

THE CLOCK

A publication of

OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

465 Main Street, Oxford MA 01540

508 987-5378

Office@OxfordUMC.net

Web Site - OxfordUMC.net

Pastor Barry Judd

January 2020

"Grow in Christ...Share Our Faith"

Dear Beloved Family,

First, I would like to take a moment to express Karen and my sincere gratitude to each of you who gave gifts of so many kinds, including my Christmas bonus, as we celebrated the Christmas holiday. It all means so very much to us to know you stand with Christ and us through the challenges of life and faith. We thank God at every remembrance of you!

Second, I would like you to consider a challenge for 2020. As the new year begins, would you join me in prayer each day to ask God for three things in addition to any other conversation you may have with God: 1) Show me where you are already working in the people around me; 2) Show me where I can work with you in those things; and 3) Give me the courage to let people know I am working with You. In this way, I pray we will know the joy of recognizing God evangelizing through each one of us.

Be ready for the Holy Spirit to move!

In the love of Christ,

Pastor Judd

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 and their caregivers, including: Harriet Brunnett, Bob Hatfield, Sally Johnson, Hazel Prouty & Carlton Thomas.

Pray for our church, our conference, our nation and for peace throughout the world.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

DECEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

January 5	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:(1-9), 10-18	<i>Second Sunday</i> <i>After</i> <i>Christmas Day</i>
January 12	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17	<i>First Sunday</i> <i>after the</i> <i>Epiphany</i>
January 19	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42	<i>Second Sunday</i> <i>after the</i> <i>Epiphany</i>
January 26	Romans 3:21-26 John 3:1-16	<i>Third Sunday</i> <i>after the</i> <i>Epiphany</i>

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

January 5th

Also known as "Three Kings" or
"White Gifts" Sunday.

The three Wisemen and their camels will have finally arrived at Bethlehem and presented their gifts to the Christ Child.

During our worship service that morning, our congregation will be asked to bring forward their "White Gifts" and place them before the Christ Child. We are requesting gifts, wrapped in white, that are appropriate for the babies served by the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf. Suggested gifts include disposable diapers, baby wipes, baby food and other such items.

OUMC MISSIONS:

THANK YOU TO WEBSTER FIVE

Four boxes of winter hats, gloves, scarves and socks were delivered to OUMC from Webster Five Savings Bank. These will be delivered to Worcester Fellowship this week to be distributed to the homeless and others in need of winter wear.

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

This program helps keep people of Oxford from going hungry.
For the month of **January**, the Food Shelf is asking OUMC to donate the following: **Personal care items [soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, etc.]**

Throughout December please place food items in the collection basket in the narthex (next to the office door).

In February we will be looking for:
Rice-a-Roni and similar side dishes

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!

TEEN MINISTRY NEWS

Thank you:

We would like to thank you for supporting us this past year with food donations, help in the kitchen and coming to eat as well as your pie orders. It is because of your support we are able to bring teens on the mission trip to Camp Mechuwana in July.

Teen Ministry Dates:

Saturday, January 25th - Teen Gathering 6-8pm

Saturday, February 8th - **Pot Luck Supper** - 6-8pm

Saturday, February 22nd - Teen Gathering 6-8pm

Save the Date:

Friday, March 6th - **3rd Annual Spaghetti Supper & Trivia 5-8pm**

Do you have a favorite hymn? Write it down and give it to our organist, Ed LaLiberte, a choir member or a member of the Worship Committee, (Melissa Scales, Pam Marshalkowski, Bob Shedd and Cindy Denson).

From Your Renewal Committee

The Renewal Committee met on Wednesday, December 4th. Over the past few months we have been meeting with the Worship Committee.

We have been discussing ways to bring younger adults back to God. We have made a few minor changes to our worship service which have been well received by the congregation. We will continue to look at our worship service and make changes that we feel will be meaningful to everyone.

We are all familiar with our annual "Souper Bowl" luncheon. This has become a fun filled event with plenty of delicious food and good fellowship. After our last "Souper Bowl" luncheon Iver Peterson approached some members of the Renewal Committee with an idea. Iver proposed that we make this an Ecumenical Event. We all thought this was an outstanding idea so on February 2nd, Super Bowl Sunday, we will be holding our First Annual Ecumenical Souper Bowl Luncheon. With the help from Laura LaBreton, our Ecumenical liaison, an invitation has gone out to all churches in Oxford to join us that Sunday. Our luncheon is tentatively scheduled from 11:30 – 1:00. More details to follow.

We have also scheduled a Church Family Reunion to be held on April 26th. We are asking members of our church who have left us for reasons unknown to return as part of our church family. An invitation is being designed to mail to those members. There are over 100 members who will be receiving an invitation. If you know of anyone, please extend a personal invitation. Again, more information will follow.

We are meeting on Monday, December 30th. We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Your Renewal Committee

SPIRITUAL FORMATION CLASSES

The Dates and times for the next round of Spiritual Formation Classes to be determined.

!! YOU ARE INVITED !!



“SOUPER” BOWL LUNCHEON



AT

OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TO BENEFIT THE OXFORD ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF

WHEN: SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

WHERE: OXFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

465 MAIN STREET - OXFORD

WHAT: A VARIETY OF HOMEMADE SOUPS AND BREAD

(IT’S “SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY – GET IT?? 😊)

(Would you like to bring a crock pot of soup to share? Call/text Brenda Gabel at 508-789-7935)

**A FREEWILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN
WITH ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE
OXFORD ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF**

AN RSVP WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY JANUARY 26.

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 508-987-5378 – LEAVE A MESSAGE

MISSION SHARES -WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

Thanks to some year ending generosity we are fast closing in on meeting our 2019 Mission Share challenge! The deadline is **January 10th**, so if you haven't already done so, please consider making an extra gift to help us reach the finish line. Write in "Mission Shares" in the memo line of the check or just use a Mission Share envelope.

To help us avoid another end of year crush for 2020, the Finance Committee has made several structural changes in payment planning. This will help by smoothing out some of the rather stiff bill payments (like gas heating) and allow Mission Shares to be paid ahead.



Let's reach our goal - 100% paid!

OUMC MISSIONS: THANK YOU FOR MITTEN TREE DONATIONS

Thank you for all the donations of children's hats, gloves and mittens that were placed on the Mitten Tree. These will be delivered to the Oxford Food Shelf this week.

OUMC MISSIONS UPDATE

For three weeks in a row, the winter wear donations box was overflowing with coats, jackets, blankets, and love. The Missions Committee and the administrators for Worcester Fellowship thank you on behalf of our brothers and sisters for your generosity.



January Lay Readers

January 5 Sue Stone
 January 12 Malcolm Scales
 January 19 Brue Denson
 January 26 Dave Kilmonis

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.

January Altar Flowers

January 5 open
 January 12 Morrow
 January 19 Gillett
 January 26 open

Please know that if there is a week when you would like to have flowers on the altar, but there is already a name there, a second bouquet can be added.

The cost is \$18. per bouquet. And yes, you do take the flowers home with you after the service.



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The next edition of The Clock, the OUMC newsletter, will be for February 2020. The **deadline** for submitting articles for this edition is 7:00 PM on **Wednesday, January 29th**.

Please send any items for The Clock to: c.l.denson54@gmail.com **Thank you.**

Oxford United Methodist Church

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 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
Organist/Choir Director	Ed LaLiberte
Nursery Care	Denise Stewart & Alyssa Franks
Church Secretary	Sue Stone
Church Custodian	Don Parker

The church office is usually open on Wednesdays & Thursdays, 9:00am to Noon, and Pastor Judd's Office Hours are usually Wednesdays, 9:00 AM to Noon or by appointment.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



JANUARY 2020

Prayers for a blessed 2020.

Whoever says he remains in Him ought to walk as He walked.

1 John 2:6 MEV

1

*Happy
New Year!*

2

Office Hours
9:00 – 12:00

3

4

WHITE GIFTS 5

Choir 8:30

WORSHIP 9:00

Sunday School 9:15

FOOD SHELF

DONATIONS

Fellowship with
coffee and donuts
Following Worship

6

7

Office Hours & 8

Pastor's Hours

9:00-12:00

Bible Study 10AM

Ad Council 7 PM

9

Office Hours

9:00 – 12:00

10

11

12

Choir 8:30

WORSHIP 9:00

Sunday School 9:15

Fellowship with
coffee and donuts
Following Worship

13

14

Pastor's
Vacation
begins

15

Office Hours

9:00-12:00

Finance 7 PM

16

Office Hours

9:00 – 12:00

17

18

19

Choir 8:30

WORSHIP 9:00

Sunday School 9:15

Fellowship with
coffee and donuts
Following Worship

20

21

Pastor's
Vacation
ends

22

Office Hours

9:00-12:00

Bible Study 10AM

23

Office Hours

9:00 – 12:00

24

25

**TEEN
GATHERING
6-8 PM**

26

Choir 8:30

WORSHIP 9:00

Sunday School 9:15

Fellowship with
coffee and donuts
Following Worship

Sandwich Making for
Worcester Fellowship

27

28

29

Office Hours

9:00-12:00

Bible Study 10AM

CLOCK DEADLINE

6:00 PM

30

Office Hours

9:00 – 12:00

31

*Have you
welcomed
Jesus into
your
heart?*

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.