

THE CLOCK

A publication of

OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor Barry Judd

November 2018

"Grow in Christ...Share Our Faith"

Dear Beloved Family,

Like you, I am inundated daily with images from around our nation and world which I do not wish to see. How discouraged we may become as we vicariously experience through various forms of media the destruction of segments of our world due to the natural and unnatural catastrophes caused by weather patterns whose results are now out of our control. How anxious we may become as we witness acts of violence which we would like to think are unprecedented, but are in reality merely the latest installment of generational errors. We observe the nation in which we live not only becoming more polarized than any of us remembers before, but grooming leadership on all sides of various issues who have forgotten, or never known how to have constructive public debate in the context of respect and decorum. And, as each of us retreats a bit further into our personal social media devices, the concept of discussion with anyone who is in disagreement with my own presuppositions seems to be less and less necessary.

It is in the midst of this emotional turmoil that the Church approaches the Season of Advent. Ah, just in the nick of time! This is not Christmas, where we may be tempted to superimpose joy over misery to pretend for a while that we have forgotten how things are in the here and now world. No, it's Advent; a time to cry out to God in the midst of the ignorance of our human race. What is wonderful about Advent is its simplicity. We're messed up, and we need a Messiah...just like the last time, and just like the next time. During the Season of Advent I will be preaching through ways that God brings comfort and purpose through hopelessness in the midst of: confusion, frustration, disappointment and lost trust. Do you ever feel any of these things? Would you like to know how God can work through these moments to bring spiritual and emotional restoration instead of just begging for God to "fix it"? See you in Church during Advent!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Judd

NOVEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

November 4 *Song of Solomon 3:1-9 or* *TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*
Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 24
Revelation 21:1-6a
John 11:32-44

November 11 *Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17* *TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*
Psalm 127
Hebrews 9:24-28
Mark 12:38-44

November 18 *1 Samuel 1:4-20* *TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*
Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-14, (15-18). 19-25
Mark 13:1-8

November 25 *2 Samuel 23:1-7* *TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*
Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37



Please Pray:

Please pray for the sick or injured, those caring for the sick, those in recovery, shut-ins and those in mourning. Please pray for healing, recovery, comfort, peace & grace for:

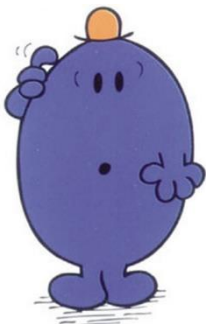
Church members, friends and family who are shut-ins, including: Harriet Brunnett, Bob Hatfield, Doris Norcross, Sally Johnson, Hazel Prouty & Carlton Thomas.

Please pray for the family and friends of Dorothy Ohrn who died in October.

Please pray for Janet Pilling and Daniel Fay.

Please pray for our nation and for all of God's children around the world. Pray for our leaders, local, national and global that they may be guided to bring about peace for ALL. Pray for all who are dealing with mental health problems.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

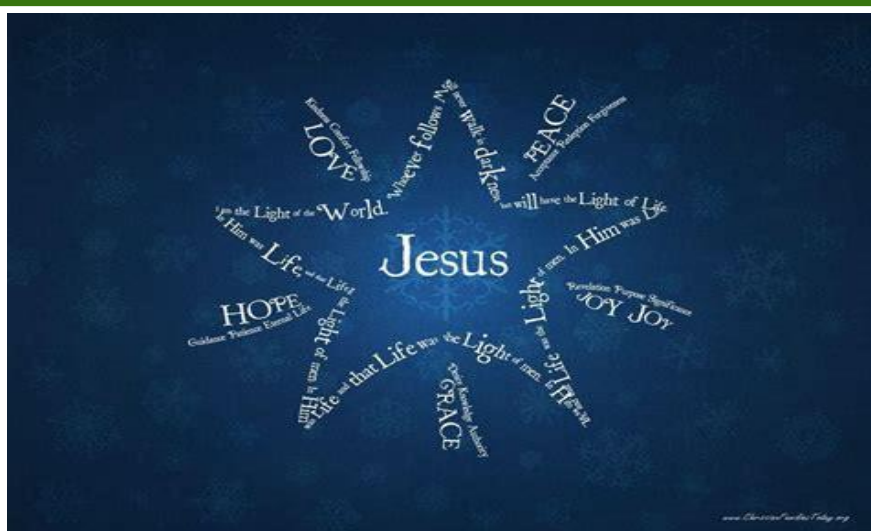


Did you forget your pledge?

It's not too late! Pledges can be dropped in the offering plate any Sunday or simply mail it in to the church office. If you've misplaced your card please see an usher or a member of Finance for a replacement.



Many Gifts,
One Spirit



3rd Sunday Brunch

Join us after church on December 16th

*In order to have variety of choices here is
a suggested
break down but if you have a favorite dish
please bring it along!!*

*A – G Breakfast Casserole
H – O Fruit or Juices
P – Z Pastry*

Any questions see Nancy Bouchard



Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

For the month of **November**
the Food Shelf is accepting
donations of:

Canned soup

On November 7th please place
food items in the collection
basket at the front of the church
when you come forward to
receive Communion.

For the rest of the month,
donations can be put in the
basket in the narthex (next to the
office door).

**In December we will be
looking for
coffee, tea or hot
chocolate**

Many families coming to us
have members with
"diabetes" and "gluten
allergies".

Low sugar, sugar free, and
gluten free items are always
in need.

<http://www.oxfordfoodshelf.org/>

***Thank you for your
generosity!***

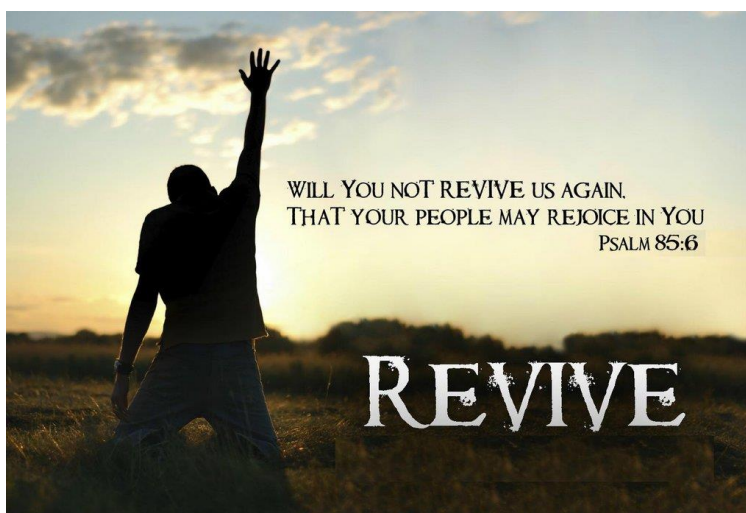
RENEWAL TEAM UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2018

Your Renewal Team has been busy! Here are some of the things we've been doing to stir up change in Spirit and visibility!!

- Reorganized opening of Sunday morning Worship. We are hoping increased attention to the Video of Reflection will better prepare our hearts and minds for Worship. At the suggestion of a member, we now stand to recognize the entrance of the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary by our Acolyte. We feel this new transition will make a less chaotic start to Worship. Let us know your opinion
- We are looking into creating a Welcome Packet for visitors.
- Using an updated list, prepared tirelessly by our Church Secretary Sue Stone and others, we are developing a plan to contact members who have not been active.
- Some team members will be visiting other churches in New England that have been successful in growing their membership and creating community outreach Ministries. We will meet and share our experiences (good or not so good) and see how we can adapt some ideas for OUMC and community of Oxford.
- We set up a Welcome table staffed by several team members during the Harvest Supper on Oct 27. Visitors were encouraged to place prayer requests on a Prayer Board. A small Ziploc bag containing a church magnet, logo pen and a card with a prayer to use before meals was also placed into all "to-go" orders (there were over 30 to-go orders).
- We continue to read and discuss the book, "Roadmap to Renewal". We are using this guidebook to generate a plan for increasing Spiritual Renewal within our congregation and make a community connection.

Members of the team are (alphabetically): Stephen Bouchard, Steve & Brenda Gabel, Pastor Barry Judd, Bob Parmenter, Kevin Stateham and Kim Zostant

Please contact us if you have a comment, idea or suggestion. Thank You and God Bless!



OXFORD UNITED METHODIST TEEN MINISTRY

Teen Ministry Gathering dates:

Saturday, November 3rd from 2-8:00 Skating and Potluck dinner

Skating, either Ice or Roller skating from 2-4pm followed by a potluck supper and gathering at the Church until 8:00pm



Saturday, November 17th from 6-8:00 (snacks and drinks will be provided)

Saturday, December 1st from 6-8:00 (snacks and drinks will be provided)

Saturday, December 15th from 6-8:00 (snacks and drinks will be provided)

Events in the planning stages:

- Teen overnight December 29, 2018
Meet at church at 5:45?
Head to Railers hockey game at DCU center
Return to church for food, games, movie and sleeping (hopefully!)
Breakfast at 8:00am
Parent pickup at 10:15am



Our Teen Ministry Gatherings are open to all teens ages 13 and up and held at the Oxford United Methodist Church. If you have any questions, please contact Dave or Christine Kilmonis at dck3b1@gmail.com.

OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Young Adult Mentoring Program

To all young adults (post-high school graduation and pre-marriage/family) attending services, or otherwise connected to, Oxford United Methodist Church.

Please complete this questionnaire and return it to the church office:

- Drop off in the box in the narthex
- Scan and send (office@oxfordumc.net)
- Mail: OUMC, 465 Main St, Oxford, MA 01540

You do NOT have to sign your name.

1. Would you be interested in getting together with each other, and adult mentors from the church, to discuss issues specific to young adults?

Yes No

2. If so, below are a few topics. Circle the ones you are interested in, both specific to church life, as well as social, educational and emotional.

Mission work	Developing positive financial habits	
Careers	Discipleship	Leaving home College
Self-image	Depression	Jobs
Peer pressure	Relationships (friends, parents, girl/boy-friends)	
Adjusting to adult expectations		

3. Please add topics to the list below if you do not see a topic that interests you:

4. Where/When would you like to meet?

You may sign your name if you would like. If you do not sign your name, and are interested in attending the group, listen for announcements or check the monthly church newsletter (The CLOCK) on line at www.oxfordumc.net.

Hope you join us!

Name _____

HELP KEEP THE HOMELESS WARM THROUGH THE WINTER

Once again, OUMC will be collecting blankets, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, winter jackets and coats to be given to the homeless who attend Worcester Fellowship. There is a large box in Fellowship Hall. Please bring new or clean, gentle used items that can help keep people warm during the coming New England winter and place them in the collection box. We are also continuing to collect women’s underwear, men’s boxer shorts, and t-shirts.

New white socks are a year-round need for people living on the street. Socks that have been worn for a full week do not do much for keeping someone’s feet warm.

"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" Matthew 25:40 New Living Translation



If you cannot make it to church, you can join us on YouTube!!! Go to YouTube and type in “Oxford Massachusettts United Methodist Church “ You can watch and send us messages by typing right on the site; you can send your prayer request to us to be read in church with the other prayers. Yes, you do have to mistype Massachusettts.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Joseph Bouchard 11/1
- Kim Zostant 11/1
- Elizabeth Briggs 11/7
- Ava Krantz 11/10
- Sue Stone 11/12
- Jonathan LeBreton 11/15
- Alexander Scales 11/15
- Wanda Santos-Perez 11/22

November Lay Readers

- November 4 Sue Stone
- November 11 Kevin Stateham
- November 18 Bruce Denson
- November 25 Bob Parmenter

November Altar Flowers

- November 4 Baril
- November 11 open
- November 18 open
- November 25 Bouchard

Oxford United Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Schedule

- 8:00 AM Choir rehearsal
- 9:00 AM Sunday School Classes
- 9:00 AM Morning Worship Service
(child care available during Sunday activities and service)

Serving the Church

- Ministers All members of the congregation
- Pastor Barry Judd
- Nursery Care Denise Stewart
- Church Secretary Sue Stone
- Church Custodian Don Parker

Starting on November 5th, the church office will usually be open on Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9:00am to Noon, and Pastor Judd’s Office Hours will be Wednesdays, 9:00 AM to Noon or by appointment.

ADVENT IS COMING SOON

The first Sunday of Advent, a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas as well as the return of Jesus at the second coming, begins on December 2nd. In preparation for this very special season in the Christian year, the Worship Committee will be decorating the sanctuary and the outside doors on Saturday, December 1st, starting at 10:00 AM. Volunteers are needed to help, we do need at least one relatively tall person.



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Thank you to all who baked or made donations to the Missions Committee Bake Sale and all those who supported Worcester Fellowship and our efforts to help the homeless stay warm by buying baked goods.

Please order your **poinsettia** now. The price is \$7.50 per plant. The cut-off date for ordering is December 9th.



In Loving memory of _____
 given by _____

In Loving memory of _____
 given by _____

In Honor of _____
 given by _____

In Honor of _____
 given by _____

Please make checks out to OUMC. Put the check and the order form in an envelope, write Poinsettia on the envelope and put it in the offering plate or call Cindy at 508-987-5241 by December 9th.

Thank you,
 Cindy Denson

Total # of plants: _____

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>NOVEMBER</h1>				1 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	2	3 
4 WORSHIP 9:00 Food Shelf Donations Sunday School 9:00 Fellowship Following Worship	5	6	7 Office Hours & Pastor’s Hours 9:00-12:00 Bible Study 10 AM	8 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	9	10
11 WORSHIP 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Fellowship Following Worship	12	13	14 Office Hours & Pastor’s Hours 9:00-12:00 Bible Study 10AM Ad Council 7PM	16 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	17	17
18 WORSHIP 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Fellowship Following Worship	19	20	21 Office Hours & Pastor’s Hours 9:00-12:00 Bible Study 10AM Finance 7PM	22 HAPPY THANKS- GIVING	23 	24
25 WORSHIP 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Fellowship Following Worship NO SANDWICHES THIS MONTH	26	27	28 Office Hours & Pastor’s Hours 9:00-12:00	29 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	30	

The CLOCK has been sent... mostly by email. If you think someone new would like to receive The Clock either by email or through the post office, please have them contact the Editor, Cindy, at: (c.l.denson54@gmail.com). The most recent issue will also be available for pick-up in the Narthex. If you do not wish to receive the OUMC Newsletter, reply to this e-mail with “unsubscribe” in the subject line or speak with Cindy (508) 987-5241.



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The next edition of The Clock, the OUMC newsletter, will be for December 2018. The **deadline** for submitting articles for the December 2018 edition is 7:00 PM on **Monday, November 26th**. Please send any items for The Clock to: c.l.denson54@gmail.com. **Thank you.**