

# THE CLOCK

A publication of

OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor Barry Judd

December 2018

"Grow in Christ...Share Our Faith"

Dear Beloved Family,

For the December newsletter, I would like to take a moment to express the joy and gratitude that Karen and I feel for you, our spiritual family, at this time of the year. Throughout Christmastide and Epiphany we will celebrate the grace of our Lord Jesus toward us in giving us spiritual riches beyond our comprehension. Some of these spiritual riches come to us through our connection to the Church. It is at this season of contemplation and celebration that the Judd family is reminded of the blessings God confers to us through each one of you.

While a statement of 'thank you' is not nearly enough, it is what we are able to bring as a blessing to you this season. We thank you for the presence you give to us throughout the year, and at Christmastide. No, I did not spell presence wrong. Presence is exactly what I wish to identify as an expression of one joy which our Lord gives to us through each one of you. There is a certain peace, joy and contentment which only comes through one's presence. I think of the traumatic moment in our Lord's life when He admitted that He was deeply grieved, even to death and asked His closest friends simply to "...stay awake with Me." (Matt. 26:38) There is something about the presence and attention received by one's friends at momentous crossroads in life that absolutely nothing else can replace. The same is true about the 'regular days' in life, when we may not be able to identify any trauma (thanks be to God!) but still would not wish to pass the days by all alone.

You give us the present of your presence at least each and every Sunday, and often so much more. If you ever wonder if anyone notices whether or not you are in Church any given week, rest assured that we notice. This is not said to add more stress to your life, but only in order to say thank you for the gift of your regular presence in our lives, not only at Christmas but 52 weeks a year. You may not know it, but you give to us a great gift of joy just by being there for us all the time. We pray we will share the same gift of presence with you so that our joy may be complete. Merry Christmas!

In Christ's Love,

*Pastor Judd*

## NOVEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

**December 2**     *Jeremiah 33:14-16*     **FIRST**  
                       *Psalms 25:1-10*                **SUNDAY OF**  
                       *1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*        **ADVENT**  
                       *Luke 21:25-36*

**December 9**     *Baruch 5:1-9 or*                **SECOND**  
                       *Malachi 3:1-4*                **SUNDAY OF**  
                       *Luke 1:68-79*                **ADVENT**  
                       *Philippians 1:3-11*  
                       *Luke 3:1-6*

**December 16**     *Zephaniah 3:14-20*                **THIRD**  
                       *Isaiah 12:2-6*                **SUNDAY OF**  
                       *Philippians 4:4-7*        **ADVENT**  
                       *Luke 3:7-18*

**December 23**     *Micah 5:2-5a*                **FOURTH**  
                       *Luke 1:46b-55 or*                **SUNDAY OF**  
                       *Psalms 80:1-7*                **ADVENT**  
                       *Hebrews 10:5-10*  
                       *Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)*

**December 30**     *Isaiah 60:1-6*                **FIRST SUNDAY**  
                       *Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14*        **AFTER**  
                       *Ephesians 3:1-12*                **CHRISTMAS**  
                       *Matthew 2:1-12*                **DAY**



### 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 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.

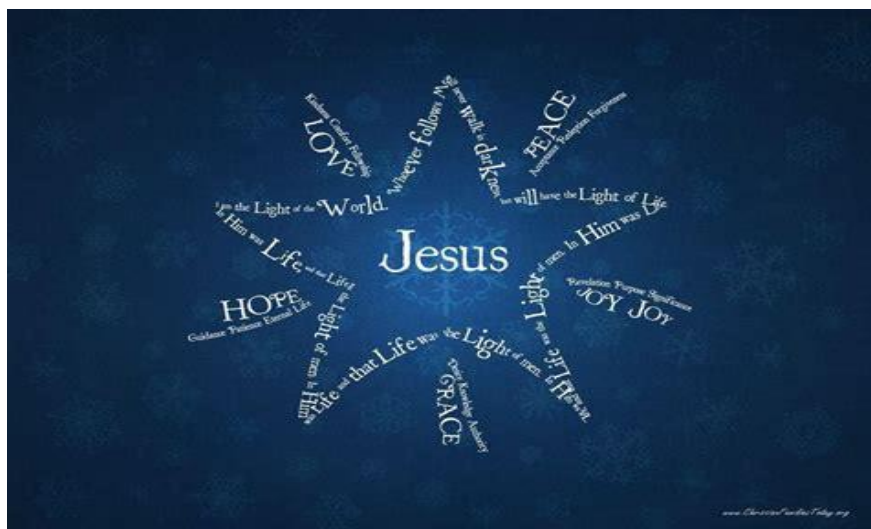
### COME JOIN THE FUN! COOKIE SWAP

You are invited bring your favorite cookie dough to the church on Saturday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>** at **10:00 AM** to bake and swap your favorite cookies. We also invite you to bring and bake extra dough for cookies to be sold on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> during our 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Brunch as a Missions Bake Sale. Please bring your prepared dough and a copy of your recipe to share with others. We look forward to seeing you!

### WORSHIP NEWS

There will be a Christmas Eve Service at Oxford United Methodist Church

December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
 with Organ music provided by Edward Laliberte of QUMC.  
 The Oxford UMC Choir will be singing "Canticle of Carols", a medley of Christmas Carols, arranged by Linda Steen Spevacek.



## *3<sup>rd</sup> 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 **December**  
the Food Shelf is accepting  
donations of:

**coffee, tea or hot  
chocolate**

On December 2nd 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 January we will be  
looking for**

**Canned pasta**

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!**



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## OXFORD UNITED METHODIST TEEN MINISTRY

### Teen Ministry Gathering dates:

Saturday, December 1st - Ice skating from 2-4pm followed by a potluck supper and gathering at the Church until 8:00pm

Saturday, December 15th - Teen Gathering - from 6-8pm

Saturday, December 22nd - Pie Making at Church from 9:00-4:00

Saturday, December 29th - **Overnight/Lock in** - Rainers game then returning to church for overnight

Saturday, January 12th - Teen Gathering - from 6-8pm

Sunday, January 13th - **Soup, sandwiches and Games** - 12:00-2:00pm (come have lunch with us)

Saturday, January 26 - Teen Gathering - from 6-8pm

Saturday, February 9 - Teen Gathering - from 6-8pm

Sunday, February 10th - **Soup, sandwiches and Games** - 12:00-2:00pm (come have lunch with us)

**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](mailto:dck3b1@gmail.com).**

### Soup, Sandwiches and Games

The Teen Ministry group at Oxford United Methodist Church would like to invite you to their winter lunches on January 13th, February 10th, and March 10th, from 12:00-2:00. If you would like to get out of the house and spend some time with others please come and have a good meal and some fun during the cold days of winter. In January we will be serving tomato soup and ham and cheese sandwiches, February will be chicken noodle soup and grilled cheese sandwiches and March will be vegetable soup with turkey and cheese sandwiches.

We will have Yahtzee, Scrabble and Uno available or bring your own game and teach others how to play!



Enjoy the free meal!



Enjoy time with friends!



## OUMC TEEN MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PIE FUNDRAISER

The Oxford United Methodist Teen Ministry is making Christmas pies to raise money for their mission trip in July 2019. The pies will be made on Saturday December 22nd and available for pick up that afternoon from 2:00-5:00pm or Sunday from 10:30-2:30. We will be baking apple crumb, sugar-free apple, pumpkin, chocolate cream pie and apple crisp. You may complete the order form and drop it off at the church, see a member of the Teen Ministry group, or call the church office at 508-987-5378.

**Orders due by December 15, 2018.** You may pay by cash or a check made out the Oxford United Methodist Church with teen ministry on the notes line.

### OUMC Teen Ministry Christmas Pie Fundraising Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert Type	Cost per pie	Quantity	Total
Apple Crumb	10.00		
Sugar-free Apple	10.00		
Pumpkin Pie	10.00		
Chocolate Cream	10.00		
Apple Crisp	10.00		



From the Financial Secretary:

Please note that the new 2019 giving envelopes will be in the Narthex, closer to the end of December, on a table, ready for you to pick up before or after church service. If you need the envelopes mailed to you, please reach out at the number or email below.

Please be reminded that if you need a report of your charitable contributions to the church for your 2018 taxes, either contact me at 508-581-9299 or [palsigel@yahoo.com](mailto:palsigel@yahoo.com), OR leave a message in the church office.

Also, please note that the only method we have of recording your contributions, to provide you with an end-of-the-year report, is to link you to a giving envelope number. If you would like to have a box of giving envelopes, please see one of the counters in the church office after Sunday service, or contact me at the phone number or email above.

Please note that beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, Kim Zostant will be your new Financial Secretary. It has been my pleasure and a blessing to serve OUMC in this capacity. Thank you to all the counters, and the Finance Committee for the help you so faithfully provided.

Thank you!

Pam Sigel

Happy late fall from **Worcester Fellowship!** I am writing with some needs that we have in the hope that some of you may be able to assist us:

We are receiving record numbers of guests at our Thursday Cafe (recent high of 129 guests). This has increased our need for undergarments for both men and women. We are in need of men's cotton briefs (sizes small, medium and large) and women's cotton underwear in sizes 5 through 8. Men's cotton undershirts are also welcome.

Our deepest thanks as always and please remember that I am always happy to pick up your donations, or they can be delivered to All Saints Church in Worcester on Thursdays from Noon to 3pm.

Blessings,  
Sue

Susan Pellerin, Administrative Director  
Worcester Fellowship

*"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

### *December Lay Readers*

<i>December 2</i>	<i>Sue Stone</i>
<i>December 9</i>	<i>Brenda Gabel</i>
<i>December 16</i>	<i>Bruce Denson</i>
<i>December 23</i>	<i>Steve Gabel</i>
<i>December 24</i>	<i>Sue Stone</i>
<i>December 30</i>	<i>Cindy Denson</i>

### *December Altar Flowers*

<i>December 2</i>	<i>Baril</i>
<i>December 9</i>	<i>Cady</i>
<i>December 16</i>	<i>Gabel</i>
<i>December 23</i>	<i>Poinsettias</i>
<i>December 30</i>	<i>Open</i>



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## Wildfires in California

The current string of California wildfires have produced unprecedented devastation. UMCOR remains in close conversation with the disaster response coordinators of the California-Pacific and California-Nevada Conferences of The United Methodist Church and is supporting both conferences as they identify and respond to the needs of those affected by the wildfires.

UMCOR has approved a request from the California-Nevada Conference for a solidarity grant of \$10,000 which will be used to help facilitate the replacement of personal clothing items and food through various resources. The conference Early Response Team (ERT) Coordinator has requested UMCOR buckets as well as hygiene and school kits. As the assessment of needs continues, UMCOR stands ready to provide additional support.

The recovery period for a disaster of such magnitude will be long, but thanks to your generous support, UMCOR and its partners will be able to provide hope and tangible assistance to those in need for years to come.

Reprinted from the UMCOR website.

## 5 THINGS YOU CAN DO FOR DISASTER RESPONSE

From the United Methodist Committee on Relief

1. Pray for those whose lives have been impacted by this disaster. Please also pray for Early Response Teams, disaster coordinators and the many volunteers who are working tirelessly to provide relief.
2. Make relief kits. Download the packing list and shipping label at [umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies](http://umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies).
3. Give to UMCOR's relief and recovery efforts at [umcor.org/donate](http://umcor.org/donate) (U.S. Disaster Response, Advance #901670; International Disaster Response, Advance #982450; Undesignated, Advance #999895).
4. Donate requested items only. To keep relief supplies in stock, give to Material Resources, Advance #901440 at [umcor.org/donate](http://umcor.org/donate).
5. Please wait for an invitation to volunteer.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief is grateful for your prayers and support.  
Text to Give: UMCOR to 91999 • [umcor.org](http://umcor.org)

Monetary donations to UMCOR can be made through Oxford United Methodist Church. Make your check payable to OUMC and write UMCOR on the memo line and on the envelope and our Church Treasurer, Nancy Bouchard will forward your donation to UMCOR. If you wish to assemble hygiene kits, school kits or cleaning kits, go to: [umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies](http://umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies) for instructions or speak with Cindy Denson.

All completed Relief kits and/or the supplies for assembling the kits can be brought to our church and will then be delivered to the Webster Federated Church. A truck will pick them up there and deliver them to UMCOR.

**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 **Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**. Please send any items for The Clock to:  
[c.l.denson54@gmail.com](mailto:c.l.denson54@gmail.com).  
**Thank you.**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Savannah Canty	12/4
Zachary Canty	12/19
Brenda Gabel	12/19
Kevin Stateham	12/28
Bruce Denson	12/28



**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.

Please order your **poinsettia** now. The price is \$7.50 per plant. The cut-off date for ordering is December 11<sup>th</sup>.

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 11<sup>th</sup>.  
 Thank you,  
 Cindy Denson

Total # of plants: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 & Alyssa Franks
Church Secretary	Sue Stone
Church Custodian	Don Parker

Starting on November 5<sup>th</sup>, 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.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <h1>DECEMBER</h1>						<b>Teen Ice Skating</b> 2:00 – 4:00
2 <b>WORSHIP 9:00</b> <b>Food Shelf Donations</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>Following Worship</b> Worship Committee	3	4	5 Office Hours & Pastor's Hours 9:00-12:00 <b>Bible Study 10 AM</b> Finance/ Stewardship 7PM	6 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	7	8
9 <b>WORSHIP 9:00</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>Following Worship</b> Missions Committee meeting	10	11	12 Office Hours & Pastor's Hours 9:00-12:00 <b>Bible Study 10AM</b> Ad Council 7PM	13 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	14	15 <b>Cookie Swap 10:00 AM</b> <b>Bring Dough</b> <b>Teen Gathering 6:00-8:00 pm</b>
16 <b>WORSHIP 9:00</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>BRUNCH</b> <b>Following Worship</b>	17 Pastor, good luck on your finals.	18	19 Office Hours 9:00-12:00 <b>No Pastor's Hours</b> <b>No Bible Study</b>	20 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00	22	23
23 <b>WORSHIP 9:00</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>Following Worship</b> <b>Sandwich Making for Worcester Fellowship</b>	24 <b>Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM</b> 	25 <b>Our Savior is Born</b> 	26 Office Hours 9:00-12:00 <b>No Pastor's Hours</b> <b>No Bible Study</b> <i>Boxing Day</i>	27 Office Hours 9:00 – 12:00 Pastor's Hours 9:00-12:00	28	29 <b>Teen Overnight Lock-in</b> <b>Railers Game</b>
30 <b>WORSHIP 9:00</b> <b>Sunday School 9:00</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>Following Worship</b>	31 <b>New Year's Eve</b>	 <small><a href="#">This Photo</a> by Unknown Author is licensed under <a href="#">CC BY-SA</a></small>				

**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](mailto: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.