



December 2017

Special points of interest: Dec

- 1 Keenagers day trip
- 2 Hall Closet Thrift
Sun SchoolAdvent event
24/7 Prayer Week begins
- 3 Communion Service
- 5 Needlebees
- 6 Choir & Cantata
UMW
- 7 Keenagers at Golden C
- 9 Rehearsal : Cantata
- 10 Cantata
- 12 Sarah Circle
- 13 Choir
- 14 Lunch Bunch
- 17 Angel Tree Gifts DUE
- 18 Rachel Circle
- 19 Needlebees
- 20 Choir
- 24 Family service
Candlelight
- 25 Happy Birthday Jesus
Office closed till Jan 1
- 28 MOO
- 31 Worship at 10

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
1020 Orems Road
Middle River, MD 21220
Church office: 410-687-9483
www.oremsumc.org
Twitter: @oremsumc
www.facebook.com/OremsUMC
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oremsumc@verizon.net
Chris Dembeck, pastor
Email: oremspastor@verizon.net

OREMS BEACON

Orems United Methodist Church



“Walk in the Light”, a Cantata will be presented by the Orems United Methodist Church Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs and Readers on December 10th at 10:00 a.m. under the direction of Mr. Ben Boellner with guest accompanist Mr. Paul Binko. Come Celebrate the wonder of His Birth.



A Christmas Concert at St Clare Parish 714 Myrth Ave in Essex will take place on Sunday December 10th at 4 p.m. This Christmas concert featuring St Clare's Adult and Children's Choirs, Orems United Methodist Choir and Mount de Sales Academy Concert Choir is under the direction of Mr. Ben Boellner. Come enjoy the sounds of the season.



CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

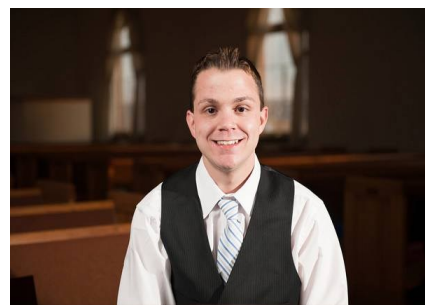
Sunday Morning 10:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service.
Our service is Children friendly and made for families to worship together to welcome the Christ Child

11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service featuring the organ, brass and Orems Choir.

Dear Church-

I hope that everyone is doing well. Can you believe Christmas is coming. With all that comes a plethora of wonderful musical events you DON'T want to miss.



The Christmas cantata "Walk in the Light" will be presented in worship on Sunday December 10th at 10 am. We hope you will enjoy this delightful addition to the Advent season. The Dress Rehearsal for the cantata will take place Sat. Dec 9th at 9 a.m. Both Chancel and Sanctuary choirs have worked incredibly hard on this work. And I thank them for all their effort to make this a wonderful presentation to the glory of God. We will be joined by guest accompanist Mr. Paul Binko. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Also December 10th at 4 pm we will be joining the St Clare Parish Choirs and others at a Christmas Concert at St Clare Parish on Myrth Ave. See details on front page of this newsletter.

Christmas Eve December 24th at 6 pm will be the family service. At 11 pm we will be doing the traditional Candlelight service with both choirs, brass and organ. Orems Family- You are in for a TREAT this holiday season as we celebrate the Saviors birth.

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, 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.

Remember HE is the reason for the season. Have a Blessed Christ-mas season.

Ben Boellner,

Director of Music and Organist,
Bboellner1992@gmail.com

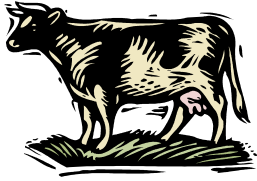
KEENAGERS (fellowship group for those 55 and over)

We will meet on December 7th at Golden Corral for Christmas lunch. Bring \$10 to donate to charity. In January we will meet on the 4th in the fellowship hall for lunch and devotions. Bring a sandwich or snack. Drinks will be provided.

Hope to see you there! Judy Tolbert



MOO NEWS



The MEN OF OREMS will meet on December 28th.

The Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the MOO to raise money for the care of Orem's Cemetery will take place on March 17th. 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 December 14th at 12 noon at Endies restaurant in Middlessex Shopping center. If you plan to attend, please call the Church office by Tuesday Dec 12th. Thank you!



From Your Pastor

Greetings Friends,

Advent is upon us again and we look forward to Christ's coming on Christmas. I read this story recently and wanted to share it with you as we wait on the Lord.

Once upon a time there was an old, old monk who had become the revered abbot of a monastery. One day a very young and enthusiastic monk came to question him about his life. "Father," he asked, "in all these years of prayer and discipline, of early rising and penance, have you become enlightened or holy?"

The old abbot broke into peals of laughter, saying, "If you have to ask, isn't it obvious? No, I've not become all that holy. And wisdom or enlightenment? I don't know. Sometimes it's hard enough just to survive day-to-day with some sort of gracefulness. To learn wisdom as well is asking for a lot."

But the young monk was serious and pushed him: "Then why do you stay? Have you learned nothing in all these years?"

The old monk eyed him seriously and answered, "Well, yes, I have learned one thing about God. Stay awake! You never know when God is going to decide to come and visit you. Stay awake! You never know when all your carefully laid and detailed plans will be derailed, when your patterns and routines will be rudely interrupted. Stay awake! God loves to surprise you, catch you off guard, and throw you off balance, coming and insisting that He be allowed into the center of your life. So, stay awake!"

This is what we, as Christians, are called to do at all times, but especially during the season of Advent. We are to stay awake and watch for the Lord. He has already come, yes, and yet, He will come again. So, stay awake! Don't fall asleep this Advent by focusing on the world and all it would offer you instead of Christ for Christmas, but stay awake and focus on what Jesus has already given you, and will one day bring into being on his return.

Christ wants to be the center of your life. Don't be caught off guard on his coming, stay awake and let him be the center now. Let your Christ-mas be full of Christ. Let Jesus be the center of it all, but first we wait...so, stay awake.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chris



Food Pantry News

We were able to provide 12 families with a Happy Thanksgiving, thanks to the generous donations of this congregation. Now that Thanksgiving is over we must begin to plan for December.

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

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

We will be purchasing Turkeys or Hams for the Christmas baskets. Your monetary donations, help us shop for these items. Thank you for all you do to help keep this mission working.

Your donations of food and money will help make someone's Christmas a Happy and Blessed one.

Thanks again

Pixie Faulkner

Food Pantry Coordinator

STREETS OF HOPE--Volunteers are needed to help shop, prepare and serve meals for the men of the shelter? Orem's will be serving the 3rd Sunday of each month. Monetary donations for meals are welcome. To donate money, place your donation in a white envelope available in each pew, and write on it "Streets of Hope Meals." This money will help buy food for their main meal, desserts, beverages, and snacks the men can take with them when they leave the shelter for the 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

The tree with the names of Children and their list of Christmas Wishes is up and almost all the angels are taken. If you prefer not to shop, you may donate money and we will shop for you. Adopt a child for the season by filling out the Angel Log with your name, the Child's name and code written on the Angel. Please

remember that this is the only Christmas gifts this child will receive. Team up with a friend and expand your shopping money. Please Help us provide a good Christmas for children from the Middle River area. Gifts must be returned to the Church by December 17th. Thank you for supporting this mission.

Stewardship Dec 2017 Beacon

Gross or Net? That is the Question

Ever since we were wee pups, the question has been: when tithing, do we use gross or net?

In many cases, we could say gross, net or if!

The 10% tithe has been in place since early in Genesis. Abram—who became Abraham—had soundly defeated his enemies and God directed that he give 10% of his spoils (of war) to Melchizedek, a high priest. Now this precedes the Israelite nation who would descend from Abraham. It was at this time that God made his Covenant with Abraham that his descendants would be his people. It is also the time that is referenced so often during the current study of Exodus.

Therefore, this 10% had come down through the ages in Judaism as the tithe. Of course, there was also the Temple tax and other gifts that were expected. And today, we struggle under this 10% number. However, the Israelites never expected Gentiles to participate in the tithe, and therefore were exempt. The issue of gross or net becomes moot.

And so today, we can safely look to John Wesley for guidance—and his guidance makes perfect sense:

EARN ALL YOU CAN – SAVE ALL YOU CAN – GIVE ALL YOU CAN

Perhaps we could also add a fourth: AS YOUR HEART LEADS YOU. The needs are great. Resources are what they are. We do the best that we can as we are called.

Norris Tingle – Stewardship Chair



John 3:16 New Century Version (NCV)

¹⁶ "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life.

In Preparation for Advent we will have a **24/7 Prayer week** beginning Sat December 2nd at 4 pm and concluding on Saturday December 9th at 4 pm. Pray for our church, congregational needs, our community and our work in the Kingdom of God. Take an hour or two alone or with a prayer partner. We have 24 hours in a day and 7 days to pray. We begin at 4:00 p.m. on Dec 2nd and end at 4 p.m. on Dec 9th. For those who do not have keys to the building we will make arrangements. If you were part of the last prayer week you know what a Life changing –soul changing experience it can be! Join us! You can register online at <https://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/d047a7>

Or Call the Church office at 410-687-9483

Disciples of Yarn

The month of October was busy for the members of the Disciples of Yarn. It is a blessing to receive the shawls that are completed and given to me for our blessing. There were several prayer shawls provided to those in need during October and November. In early November, I took about 60 baby hats to the Women's Center at Franklin Square Hospital. They are always welcomed by the staff at the hospital. Many thanks to the ladies who provide these gifts to the new arrivals.

If you crochet or knit, or would like to learn, please join us at the next Needlebees meeting. The dates are December 5th and 19th at 6:30 p.m. in room 100. If you enjoy a craft and would like to join us for fellowship while you craft, you are welcome at our meetings.

Blessings, Dottie Daiger

MINI MISSIONS At our Planning meeting in October we discussed as one of our goals for 2018 to have mini mission activities in our community. We are in need of some ideas and suggestions to help us reach this goal. It can be teaming up with another church, school or civic group to help a charity or doing something on our own. One idea was to plan a few game nights with the Streets of Hope mission. We would go and engage in a board game or bingo with the men. If this sounds like something you might like to do, contact the church office or Kathy Egner. Any suggestions for mini missions is welcome and appreciated.



The Dundalk Christian Chorale presents the Sounds of the Season Under the direction of Don Appel.

Performances will be

Friday Dec 15th at 7 p.m.
At Perry Hall United Methodist
9515 Belair Rd

Sunday December 17th at 3 pm
at St Luke's Catholic Church,
7517 North Point Rd in Edgemere

Friday, December 22nd at 7 pm
at Dundalk United Methodist
on 6903 Mornington Rd in Dundalk.

A free will offering will be taken at these concerts.

SAMARITAN'S PURSE Operations Christmas Child—We were able to ship 142 boxes to this mission. Thank you to everyone who helped at the packing party and who brought their own boxes and who donated through the year to make the packing party a huge success. Special thanks to Michele McNeal for being such a great coordinator of this event. A job well done by everyone!

We will not be having Sunday school on Sunday, December 24th and December 31st so that everyone can enjoy time with their families.

Hope that everyone has a very Merry Christmas!

The Sunday school Staff

Thank you

Thank you to everyone at Orem's UMC for their recent donations of personal items for our Children. We truly appreciate the support of our Children's Home. You can follow us on facebook at facebook.com/thechildrenshome.net or at our website www.thechildrenshome.net. Together we are making a positive difference in the lives of Children, youth and families.

Sincerely,
Gail Lee,
Director of Development



2018 Offering envelopes will be available December 17th. 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.



It's time for the Christmas Card Box! The mailbox is in the entryway for your Christmas cards to your friends at Orem's Church. Sign

your name inside the card and write their name on the envelope-NO STAMP REQUIRED. Cards will be hand delivered after the church service on Sunday December 17th by Gloria and Dennis Asbury. Thank you and may all of you have a blessed holiday season.

**ADDRESS CHANGES
UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY**

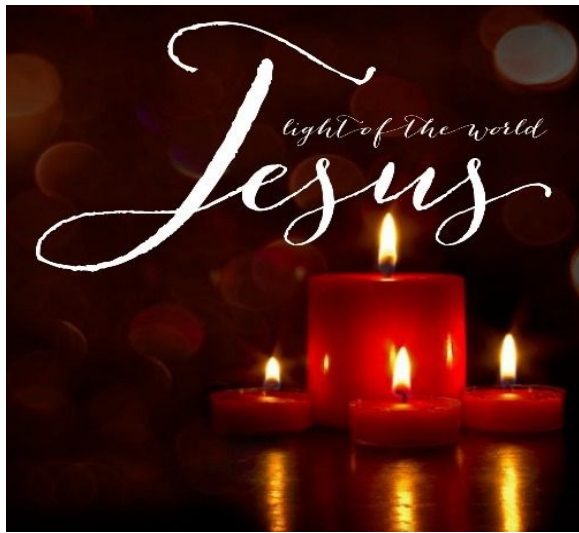
Sarah Fish
4667 Brandeberry Rd
Coolville OH 45723
410-818-0242

Pixie Faulkner
3 Bouldercrest Ct
Apt C
Rosedale MD 21237
443-202-0305

Donna and John Winner
1900 Grove Manor Dr Apt 222
Essex MD 21221
443-730-6466

Merry
Christmas
And
God Bless





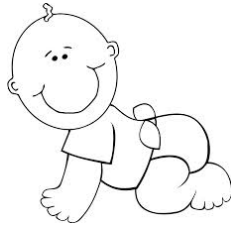
United Methodist Women

Our next meeting is Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00 p.m. **Please join us as we continue to plan for our missions and ministries.**

Remember to bring Christmas Cookies to the December meeting. One dozen for the meeting and One dozen for Charity.

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 need of support. The Center accepts 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 mark For CPC or Center for Pregnancy) and we will see that they are delivered to the Center. Thank you for helping with this worthwhile mission.

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.

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.



January Newsletter Deadline is December 12th, if you have an article or information for our newsletter, please

drop it off to the Church office or email at oremsunc@verizon.net



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.