

Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

COMMUNION

April 2020



*Spiritually Alive,
Joyfully Inclusive,
Committed to Justice*

Weekly Email Communications

Tuesdays: **BE THE CHURCH**
COVID News Updates
Stories and Ideas for how to
BE CHURCH at this time
Link to Wednesday Mid-
Week Prayer Gathering

Thursdays: **Announcements**
Ministry Updates
Community Links
Church Calendar

Saturdays: **WORSHIP**
At-home Liturgy
Songs & Sermons
Joys & Concerns

**We are also now more
active on FACEBOOK**
Daily Devotional
Music & Meditations
Humor & Inspiration
Zoom Events

LIKE or FOLLOW the Public
ORUCC FaceBook Page
[https://www.facebook.com/Orchard-
Ridge-United-Church-of-Christ-
153151264752671/](https://www.facebook.com/Orchard-Ridge-United-Church-of-Christ-153151264752671/)

JOIN our Private FB Group:
**"Members & Friends of
Orchard Ridge UCC"**
[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/372337063376173/?
source_id=153151264752671](https://www.facebook.com/groups/372337063376173/?source_id=153151264752671)

The church is still open, still active, and still bringing the GOOD NEWS of love and grace and hope to one another and to our communities.

In response to the corona virus COVID19, ALL in-person activities of the church, including Sunday worship, are migrating to an on-line form or cancelled until further notice.

News changes quickly, and we are adding new ways to connect as we learn and grow more comfortable with digital platforms. **Please be sure we have your current, preferred Email address.** If you don't have reliable access to Email, let us know you need alternative communication. We will do our best to meet your needs in a way that works for you.

Church Contact Information:

Office Manager Julie Wombacher: 608-271-7212 or
office@orucc.org

Interim Pastor Laura Crow: 608-616-2325 or
pastorlaura@orucc.org

Pastor Tammy Martens: 608-975-3184 or
tmartens@orucc.org

Pastor Ken Pennings: 608-556-2371 or ken@orucc.org

A Note about Easter... April 12

At this writing, it is not advised that we try to gather in one place for face-to-face worship but maintain our commitment to protect one another by staying home.



Your pastors are working on some supplemental ideas to use during Holy Week, and are preparing to offer a sunrise service via ZOOM for Easter in addition to the worship-at-home version that will be in the Apr. 10 Email.

What we DO know is that Easter happens with every sunrise, and that whichever Sunday we will be able to gather will feel like Easter.

A Few Words from Your Pastors...

Re-Entry During a Pandemic by *Laura Crow*

I left for vacation on February 28, two days into Lent. I left to go to the desert, to unplug and free myself to experience the beauty of the American Southwest, a part of the country I had never seen in person. My family had a handful of activities planned, but most of the trip was open to whatever opportunities presented themselves and how much time we could tolerate being in the car together. We listened to audio books by Tony Hillerman on the drive south as a way to cleanse our cultural palate of Midwestern norms and sensibilities.

The trip did not disappoint—from a lunch stop at the quirky Moon Marble Company (Bonner Springs, KS), Sloan Park (the Cubbies WON!), Native American Arts Festival (Heard Museum), Cliff Dwellings (Tonto National Monument) and Petroglyphs (V-Bar-V Heritage Site), the BIG HOLE, Hoodoos, & Windows (Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon & Arches National Parks)—each stop held unique and colorful histories, and we were able to find accessible trails and helpful guides. I won't lie—Tonto was a bit hair-raising with Charlie's wheelchair, but we all made it to the top—and back down!

Concern about COVID-19 grew exponentially as we were making our way home. We arrived back in Middleton on March 13, discussing the potential need to self-quarantine because of our extensive travels (and numerous hotel buffets!) even though no one felt sick or had any obvious symptoms.

Consulting with church leaders, we made the difficult decision to cancel Sunday worship for the 15th and we have been in virtual lockdown ever since. I have felt very disconnected over the last two weeks. Re-entry has been complicated by the reality that I haven't seen any of you in person now for nearly a month! I am grateful for technology that fills my screen with all your faces in little squares, for your grace and patience as we learn together how to BE THE CHURCH in new ways, for the intimacy of being invited into each person's living room, kitchen table, or basement study, and for the opportunity to dream together of what might now be possible, as a church, a nation, and a world "on the other side" of this current medical crisis.

How Are We Doing? by *Tammy Martens*

There wasn't a course offered in seminary about how to pastor through a pandemic. I have to admit that this has been difficult. As a mom, I am sad for our son, Gabe, who's senior year looks quite different. It is disconcerting that, in addition to this enormous challenge, this generation of 18-year-olds were the ones born in the year of 9/11. Two big "launch" times in their lives have been infused with anxiety and uncertainty. I continue to pray that they can access God's Spirit that lives in them to receive strength and hope for the day and the days to come.

Certainly this time has caused me to shift a lot of my patterns and that has proven to be good. I have made more phone calls in the past two weeks than I think I have made all year. Speaking with people rather than texting has helped make a deeper connection in the moment. Sending cards and letters in the mail have also been a new pattern for me and again has offered a sense of connection that feels very satisfying.

We hope that as you and your family navigate through this, you share your stories with us—how are you coping, how are you staying encouraged, what needs do you have that we as a church can help with, etc.

Coping with the Pandemic by *Ken Pennings*

Have we ever experienced anything quite like this?!!! We're mindful of the thousands of infections and deaths worldwide. We're more and more frightened as the virus comes closer to us and affects people we know, people close to us. We're worried that we ourselves may become infected and possibly die. At the same time, cooperating with "Safer at Home" has allowed many of us to experience quality time with those who live with us, a close connection with nature and neighbors as we take walks outdoors, a deep appreciation for online resources and video-conferencing, and the ability to work from home, which is a dream come true for many of us!

Yes, I'm afraid, but also blessed, fulfilled, and happy!

I'm so very grateful for the medical professionals, many of whom we know and love, who are working tirelessly to bring healing and recovery to those who have been infected; for the politicians who have crafted and approved legislation to bring relief to so many who are experiencing financial set-backs; for the poets, artists, vocalists, instrumentalists, authors, and humorists who are bringing us hope and laughter in the midst of this nightmare; and for the time to develop our gifts, skills and hobbies in our own homes!

The Ministry Leaders at ORUCC know how difficult and frightening this crisis is for all of us. AND, they are absolutely committed to finding creative, innovative, helpful and inspiring ways for us to continue being the church, in love, in faith, in hope, and on-line!

Prayers of Joy & Concern

FOR the safety of medical professionals...

- ORUCC Members: Dave Allen, Deanna Blanchard, Nathan Bubenzer, Ann Evensen, Gretchen Forbes, Lu Ann Griener, Arpad Olajos, Tim Ruder, Francesca Vash, and Aaron Wieland
- Ken Pennings' daughter Audrey who is a nurse at Tulane Medical Center in New Orleans.
- Pam Oliver/John Lemke's daughter Zee who expects to be called to front lines
- Jeffrey N (ER Doc in San Francisco) and Katherine N (nurse in Milwaukee working with at risk patients who are pregnant)

FOR Jeanne Garnett who is home and responding well to treatment for cellulitis

FOR the joy and surprising mobility of digital worship! People are finding ways to worship in their jammies, in the dog park, with a home altar, etc.

FOR Pam Oliver/John Lemke's son Robert who is self-isolating because of a medical condition

FOR all COVID-19 patients and their families, especially...

- Fabian (former partner of Arpad's niece in Germany)
- Mike (Tammy Marten's ministry colleague)

FOR unsung heroes like Carolyn Carlson's grandson who works at a grocery store

FOR extra strength, grace, and humor for parents & children home together

FOR the family of Susan Peiper, former member of ORUCC, who died recently

FOR those whose family members are far away or out of the country

FOR discernment by our government leaders

FOR the work of the ORUCC Search Committee and the JOY of selecting a candidate to be our new pastor

FOR elders and all who are confined to their rooms and homes without visitors.

FOR business owners making difficult decisions for their employees.

FOR students, especially seniors, unable to attend school and participate in school activities.

FOR families whose trips and vacations have been cancelled

FOR calming the frustrations of those who want so much to pitch in during the crisis, but are advised that the best thing they can do is stay at home.

FOR those without access to technology and for those who rely on person-to-person interactions for daily living.

FOR small gestures of kindness, beauty, and community that are balm for our weary souls.

FOR flexibility, good humor, and an abundance of grace as plans change, and change again

PLEASE VOTE: The ORUCC Christian Witness & Service Ministry encourages all eligible voters to exercise their rights to do so, even during this difficult and unpredictable time. Below are some facts about voting in Wisconsin and especially in the City of Madison. (The information presented is accurate as of the time this article was submitted for publication)

This information is from the League of Women Voters of Dane County"

Absentee Voting by Mail is Strongly Recommended—Have an absentee ballot mailed to you as soon as possible!

- Request your absentee ballot online at myvote.wi.gov **The deadline is April 2**
- You will need to upload a scan or photo of an acceptable voter ID **OR** Anyone restricting their contacts can request a permanent absentee ballot. **Permanent absentee ballots do not require a copy of your photo ID**
- You will receive your ballot in the mail. Fill it out carefully, and mail it back promptly.

You must be registered to vote to request an absentee ballot

- Check whether you are registered at MyVote.wi.gov
- Register online until March 30th at MyVote.wi.gov. You must have a WI Driver License or WI ID with your current address. Your address can be updated online at DMV Address Change **OR** **You may register in person until Friday April 3rd at your municipal clerk's office.** Bring proof of residence. Due to COVID-19, some offices are closed. Check with your municipal clerk for current hours.

In-Person Absentee Voting (Early Voting) and Registration

- Check with your municipal clerk for the most current hours and locations.
- Curbside service is available at the Madison City Clerk's Office (210 ML King Jr. Blvd for Madison residents. All downtown parking is free, and meters are reserved in front of the building for curbside voters. A phone number is posted to call the Clerk's office for curbside help.

Voting on Election Day—April 7

- Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. **Some polling places are changing. Check yours at myvote.wi.gov**
- You may register on Election Day at your polling place. Bring proof of residence.
- **Bring a valid ID for voting.** For help, contact the Voter ID Coalition Helpline (608-285-2141).



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

Activities Migrating to Digital Space

WORSHIP

A Sunday Worship Liturgy will be sent via Email on Saturdays. Watch for UPDATES!

April 5, Palm Sunday

Reflection by Tammy Martens

HOLY WEEK

Reflections & Actions for marking Holy Week will be sent on Saturday, April 4

April 12, Easter

Reflections by Ken Pennings & Laura Crow

This liturgy will offer an opportunity to celebrate Communion at home with bread and juice you have on hand

April 19, "Grieving" Thomas

Reflection by Laura Crow

April 26, Earth Day Turns 50!

Reflection by Laura Crow

Java & Jesus

The J&J Mission Team is experimenting with offering a weekly ZOOM gathering. **Java & Jesus will meet at 4:00pm on Thursday, April 2.**

For this first week, we will discuss Laura Crow's sermon from 3/22/20. You can find the print version here:

<https://www.orucc.org/category/sermons/>

Check your email for readings and ZOOM meeting links each week.

Weekly Meditation Group

Gathering in-person is canceled until further notice. The group is continuing to gather "in Spirit" and is sharing their weekly readings via email so anyone can use in their own practice.

The usual routine is to find a quiet, comfortable space and spend about 5 minutes in preparation. If you have never meditated before, this can be focusing on your breath and finding a place of calm in your own body.

Next, read a short poem or reflection and spend some time (20 minutes, more or less that suites you) in silent meditation, letting the words sit in your mind and heart.

When finished, spend a few minutes reflecting on your experience — maybe even share your thoughts with a friend or family member!

Sunday School

Tammy has created videos of Sunday School lessons that can be accessed on line.

Links will be posted in email and in our FaceBook Group.

Lent 2020 Daily Devotional Now Online

Daily Devotions from the 2020 Lenten booklet are being shared on Facebook and can be accessed in the Weekly Emails.

JRR TOLKIEN EVENT

"How to Safely Isolate without Turning into Gollum: Nerdy Conversations about Lord of the Rings"

Thursday, April 2

6:00pm-7:30pm via ZOOM

Join us for a lively, virtual conversation of all things Tolkien with Dr. Craig A. Boyd, Professor of Philosophy & Humanities, Author, Ethicist, and Tolkien scholar. Bring your questions and STUMP the PROFESSOR!

Join Zoom Meeting (paste address into your browser):

<https://zoom.us/j/899890645?pwd=OHNJOVBBVWZheE9EQksrWUFRRzdkdz09>

Meeting ID: 899 890 645

Password: 294645

Make & Share MUSIC & ART!

This is an OPEN call to creatives of all ages and skill levels who are interested in sharing a drawing, song, composition, or even a dance party with your church family.

Simply take a picture or video with your cell phone or computer and post it on in the "Members & Friends of Orchard Ridge UCC" private FB group.

Activities On Hold or Canceled



Clothing Drive for Casa Altas

We have CLOTHES. We have BOXES. We are waiting for a time when our youth can gather to sort and get these items ready to send. While we isolate at home, perhaps there is time to make another trip through your closet to see if you have any more donations.

THANK YOU TO ALL who have donated from your ORUCC/MMENO Sanctuary Mission Team!

Dane Sanctuary Coalition BIG READ Author Event

The Dane Sanctuary Coalition has planned a presentation by Aaron Babrow-Strain, author of "The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez" for May 14, 7-9 pm at the Madison Central Library. At this time the event is on hold. We will keep you updated as more information is available.

Annual Meeting of the Southwest Wisconsin Association of the UCC—May 2

The program part of the SWWA UCC meeting, including discussion and passage of the budget, has been postponed to a later time.

The Association WILL meet via ZOOM on Saturday, May 2 to elect officers. There is no fee at this time. Churches are encouraged to register their clergy and delegates by the April 24 deadline.

Register on-line at <https://www.wcucc.org/associations/southwest-association/resources-2/annual-meeting/>. Questions? Please contact Laura Crow.

UPDATE: Grace Episcopal Breakfast Mission Team

On the 3rd Tuesday of even numbered months (February, April, June, August, October, and December), volunteers from ORUCC provide breakfast for the Homeless Men's Shelter at Grace Episcopal Church, downtown Madison.

Due to the current health crisis the schedules are suspended as the County moves to keep the both the clients and volunteers safe. At this time, the County is providing catered meals until April 1st. We have not heard if this timeline has been extended.

In general, shoppers are needed to provide: Cereal, 2% milk, frozen OJ, butter, jam, and bread. Amounts vary by season.

If you would like to be added to the volunteer list, please contact Ann Avery at cell 401-749-3976/ home 608-298-7587. We rotate volunteers so no one is asked more than 3X a year.

Volunteers

If you have signed up to be an **Usher, Welcomer, Sunday Coffee Host, Liturgist, AV Team, Financial Secretary, Nursery Worker, Sunday School Teacher, Craft/Play Time Leader, or Music Connections Helper**, please know that we appreciate your willingness to help! At this time, all of these roles are suspended until we are able to resume in-person gatherings. If you have any questions, please be in touch with one of the pastors.

THANK YOU!

April Events Cancelled:

- April 1—NAAM Yoga
- April 2—Women's Book Group
- April 3—Women's Breakfast
- April 3—Family Game Night
- April 6—Knitting Group
- April 8—St John's Bible
- April 10—Labyrinth Walk
Good Friday Worship
- April 12—Easter Breakfast
- April 13 & 27—Men's Group
- April 14—OVER 55 Program & Luncheon
- April 17—Movie Group

Weekly Events:

- Monday: Lectionary Bible Study
Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- Tuesday: Senior Balance & Exercise
- Wednesday: Adult Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday: Senior Balance & Exercise
- Sunday: TruFunction Rehearsal



FAITH IN ACTION: RESPONDING TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Almost everyone and everything has been affected by the public health emergency of COVID-19. ORUCC members are not immune from the virus or its impacts on family life and finances. Like other neighbors, some of us are experiencing serious blows to financial security. More of us will struggle to pay bills, meet basic needs and stay in housing.

The public health emergency is a fast-developing situation. It is also a long-term situation with serious impacts, especially on people who were already vulnerable or marginalized.

How are we called to BE THE CHURCH in this situation? How do we follow the call to love our neighbors and to love ourselves?

The Christian Witness and Service Ministry (CWS), with the support of the ORUCC Leadership Team, is giving priority to **EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE**. **This will be our Compassion Offering for April and possibly for May. This fund will help OUR OWN MEMBERS who have serious financial needs, and also INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS.**

CWS initially leaned towards fund-raising for food security. Then we saw that many others were tackling the urgent short-term food needs. We will monitor how ORUCC might help with this and other basic needs in the future. As of this writing, in late March, we concluded, in consultation with Joining Forces for Families and other partners, to reaffirm the priority of supporting housing stability for those in need. The need will only increase later this spring and summer.

Our goal is to raise a total of at least \$20,000 – well beyond the usual compassion offering totals. A small group of generous champions for this cause have pledged \$15,300 (as of this writing in late March). We are off to a great start on meeting our goal!

Funds for our members in need will flow through the Pastors Discretionary Fund. The remainder will go for eviction prevention assistance in our neighborhood. The likely vehicle for eviction assistance will be **Keeping Neighbors Connected (KNC)** and/or Joining Forces for Families, or The Road Home. KNC was created and is funded jointly by ORUCC, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church. Funds are allocated to those in need by the Joining Forces for Families social worker, with recommendations from neighborhood school social workers. We will work further with KNC partners in April to adapt our approaches to meet the current needs. For more information, contact Jane Glaze (jfglaze@sbcglobal.net) or Helene Nelson (helenemargaret@gmail.com).

ORUCC has always been a generous church. If you are able, please give to the EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUND. Know that, as you assess your own family needs and capacity to give, gifts of all sizes are welcome. Send checks to the church office, with “compassion offering” in the memo line, or donate on the church web site for the April compassion offering.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

2020 Monthly Compassion Offering Summary:

January—David’s Educational Opportunity Fund: \$2441.11

February—Dane County Foster Care Youth Retreat: \$2238.00

March—One Great Hour of Sharing: TBD

April—Emergency Housing Assistance: TBD

SPRING FLOWERS ARE HERE:

Dianne Stevens has a nice selection of spring photo cards on hand. All the proceeds will go to the two church neighborhood charities, Pastor's Discretionary Fund and Keeping Neighbors Connected.

Go to website: <https://dianneandpaul.net/Photos/> to pick the photos you like, write down the Number of each photo you want, send Dianne an email with the numbers (dianne@dianneandpaul.net). She will fill your order and contact you about payment and delivery options. Cards are \$4 each or 6 for \$20.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

COVID-19-Related Scam Alerts:

The FBI has issued a warning of an increase in COVID-19-related fraud schemes. Please be alert to phony messages from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) with phishing emails and offers of phony treatments.

Campaigns particularly target the elderly, promising extra social security, investment schemes, or COVID-19 relief payments in exchange for bank account information. Some even send a realistic looking check in the mail and then gather bank account information when the check is deposited.

Please be cautious. If something seems fishy - it probably is. Ask for a second opinion before acting and remember that the church and the pastors will NEVER send emails asking for "help" purchasing gift cards or personal banking information.

A Letter from Bryan Stevenson's Equal Justice Initiative

On March 7th, 83 ORUCC folks and friends attended the private showing of "Just Mercy" at Marcus Point Cinema. When all the arrangements were made with Marcus in early February I wrote to Bryan Stevenson, author of the book and producer of the film "Just Mercy" to tell him of our church's plan to show his film, to explain our church's mission statement and to explain the existence of our mission team striving for Racial Justice.

What follows is his response:

February 2020

Dear Mr. Sheets,

On behalf of the staff at the Equal Justice Initiative, we would like to thank you and the Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ for your support and interest in JUST MERCY. EJI is hopeful that this film will have a strong impact on viewers and will help raise public awareness about some of the issues plaguing our criminal justice system. We hope that your viewing of the film and continued conversations within your community will serve as a call to action in this work in Alabama and nationwide, and we are grateful for congregations like yours for ensuring that more people see the film.

Following the screening of the film, we encourage you to visit the JUST MERCY website (justmercy.eji.org) for more information about the film, the book, and our work here at the Equal Justice Initiative. EJI's website (eji.org) also serves as a repository of resources dedicated to our racial justice and criminal justice reform work, and features up-to-date news articles about the many issues of racial bias and discrimination still facing our nation today. EJI believes we cannot understand our contemporary issues, including mass incarceration, without truthfully and honestly confronting the legacies of our nation's history of racial and economic injustice.

We would welcome those who attend your screening to visit the Legacy Museum (<https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/museum>) and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice (<https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/memorial>) here in Montgomery. With your support and commitment, we hope to build a stronger world together.

The Equal Justice Initiative
122 Commerce Street
Montgomery, AL 36104



SAVE THE DATE!

The Search Committee is very excited to announce that we have selected a candidate to be our Senior Pastor at ORUCC! She will be joining us on Sunday, May 31st to lead worship and preach the sermon followed by a vote of the congregation. You will have an

opportunity to meet and greet her on Friday evening May 29th or Saturday afternoon, May 30th. We wanted to let you know about this now because May is a very busy time of the year and we hope you will plan to be present for the meeting and vote on May 31. We know that you will be excited to learn more about our candidate so in early May you will begin to receive specific information about her, both in writing and from some of the Search Committee members at Sunday services. Before then, information about her must be kept confidential until she shares the news with her present congregation. As always, if you have any questions about the process, feel free to contact Kim Kaspar, Dana Dobbins, Chris Thomas, Doug Piper, Barbara Stretchberry, Brian Lancor, Mary Bucknell or Sara Roberts/

WORDS OF WORTH: Letters to the Border April 5, 6-8pm ONLINE MEETING

This evening will begin with a brief presentation about the links between climate change and migration. Following this presentation, we will write letters of support to the women, children and families detained at the U.S.-Mexico border.

We have a Zoom meeting set up which you can access from your computer/smartphone:

<https://zoom.us/j/233853786>.

Example letters in English and Spanish, and detail on supplies you'll need are on Google Drive

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1f26vVDkh2ftU8QphmfA7NOy9_IF4nnTp

This is a great chance to learn more about immigration and take action (even while confined at home) on this important issue.

Words of Comfort and Joy

Noisy Silence

With the world shut down in fear of a microbe, I woke
at Dawn in light rain.
The silence was deafening.
Cars and planes absent, the Highways and sky-ways
sang the song that the creator had written long ago
and I had nearly forgotten.
Warm spring breeze whispers to the trees- "wake up
my beauties"
Starch turning to sugar is soon to blast leaves from
winter buds.
Crust on flowerbeds begin to crack pushed aside as tiny
green fingers throw off winter bedding.
Water trickles, transformed from icy grip.
A Chickadee beckons for his girlfriend Phoebe as
Trumpeting Cranes stake out territory in the marsh.
Red-wing Blackbirds scree along with wicawicawica of
dove flight.
Even the woodpeckers have a part to sing.
The world is not afraid of this day,
Nor am I.

Written by ORUCC member Tim Andrews
Dedicated to ORUCC member Ree Hale

Prayer from the UCC Book of Worship

Be with us through all the unknown days lying before us:
days when the black of night settles early in the west,
days when the white of winter comes from the north,
days when we look for the red of sunrise in the east,
days when the yellow noonday lingers in the south.

Touch us that we may trust you and be strong.
so we grow in union with all our sisters and brothers.
Be with us through all the unknown days lying before us.
Amen

And the People Stayed Home

And the people stayed home.
And read books, and listened, and rested, and exer-
cised, and made art, and played games, and learned
new ways of being, and were still. And listened more
deeply.
Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some
met their shadows. And the people began to think
differently.
And the people healed.
And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, danger-
ous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to
heal.
And when the danger passed, and the people joined
together again, they grieved their losses, and made
new choices, and dreamed new images, and created
new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had
been healed.

Written by local poet Kitty O'Meara

A Blessing for Face Masks

Holy, eternal One,
We ask your blessing upon the face masks made by so
many in their homes. They are made with great ur-
gency and compassion.
Bless the hands of those who cut the fabric, thread the
needles and work the machines to create these to-
kens of hope and healing. From figuring out patterns,
using stashes of fabric and hours of sewing, these
masks were created to bring some relief and order to
chaos. May those who receive and use them know
they are tokens of love.
Bless the health care workers who receive these gifts.
May these masks provide them with some comfort
from the overwhelming tasks at hand.
When they feel alone, weary and at a breaking point,
may these masks of love remind them of so many
who support and appreciate their vocational call of
healing and courage in the face of this dread disease.
Give these servants of healing strength and suste-
nance for the work before them.
In prayerful hope,
Amen.

Written by retired UCC pastor, Rev. Deborah Payden

Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ

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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!

www.orucc.org

Office Hours

All Staff are working from home. If you need access to the church building please contact Julie Wombacher or one of the pastors.

Thank you

Upcoming Newsletter: **June 1, 2020**

Information to be included in the June Newsletter is due

Thursday, May 23 by 9:00am

E-Posts:

Information to be included in the three weekly E-Posts is due by
NOON the day before posting

Facebook:

Anyone who has joined the Private FB Group "Members & Friends of Orchard Ridge UCC" is encouraged **to post directly** to share pictures, videos, ideas, prayer requests, and words of inspiration and hope with our church family

How to ZOOM: Zoom Instructions for Participants

Before a videoconference:

1. You will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with speaker or headphones. You will have the opportunity to check your audio immediately upon joining a meeting.
2. Zoom works best on an updates browser—Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge. If you have an old browser you may need to download an update
3. You will receive notice for a videoconference or conference call from your committee analyst. The notification will include a link to "Join via computer" as well as phone numbers for a conference call option. It will also include the 9-digit (usually) Meeting ID.

To join the videoconference:

1. At the start time of your meeting, click on the link in your invitation to join via computer. You may be instructed to download the Zoom application.
2. You have an opportunity to test your audio at this point by clicking on "Test Computer Audio." Once you are satisfied that your audio works, click on "Join audio by computer."
3. You may also join a meeting without clicking on the invitation link by going to <http://join.zoom.us> on any browser and entering the Meeting ID provided by your committee analyst.
4. If you are having trouble hearing the meeting, you can join via telephone while remaining on the video conference:

- On your phone, dial the teleconferencing number provided in your invitation.
- Enter the Meeting ID number (also provided in your invitation) when prompted using your touch-tone keypad.

To join the conference by PHONE ONLY:

If you do not have a computer but are interesting in hearing the meeting, you can join via telephone:

- On your phone, dial the teleconferencing number provided in your invitation. (NOTE: on a landline this number may be a toll call)
- Enter the Meeting ID number (also provided in your invitation) when prompted using your touch-tone keypad.

Participant controls in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen:

Using the icons in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen, you can:

- Mute/Unmute your microphone (far left)
- Turn on/off camera ("Start/Stop Video")
- Invite other participants
- View Participant list – opens a pop-out screen that includes a "Raise Hand" icon that you may use to raise a virtual hand if you are muted and want to speak.
- Share your screen
- Send messages to participants using the "Chat" box

Using the icons in the upper right corner of the Zoom screen, you can:

- Toggle between "speaker" and "gallery" view. "Speaker view" shows the active speaker. "Gallery view" tiles all of the meeting participants.

UNITED WAY of Dane County: COVID-19 RESPONSE HUB

The United Way of Dane County has created a website for organizing needs and services in response to the COVID-19 crisis.



United Way
of Dane County

Go to <https://www.unitedwaydanecounty.org/> for information on volunteer opportunities

If you are **an individual in need of services**, please utilize one of the following methods to contact 211:

1. **Text** "COVID19" to 211-211 for information and county resources.
2. **Visit** www.211Wisconsin.org/Coronavirus to find local resources.
3. **Call** 211 to speak with a call specialist. Call volume is currently very high and may lead to longer wait times than normal.