



# The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church - Rev. Dr. Jennifer Jue, Pastor  
Issue 34: January / February 2020

*"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them, bear much fruit...."* John 15:5

## OUR MISSION

*Uniting in Jesus Christ  
we spread God's love*

## OUR FOCUS

The five practices of  
Fruitful Congregations:

1. Radical Hospitality
2. Passionate Worship
3. Intentional Faith Development
4. Risk-taking Mission & Service
5. Extravagant Generosity

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE :

2. *From The Pastor*  
January Worship Schedule  
Healthy Congregations
3. *Baldwin Center, FISH &*  
*Methodist Children's Home Society*
4. *Bishop Bard: New Year, New Tasks*
5. *Local Missions & Outreach*
6. *Education & Faith Development*
7. *Fellowship & Service*
8. *UMW & UMM (+Soup-er Bowl)*
9. *Sunday Servants*  
Thank You
10. *Oxford Christmas Parade*  
OUMC Christmas Party
11. *2020 Church Council*  
Finance: Year End & Update  
Trustees Update
12. *In Our Thoughts & Prayers*  
Thank You!  
Ash Wednesday
13. *Praying Through the Directory*  
Birthdays & Anniversaries
- 14 / 15. *Monthly Calendars*

## Join Us For Worship!



*Holy Communion - First Sunday of the month*

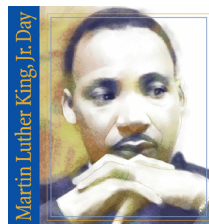


*Epiphany*

*Communion  
Sunday*

*January 5 & February 3*  
Wise men (and women) still seek Him!

*Healthy  
Congregations*  
*January 19 & 26 - 12-6pm*



*Martin Luther  
King Jr. Day*  
*January 20*  
Please pray for peace.

*Bells & Brunch*  
*January 19 &*  
*February 16 - 9:30am*

Join us for uplifting Bell choir music during the  
worship service and a delicious Brunch afterwards.  
Please invite family and friends! All are welcome!

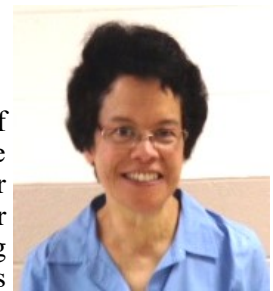


*Boy Scout Sunday*  
*February 9 - 10am*





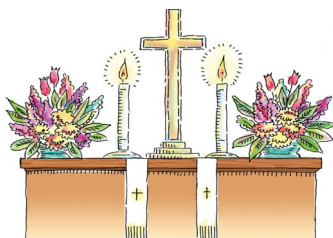
Jesus said,  
"I am the vine; you are the branches.  
If you remain in me and I in you,  
you will bear much fruit;  
apart from me you can do nothing."  
John 15:5



Dear Friends,  
Staying connected to Jesus Christ is one of my main goals in life. Even though I have not made any New Years Resolutions for 2020, I am developing a list of goals for my life in 2020 and #1 is staying connected to Jesus Christ. Just like grapes are connected on a vine, we as God's people are connected to Jesus and the lifeline of our Christian faith and purpose in life. When I wake up each morning, I ask whether my day's events and activities are connected to my goal of living a Christian life with Jesus and God's love at the center. How many ways do I share God's love in my day and week? How many ways do I offer God's love and grace and forgiveness to others in my daily life? Do my words and actions match my core Christian belief that "God is love" and "God loves everyone no matter what"? Each New Year is a good time to ask ourselves what our core goals are as Christians and as God's Church in our community. Let us stay connected and live out our common goal of "sharing God's love with others."

Peace,  
Pastor Jennifer

## JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



### January 5

Epiphany Sunday /  
Holy Communion  
*Matthew 2: 1-12*  
"Seeking Jesus and  
The Way"

### January 19

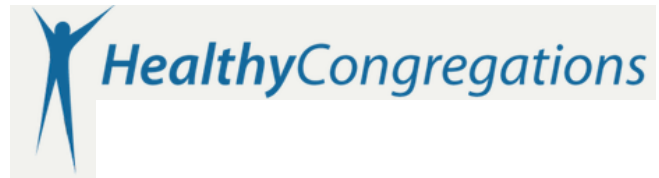
2nd Sunday after  
the Epiphany /  
Bells & Brunch Sunday  
*Ecclesiastes 3:1-3*  
"God's Seasons of Life"  
*Human Relations Day*  
*Special Offering*

### January 12

Baptism of the Lord  
*Matthew 2:13-23*  
"You Are Beloved"

### January 26

3rd Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
*Matthew 4:12-23*  
"Following Jesus,  
Taking Risks"



## Healthy Congregations Workshop at OUMC

**January 19 & 26 from 12-6pm**

*Healthy Congregations* workshops look at improving our church communication and relationships, facing changes, differences and conflict, and prepare a foundation for church visioning and church growth. Lunch and snack are provided. Course book is \$25 (and can be shared). For more information, see Pastor Jennifer or a core team member: Steve & Kathy Laidlaw, David Cischke, Michelle Wood, Sue Rizzo, Rosemary Rumbold, John Warren.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Session:**  
**Healthy Congregations -  
Neutralizing History  
(February 16 |12-6pm)**

# OUMC Supports Local Missions

## Baldwin Center

The Baldwin Center is so thankful for our supporters. With your help, we provide hope to over 2,000 individuals with our programs and services. We believe deeply in human dignity, and we strive to provide our services with compassion, respect and integrity. Here are a few stories from the previous year...

A gentleman came to our homeless breakfast, and our staff realized that he had not bathed in months and that he needed care and compassion. Our staff opened our Clothes Closet to provide him with clean clothes. He also showered in our facilities and ate a warm, healthy breakfast.

Our Harvest Table of donated surplus food works on the honor system: take for yourself only what you need. Regularly, there is an elderly gentleman who walks to our Center for these food donations. After speaking with him, it

was clear that he doesn't come only for himself, but also for the young mom with two young children who live in the apartment next to him.

One evening as one of our clients slept in an abandoned home, someone stole her coat. The next morning when she came to help serve breakfast, our kitchen manger noticed that she wasn't dressed warm enough for the weather. When the client relayed what had happened that night, the staff opened the Clothes closet for her, where she was able to find a coat and other cold-weather clothes.

Stories like these happen daily at the Baldwin Center in Pontiac.

Thanks to you we can help others!



“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”  
Colossians 3:12



## Oxford/Orion FISH Food Pantry

Oxford/Orion FISH provides emergency aid in the form of food and agency referrals to individuals in Oxford, Lake Orion, Addison and Oakland Township. FISH is 100% staffed by local volunteers. People who have a need for groceries can call the office at (248)628-3933.

Oakland County is known as one of the wealthier areas in the state, but many people are surprised that there are families in need. The need does exist and because of generous neighbors, FISH also offers backpacks/school supplies and Christmas gifts (AngelFISH program) for the children of their clients.

While FISH works closely with other family-aid agencies to assist local neighbors, they are unique in that they are financially supported primarily by private contributions from residents, businesses, area churches and schools. Although Gleaners, OLHSA (Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency) and Forgotten Harvest give surplus food, most of the food is collected through local food drives conducted by groups such as the Postal workers, Orion Neighborhood Television (ONTV), Meijer Simply Give program, schools, businesses, churches, boy and girl scouts, and local civic and religious organizations.

Food is also purchased from local merchants using funds given from many individuals and groups who donate funds obtained by many creative ways such as scout groups who collect bottles, rummage sales, raffles held by women's and men's clubs and so forth. Some supporters make cash or gift card donations regularly.

... FISH only exists because of community support.

## The Methodist Children's Home Society

There are 14,000 children in the child welfare system in the state of Michigan. Each year, MCHS works with hundreds of these foster children, specifically those who have suffered traumatic abuse and neglect. For 101 years, MCHS has provided a safe place for children to call home, a healing environment, education, life skills, and so much more. We wouldn't be able to do this without the support of our community of supporters.

Methodist Children's Home Society is located in Redford, Michigan.



NOTE: Our Christmas Mission (Giving Tree) donations of: 26 pairs of socks, 8 children's underwear, 25 mittens/gloves, 10 scarves, and 44 hats (26 of which were handmade)

supported children at these three organizations and also children connected to our Oxford Public Schools.

Thank you so much for your generosity and kindness!

# UMC Michigan Conference

## From Bishop Bard's Joyful Journey blog: "New Year, New Tasks"



Perhaps some of you are familiar with the beautiful words of Howard Thurman's, "The Work of Christmas:"

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people, To make music in the heart.*

I have been thinking about Thurman's words particularly in light of the release of the "Protocols of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation," a proposal for the future of The United Methodist Church. I have said that I think this is a hopeful development even as I am saddened by the idea of separation. I need to be clear, that this is only a proposal and there is a long road ahead in the coming months for this proposal to become legislation which might then become an official United Methodist Church agreement approved by the delegates of General Conference. I am committed to meeting with our Michigan delegation to discuss this proposal and look forward to hearing their ideas and feedback. I am looking forward to wider conversations within our conference about this proposal.

If this proposal, or something like it, becomes an approved plan for the future of The United Methodist Church, it seems likely that the Michigan Conference would remain affiliated with the post-separation United Methodist Church, though a vote could be taken to determine otherwise. If the Michigan Conference remained part of the post-separation United Methodist Church, I know that there will be churches that will affiliate with another Methodist denomination formed pursuant to the protocol. I am committed to working with every congregation and pastor with grace and with all the wisdom God's Spirit might impart. Change is likely coming, and we will navigate that change best if we seek to be loving, grace-filled, compassionate, wise, courageous, and if we continue to do the work of the church, the work of Christmas.

On the other side of whatever changes are coming, and in the coming months of this new year and new decade, the work God has given the church in Jesus Christ and by the power of the Spirit is this work of finding the lost, healing the broken, feeding the hungry, setting free, rebuilding the nations, bringing peace, helping each unique person find the song God has put in their heart and helping them sing and dance to it.

It remains needed work. The world is still plagued by war. The world and the church are still enmeshed in racism. Inequality tears at the fabric of our society. We are not doing what needs to be done to care for the earth. Too many struggle with addiction. Relationships that are meant to be life-giving are frayed. People feel disconnected from God. In the church itself, we face challenging decisions about buildings and budgets and leadership, and the changes in the denomination will not magically solve such realities. After the next General Conference, the work of the church will only be beginning anew.

Such ministry work entails soul work, the inner work of having our lives shaped in the spirit of Jesus. One of the things that all us Methodists share is Wesley's emphasis on the Christian life as formation in love. I trust we all remain committed to this soul work.

Ministry work and soul work will be accompanied by grief work. In this new year, it is likely that The United Methodist Church will be changed significantly, and there will be grief with that. As we look to the future, how we do ministry in the Michigan Conference will continue to undergo change, and there will be grief with that. I am committed to walking together with you as you do the important work of grieving. It is not all the work we have to do, but it is part of the work we need to do.

I am with you on this hard journey which is also a joyful journey.

Grace and Peace,

Bishop David Bard  
Michigan Conference UMC

# Local Missions & Outreach: Be A Blessing!

## Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry

We collect FISH donations on the first Sunday of each month [January 5 & February 2]. Food items and cleaning products are always needed. Watch the Sunday worship service bulletins for specific Pantry needs. Donations are always welcome. Leave them in the FISH boxes in the back Sanctuary area. Thank you for helping people in need.



**To receive food from FISH: (248) 628-3933**

### Our 2019 Total Items

January-February: 39 food / 11 cleaning  
 March: 16 food / 40 cleaning  
 April: 65 food / 50 cleaning  
 May: 50 food / 45 cleaning  
 June / July: -  
 August: 45 food / 20 cleaning  
 VBS School Supplies: 136 items / 34 Backpacks  
 September: 40 food / 20 cleaning  
 October: 100 food / 5 cleaning  
 November-December: 65 food / 5 cleaning

### *FISH Monthly Needs:*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Chicken          | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning products & Personal Needs                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice                    | <input type="checkbox"/> All other canned, non-expired foods                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salad Dressing          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ Donations to purchase fresh foods such as milk, eggs, and meat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Sides             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taco Shells             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canned Mandarin Oranges |  |

*Any questions, contact John & Devon Warren (248-778-8735) and Julie Langley (248-628-9619)*

Remember, FISH is a 100% volunteer organization and they need your help.  
 All donations are tax deductible. Website: [www.oxfordorionfish.org](http://www.oxfordorionfish.org).

## Community Free Meals

Our church volunteers cook and serve a nutritious meal on the **first Wednesday** of the month from 5:30 - 6:30pm. Other local church and community volunteers cook on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays. About 40-50 people attend our Wednesday Community Free Meals.

Designated Cooks: February 5 - John Warren March 4 - Kathy Laidlaw

*Are you able to help? **HELP IS ALWAYS NEEDED!***

If you can help with set-up (Wed 9:30-10:30am), serving (5:15 - 6:30pm), or clean-up (6-7pm) please contact Pastor Jennifer, the designated cook, or the church office (248-628-1289).

Thank you to the special donors who support this program and people in need!



## Love I.N.C.

Love in the Name of Christ (LOVE I.N.C.) of North Oakland County is a network of churches in the area, including Oxford UMC. The mission of LOVE I.N.C. is to mobilize local churches to help those in need and transform lives in the name of Christ. Visit their website at [www.loveincfnoc.org](http://www.loveincfnoc.org) or call 248-693-4357 for more info. The Bed and Blessings ministry would appreciate gently used and new sheets.



***The winter months have the greatest need - please help in any way that you can!***

# Christian Education & Faith Development



## Sunday School

The Christmas season was a great time for the children to learn about Jesus' birth and join the church in the festivities. They rode on the Oxford Christmas parade and attended the Community Christmas party (on Dec. 7). Thank you to the teachers and parents who help our children grow in the Christian faith. All school aged children are invited to attend Sunday School!

Children are encouraged to attend the Sunday morning church service with their families and then attend Sunday School from 9:50-10:30am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Thank you to our wonderful teachers: Lucinda Bellairs and Michelle Wood.

## Scouting Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup>

We sponsor and support three Scouting groups who meet at our church. We currently charter Boy Scout Troop #366, Cub Scout Pack #366 and Cub Scout Pack #4.

In 2019 we had five Court of Honor Eagle Scouts -  
Gibson Underwood  
Logan Streeter  
Lance Kennedy  
John Keller  
Max Charlton  
*Congratulations!*

Scouting Sunday recognizes our scouts and leaders. There is always a need for responsible adults to help out, (whether or not you have children). If you or your child are interested in scouting, please contact the following groups:



Boy Scouts:  
<https://beascout.scouting.org>  
(1-248-338-0035)

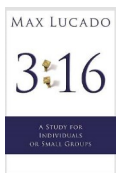
Girl Scouts:  
<https://www.girlscouts.org>  
(1-800-482-6734)



## Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays - 10:30am to 12noon

*Starts on January 15th...*



### "3:16: The Numbers of Hope" Video & Book Study

Author Max Lucado leads readers through a word-by-word study of John 3:16, the passage that he calls the "Hope Diamond" of Scripture. A twenty-six word parade of hope: beginning with God, ending with life, and urging us to do the same. Brief enough to write on a napkin or memorize in a moment, yet solid enough to weather two thousand years of storms and questions. If you know nothing of the Bible, start here. If you know everything in the Bible, return here. We all need the reminder. The heart of the human problem is the heart of the human. And God's treatment is prescribed in John 3:16:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Questions? Contact Sue Rizzo (248-628-1787)



We're so accustomed to hearing the Bible's "love chapter," 1 Corinthians 13, at weddings and other occasions that we may not really hear its meaning anymore. It can help to listen to something familiar said in different words. What new understandings of love does this paraphrase from *The Message Bible* reveal to you?

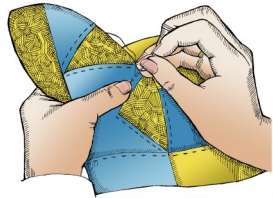
*"Love never gives up. Love cares more for others than for self. Love doesn't want what it doesn't have. Love doesn't strut, doesn't have a swelled head, doesn't force itself on others, isn't always 'me first,' doesn't fly off the handle, doesn't keep score of the sins of others, doesn't revel when others grovel, takes pleasure in the flowering of truth, puts up with anything, trusts God always, always looks for the best, never looks back, but keeps going to the end. Love never dies" (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, MSG).*

[REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM NEWSLETTERNEWSLETTER.COM]

# Fellowship & Service Groups

## Piece Makers

You are invited to attend the Piece Makers group and help with our prayer quilts. They have a new day and time they now meet on



QUILTING GROUP



**Tuesday afternoons  
(1st and 3rd weeks)  
from 1-4pm.**

Prayer quilts are a sign of God's love for especially challenging times. In 2019 nine beautiful quilts were created and blessed. If you have any questions, please contact Linda McIntyre (248-245-7898).

## Praise Singers

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns. Rehearsal days and times are midweek.

If you have questions or if you would like to be a part of the Praise Singers please contact Lucinda Bellairs (248-417-0214).



## Reading for Fun



Do you enjoy reading? We do!!! Our Book Group is always looking for more readers who like to chat with friends about books. We meet the **second Wednesday** of the month at **1:00pm** in the Memorial Room.

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020: *Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens. For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

**Wednesday, February 12, 2020: *The Weight of a Piano*** by Chris Cander. In 1962, in the Soviet Union, eight-year-old Katya is bequeathed what will become the love of her life: a Blüthner piano, built at the turn of the century in Germany, on which she discovers everything that she herself can do with music and what music, in turn, does for her. Yet after marrying, she emigrates with her young family from Russia to America, at her husband's frantic



Knit Knack

Our group is starting the new year with the #HatNotHate Project which was launched in 2018 by Lion Brand Yarn and has now been joined by Be Strong, a non-profit organization empowering youth to prevent bullying and social isolation. This project represents an anti-bullying campaign by distributing blue hats to select schools around the country which are participating in National Anti-Bullying Month during October. The color blue represents awareness, peace, and solidarity.

If any of you would like to help us, feel free to knit or crochet a blue hat, all sizes needed. We would also gladly accept donations of blue yarn.

We gather every Friday at 2pm in the Memorial Room. Please join us for a fun-filled time of fellowship. For any questions, contact Mary Garrard (810-797-5840).



## Bell Choir

The Excelsior Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays (6:30-8pm)

If you have any questions please contact Rosemary Rumbold (248-391-0973)

insistence, and her piano is lost in the shuffle. In 2012, in Bakersfield, California, twenty-six-year-old Clara Lundy loses another boyfriend and again has to find a new apartment, which is complicated by the gift her father had given her for her twelfth birthday, shortly before he and her mother died in a fire that burned their house down: a Blüthner upright she has never learned to play. Her life is put on hold when her hand gets broken while the piano's being moved--and in sudden frustration she chooses to sell it. And what becomes crucial is who the most interested party turns out to be. . .

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020: *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*** by Gail Honeyman. Meet Eleanor Oliphant: she struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding unnecessary human contact, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy. But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the bumbling and deeply unhygienic IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who has fallen, the three rescue one another from the lives of isolation that they had been living. Ultimately, it is Raymond's big heart that will help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one. If she does, she'll learn that she, too, is capable of finding friendship—and even love—after all.

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Bogus (248 747-7544).

## UM Women: Rachel Circle



All ladies are invited to attend the Rachel Circle! It is a Christian women's group that meets monthly for devotions, food, fellowship and friendship.

**"Special Thanks!"** go out to outgoing

President and Secretary/Treasurer:

Nadine Lychuk and Ro Van Wagoner

For their many years of wonderful, capable dedication to the women of Oxford UMC.

and **"Congratulations!"** to the new

President and Secretary/Treasurer:

Carolyn Lawrie and Mary Dempsey

We meet here at the church on the second Monday of the month at 10am. The next meetings will be on **January 13th and February 10th @ 10am.**

Questions? Call Carolyn Lawrie (568-925-2687).

## 10 Guidelines for Christian Living By Billy Graham

(paraphrased by Carolyn Lawrie)

The Bible teaches us that Christian life is one of constant growth. When you realized you were a Christian, you were born into God's family. 2 Peter 3:18: *"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."* The Bible says we are to grow. It implies steady development, constant learning and increased wisdom.

1. Read your Bible daily (start weekly if this is new to you)
2. Learn the personal connection with prayer
3. Rely on the Holy Spirit. In Romans 8 it says the Holy Spirit prays for us. That should comfort us. Ask yourself if you have the Holy Spirit in your daily life. Stand aside and let him guide you daily in choices and the decisions of your life.
4. Attend church regularly. Christians need one another. We need to gather together to worship God, Jesus Christ.
5. Be a witnessing Christian. Question: If you were on trial and accused of being a Christian would there be enough evidence to find YOU guilty? (Convict YOU?)
6. Let LOVE be the ruling principle of your life. Jesus said to those who followed him "by this shall all men know that you are my disciples,\* if you have love for one another." (John 13:35) \* The greatest demonstration of the fact that we are Christians is that we love one another.
7. Be an obedient Christian. Attempt to let Christ have first place in all the choices of your life.
8. Learn to meet temptation. Temptation is not the sin. Giving in to the temptation is the sin. Let the Holy Spirit fight your temptation for you.
9. Be a wholesome Christian. Our lives should be attractive to others and commend the Gospel.
10. Live above your own personal circumstances. Don't let them get you down. Learn to live graciously within them, remember the Lord is with you.

## UM Men:

### Band of Brothers



The United Methodist Men focus on

EMS = Evangelism

Missions

Spiritual Development

We can provide help for special tasks in the community too!

Questions? Please contact Fred Nelson, UMM President (248-628-9826) or John Warren (248-778-8735).



## SOUPER BOWL

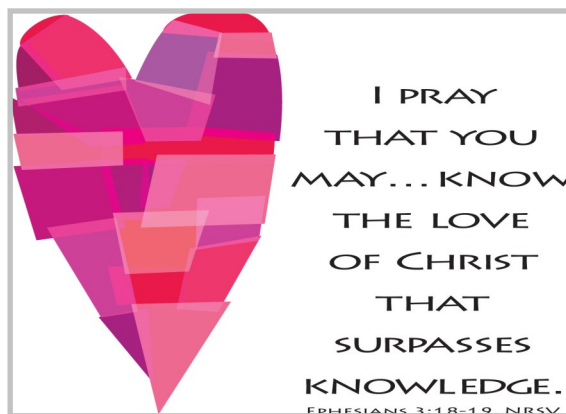
### February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5pm

*Come watch the Super Bowl on the big screen, play cards and games, and eat together. Join us for lots of fun and invite a friend too!*

UM Men will provide beverages, hot dogs, chips, salads and cake for dessert.

#### Chili & Soup Cook-off Contest:

Contact Fred Nelson (248-628-9826) to enter the contest.





# Our Wonderful Sunday Servants

USHERS GREETERS TECH TEAM LITURGISTS



The Liturgists perform an important service on Sunday morning by making announcements, reading the scripture, offering prayer, and making smooth transitions to the hymns/songs. **We are in need of more Sunday Liturgists. Training is provided. If you are interested in helping with this valuable service please contact Pastor Jennifer (248-628-1289).**

Our Tech Team is a talented group of people who enjoy working with the music team and making sure that it all sounds wonderful and that the graphics are clear and readable on Sunday morning and during other church services. **If you are interested in working on the soundboard or computer PowerPoint please contact Fred Nelson (248-628-9826).**



Greeting our visitors and members is an important hospitality ministry. It lets them know that we care and are glad that they are worshipping with us. **Please contact John Warren [248-778-8735] or the church office [248-628-1289].**

Ushers welcome and direct people on Sunday mornings and for special services. They greet everyone, pass out bulletins, take attendance, and collect the offering, along with other tasks as needed. **to volunteer, please contact John Warren [248-778-8735] or the church office (248-628-1289).**



INVITE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO WORSHIP WITH US!

◆ On the third Sundays of the month (November 17 & December 15) we will have a wonderful Brunch. Invite your friends, neighbors and family to listen to the Bell Choir during the worship service and fellowship at Brunch with us afterwards!

◆ Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for January 26, March 22 & 29

Questions? Contact Carol Hauxwell (248-628-4569)

## WORSHIP At OUMC



Thank you to the Bell Choir, Praise Singers, Musicians, Soloists, Tech team, Advent Candle lighters and all our Sunday Servants for the uplifting Advent - Christmas services. Thank you for sharing your talents in worshipping Jesus.



## Oxford Christmas Parade

Thank you to our volunteers for designing and building our "Old Fashioned Christmas!" parade float for the Dec 7th Christmas parade in Oxford. Special thanks to Tony Rizzo and David Cischke who lead the float project as well as Dan & Michelle Mumbrue, Kathy Laidlaw, Tom Bertich, Todd Lawrie & David Lawrie who all worked so hard. Special thanks to Carolyn Lawrie & Carolyn Foss for the great costumes! Our parade float youth were Amy Cischke, Ashlyn De Hut, Jada Meersseman, and Jackson Peoples. Other wonderful people who helped were Gail Mack Dusenberry, Autumn Dalton & Adam Bertich. It was great fun!



## OUMC Christmas Party

Thank you to our volunteers who organized our community Christmas party after the parade. Church members donated hot dogs and cookie treats. Hungry Howie's also donated 20 pizzas. Volunteers greeted our community guests and passed out coloring books and crayon gifts. Special thanks to party organizers Rosemary and Bernie Rumbold. Thank you to everyone who helped with this major community outreach event!



A big "Thank You!" goes to the Masonic Lodge of Oxford for their donation toward this year's Christmas Missions for Community meals and guests.





*"Do all the good you can,  
in all the places you can,  
to all the people you can."*

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)

## 2020 Church Council

Council Chairperson: **tbd**

Lay Leader: **tbd**

Finance Chairperson: **tbd**

General Fund Treasurer: Becky Sallans (248)628-1289  
[oumc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oumc.office@sbcglobal.net)

Designated Fund Treasurer: Kevin Kater (248)628-7804  
[KKater@att.net](mailto:KKater@att.net)

Financial Secretary: Larry Bradford (248)628-5759

Board of Trustees: David Cischke (248)863-8037  
Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

SPRC Chairperson: **John Warren** (interim)

Worship: Pastor Jennifer Jue (248)628-1289  
& Rosemary Rumbold (248)391-0973

Missions & Outreach: John & Devon Warren  
(248)778-8735

Adult Bible Study: Sue Rizzo (248)628-1787

Christian Education: **Michelle Wood** (248)969-2545

Camp Ed. Coordinator - Lucinda Bellairs (248)417-0214  
[lucindabellairs4@gmail.com](mailto:lucindabellairs4@gmail.com)

UMM President: Fred Nelson (248)628-9826

UMW / Rachel Circle: **Carolyn Lawrie** (586)925-2687

Lay Member to Annual Conference: John Warren  
(248)778-8735

Members at Large - Church Council:  
Bernie Rumbold (2020), John Warren (2021)

**Church Council Meetings are open to everyone**

*If you would like to be considered for an open position  
please contact Pastor Jennifer (248)628-1289*

## 2019 Financial Update:

### Year End & 2020 Pledge Cards

Thank you for your faithful giving in 2019. We ended 2019 with increased giving in August, September, October and December. During 2019, we needed to take about \$17,000 from our Designated Funds to meet 2019 expenses during the first half of the year. Thankfully, we were able to carry over ~\$22,700 from the General Fund into 2020. This is due to the \$14,000 grant we received from the Michigan UMC Conference and the ~\$9,000 in clergy compensation and parsonage utilities from Thomas UMC (their 25%). We are truly thankful for each one of you and your financial gifts. We celebrated Commitment Sunday and as of December 17th we have received 26 commitment pledge cards (to support \$60,780 - about 46% of our projected 2020 budget). We are counting on you! Please make a 2020 commitment to God's Church and make it a priority to give weekly of your time, talents/skills, and finances to God's mission and ministries in Jesus' name. We are counting on you!

P.S. Your commitment cards can be turned in to Larry Bradford, Financial Secretary (downstairs mailbox).

### General Fund: Budget Update

Thank you for your faithful giving each month to God's Church. We as a Finance team keep track of giving and expenses each month. Thank you for your faithfulness. Please help monthly with our General Fund.

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to the Christmas Offering (\$1626) and continue to give to our special Dollar a Day fund (\$440) for 2019. What a blessing!

<b>November Giving</b>	<b>\$ 8,134.00</b>
<b>December Giving</b>	<b>\$ 12,749.00</b>
<b>Total 2019 Giving</b>	<b>\$ 111,990.05</b>
<b>2019 Budget</b>	<b>\$ 147,613.00</b>

Note: If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash, please use your offering envelopes. If you need envelopes, please call the office (248-628-1289) or Larry Bradford, financial secretary.

## Trustees Update

"Thank you!" to the trustees who shovel and clear the church sidewalks in the winter months. Please be careful in driving, parking, and walking around town (and the church parking lot) in the snowy winter months. Trustees also check our plumbing, fire and sewer system regularly, as well as make sure the parsonage is also in good repair. We are thankful for our hard-working group of trustees:



David Cischke, Michelle Wood,  
Steve Laidlaw, Dan Mumbrue,  
Bob Richter, and John Warren.



Wesley's Simple Rules for Money

*Keep your giving steady by giving your donations electronically! Forms are available in the Sanctuary or from the church office. There is no fee to join.*



**Pray for our Congregation**

Ginny Conrad	Sue Enekes
Shirley Conner	<b>Chris Barclay</b>
Charlie Garrard	Earl Hopper
<b>Mary Dempsey</b>	<b>Vonda Barclay</b>

**Bill Conner** - homebound  
 Marcella Frost - The Pines (Lapeer)  
 Linda Brown - Regency (Waterford)

**Those In Service of our Country**  
 Kevin Friesmuth - USN - Kings Bay, GA  
 US President and all of our Elected Officials  
 Supreme Court Justices of the USA  
 Recently Deployed Soldiers

**OUMC Friends and Family**

<b>Pec Hoi Wong</b> - <i>Father of Erik Wong</i>	<b>Mabel Adams</b> - <i>Mother of Carolyn Foss</i>
Oliver Acheson - <i>Grandson of Chris Acheson and Great-Grandson of Shirley Acheson</i>	Marilyn Frenk – <i>Mother of Laura Clancy</i>
Keith Acheson - <i>Son of Shirley Acheson</i>	<b>Chuck McIntyre</b> – <i>Husband of Linda McIntyre</i>
<b>Linda Klope</b> – <i>Daughter of Bill &amp; Shirley Conner</i>	
D.S. Rev. John Hice – East Winds District churches & pastors and changes	
Bishop Bard & UMC leaders - MI Annual Conference and its decisions	
Bishop Craig Children’s Village & School (Liberia)	
Grace International Children’s Hospital staff & patients (Haiti)	
Those affected by Natural Disasters & Violence in the US and worldwide (Texas, New York, Australia, Middle East, Philippines)	

We pray for those whose names are unmentioned, dear Lord, for you know and love them. Amen.

**Thank You!”**

*Dear OUMC church friends,  
Thank you too all our wonderful leaders and volunteers who made the Advent and Christmas season and services so special and joyful. Thank you too for the loving Christmas gift. It all means so much to us.*

*Peace, Pastor Jennifer and Erik*

*Dear OUMC,  
We would all like to thank you for the generous gift cards during the holidays! You are so kind!*

*Becky Sallans, and Alex Wolf*

*Thank you to the special “angels” who made flower deliveries during the holidays. They were beautiful!*

**A Prayer for Ash Wednesday**


Lord of the winds, I cry to thee,  
I that am dust, and blown about  
by every gust I fly to thee.

Lord of the waters, unto thee I call.  
I that am weed upon the waters borne,  
and by the waters torn,  
tossed by the waters, at thy feet I fall.

— Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)



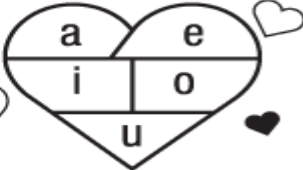
**February 26th  
5:15pm**



# A friend in Jesus

In the Bible, Jesus shares what it means to be a true friend.

Directions: Use the heart key to fill in the missing vowels from John 15:14, 17, NIV.



“Y \_ \_ r \_ my fr \_ \_ nds \_ f  
y \_ \_ d \_ wh \_ t \_ c \_ mm \_ nd. ...  
Th \_ s \_ s my c \_ mm \_ nd:  
L \_ v \_ \_ \_ ch \_ th \_ r.”

JOHN 15:14, 17, NIV

Answer: “You are my friends if you do what I command. ... This is my command: Love each other.” John 15:14, 17, NIV



## Praying Through the Directory

We are praying for each other using the “new” OUMC directory.

If you do not have a directory please pick one up in the Sanctuary or from Becky in the church office.

For January please pray for those from Chris Acheson to Tom & Lynda Bertich.

For February please pray for those from Mari Jo Bierwirth to Laura Clancy.



- February 4 - Emma Taylor | Barry Moser
- February 6 - Ro Van Wagoner | Thomas Riley
- February 9 - Mathew Vincentini | Abigail Mumbrue
- February 13 - David Von Knorring
- February 14 - Jean Davidson
- February 16 - Liam Pearson
- February 18 - Matthew Scheer
- February 19 - Martha Riley | Carolyn Lawrie
- February 22 - Bill Van Wagoner | Brad Jacobsen III | Brian Smith

- January 1 - Carolyn Hepp
- January 3 - Kathryn Laidlaw
- January 5 - Adam Bertich
- January 6 - Mac Clancy
- January 11 - Timothy Davidson
- January 16 - Amy Carver | Madison Delmotte
- January 20 - Vonda Barclay
- January 25 - Ernest Gruenberg
- January 28 - Kim Pearson | Peyton Richter
- January 29 - Nancy Mudd | Devon Warren

- February 8 - Ed & Carolyn Hepp
- February 9 - Bradford & Teri Jacobsen
- February 18 - John & Kim Pearson



January 4 - Jim & Nadine Walker



# January 2020




Oxford United  
Methodist Church

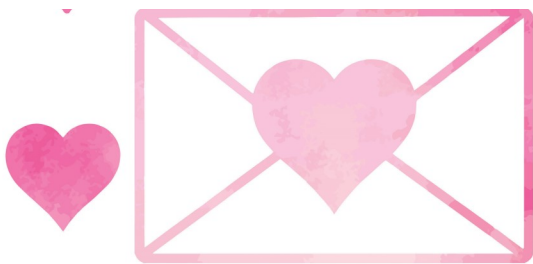
21 E. Burdick St.  
Oxford, MI 48371

[This calendar is online at:  
[www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)]

**Weekly**

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
9:30a (S) Worship  9:50a (C) Sunday School (during school yr.)  10:30a (F/A) Fellowship	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels  6p (CD/F/FK) Quilting Projects (2nd & 4th weeks)	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels  12p <b>Bulletin Deadline</b>  7p (F/FK) BS Troop #366	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a (F) Wednesday Bible Study 5:30p (F/FK) Community Free Meals 6:15p (S) Bell Choir Rehearsal	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels  6:30p (U) CS Pack #366 / Den #2	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels  2p (U) Knit Knack	

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4
Church Office Closed - Becky is on vacation until 1/9/20. Pastor Jennifer is available at 248-628-1022						
5 EPIPHANY SUNDAY / HOLY COMMUNION  2:30p Independence Village Worship	6	7	8 1p (M) Reading for Fun	9 6p (U) CS Pack #366 / Den #2	10	11
12 BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY	13 10a (F/FK) Rachel Circle	14 7p (F/FK) BS Troop #366  7p (Y) Trustees	15	16 6p (U) CS Pack #366 / Den #2	17	18
19  2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / BELLS & BRUNCH  (Human Relations Day Special Offering) 12- 6p (S/F/FK) Healthy Congregations	20 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY (Church Office Closed!) 	21 7p (F/FK) BS Troop #366	22	23 6p (F/FK) CS Pack #366 / Den #2  7p (F/FK/Y) BS Troop #366 Committee Mtg.	24	25
26 3RD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 12- 6p (S/F/FK) Healthy Congregations	27	28 5:45p (F/FK/S) BS Troop #366 Court of Honor Meeting	29	30 6p (U) CS Pack #366 / Den #2	31	



# February 2020

Oxford United  
Methodist Church  
21 E. Burdick St.  
Oxford, MI 48371

[This calendar is online at:  
[www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)]

**Weekly**

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
9:30a (S) Worship  9:50a (C) Sunday School (during school yr.)  10:30a (F/A) Fellowship	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels <b>12p Bulletin Deadline</b> 1p (CD/F/FK) Quilting Projects (1st & 3rd weeks) 7p (F/FK) BS Troop #366	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a (F) Wednesday Bible Study 5:30p (F/FK) Community Free Meals 6:30a (S) Bell Rehearsal	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels  6p (U) CS Pack #366 / Den #2	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 2p (U) Knit Knack	

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
						1
2  4TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / HOLY COMMUNION  2:30p Independence Village Worship 5p UMM Soup-er Bowl	3 6:30p (U) BS Pack #366 Leader's Mtg.  7p (U) 	4  The Quilters have changed their date to 1st & 3rd Tuesdays from 1-4pm!	5 10a (F/FK/SK) Community Free Meals Set-up	6	7	8
9 5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / BOY SCOUT SUNDAY 	10 10a (F/FK) Rachel Circle	11 7p (Y) Trustees	12 10a (F/FK/SK) Community Free Meals Set-up  1p (M) Reading for Fun	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY 	15 
16  6TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / BELLS & BRUNCH  12- 6p (S/F/FK) Healthy Congregations	17 PRESIDENT'S DAY	18	19	20	21	22
23 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY	24	25	26 ASH WEDNESDAY 5:15p Worship Service 	27 7p (F/FK/Y) BS Troop #366 Committee Mtg.	28	29 12p (F/FK/S) BS Pack #366 Blue & Gold Banquet

Oxford United Methodist Church  
21 E Burdick Street  
Oxford, MI 48371

First Class  
Stamp  
Required

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Wise men  
( & women )  
still seek him...



## The Grapevine

is published bi-monthly by

**Oxford United Methodist Church**

a Stephen Ministry Congregation

21 E Burdick Street, Oxford, MI 48371

Church office: 248-628-1289 Fax: 248-628-9411

Website: [www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)

Facebook: Oxford UMC

---

The Reverend Dr. Jennifer Jue, Pastor  
[oumc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oumc.office@sbcglobal.net)

Becky Sallans, Office Manager/Editor  
[oumc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oumc.office@sbcglobal.net)

Alexander Wolf, Pianist

---

### **Article Deadline:**

**The 15th of the Even Months**

The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space

LARGE PRINT EDITION available upon request

We thank all who create, fold, mail and read The Grapevine!



### **Regular Sunday Worship:**

9:30 a.m. Worship

9:50a.m. Sunday School to classes  
(during Worship Service)

Coffee & Refreshments after service

**All Are Welcome!**