



OREMS BEACON

Orems United Methodist Church

January 2017

Special points of interest:

- Jan 1 Worship and Communion
- 4 UMW Choir
- 5 Keenagers Advent Study
- 7 Hall Closet Thrift
- 8 Sunday School and Communion Service
- 10 Sarah Circle Needlebees
- 11 Choir
- 12 Lunch Bunch
- 16 Rachel Circle Martin Luther King Jr program and Pot Luck
- 18 Choir
- 19 Admin Council and Charge Conferenc
- 24 Ladies Luncheon Needlebees
- 25 Choir
- 26 MOO

Please see calendar page for all events:

- Sunday School
Pre K to Adults 8:45 a.m.
- Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m.

Orems United Methodist
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Middle River, MD 21220
Church office: 410-687-9483
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Advent Bible Study -Pastor Chris will lead the final evening "wrap up" of the Advent Bible study "Under Wraps" on January 5th at 7 pm.

SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE set for Thursday, Jan. 19th at 7 p.m. This meeting will discuss the possibility of moving to a Full Time Pastor Position. The Congregation is invited to attend. Board members are requested to attend.

Celebration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

January 16, 2017 at 5 to 7 p.m. we will gather at Orems Fellowship Hall with other area churches to celebrate at the First Annual East Baltimore County Interdenominational Celebration of the vision and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Now More Than Ever" a program of Word and Songs of Justice and Peace, will begin with a Potluck Supper and "Soul Food Tasting." Sponsored by Chase United Methodist Church. If you are interested in joining the singing- Chase UMC Choir and occasional singers are invited to practice together at two rehearsals: Wednesday, January 4, 7 pm at Chase UMC, and Thursday, January 12, 7 pm place TBA. Bring your favorite Pot Luck dish and join us on Jan 16th at 5 pm for this unique event. Let freedom ring!



Epiphany Sunday is recognized by the Methodist Church on January 1st . Epiphany takes place on January 6th.



Dear Church-

Winter has arrived and let's all stay warm and cozy as we start a new year.

I hope you enjoyed our Christmas Music and the Cantata "Light of Bethlehem". Our Choir enjoyed presenting it to you.

If you are interested in joining our choirs—here is the run down on each:

The Chancel Choir is the primary choir of Orem's Church- These folks are all volunteer and sing most every Sunday, Holy days, Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. We meet on Wednesday Evening at 7 pm in the sanctuary. This group is open to folks 16 and older. You do not need to read music but it is helpful. We provide all the materials you need. The time commitment is every Wednesday and as needed.

The Sanctuary choir is comprised of folks who want to sing with the choir on special occasions such as the cantata, and Holy days but can not commit every week. All materials are provided to you. You supply the desire to sing and Glorify God. We have a great time full of music, laughter and love.

Yours in Christ,

Ben Boellner,

Director of Music and Organist,
Bboellner1992@gmail.com



Altar Flowers grace our altar and enhance our worship. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday, sign up on the Flower Chart that will be in the Narthex by mid December. Flowers Are \$35 and can be paid in cash or check to Orem's Church.

Please notify the church office if you have specific flower or color requests at least 2 weeks before your date. Also remember to give the office your flower dedication for the bulletin at least 2 weeks before the date.

Thank you for helping to beautify our worship space .

KEENAGERS (fellowship group for those 55 and over)

We will meet on January 5th in the fellowship hall for lunch and devotions. Bring a sandwich or snack. Drinks will be provided.

Hope to see you there! Butch Frank



MOO NEWS



The MEN OF OREMS will meet on January 26th.

The Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the MOO to raise money for the care of Orem's Cemetery will take place March 11th. Tickets will be available the end of January.

The MOO will be meeting the fourth Thursday of each month.

Lunch Bunch is held on Thursday January 12th at 12 noon at Jad's restaurant. If you plan to attend, please call the Church office by Tuesday Jan 10th. Thank you!



From Your Pastor

Greetings Friends,

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and were able to celebrate the true meaning of the season with loved ones. Christ's coming on Christmas changes everything, and we recognize this in the Church; through the Son of God's incarnation, God comes to be with us. Therefore it can't be said that God is somewhere far away anymore. No, God dwelt among us in the person of Jesus Christ: fully-divine and fully-human.

Of course, many of us exchanged gifts with one another to celebrate Christmas, but I want to ask: what have *you* given to Jesus this Christmas? Better yet, what gift do *you* bring to Christ this Epiphany? Of course, the Epiphany is celebrated in the Church when the three wise men bring the Christ child three gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Each gift signified something: gold was fit for a King, frankincense was fit for a priest, and Myrrh was used as an anointing oil for burial, which foreshadowed Jesus' death and role as a sacrifice for many.

So, what do you bring to Jesus at the beginning of this new year? Perhaps it is spending more time with Him in prayer, or reading the scriptures on a daily basis, or giving more time to serving the least of these: the homeless, the hungry, the poor, the widows, the orphans, the sick, or the imprisoned. Perhaps it is giving more of your money to a mission that you want to support in some way. Or perhaps, it is just opening yourself up to God's working in and through you while being willing to get out of your comfort zone if it means going where God would lead you.

Whatever gift you bring Jesus this year, just remember that this is more than a resolution. Resolutions usually last for a week or two, but they are based on what *you are capable of*. You see, the gift you might bring Jesus is NOT based on what you can do alone, but is only possible because you are asking God to work in you to make it happen. It is God who can make us more consistent in each of these disciplines or works of love. These gifts are how we live out the gospel while we experience God's grace, and it is only through the power of the Holy Spirit that we can do these things and present them to our Lord.

I pray that you would pray and seek God's direction about this: "what can *I* bring to the Lord Jesus this year? What can I commit to? Where is God leading me to serve, or give, or love?" Then, after you have sought the Lord's direction on these matters, remember to expect God to act in whichever area you commit to, and seek God's strength through prayer to stay consistent with it.

May the Lord accept your gift this year and magnify it for God's glory! Happy New Year and happy Epiphany Church! May 2017 be a blessed year for us all and may we grow ever closer to the Lord, our God.

In Christ,

Pastor Chris



Food Pantry News

We were able to provide 7 families with a Christmas baskets along with the Angel Tree gifts, thanks to the generous donations of this congregation.

Our food pantry will be stocking up for winter. If you are able to help us, it would be greatly appreciated.

Here is the list of needed items: Canned Chicken, Tuna, canned hams, canned potatoes, canned yams, Rice, Jello and pudding, Cereals, soups, saltine crackers, canned fruit, stuffing mix, Beef stew, cookies, Spaghetti noodles, mac and cheese, peanut butter and jelly and juice. We will also gladly accept gift cards to area Food stores so that folks can purchase Milk, eggs and bread.

Your donations of food and money will help keep this mission reaching out to others.

Thanks again

Pixie Faulkner

Food Pantry Coordinator



Winter is here and that can mean snow or ice. We will send out a One call announcement if worship service or activities are cancelled. If you do not feel comfortable driving in inclement weather, please do not attempt to come to worship. We want everyone to have a safe winter. If you are not on our One Call list, contact the church office to be added to our list.

Hall Closet Shop News

Our Thrift shop accepts donations of men, women and children clothing, bedding, books, toys, shoes, and household goods. Due to an overwhelming response, we have put a hold on accepting donations till mid December. The monthly sale day has been a very successful contribution to the church general budget. It is also a great way to reach out to our community.

Our next two open days are January 7th and February 4th. The shop is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. Shop for decorations, clothing and specialty items year round. There are two shopping rooms with many bargains. Come join us on our next shopping day.



Don't forget our Little Feet Mission through the year! Little Feet supplies the 4 local schools with socks, and underwear sizes 6 to 14 for boys and girls, elastic waist pants sizes small through extra large. Also new or gently used shoes are always welcome. And Winter coats and jackets. **Look for a box in the Connecting Hallway by the Church offices. These items are needed all year long. Thank you for your generosity.**

Angel Tree Mission



We were able to help 30 children from 7 families in the Middle River Area. These families were thrilled that we cared enough to help them enjoy a wonderful Christmas. There were joyful tears and lots of smiles as they picked up the gifts and food baskets. Thanks to everyone who sponsored a child, to those who took more than one, to those who gave generously for our last minute shopping and especially to my favorite shopping elf—Christina Falkenhan for helping me shop for our extra children who didn't get sponsored.

Love to all, Vicki Borreson Angel Tree Coordinator

Why You Should NOT Tithe

Whaaaat? This sounds like heresy, doesn't it? Well, here's a story about John Wesley's view on that subject:

A farmer who was not much concerned with spiritual matters once went to hear John Wesley preach. Wesley was preaching about money and he soon had the farmer's attention, because his first point was "Get all you can." The farmer nudged his neighbor and said, "This is unusual preaching! I've never heard the likes of this before. This is good!" Wesley talked about hard work and purposeful living.

His second point was, "Save all you can." The farmer became more excited. "Did you ever hear anything like this?" he exclaimed. Wesley denounced waste and extravagance. The farmer was quite happy, thinking "I do all this."

But then Wesley advanced to his last point, which was, "Give all you can." "Oh dear! Oh dear!" moaned the farmer. "He has gone and spoiled his sermon!"

You see, John Wesley regarded the idea that Getting, Saving, and Giving as much as possible was a very worthy endeavor. God has given all for us...Jesus. He wants us to be cheerful givers who respond to His grace. And that's why we should not tithe, but Get, Save and Give as a better choice. Sometimes it could be more than a tithe, and sometimes less. The important thing is how we are called by our blessings to give our fruits back to God.

Norris Tingle - Stewardship



NEEDLEBEES If you are interested in learning to knit or crochet, join our Needlebees group on Tuesday January 10th and 24th at 6:30 p.m. If you enjoy a craft and would like to join us for fellowship while you craft, you are welcome at our meetings.



Christmas caroling – It was a small but enthusiastic group that gathered on a severely cold evening to carol and play games and eat delicious cookies. Thanks to Joyce Serio, Trish Alvey and Michele McNeal for the goodies and games. And to Sallie Tyner and Pastor Chris for leading us in song and fellowship.

Streets of Hope Meal team

Orems meal team is providing dinner for the Streets of Hope (SOH) men's homeless shelter on the 19th of each month through March 2017.

We are accepting donations for the following items, Items can be placed in the SOH box in the Narthex on Sundays:

Crackers - peanut butter/cheese, etc.

Granola bars

Fruit cups

Juices or fruit drinks 40-60 oz container

Fruit drink pouches

2-liter bottle of soda - any kind

Case of 8 oz bottled water

****Gallon of milk can be dropped off after 6:00 p.m. at Zion United Church of Christ, 7146 Golden Ring Road, Essex, MD 21221**

Monetary donations for food purchases would be greatly appreciated. **For monetary donations, please place cash or check in an envelope marked "MEALS FOR STREETS OF HOPE."** Make checks payable to Orems UMC. Envelopes will be collected on Sundays through March 2017.

If you have questions, contact one of our SOH Meal team: Madeline Kikola, Pat Foard, Kathy Egner, and Sara-Beth Dulina. Or call the church office 410-687-9483.

Cell Phones are still being collected as a fundraising mission through GRC recycling. There is a box in the connecting hallway to collect your unwanted cell phones.



United Methodist Women

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. **Please join us as we continue to plan for our missions and ministries.**

“You don't have to be a member of The United Methodist Church to join. Our membership is diverse, women of many races, cultures, languages, young and old. There is no minimum age requirement”
(new.gbgm-umc.org)

OUR PURPOSE:

“United Methodist Women is a community of women whose purpose is: To know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, To develop a creative supportive fellowship and To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”

Group leaders:

If you are planning a meeting or event, please notify the office so that it can be added to our calendar. This is important for insurance purposes as well as avoiding conflicts with room usages. Thank you.



Don't forget to collect those labels from Campbell's Soup and other food products. Look for the Campbell's Soup label collection bin in the hallway. The Box Tops will be donated to the Board of Childcare mission.

Help Our Mission!



The United Methodist Women continue to support *The Center for Pregnancy Concerns*.

This Center is reaching out to women who are in a time of their lives when they are vulnerable and in great need of support. The Center is accepting donations of Maternity Clothing, Baby clothes up to size 4 T, and other items a mother to be may need. You may drop off the donations at the Center at 442 Eastern Avenue or bring your donations to the Church (Please have them marked For CPC or Center for Pregnancy) and we will see that they are delivered to the Center. At this time, the center is in great need of monetary donations as well. This center does such good work, please consider donating. Thank you for helping with this worthwhile mission.

February Newsletter Deadline is January 15th, if you have an article or information for our newsletter, please drop it off to the Church office or email at



oremsumc@verizon.net

One Call Now System

We use the One Call Now system to send out reminders and announcements of activities, meetings, fund raiser events and other announcements we need to communicate to the congregation. If you miss the message from our One Call you can replay the message by calling the toll free number 1-877-698-3261 and press option "1" to hear the group message. If you are not currently receiving the messages, contact the church office so that we can put you in our system.

Guidelines for use of One Call Now System

The One Call Now system will be used to:

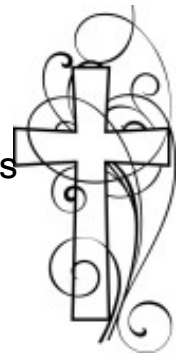
1. Announce meetings and activities happening at the church or an activity connected to the Church that is happening elsewhere. (such as Orem's members serving a meal at a homeless shelter, etc)
2. Alert members to cancellation of church services, meetings or activities due to weather or other circumstances.
3. Announce the death of a member or regular attendee to Orem's, or a friend of the congregation if the family requests it.



2017 Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you would like offering envelopes and you are not on our list, please notify the church office at 410-687-9483 and we can have envelopes available for you.

Memorial Fund

The following memorials have been given in Honor or in Memory of loved ones



In memory of

Norman Miller—given by Gary and Cindy Hooten, Laurie Dillon, Anne and Martin Buckley, Pat Foard, Vivienne Gennuso, Diane and Ron Fink, Susan Nakashima, Rici Harden, Stella David, Buck and Leodia Rinker, Edward Betz, Fred and Peggie Gaver, John Roach, Maria and Al Rhee.

In honor of Ruth Shifflett given by James and Rose Shifflett and Michele and Frank Bingel

Thank you for your thoughtfulness,

Yours in Christ
Donna Winner,
Memorial Fund Treasurer

