**OREMS BEACON**

**Orems United Methodist Church**

**Rev. Dr. Lynn Glassbrook, Pastor March 2012**

**1020 Orems Road, Baltimore, MD 21220 Church Office: 410-687-9483 Fax: 410-687-6884**

**Website:** [**www.oremsumc.org**](http://www.oremsumc.org) **Church Email: oremsumc@verizon.net**

Lenten Study

Tuesday Mornings at 10 am and Tuesday evening at 6 pm we will study using the book from John Ortberg titled *Me: the me I want to be – becoming God’s best version of you.* There will be short video segment each week during class, along with some work in a participants guide. It is most helpful if each participant has his/her own study guide. In addition, there is a hard covered book of additional material for those interested in digging deeper. This second book is not required but available. We can get the books from Amazon.com or Christianbooks.com.

***Hospitality at Church***

*Greeting each other in the church is an important way to express the “family of God” and reaching out to visitors is a great way to build our family. But what about before they get through our doors? Visitor spaces should be left for those new to our church property. On Sunday mornings, please consider, if you are able, parking on the lot across the street. The smaller lot nearer the Church can be left open for those with*

*mobility issues and those coming to*

*visit our congregation. The rest of the week, the smaller lot is open to anyone.*

 Easter Flowers for

 Our Altar

 We have several flowers available to adorn our Worship area for the Easter Celebration; This year we have a Spring collection.

Tulips, Mums, Primroses, Pansies, and Azaleas.

Cost is $7.00 for Tulips, Mums and Azaleas and $3.00 for Primroses and Pansies. Payment is due upon order. Order deadline is March 30th at 1:00 p.m. To order call the office 410-687-9483 or use a form in the Church Bulletin. Payment may be placed in the offering plate in an envelope marked Easter Flowers. Or mailed to the Church office.

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**Easter Flower Order Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Mum \_\_\_\_ Primrose

\_\_\_\_ Tulip \_\_\_\_ Pansy

\_\_\_\_ Azalea

State the wording you would like (in memory, honor, thanks etc.)



The family of Scott A. Tyner appreciates the kind expression of sympathy.

My sons and I want to thank you for all of your prayers and support during this difficult time for our familiy.

Sallie, Andrew and Justin

MEMORIAL FUND

The following memorials have been given in memory and of loved ones.

**In memory of:**

**Scott Tyner** given by Butch and Fran

 Frank, Donald and Alice Fuller,

Monna Nabers, Dawn Wallace,

Pam Wallace Arnett, and Brad

Wallace

**Eternal Flame donation for purchasing of lights** by Jeff and Tammy Brown.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

Yours in Christ,

Donna Winner’

Memorial Fund Treasurer

**Trustee Report**

Trustees annually elect officers for their Committee.  The 4 officers of Trustees are the only people who can sign a contract legally binding the church.  This year, the Trustees have elected Merle Clough as Chair, Ralph Campbell as Vice Chair, Fran Frank as Secretary and Jim McVicker as Treasurer.

Many thanks to Terry Alexander for his three years of chairing the Trustees.  Terry indicated he is willing to help out as needed even as he is ready to pass the gavel to Merle.

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**Christmas Card Box**

This year thanks to Gloria Asbury we instituted a Christmas card Delivery to our congregation. A marvelous idea that helped spread the warmth of the Christmas spirit.

 Here is a note from Gloria

*I would like to thank everyone who “mailed” their Christmas Cards in our “Orems Christmas Card Box”. I thought it was a success considering that it was our first time having it. I also*

*want to thank my husband Denny for his help in sorting, and Charlotte West, Jean Milavec, and Kathy Cunningham in helping to deliver the cards.*

 *Love in Christ,*

 *Gloria Asbury*

**Our Prayers Surround Them**

 Several families have experienced the death of a loved one recently. Our Christian love and prayers surround them.

 Ralph Campbell for the death of his aunt, Helen Reisinger. Ralph’s address is 1504 Wilson Point Rd, Middle River, MD 21220.

 Sallie, Andrew and Justin Tyner for the death of husband and father, Scott. The Tyner’s address is 2328 Poplar Road, Essex, MD 21221

 The Streets of Hope for the death of Timothy Spangler.

 Wanda Lucus, Dale and Dan Ledwell for the death of Wanda’s nephew/ Dale’s nephew/Dan’s cousin Tommy Keefer. Wanda’s address is 1204 third Ave, Middle River, MD 21220 and Dan’s address is 12707 Cunninghill Cove Rd, Middle River, MD 21220. Dale’s address is 1511 Rosewick, Baltimore MD 21237

**Numerical Updates**

 Our entire denomination has entered a 10 year program titled Call to Action. In the program, each church sets specific numerical goals in areas critical to the vitality of the local church. One such goal is in worship attendance.

 The Orems Council set a goal of 100 as our average weekly attendance. For the month of January, we averaged 80 in worship, with a low of 51 and a high of 99.

 Another goal we have is to meet our annual budget, adopted by Council. Finance developed and Council approved a bare-bones budget of $235,792.62 for 2012. In order to meet this budget, we need to average $19,649.38 of income each month, and every ministry and resource are in the church needs to stay within the budget.

 As of January 31, 2012, we have received $ 14,722.08 and have spent $ 14,547.34. We did not pay our January apportionments of $2,300.42.

 Since the budget was created and adopted, we have been alerted to the fact that 4 of our 5 oil tanks need to be replaced sooner rather than later this year. The trustees are getting quotes for this work. It should be noted this need was not known when the budget was prepared, so the end cost is not in the budget.

 On a related note: Thanks to Gene VanDenHeuval for his careful diligence in recording individuals weekly giving over the past 5 years. Gene completed this task by hand, spending hours at a time. Now, we are moving into the 21st century by computerizing the records. This will allow us to send you a quarterly statement of giving and to have summary giving information for the finance committee.

Some have expressed concern about this move, so the information is to address those concerns. Confidentiality is crucial and procedures have been put in place to maintain the confidentiality of individual’s giving. First, the computer being used is NOT connected to the internet, so no information about individuals will be leaked. Second, the files are password protected and only the 3 lay people who may be entering the information will have access to the passwords. Third, the records for each individual will be indentified on the computer with the household giving envelop number alone. No names are attached. Fourth, only summary reports where all amounts are combined will be shared with the Finance committee and/or the Pastor.

**Did you know … ? by Pastor Lynn**

 For the past 2 months, I’ve shared a bit about how the United Methodist Church organizes itself in order to continue the work of God’s kingdom. This month I’d like to share a bit more about the different ministry areas and how they are active here at Orems.

 Worship is the ministry area with which most people connect most often. Worship has to do with how we come into the Lord’s presence and what we do when there. Providing candles and someone to light them; flowers and plants; colors of paraments (the clothes on the altar, pulpit and lectern); even when to sit and stand are all areas of worship planning. From creating bulletins, turning on lights, fans heat or air conditioning for comfort, to arranging communion elements, and arranging for greeters and ushers, worship covers many aspects of worship

Music is an important part of worship. Providing instruments and someone to play the instruments; picking and rehearsing music – vocal and instrumental – as well as planning what to have the congregation sing are all parts of worship, too.

And since God is everywhere all the time, every minute of our lives can be worship. Therefore, the worship committee’s area extends beyond Sunday. *The Upper Room* is provided for individuals and families to use daily. Lent and or Advent devotions are occasionally provided as well. Special worship services are planned during the Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas cycles, in addition to special celebrations for Thanksgiving and All Saints. Baptisms and Communion are offered throughout the year. Weddings and funerals, confirmation and reception of new members are additional acts of worship.

The introduction of our new once a month CrossFire celebration extends the scope of worship to include finding or preparing videos and other multi-media events, changing the look of the worship space and planning definite response opportunities to the worshipers continues to stretch the bounds of how we do worship as we look to provide meaningful celebrations for all ages and interests.

If you’d like more information about worship at Orems, or would like to join one of the teams preparing worship, please contact me or worship chair Donna Sfikas.

 Christian Education is more than Sunday school for children. Christian education offers ways we all continue to grow in our knowledge and understanding of God and how to live a Christian life. We never outgrow our need for Christian education! We do not ‘graduate’ when we finish confirmation or high school! No matter how old or young we are, whether or not we did well in school or even liked it, we need to continue expanding our faith. CrossTraining, the name given to the Orems Christian education program, is offered Sundays for all ages. The smaller children attend JAM (Jesus and Me); the elementary ages are in the Leapsters class; youth attend OCYM (Orems Church Youth Ministry); adults have the Seekers class in addition to periodically offered small or short-term classes. Confirmation, new members, and Vacation Bible School, and Night in Bethlehem are several other educational offerings throughout the year.

 Advent and Lenten devotionals provided during some of church cycles, and the *Upper Room* are other forms of Christian education.

 If you are interested in a specific topical study, more information about any CrossTraining, contact education chair Lynn Clough.

Youth is a ministry area linked to education. Youth fellowship for high school aged folk meet alternate Friday evenings. Fun events, service projects, fund raisers, and an annual trip to ROCK are just a few highlights.

If you have a youth in this age range, or would like to assist, contact youth coordinator Mike Walters.

 Missions is a third ministry area at Orems. As the name suggests, this carries our faith into action, and from inside the church out into the world. Orems has a very rich mission area.

 Through Little Feet, we support 4 neighboring elementary schools, providing back-to-school materials, underwear for ‘emergency’ needs.

 The Angel Tree provides Christmas gifts for elementary aged children and their siblings who might otherwise not have gifts. We receive names through the school, as well as from the congregation.

 Streets of Hope is a faith based initiative working with as many as 50 other area churches to address the needs of homeless men in our area. Shelter and food during the coldest 6 months of the year, as well as some clothing, advocacy guidance through governmental agencies for services needed, and encouragement to become self-sufficient are key areas of mission.

 Prayer Shawl ministry creates and distributes prayer shawls into the community to those in crisis. This area also makes and gives away preemie hats and baby blankets into area hospitals, and lap robes to nursing homes.

 Our food pantry stocks non-perishable and frozen foods for giving away when a church or community family is in need of food. The usual distribution gives a family enough for up to a week of meals. Our food pantry adds a food basket for each family on the Angel Tree; baskets are also given out just before Easter.

 The United Methodist Women also support Missions under their programs. Supporting the Red Bird Mission, scholarships for education, and other mission activities, this group of dedicated women do powerful ministry.

 If you are interested in missions, have a suggested new ministry (I’ve probably missed some!), contact either the Missions chair Kathy Cunningham or United Methodist Women’s president Margaret Eney.

 Nurture and evangelism is the next program area to mention. Sharing witness about Jesus Christ and inviting people to church – an activity *every* baptized Christian is to engage in! – are 2 ways we share the good news of Jesus. Participating in Essex Day with a booth – energetically hosted by our youth last year – putting advertising and community announcements in the area papers (Jerry Fischer is our communication chair) are ways we reach out to others.

 Nurture also tends to the needs of our members and community. Sending grief book series to grieving families, providing funeral reception meals (United Methodist Women), our prayer chair (Donna Winner is captain), the prayers concern book in worship, providing meals when a family is in crisis … how do we surround one another with love and concern with one is hurting? All of these fall under nurture!

 Nurture provides new member packets Sunday mornings and follows up with visitors.

 Pixie Falkner is our chair of nurture and evangelism. Talk with Pixie if you have ideas or would like to work in nurture or evangelism.

**CrossFire Celebration**

Our evening emergent worship service meets on March 11th at 6:00 p.m. Join us for an evening of multi media presentations, joyful music and colorful worship experience.

**Do You Know Where They Are?**

 We continue to search for people listed in the past as members, but for whom we have lost contact. If you recognize any of these people and can shed light on where they might be, who they are related to, or if they are deceased, please call or email the church office.

Gene Housman Freddie Long, III

Catherine Housman Richard Lonzi

Betty Hutzler Ray Magee

Sharon Jenkins Ronald Magsamen

Jacqueline Johnson Darlene Magsamen

Barbara Johnson Carolyn Margon

Richard Joines J Kenneth Marshall

Gerald Jones Laurie Martin

James Jones Kenneth McConn

Gloria Jubb Joyce McConn

Christopher Kaufman Catherine McGee

Sandra Kaufman Celeste McGraw

Tina Keer Wayne McKay

Jeanne King Kathy Miller

Diane Knotts Barbara Mills

Margherita Kone Denise Mohr

Patti Kraft Marvin Molburn

Fred Last Sandra Montaro

Julie Lawless Wanda Montaro

James Lerhe Mary Moose

Catherine Lewis Doris Moran

Norma Lilly Carol Morton

James Linnuf Barbara Moses

Thomas Lohr Ruth Muhling

Kathleen Lohr Colleen Murphy

Russell Mut Mae Myer