe the inability or unwillingness of persons to perceive the presence of God or comprehend divine revelation. The psalmist declares that it is the Lord who "gives sight to the blind" (Psalm 146:8), and Jesus' first public sermon finds him proclaiming fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophetic promise of "recovery of sight to the blind" (Luke 4:18). With humility, I remember that some of Jesus' strongest rebukes were directed at religious leaders, those who thought they had this whole God-thing figured out, calling them "blind guides of the blind" (Matt 15:14).

The cure for spiritual blindness comes from opening the “eyes of our heart,” learning to see clearly the blind spots, discontinuities, and suffering in our selves and in our world and choosing to respond with presence, curiosity, humility, and compassion. Spiritual vision helps us see the divine in us and in one another—even those people we might otherwise choose to ignore or cast out.

I listened to a podcast recently about a friendship between a former white nationalist and an Orthodox Jew. One thing that intrigued me was a statement that the person from the marginalized or oppressed group was at a particular advantage to building a bridge where others might not be. Also that both community outrage and personal friendship are required to change a heart. Our world is very skilled at outrage, but we often forget that God’s vision for the world is not simply turning the tables and creating a new oppressed class, but all people living together in abundance.

The question for us is where is God leading the church into the New Year? What scales need to fall from our eyes? What experiences, bridges, and friendships will help us get there? If you would like to listen to the podcast, you can find it here...


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ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF—Jan 26

Dust off your crock pot and dig up your favorite, chili-splattered recipe card, it is time for ORUCC’s Annual Chili Cook-Off!  
Who will take home the coveted BLUE RIBBON this year? Find out when you join us on January 26 as ORUCC Top Chef's prepare their favorite recipes to be eaten and judged by the congregation!
Embracing the Darkness by Ken Pennings

The least amount of possible daylight hours occurs on the winter solstice, which was December 21, 2019. Increased darkness during the winter months is a real struggle for many of us.

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 in our churches we 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, opportunities to truly grieve our losses, moan in our pain, and 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.

Hospitality Ministry Mini-Fair—January 12
Come! Learn about ORUCC Hospitality Ministries & SIGN UP using the on-line scheduling tool! See page 6 for more information.

Volunteers

Financial Secretary
Jan 5 Peter Hoff
Jan 12 Meg Stevens
Jan 19 Mary Bucknell
Jan 26 Nancy Wettersten

Welcomers
Jan 5 Alice Anderman
Joyce Pohl
Jan 12 Barbara Louden
OPEN
OPEN
OPEN
Jan 26 Dianne Stevens
OPEN
OPEN

Ushers
Jan 5 Peter Fabian
OPEN
Jan 19 Larry Goss
Jarrett Gersten
Phil Winkel
Jan 26 Phil Winkel
OPEN
OPEN

Jan 12 Judy & Phil Winkel
Jon Blanchard
Jan 19
Jan 26

OPEN
OPEN
OPEN

Jan 12
Jan 26

OPEN
OPEN

Liturgists
Jan 5 OPEN
Jan 12 Ruthanne Landsness
Jan 19 OPEN
Jan 26 Ken Psyck

AV Team
Jan 5 Jarrett Gersten
Jan 12 Paul Hedges
Jan 19 Charles Kaspar
Jan 26 Jared Erickson

Volunteers Needed

Sign up ON-LINE!
Contact Ken Pennings, Tammy Martens or Laura Crow with any questions.
https://www.orucc.org/volunteer/
How to Have a Less Anxious Holiday with Family

by Tammy Martens

Celebrating Christmas and New Year’s often includes family gatherings. It can be a wonderful time for being together, but it may also produce anxiety and difficult moments. Kathleen Smith, a Family Systems’ Therapist, often asks her clients to consider how they can approach family gatherings with curiosity instead of anxiety. For many people, it’s a rare opportunity to see how a family functions on a larger scale. “You cram everyone together, pump them full of carbs, and watch the family do what it does best—try very hard to manage the anxiety in the room.”

Because there can often be tension in togetherness, families all employ a number of fairly predictable strategies to calm things down. Do you expect to see any of these behaviors at your family gathering?

1. Turning on TV to avoid conversation
2. Using spouse or sibling as a buffer
3. Becoming super helpful to avoid conversation
4. Offering unsolicited advice
5. Gossiping about somebody who’s not present
6. Sticking to superficial conversation
7. Playing with kids to avoid grown-up conversation
8. Using alcohol to calm down
9. Asking lots of questions so no one can ask them one
10. Changing the subject when politics or religion are discussed
11. Looking at their phone to pass the time
12. Agreeing with someone just to avoid conflict
13. Lying about themselves to avoid conflict
14. Texting their friends to complain
15. Pretending to use the bathroom to escape
16. Only talking about their kid and not themselves

These are just a few of the behaviors we might employ to calm down the room. Often, they work pretty well. But what is the cost of distancing yourself by texting? Of not being honest about what you believe or what’s important to you? You might miss out on:

- Developing stronger one-to-one relationships
- Learning to regulate your own anxiety
- Understanding how your family functions
- Being a resource to other family members

When you see people’s behaviors as anxiety-managing strategies instead of personal attacks, it’s a little bit easier to access your own maturity and be less anxious. And when you calm down, the whole family calms down a little too. So rather than be surprised by your family this holiday season, start to think about what you should expect and how you’d like to respond. Here are some questions you could ask yourself before the next family gathering:

- What predictable behaviors should I expect from myself?
- What predictable behaviors should I expect from family members?
- What is the most mature, principled version of myself doing in response to all these behaviors?

(Adapted from Want to Have a Less Anxious Thanksgiving with Your Family? By Kathleen Smith)
TruFunction &
TruGumption Concert
Saturday, February 1
Tickets will be on sale in January

Make plans to join us for a spectacular concert featuring lots of new songs and many of your favorite oldies but goodies!
And, yes, there will be DANCING!
And an intermission with DELICIOUS snacks!
Shake off those winter doldrums and come to this concert—it will be great therapy and the BEST thing to do on February 1st!
This will be the BIG fundraiser for our 2020 Youth Mission Trip.

Prayers of Joy
- For eight new members who joined the church on Dec. 15th: Alice & David Anderman, Sue Cleary-Koch, Heidi Fahey, Lee Johnsen, Sue & Steve Pearson, and Tracie VanGorder.
- For the Christmas Eve services and the joy of this holiday season.
- For all of our choirs, which have provided such wonderful music this season.
- Our children under the direction of Julie Mazer
- TruFunction, under the direction of Rob Martens, Megan Piper and Kythie Boyd
- Hand-Bells, under the direction of Bethany Schultz
- ORUCC Choir, under the direction Bruce Gladstone & Vicki Nonn.
- For our teens conducting a number of holiday fundraisers to support their mission trip next summer.
- For Mary White celebrating her 100th birthday on Dec. 27th and gratitude for the many many cards and blessings shared by members of the congregation and friends.
- For Nancy Wettersten’s brother-in-law Steve who came through surgery successfully.
- For all who have agreed to serve on Mission Teams, Ministries, and the Leadership Team. Your energy and willingness to serve is much appreciated!

Prayers of Concern
- For Bruce Gladstone grieving the death of his husband Brian Wilkes. There will be a Memorial Service on Sunday, Jan. 5, at 12:30, at ORUCC.
- For Sara Roberts’ daughter Ann who fell and crushed a knee cap.
- For Mary Bucknell’s niece Christine who had surgery recently to improve her deteriorating eyesight.
- For Ali Blanchard who is in treatment at a mental health facility.
- For Betty Swanson recovering at home after a fall which resulted in two broken bones in her neck.
- For Judy Schaeffer recovering at home following a stroke.
- For Char Klossner in palliative care for cancer.
- For Phil Haslanger and Ellen Reuter’s infant grandson Clark receiving treatment for cancer.
- For Darren Schoer’s brother John who is struggling with a rapidly progressing ALS.
- For Autumn & Michael Gentry’s daughter Ila, who recently received a bone marrow transplant. The Gentrys attended ORUCC before moving to Milwaukee.
- For Jennifer Eggerling-Boeck’s niece Marjica who underwent surgery on Christmas day to clear a blocked shunt, and for her continued recovery and hope for the new year.
- Prayer’s for Sharon & Larry Goss and their daughter, Laura Miller as Laura faces cancer treatments.
January Compassion Offering:

David's Educational Opportunity Fund

David’s Educational Opportunity Fund is a small non-profit which provides financial, educational, and emotional support for a small number of Ecuadorian young people pursuing their dreams of higher education and a career. Most have been members of the Working Boys’ Center in Quito, Ecuador, and their families have very limited resources. We aim to provide consistent and comprehensive support for the students and their families so that the students can complete their educations and develop fully their talents, leadership abilities, and qualities of character. This support is comprehensive, since the parents of these students choose to forgo, at considerable short-term sacrifice, the income that these students could bring to their families and permit them to continue to advance in their studies. We do this work in honor of our son, David, who disappeared while traveling in Ecuador in 2002, just a few months before his 21st birthday. He was already a world traveler, and acutely aware of the value of education and of the world’s inequities and disparities.

You can find out more about this organization on their website: https://davidsedfund.org/. Also, Maggie Fekler & Mike Byrd will join us in worship on January 19th to share information.

Please write “compassion offering” on the memo line of your check so that we can acknowledge the contribution on your giving statement.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

College Scholarships Available:

Members of Orchard Ridge UCC are invited to apply for 2020-2021 college scholarships of $1,000 to $2,000 from the Frank E. Page Scholarship Fund. Applicants should be planning to begin or continue education at any accredited 2- or 4-year college or university, and should have a record of academic achievement, service to church and community, and demonstrated financial need. The application deadline is February 15, 2020; contact scholarships@firstcongmadison.org for an electronic application.

2019 Monthly Compassion Offering Summary:

January—WI Council of Churches Statewide Youth Summit on Gun Violence: $1650.00
February—Madison Urban Ministries: $1927.22
March—One Great Hour of Sharing: $3478.00
April—The Crossing Campus Ministry: $1753.49
May—Thea’s Table: $2367.33
June—Dane County Immigration Assistance Collaborative: $2529.72
July—Habitat for Humanity: $1459
August—The Returning Citizens Resource Fund: $2793.12
September—Family Resource Centers at Orchard Ridge and Falk Elementary: TOTAL $2462 (split evenly between the two schools—$1232 each)
October—Haiti Vulnerable Children’s Fund: $3015.99
November—Literacy Link: $2383.12
December—Clean Water for Gaza & UCC Christmas Fund: $4980.35 (split evenly between the two organizations—$2490.18 each)

2019 TOTAL—$30,798.35
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Turn these interests into a full tuition scholarship.

ULRICH SCHOLARS REQUIREMENTS
- Declare a major or minor in religion
- Participate in the programming of the Ulrich Center for Philosophy, Ethics, and Christian Thought
- Pursue social justice advocacy on campus and in the local community
- Must be admitted to Lakeland University

APPLY NOW! LAKELAND.EDU/APPLY
APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEB. 1, 2020
INTERVIEWS: FEB. 20, 2020
LU LAKELAND UNIVERSITY
Hospitality Ministry
Mini-Fair—January 12
After worship on Jan. 12th, you will have an opportunity to browse tables in Friendship Hall to learn about the hospitality ministries of ushering, welcoming, and coffee-making.
There are many OPEN spots still available this month—see page 2 of the newsletter.
Unsure how to use SignUp Genius, the online scheduler? Volunteers will be on-hand to assist you in signing up online.
Please consider stepping into one or more of these important ministries by contacting Ken Pennings at ken@orucc.org.

Search Committee Update
We have recently had an in-person interview with a candidate and the candidate has also met with Ken and Tammy. In addition, we have had a Skype interview with a new candidate and have scheduled an in-person interview in late January.
We appreciate your patience and continuing prayers as we enter the new year. As always, if you have any questions about the process, you can ask Dana Dobbins, Chris Thomas, Doug Piper, Kim Kasper, Brian Lancor, Barbara Stretchberry, Mary Bucknell or Sara Roberts.

Family Game Night:
Family Game Night meets on Friday, January 3, 6-8pm! Meet in the Friendship Hall for fun games, fellowship, and food.
FAQs: Do I have to have kids to attend? No! Everyone is welcome.
What kind of games do you play? Strategy games, word games, cards, legos, party games. No experience necessary. We’ll teach each other our favorite games.
Is there food? Yes, usually everyone brings something simple to share. To sign up to bring a main dish, contact Rachael Lancor.
When do you meet? First Fridays of the month. Questions? Contact Rachael Lancor (rachel.anderman@gmail.com)

Music Rehearsal Schedule:

ORUCC Adult Choir: Rehearsals 7:00pm—8:30pm Wednesdays. Contact Bruce Gladstone or Vicki Nonn.

Handbell Choir: Rehearsals 7:00pm—8:15pm Mondays. Contact Bethany Schulz.

TruFunction Youth Band: Rehearsals 11:00am—1:00pm Sundays. Contact Rob Martens.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!
All are invited to join!

All Church January Retreat:
January 17-19, 2019
FUN For All Ages!
Our church will hold its 11th Annual Winter Retreat at Pilgrim Center (Green Lake, WI) January 17-19, 2020. Wonderful lodging, food, outdoor fun, crafts, music, conversations/sharing around the fireplace, and so much more is being planned for this weekend with the hope that our friendships and faith will be deepened and encouraged. There will be guided activities for all age groups on Saturday morning. We begin the retreat on Friday evening and finish around 11:00 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Housing for the retreat: Pilgrim Center with a capacity of 90 people.
Cost to stay at Pilgrim Center—$115 (12 years and older), $90 (4 to 11 years), $20 (0 to 3 years). This includes two nights lodging and four meals. Enormous bargain! Go to www.orucc.org to make payment.
Every attendee’s cost is subsidized $20 by the church.
Due to limited space, we will attempt to honor lodging preferences on a first come first serve basis based on paid registration. Thank you for your understanding.
Care of Creation Green Corner:

From the Care of Creation Committee

This fall we asked RUCC members to estimate the amount of sea level rise worldwide if all of Greenland’s glaciers melted. Kurt Jaehnig submitted a carefully constructed answer to our question. He calculated 24.7 ft. of oceanic rise. He was extremely close to the value of 24.5 ft. published in an August Wisconsin State Journal article. See his work posted next to the kitchen on the church message board. Thanks, Kurt!

Adult Education on January 12 at 9:00 am is brought to you by Care of Creation:

As people of faith who love God’s beautiful earth, we are tasked with taking care of it. There are many ways to do that and one of them is recycling. Care of Creation has invited George Dreckmann, former czar of all things recycled in the city of Madison, to talk to us about recycling – what, how and what happens to it after we do it. George was the city recycling coordinator for many years and he has seen many changes in the recycling business. And he is an entertaining speaker. So come and join us for this fun and educational talk. And bring your questions.

Lectionary Bible Study:

Come and explore the weekly scripture texts in a Lectionary Bible Study Group that meets on Mondays from 12:00pm-1:00pm.

Together, we read through all four assigned texts for a given Sunday, explore their historical contexts, consider what common themes are present, and search for applications of these passages in our daily lives.

All are welcome—feel free to bring your lunch—come as you are able! Contact Laura Crow at pastor-laura@orucc.org.

Senior Exercise Class:

Retirees are invited to join a low impact balance and strengthening exercise class at ORUCC at 10:00 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays through February. We usually meet in Friendship Hall—except when tables are set up for other activities and then we meet in the lower level. They can be adapted to all levels.

The exercises are based on Otago Falls Prevention program which was promoted in last month’s AARP magazine as proven to decrease falls risk. All activities can be adapted to your skill level and are simple enough to continue on your own at home.

There is no set fee for the class which will run 12-15 weeks, and a donation of $50-$60 to The Heart Room is requested. If you are interested please leave your name with Julie Wombacker, in the office or contact Joyce Pohl with questions (206-5697 or japo.hl@gmail.com)

Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort (WAVE) Meetings:

WAVE (Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort) meets 6:30pm-8:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month, until gun laws change. We will meet in Friendship Hall.

For more information on WAVE contact Joyce Pohl at 206-5697 or japo.hl@gmail.com.

Porchlight is in Need of Blankets:

Porchlight Shelter is in need of blankets. NOT a “throw” or comforter or something knit or crocheted. A washable blanket that can cover a man. There is a tub in the crossroads to put them in. Ann Avery will deliver to the shelter.

A Note of Thanks...

Thank you all for the wonderful cards this past month, as I celebrated my 100th birthday. All of you are all my “family”, even if I have not been able to worship with you recently.

Your messages and the hugs I received at the Over 55 luncheon filled my heart with love.

Wales is where I was born and raised before coming to the US and there is a Welsh saying...

“Thou knowest what my heart saveth ... diolch am eich cariad”, which means—thank you for your love and support.

Blessings to each and every one of you in 2020,

Mary White
Women’s Book Group— January 2
Our next gathering will be on Thursday, January 2, from 1:30 to 3:00 in the Alfred Swan Room. We’ll consider what books to read in 2020. We encourage each woman attending to bring a couple of suggestions of titles for us to consider. In less than a minute for each book, tell us its genre, why you like it, why you think it would be good material for discussion, etc.

If you plan to attend the January meeting, please let Jan Christian know (jchrist@wisc.edu or 827-0500). If you wonder what we’ll read and discuss in February, keep an eye on this space in the newsletter and Sunday bulletins!

Women’s (and Men’s!) Breakfast—January 3— NEW LOCATION:
The Breakfast Groups will meet Friday, January 3rd at 8:30 at the Village Inn, Oakwood Village University Woods, 6201 Mineral Point Road.

Directions: Mineral Point Road to Island Drive, turn South into the Oakwood Campus. Follow Island Drive (do not take the immediate right turn) Keep going over two speed bumps until you get to a stop sign. Turn right and in a short block Heritage covered entrance will be on your right. When inside, turn left and follow the walk until you get to the Village Inn, which is located in Heritage.

Parking: There are spaces in the front circle for parking. Indoor parking is also available on Island Drive, the second entrance to Parking Garage labeled Heritage Oak Parking. Press the button, a voice will assist you and open the garage door. Park in any place designated Visitor Parking. Take elevator to 1st floor and follow the walk leading to the Village Inn.

Please join us for casual conversation on many topics.

Knitting & Crafts Group— January 6:
The group will meet on Monday, January 6 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.

Movie Group—January 10
Due to the all church retreat the third weekend in January, we will be meeting on the second Friday this month, January 10. Many excellent films now showing. Watch the Sunday church bulletin for a suggested discussion focus on a specific film. We welcome all members and friends of members. Please RSVP Steve Sheets: im1042@tds.net

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 helene-margret@gmail.com with questions.

Men’s Group—Jan 13, 27:
The ORUCC Men’s Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, from 7:15pm-8:45pm in the Romero Room Contact John Lemke at jlemke1@charter.net or 829-3692 if you are interested in joining this group.

9:00am Adult Ed Hour:
Several special events are on the schedule for the season of Advent. Be sure to mark your calendars for these dates:

Jan 5—Java & Jesus discussion with a reading on Epiphany led by Dan Ross-miller
Jan 12—Care of Creation presentation by George Dreckman, Madison Recycling Coordinator
Jan 19—NO 9am programming today
Jan 26—Racial Justice presentation coordinated by Helene Nelson.

All are welcome. January 5, 26 will be offered in the Alfred Swan Room, January 12 will be in Friendship Hall. Please check the weekly bulletin for readings and other information on these topics.

Over 55—January 14:
Join us for a superb luncheon and program at 11:30am on Tuesday, January 14. Our speaker will be Professor Sis sel Schroeder, UW Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. He will speak on “Wisconsin’s First Peoples.” Come and learn and be surprised! We gather in time to begin the meal at 11:30 and Professor Schroeder will begin her presentation at 12:30.

Greetings Cards Make
GREAT Gifts:
$4 each or 6 for $20 available in the crossroads

All proceeds go to help struggling families in our neighborhood with eviction prevention. Here’s an example: A woman whose son passed away needed rent assistance because of unexpected funeral costs.

Thank you to Cheryl Donkle and Tim Melin for help with card production.
ORUCC Welcomes New Members:

David Anderman - I grew up in a pastor’s family, my father, both grandfathers, and all my uncles except one were ministers, as well as a number of cousins. You might describe ministry as the family business. I graduated from high school in Shamokin, PA, in the anthracite mining region of Pennsylvania. I have an A.B. from the University of Pennsylvania and both a master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Chicago Divinity School. While in Chicago I worked at an African-American Congregational (UCC) congregation on the South Side and wrote my dissertation about that congregation. My first ordained position, in 1975, was in Champaign, IL. From there I moved to Baltimore, where Alice and I met. Her bio fills in from there. I retired as Senior Minister of First Congregational (UCC) in Waterville, ME after forty years of ordained ministry. I have served on Church and Ministry Committees, on conference boards of directors, and twice as a General Synod delegate (for a total of four General Synod meetings). I have a continuing intellectual interest in theology, the church, and social concerns. My years in Chicago also left me with an abiding interest in racial justice. My hobbies include playing piano (classical mainly), traditional black and white film photography, and woodworking.

Alice Zimmerman Anderman -- Alice grew up in Lancaster County Pennsylvania. She graduated from Solanco High School, Millersville University, and Lancaster Theological Seminary where she received both a Masters of Divinity and a Doctor of Divinity degree. Before attending seminary she taught art for four years. In 1976 after she was ordained into Christian ministry, she moved to Baltimore Maryland where she served as pastor of St. Mark’s United Church of Christ. In Baltimore she met David Anderman, a neighboring pastor. She and David were married on April 28, 1979. Their children Rachael (Lancor) and Jonathan were born in Baltimore. They moved to Schuylkill Haven Pennsylvania in 1984 where Dave and Alice served as co-pastors of St. Paul’s UCC. After 6+ years they moved to Pennsburg PA and served as co-pastors of Pennsburg UCC. When the kids were near college age, Dave and Alice served separate churches in PA. Alice served Immanuel UCC and Topton and Bowers UCC (charge). Dave and Alice’s next move was to Waterville Maine where they served as pastors of First Congregational Church UCC. After 8 years Alice moved south of Waterville and served Winthrop UCC. She retired in 2014 from Winthrop after 38 years in ministry. Dave and Alice’s children now live in Madison and Boston. Both are married: Rachael to Brian and Jonathan to Erin. Rachael and Brian received their PhD’s from University of Wisconsin and teach physics at Edgewood College. Jonathan and Erin received their law degrees from Boston University Law School and are lawyers in Boston. Alice and Dave just moved to Madison in August to be close to Rachael, Brian, and their 10 year old grandson Ben.

Sue Cleary-Koch — Sue grew up in Saginaw, MI where her father was a high school teacher and her mother a musician. Sue graduated from Denison (Ohio) University, taught high school English in Newark, OH for one year, then moved with her husband, Thomas Cleary, to his home in Milwaukee. Tom, a radio announcer, was a news man at WRIT in Milwaukee from 1958-64. Sue taught English at Milwaukee Downer Seminary, an all-girls private school. When their daughter was born in 1964, Sue stopped teaching full-time, but taught freshman English courses and worked on a master’s in English at UW-M. Sue and Tom moved to Madison in 1968 when Tom became the Personnel Director at the UW WI Union. Their son was born in 1969 very prematurely, so for several years Sue was an “at home” mom. From 1974-84, Sue was the office manager for the League of Women Voters state office. 1984-85, she served as staff for Governor Tony Earl’s Commission on Economic Development. In 1985 after many years of volunteering, Sue became the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Public Radio Association until retirement. Sue and Tom divorced in 1983. Sue retired and remarried in 2001. Milton Koch was 75, an engineer who had taught at MATC-Milwaukee and eventually was the Director of Operations at their north campus. Sue and Milton lived in Grafton where he eventually succumbed to Alzheimer’s in 2013. Sue has now returned to Madison to be near her son Michael, his family, and many long-time friends. Sue’s daughter Beth is happily situated in Los Alamos, CA, a perfect travel destination.
Heidi Klossner Fahey -- Heidi was born and raised in Madison Wisconsin. She is the daughter of Char and Tom Klossner, and attended Orchard Ridge UCC with her family through High School, until graduating in 1991 from James Madison Memorial. Heidi went to Madison College for a year to study Police Science and worked at Empire Photo on Monroe Street while living downtown Madison and then Verona. Reverend Karla Schmid married Heidi and Chad Fahey, here at ORUCC, in 1994. Chad and Heidi both started working for Electronic Theatre Controls, in Middleton and lived in Lodi for the next five years. The year 1999 brought both excitement and joy! Heidi visited London for work, traveling internationally for the first time. Chad was promoted to the Materials Department and they bought their first house in Belleville, WI. To end the year with a bang! their first son Noah was born on Veterans Day (it happened to be a beautiful 73-degree day)! Two more sons would follow, Miles arrived in 2002 and Owen was born in 2006. Throughout Heidi’s 15 years at ETC, she worked as a Customer Service Manager, IT administrator, Corporate Trainer, IT Project Manager and a Business Analyst. Chad worked at several pet facilities, while working full time as a Buyer. He started training dogs on weekends and evenings. This is where his skill and passion for dog behavior grew. In 2009, Chad and Heidi left the manufacturing industry and started Charlie’s Bark Park, a doggy daycare/overnight facility located in Belleville. They opened a second location in Monroe, WI a few years later. Chad is now focusing on coaching and canine-human behavior and recently returned from a workshop with Cesar Milan. Owning a “mom n pop” shop has its challenges, especially when it comes to long hours. After ten years, Heidi and her family are excited to be transitioning away from working weekend shifts! It has been so nice to be able to attend church, meet new friends and be part of a congregation that is full of warmth and welcome!

Lee Johnson -- Lee grew up in farm and ranch country in rural South Dakota. He describes his first leadership as “leading a herd of cattle from the pasture to the barn.” (I especially learned a lot about leading from behind—where to step and where not to step.) He received a B.S. degree from South Dakota State University and M.A. from Truman State University in Kirksville, MO. He spent the first 10 years of his career working for the Federal government, and the next 10 working in the corporate sector in Human Resources roles, primarily in learning and development. Since 2002, he has managed his leadership development business which provides training, management and organizational development consulting and executive coaching. He has worked internationally and spoken at conferences in Europe as well as the U.S. In 2019, he published his book, “Literally Virtually: Making Virtual Teams Work.” Lee and his husband, Rex, moved to Madison in early 2016 when Rex retired from pastoral ministry after service as a Methodist, then UCC pastor for nearly 40 years. Since 2017, Rex has served as part-time interim pastor of a UCC church in Hawaii. They both enjoy traveling and still getting acquainted with the recreational and leisure opportunities of Madison. Lee appreciates ORUCC’s ministry both within and outside of the church and its commitment to inclusion of all.

Susan & Steve Pearson -- I (Sue) grew up in Milwaukee and attended UW majoring in Social Work. I returned to school many years later while living in California and received a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Redlands. I returned to Madison in 1996 and worked as a program manager at UW until I retired in 2013. My first granddaughter was born a few weeks after I retired, and I had the great joy of being able to babysit when my daughter returned to work. My husband, Steve, is a transplant from Southern New England, who graduated from high school in Connecticut, attended a small, church related college in North Carolina in the early ‘60’s and did his graduate work in Chicago in the late ‘60’s. He came to Madison in August, ’77, for work. We met on campus and have now been married 15 years. Between us, we have four adult children and six grandchildren. We have been looking for a church with a strong social justice focus and a friendly, active congregation. I feel we have found all of this and more at Orchard Ridge and are very happy to join the church.

Tracie VanGorder -- I have lived in Madison for 8 years now. I was born in Hawaii and resided there until I was 8 years old. I lived most of the remaining years of my life in various regions of California. I received my Registered Nurse license and worked mostly in Labor and Delivery in California. I moved to Wisconsin to be near family. I became acquainted with Orchard Ridge church through Jan Christian, who is a friend of my mom. I was baptized in an Episcopalian church, confirmed in a Lutheran church, but Orchard Ridge is the place for me. The people here are very friendly, and I like Orchard Ridge’s commitment to justice and involvement with the community. My hobbies include meditation, working out at the gym, yoga, walking and reading. I am also a vegetarian who like to cook almost all my meals from scratch, without any packaged foods.
**2020 Nominations Update:**

Leadership Team ........................................ (new positions in **BOLD**)
- Past-Moderator ........................................ Angela Schoeneck
- Moderator ........................................ Kathy Borkowski
- Moderator-Elect ..................................... **JOHN LEMKE**
- Treasurer ............................................ John Day
- Clerk .................................................. Page Danley
- Adult Faith Formation Liaison .............. Jennifer Eggerling-Boeck
- Christian Witness & Service Liaison ...... **NEED NEW**
- Congregational Life Liaison ................ Megan Piper
- Resources ........................................... **CHUCK KASPAR**
- Youth Faith Formation ......................... Hal Evensen

Ministry of Adult Faith Formation
- Chair .................................................. **NATHAN BUBENZER**
- Members ............................................. Karen Falkner, Sharon Goss, Dan Rossmiller, **DIEP NGUYEN, PAM OLIVER, NEED NEW**

Ministry of Christian Witness & Service
- Chair .................................................... **HELENE NELSON**
- Members ............................................. Mary Neuhaus, Paul Patenude, **JANE GLAZE, KELLIE & DAN MILLER, BRUCE OLSSEN, JEN WALKER**

Ministry of Congregational Life
- Chair .................................................... **NEED NEW**
- Members ............................................. Lauren Amburn, Cyndy Andrews, Francesca Vash, **KITY ELLIOTT, REBECCA ERICKSON, NEED NEW**

Ministry of Resources
- Chair ...................................................... John Blanchard
- Members ............................................. Rick Daluge, Matt Dixon, Jarrett Gersten, Pete Haskins, Gabe Martens, Arpad Olajos,
- .......................................................... Joyce Pohl, Darren Schoer, **PAUL EGGERLING-BOECK, NICOLE LENDBORG**

Ministry of Youth Faith Formation
- Chair ...................................................... Kristin Muckian
- Members ............................................. Karen Jaehnig, Ann Moyer, Marc Walker, Shannon Weiland, **NEED NEW**

Stewardship
- Chair ..................................................... Jennifer Eggerling-Boeck
- Members ............................................. **ROGER AVERY, NEED NEW**

Nominations
- Chair ..................................................... John Lemke
- Members ................................................ **NEED TWO NEW**

Financial Secretaries
- Nancy Wettersten, Hope Soroos, Mary Bucknell, Peter Hoff, Meg Stevens, Marge Wennen

*For questions about Nominations, please contact Kathy Borkowski (kborkowski22@gmail.com) or Ken Pennings (ken@orucc.org)*

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*Gracious God, we lift up to You the leadership of ORUCC.*

*Help us respect and honor them as they direct the affairs of our church.*

*May they wholeheartedly give their attention to prayer and ministry of the Word.*

*Fill them with Your Spirit and let them operate in wisdom as they carry out their responsibilities.*

*May they be gentle and honest as they deal with people.*

*Bless their households with peace and respect.*

*Amen.*
# Calendar of Events—January 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>HAPPY NEW YEAR! OFFICE CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Meditation Group</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Women’s Book Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 3</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Women’s (and Men’s) Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Family Game Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 5</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Java &amp; Jesus—Dan Rossmiller</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Celebration of Life for Brian Wilkes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 6</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Lectionary Scripture Study</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Knitting Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 8</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Adult Faith Formation Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Resources Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Meditation Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Movie Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Care of Creation Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 13</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Lectionary Scripture Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>Men’s Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>OVER 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Care of Creation Meeting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Leadership Team Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 15</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Congregational Life Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Meditation Group</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Christian Witness &amp; Service Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 17-19</td>
<td>ALL CHURCH RETREAT @ Pilgrim Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>No Adult Programming</td>
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<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Lectionary Scripture Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Labyrinth Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Meditation Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Racial Justice Presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Annual Chili Cook Off!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 27</td>
<td>12:00 noon</td>
<td>Lectionary Scripture Study</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>Men’s Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Meditation Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Leadership Retreat @ Holy Wisdom</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>TruFunction/ TruGumption Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Worship</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>ORUCC Annual Meeting</td>
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