

# Orems Beacon January 2023

Orems United Methodist Church  
1020 Orems Road. Middle River. MD 21220

Gail Button, pastor  
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## A Prayer for Epiphany - Celebrated January 6th

Oh Lord you drew the Magi to you with your Holy Light. Help us to seek that light this year. Draw us to you and out of the darkness of illness, anger and pain. We beseech you to gather us as your people. Help us to see others who need that same guidance and give us the courage and the words to reach them. Let this year be the year we truly become your disciples to the world. Jesus, in your precious name, Amen.

**DID YOU KNOW** that in 1771 Francis Asbury wrote in his journey that he was astounded at the marvelous work of God transforming the worst of sinners in the Middle River Neck area into happy saints praising God. It would take two years for the community to build its first church meeting place and establish what is now known as Orems United Methodist Church in Middle River, Maryland. So good work worst of sinners turned into saints!

## Church Anniversary news

We will be meeting in Room 100 on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. If you would like to join the committee, contact the church office or stop by on that date. 2023 will be a year of celebration of the past and looking forward to the future of sharing the Gospel in Middle River. Watch for "Did You Know" in future newsletters as we share historical and fun facts about Orems Church.

We are requesting folks to write a devotion or inspirational sentence or two, or a prayer for Orems Church as we celebrate our 250<sup>th</sup> year as a congregation. These will be featured in our newsletter and occasionally our bulletin in this year. Drop these off to the office or email the office at [oremsumc@verizon.net](mailto:oremsumc@verizon.net).



**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**

*2023 Offering envelopes are available. 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.*

**Church Offerings:** To donate online follow the link

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/orem1020156>

To text your donations: Text the word **Give** to **1-410-873-1957** then follow the prompts. You may use a credit or debit card or ACH (withdrawal) or an echeck. The system charges 2.7% of your donation as a convenience fee. You do not have to pay this fee. There is a box to check if you wish to include this. If you need help, call the church office.

If you prefer to mail your donation or drop off your offering, we now have a locked mailbox to keep your donations secure. It is located outside the center entrance to the connecting hallway. Or you can drop off donations on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### KITCHEN UPDATE

We have an update on our kitchen. If you use our kitchen for an event, please sweep and mop the floor when your event is over. To cut costs, We no longer have that area in our cleaning contract. Thank you for helping us keep our building looking nice.

### Food Pantry News

We were able to provide 8 families with 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, Thank you for all your donations of food and gift cards and financial support.

Pixie Faulkner, Food Pantry Coordinator



## Streets of Hope

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

**Churches for Streets of Hope** is a Community Care Center and Mens' Winter Shelter. If you feel called to give to this mission: Go to their website at [www.churchesforsoh.org](http://www.churchesforsoh.org) Or you can Mail checks to Churches for Streets of Hope, P.O. Box 34073, Essex MD 21221.

**For the month of January**, we are collecting Laundry detergent pods, Stain remover, and dryer sheets for Streets of Hope men to do their laundry. Please drop these off to the office before January 15th or bring to church with you on Sunday morning.

Orems is serving dinner to Streets of Hope on Feb 2nd, and Mar 16th. **Meals need to be dropped off at 6 p.m. at the Boulevard Church on Essex Avenue.** We will have a sign up sheet for Meal items needed. We also need donations of water, crackers, cookies, chips/pretzels and sodas. You can drop these off to Orems on Tues, Wed or Thurs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to help serve the men, volunteers are very much appreciated. **If you have any questions, contact: Amber Hackley, Or call the church office 410-687-9483. It takes all of us to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Help us serve!**

### **Thrift Shop News**

**Our Hall Closet Thrift Shop will be open on Saturday January 8th from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Because of the size of our rooms, Masks must be worn while in the Thrift Shop. Invite your friends and neighbors to come shop for lots of great bargains. Come out and support Orems Hall Closet Thrift Shop. Last year the Hall Closet thrift shop sales totaled \$15, 580. We gladly take all donations of clothing, linens, housewares, books, and toys. You can bring donations on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 to 2 or bring items on the Saturday the shop is Open.**

## THANK YOU

Dear Orem's Church: Your church is a wonderful resource for our families all through the year, but especially at Christmas. Your generosity is a huge blessing to our children and families. Merry Christmas!

Dawn Boudier, School Counselor. Orem's Elementary School

Dear Friends at Orem's Church

The weekly church bulletin and activities papers I get each week are really inspirational. It gets me through my daily life. I enjoy reading the word of the Lord. I wish I could be there in worship with you. I miss you all very much. Take Care, Paul Parks

Dear Orem's Church

Thank you for the prayers, phone calls, cards and loving concern during my hospital stay and rehab. I am so glad to be home.

Merry Christmas, Fran Frank

### Address Change

If you have moved or you know of a member who has a new address, please contact the Church office so that we may update our files. We would like to print a new directory in Mid January. So up to date addresses and phone numbers will be very much appreciated.



**Gloria Asbury** is living with her son Tim Biebl at 1251 Greystone Road, Baltimore MD 21227.

**Joyce Scarcella** has moved to a condo in Bel Air.

Her address is 1306 K Scottsdale Drive, Bel Air, Maryland 21015  
Landline telephone is: 443-819-3171  
Her cell phone telephone number is: 443-202-4611

Joyce sends her thanks to all of you for being so kind and supportive this past year. She sincerely appreciates your thoughtfulness during this very difficult time of her life. Sending best wishes to you and your family for a Blessed Christmas and Happy 2023!

**UMCOR-** Your gift to an UMCOR project makes God's love tangible to survivors of all kinds—be it war or conflict, hurricane, fire, famine, earthquake or flood. UMCOR is on the job to help those in need

**To give: go to <https://www.umcmission.org/umcor/give>**

If you want to mail your check payable to **ADVANCE GCFA.**

Write Disaster Response and Recovery and the Advance code number on the memo line of the check. Send your check to: Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068. **To Help in the USA** use the **US Disaster Advance # 901670**

**AMPLIFY MEDIA** Is a site that offers Bible studies, devotions and especially wonderful programs for children and families to enjoy. The Church pays for the subscription but you will need to register an account so that you have your own password to access the programs. We hope you will enjoy this site. **Suggestions for Children:** Danny Go! is similar to Blues Clues. Pete and Penelope is an adventure series. Deep Blue Kids has great animated bible stories. And there is so much more available to you.

Go to <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify> in the upper right corner click on the person logo then click on Access Code. **Orems Congregational code is RTJLVP**



It is getting to the time of year when we need to be concerned about road safety. If the roads are icy or we have snowy weather we will most likely cancel in person Worship or church activities for that day. A One Call will go out to announce cancellations. **Even if you do not get a call, please do not place yourself in danger on the roads if you feel they are unsafe.** Winter is here and we need to be safe and healthy. Take care all!



**We were able to help 22 children from 8 families in the Middle River Area. These families were thrilled that we cared enough to help them enjoy a wonderful Christmas. Thanks to everyone who sponsored a child, to those who took more than one, and to those who gave generously to fund for our shopping for angels left on the tree. I enjoyed shopping for the angels and my wrapping elves Debbie, and Sallie enjoyed wrapping them.**

**Love to all, Vicki Borreson, Angel Tree Coordinator**

## **Bible Study begins January 10th**

### ***Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith***

Join us for a 6-week video and discussion group on Tuesdays at 1 PM in Room 100. This study features Videos by pastor and author Tom Berlin and were filmed at historic memorial sites in the Washington DC area. Videos connect biblical stories about the life of Jesus with faith challenges faced by historic US figures and faith challenges that confront us today.

**Weekly videos include:** The Clarity Of Courage, The Conviction of Courage, The Candor of Courage, The Hope of Courage, The Fortitude of Courage and The Love of Courage.

**Our Prayer room** is open for times of meditation and Prayer in the lower level of the Education building. If you wish to use the room and do not have a key to the church building, contact the church office to make an appointment.

**Altar Flowers** can be ordered for use for worship by calling the Church office. Flowers are \$36 and can be paid by check to Orem Church. Please notify the office of the dedication you wish to print in the bulletin for your flowers at least 2 weeks before the date you order flowers. If your flowers are in a glass vase you may keep the vase or bring it back to the office for future use. If the brass flower vase was used it must stay in the church. A bag or container is available to place your flowers in to take home. Thank you for helping to enhance our service with the beauty of flowers.



**KEENAGERS Group (age 50 and up)** will meet on January 5th for a Pizza party in room 100 to bring in the New Year. Meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. Hope to see you there! Bring your beverage-Pizza and dessert is provided.

Happy New Year to All! Judy Tolbert