



The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor
Issue 1 | September / October 2020

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them, bear much fruit..." John 15:5

OUR MISSION

*Uniting in Jesus Christ
we spread God's love*

OUR FOCUS

The five practices of
Fruitful Congregations:

1. Radical Hospitality
2. Passionate Worship
3. Intentional Faith Development
4. Risk-taking Mission & Service
5. Extravagant Generosity

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This Month's Highlights:

⇒ *Welcome to our new pastor
Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino
September 6th - 10am*

⇒ *World Communion Sunday
October 4th - 10am*

"Bless be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love." (John Fawcett, 1782)

Celebrate World Communion Sunday and lift up
Christian witness and missions worldwide.

⇒ *Community Care...Help & Donate
Community Free Meals
1st & 5th Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:39pm*

FISH Food Pantry

Due to COVID-19 they are only taking cash donations at this time



Join Us For Worship!

Holy Communion - First Sunday of the month

This month we are pleased to publish the biography of our new pastor,

Rev. Dr. Julius E. Del Pino

Help us to welcome him starting September 1st...



The Reverend Dr. Julius Ernest Del Pino was born in Savannah, Georgia and grew up in a Methodist parsonage along with five siblings in the state of Minnesota. He

received his B.A. degree from Gustavus Adolphus College, majoring in American History, the Master of Divinity degree with honors from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D from Northwestern University.

Dr. Del Pino has served pastorates in Michigan, California, and Illinois. He previously served on the faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology (with tenure) in Kansas City, Missouri, taught in the Doctor of Ministry program at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, and served on the faculty of Yale University Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut. Dr. Del Pino has been awarded numerous awards for his commitment to social justice and community service. He

is the co-founder of a group called "Friend's United" whose mandate is to develop bridge-building activities between the Arab and non-Arab citizens of Dearborn.

Most recently, he has taught in The Native American Course of Study, sponsored by The BOARD of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church, and serves on the Superintendency Committee of the East Winds District. He has lectured extensively across the country and in Europe, and has published numerous articles. Recently, he was honored at North Western University, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, in Chicago, along with four other seminarians, for the publishing of an historical account of the establishment of The Garrett Black Seminarians Anthology 1968-1971. Dr. Del Pino is currently working with his spouse, the Reverend Laurie Smith-Del Pino, on a manuscript entitled, *Running Spirit No More*. Julius and Laurie have four grandchildren between them. He enjoys inspiring people to joyfully embrace their faith as they become more committed followers of Jesus Christ.

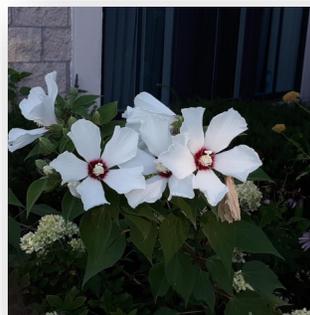


To our new Pastor



Sights of Summer

With the isolation this year you may have missed the site of our beautiful garden. Here are a few highlights...



Much thanks to Peg Moulder and Carolyn Lawrie for attempting to train the roses over the arbor - it was a dangerous undertaking. ☺

We are currently worshipping outdoors as the Governors' "10 persons per indoor gathering" order has made it difficult to worship together indoors. Please continue to pray that this Covid19 outbreak and precautions comes to an end.

In the meantime - Please follow these guidelines: Social distancing 6 feet apart, wear a face mask please, Wash your hands often, no food or drinks at coffee hour. Oxford UMC trustees/volunteers are disinfecting high touch surfaces before and after the services.

Please stay home if you are feeling sick.

Sept. 6 - Labor Day Weekend

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome our new Pastor!

John 15:9-14

"Friendship and Unconditional Love"

Our Michigan Annual Conference 2020



From July 26-28 a virtual Annual Conference was held using Zoom webinar and streamed on Facebook for non-voting members. If you would like to view it - it is on the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church Facebook page under "More" and then "Videos".

The service of Recognition, Commissioning and Ordination was postponed until Annual Conference 2021. If you have any questions of our representative John Warren please contact him (248-778-8735).

'PRAY ALWAYS!' SAYS NEW LAY LEADER

This year the Michigan Conference says goodbye to two faithful servants, Anne Soles and John Wharton. We now welcome Annette Erbes to the role of Conference Lay Leader.

KAY DEMOSS
Senior Content Editor - MICconnect

The Michigan Annual Conference, witnessed transitions of leadership. Annette Erbes is the person nominated to champion the vital role of the laity going into the future. Annette, along with her husband, the Rev. Mark Erbes, has been an active part of the Holt United Methodist church since 2014. Before she was a pastor's spouse, Annette was a preacher's kid. She grew up in the parsonage family of the Rev. Lawrence and Blanche Taylor.



Mark & Annette Erbes

Annette was a leader from the start, serving as president of the West Michigan Conference Youth Council. She was a delegate to the 1980 General Conference, one of the youngest persons ever elected from West Michigan. Annette has been making disciples for Jesus Christ and transforming the world ever since. MICconnect asked Annette to share about her life, ministry, and hopes for The Michigan Conference. Please welcome the new Michigan Conference Lay Leader Annette Erbes and become acquainted through this Q & A.

Let's talk about your ministry background. What are some ways you have been active in the local church or the connectional church? What lessons of leadership have you learned along the way?

"Loved and nurtured by many congregations, I am especially grateful to Grand Rapids Trinity UMC for encouraging me to become involved in the District Youth Council and then on the Conference Youth Council. I served as president of CYC during my senior year of high school. These formative years helped me to grow in my

faith as I explored my gifts for organization and administration. I have been blessed to serve in many areas of the church, for example, as a delegate to General Conference, District Lay Leader, Committee on the District Superintendency, Area Episcopacy Committee, Nominations Committee, Board of Ordained Ministry, and MSU Wesley Foundation Board. I have served as a lay staff person working in Christian education in United Methodist churches in Minnesota, Ohio, and Michigan. I have been blessed by many faith-filled colleagues in ministry who serve with grace, joy, and commitment to Christ and Christ's church. Lessons of leadership gleaned from wise friends in faith are to actively listen; encourage, enable, and support others to utilize their gifts; seek and offer forgiveness and grace; and pray always."

What will some of your first steps as Conference Lay Leader be?

"My first steps in the role as Conference Lay Leader will be to build relationships with lay and clergy colleagues across the conference. As I meet with leaders, I will be listening for and learning about the best practices to encourage and empower laity to be bold and effective leaders in Michigan. As I read and learn, I am recognizing and growing in my understanding of my own white privilege. The journey to dismantle racism calls me to repent, listen, pray, and act. I am taking advantage of the conference's Coaching Ministry and am excited about how this relationship will keep me focused, challenged, and aware as I prayerfully strive to be a bold and effective leader. I look forward to working with our Associate Director for Lay Leadership Development Laura Witkowski and members of the Board of Laity to envision, engage, and empower effective lay leadership across the conference."

Where do you see God at work among the laity of The Michigan Conference?

"Laity are in ministry all around us! In the simple act of providing groceries for a neighbor alone during this time of quarantine. Offering virtual Vacation Bible School to neighborhood children. Sharing technical expertise to enhance online worship. Filling flood buckets for our mid-Michigan neighbors. Running the Virtual 5K for Michigan Disaster Response and Recovery. Serving as an ER nurse. Those are just some of the ways laity in Michigan are in ministry actively sharing the love of Christ! I am looking forward to hearing many experiences of laity leading with humility, love, and grace."

*[to read the full article please go to
<https://michiganumc.org/pray-always-says-new-lay-leader/>]*

Small Moments

[posted August 10, 2020]



BISHOP DAVID BARD

Michigan Area

Waking up and getting ready for work a couple of days following annual conference, and most days work is just down the hall. I was watching *CBS This Morning* while eating

breakfast. There was a quick story about happiness and the importance of small moments for happiness. The story was not arguing that there are not wonderfully momentous moments that make us happy, but rather that we should not think of happiness only in such terms.

I thought of the psalm I had read days earlier in which readers are encouraged to give thanks to God for God's wonderful works among humankind, including the good things of life. *"Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love and God's wonderful works to humankind. The Lord satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry are filled with good things."* (Psalm 107:8-9) I thought about Diana Butler Bass' book on gratitude, where she writes: "Gratitude calls us to sit together, to imagine the world as a table of hospitality. To feed one another. To feast, to dance in the streets... Gratitude empowers us. It makes joy and love possible." (*Gratitude*, 186)

We are living in a time when giving thanks is made difficult by circumstances. Our country continues to struggle to contain the coronavirus pandemic. Polarization in our society makes it much more difficult to encourage action for the common good. We continue to reckon with a history that has excluded persons from full participation in a common good based on race. We live in troubled times.

The weight of our world often weighs heavy on my heart and soul. Yet this strange and challenging time of pandemic has also offered many moments that evoke gratitude and bring joy. Coming away from annual conference, I am deeply grateful for all those who worked diligently, thoughtfully, and patiently to make this work. We were able to care for our necessary business without significant technical difficulties. There were many times over the three days, and in days preparing for annual conference, that my heart was offering virtual hugs and applause to conference staff and volunteers for all their work.

I continue to be heartened by the response of so many of you to the coronavirus as you make decisions for your churches. I know this is challenging. We long to be together in more familiar ways. After our virtual annual conference, any number of us could be heard to say, "We are really glad we know we can do this, and we hope we never have to have annual conference this way again." We want to be together, but we must continue to do so as safely as we can, even when that may mean being together is being together virtually. Jesus is present even where the two or three who gather in his name do so virtually. Jesus is present even where the two or three who gather in his name do so while maintaining social distance. Jesus is present even where the two or three

who gather in his name do so while wearing face coverings. The music that gives praise to God can sometimes be music that is sung only in the heart.

I am heartened by the deep sense I get that we are coming to a unique place in our country where the desire to dismantle systems of racism, that have been built over time, is reaching a tipping point. Yes, the work will be hard, and it is the work of Jesus Christ. There seems to be renewed energy for and commitment to the work of creating a more beloved community, where we are grateful for the diverse gifts that can come from all people. Using Diana Butler Bass' words, the beloved community is a table of hospitality to which all are invited, a table at which we feed one another. It is a feast and a dance that is more joyous when all are welcome.

You heard me say during my annual conference sermon that I am in the process of working with conference leaders to form an anti-bias/anti-racism working group. I expect this team will be in place by the end of the month and will begin its work in September. We will be looking at our conference structures, policies, and procedures. We will be offering resources for local congregations. Expect to hear more about the work of this group in the coming weeks.

Speaking of resources for anti-bias/anti-racism work, there are a lot of good materials available. I would encourage you, as you are reading some of these works or watching some of these videos, not to let yourself get too sidetracked when you may disagree in some way with the writer. I've recently re-read Robin DiAngelo, *White Fragility*, and finished Ibram X. Kendi, *How To Be an Anti-Racist*. I don't agree with everything I read in either book and, no surprise, there are points of disagreement between these authors. Yet I continue to learn a great deal from both.

Small moments have also been more personal. Listening to the funeral for John Lewis, the Rev. James Lawson quoted two poems that I later looked up to read again, and both were gifts (Czeslaw Milosz, "Meaning," and Langston Hughes, "I Dream a World"). I continue to find poems that create small moments of joy and gratitude in this difficult time, poems about sadness, tenderness, music, disappointment, difficulty, and love.

Julie and I have been very faithful in our walking and have been adding bicycling to our routine. Over the years, music has brought joy and evoked gratitude, and during this time, I am rediscovering jazz pianist Bill Evans. I would nominate Waxahachie, "Saint Cloud" as my favorite pandemic cd to date.

Small moments of joy and happiness for which I am grateful. I do indeed find that such gratitude empowers me for the challenging work in this difficult time. Gratitude encourages connection and community, inviting me to work with God and others in the creation of a better world – a feast where we feed each other, a dance in which all might participate. Gratitude reminds me of God whose work among humankind is wonderful beyond description and whose grace is intertwined with all life's good gifts.

I am taking time for small moments on this joyful journey.

[to read the full article please go to
<https://michiganumc.org/small-moments/>]

Local Missions & Outreach: Be A Blessing!

Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"

We normally collect FISH donations on the first Sunday of each month. HOWEVER, at this time due to the pandemic only cash donations are being accepted. You may make out your check to Oxford UMC and put "FISH Food Pantry" in the memo line and we will make sure that your donation gets there. "Thank You!"



**To receive food from FISH:
(248) 628-3933**

*FISH Location: 1060 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford
Website: www.oxfordorionfish.org*

Any questions, contact Julie Langley (248-628-9619) or John & Devon Warren (248-778-8735)

Remember, FISH is a 100% volunteer organization and they need your help.
All donations are tax deductible.

Community Free Meals



If you or someone you know would like a **Free!** hot meal please invite them to visit OUMC on Wednesday's between 5:30 - 6:30pm!

Currently due to the pandemic we are serving take-out meals and donated groceries at the curbside. We have seen a very large increase in need during this time and are feeding between 100 and 160 people. If you would like to be a blessing to others, please either donate funds or to help in person please contact John Warren, Kathy Laidlaw, or the church office.



Love I.N.C.



INTERESTED?
call 248-693-4357 or
e-mail info@loveincfnoc.org

LOVE INC
LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST
NORTH OAKLAND COUNTY

Love in the Name of Christ (Love INC) of North Oakland County is a non-profit network of churches in the area, including Oxford UMC. The mission of Love INC is to mobilize local volunteers and churches to help those in need and transform lives in the name of Christ. Website - www.loveincfnoc.org or call 248-693-4357 for more info.



Our Missions & Outreach Groups



UM Women: Rachel Circle

Rachel Circle is a sisterhood of Christian fellowship. We support one another, we raise money to assist with missions, we volunteer for Coffee Hour Fellowship (when applicable), memorial lunches and more.

When able, we meet the second Monday of each month
Sept. through June at 10am.

If we are still unable to meet in September, we have been discussing having a Rachel Circle Newsletter, that will be sent using the U.S. Mail. We will share devotions, letters from members & ideas for the future, more on that later.

You do not need to be a member of this church to attend, everyone is welcome.

During these Covid months we have continued a Card Ministry, kept in touch through high tech & low tech means. Used the 'Power of Prayer' to help bring Christian ministry to so many who have been through so much pain & grief. Many of us have gone through feelings of isolation, depression & loneliness. As Christians we are not immune to these emotions, especially during these Covid stay home, stay safe times. However, as strong Christian women we understand how important it is to share our Faith & Love.

We are joyful in each other's blessings.

In the meantime, may God bless each of you. Until we can meet in person, we will continue to use the Power of Prayer to lift all who are in need. We give thanks to our Lord, Jesus Christ for everything. I would like to leave you with this final thought. There is a saying: "Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, but learning to dance in the rain". We are in the midst of a storm. How many times have you said or thought, 'when this is over' or 'can't wait till this is behind us'. John Wesley said: "*Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can*". And, with that thought, Amen!

Carolyn Lawrie
Rachel Circle President



UM Men: Band of Brothers

The United Methodist Men focus on Evangelism, Missions, and Spiritual Development.

Questions? Please contact
Fred Nelson, UMM President
(248-628-9826) or
John Warren (248-778-8735).



Piece Makers

You are invited to attend the Piece Makers group and help with our prayer quilts. They usually meet on Tuesday afternoons (1st and 3rd weeks) starting at 1pm.



QUILTING GROUP

Do you know someone who would like the comfort of the prayers woven into a quilt during its creation? These quilts are intended for *anyone* who could use a hug and a prayer during challenging times.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda McIntyre (248-245-7898).
Please keep praying!

Christian Growth & Music

Conner/Wood Memorial Scholarship

The Conner/Wood Memorial Scholarship is a gift of up to \$1,000.00 given each year to a graduating High School Senior or current College Student who is a member of the Oxford United Methodist Church. The recipient will use the funds toward the cost of their education. This is a non-renewable scholarship and the recipient will not be able to apply for the scholarship again. If you haven't been awarded the Conner/Wood Memorial Scholarship you may reapply as many times as you like provided you are still a member and current college student.

The 2020 recipient of this award was:

Jordyn Meersseman

Congratulations!



Jordyn is pictured here with her Grandparents -Devon & John Warren

S.O.A.P. Journaling

By John Gilman

[ACS Technologies - Ministry Impact Resources]



Reading the Bible can become a mundane task that we end up checking off an already over-filled to-do list if we aren't careful. Rather than it being a time of genuine worship, we end up reading a couple of verses then moving forward without truly taking time to reflect on God's Word and what He wants us to hear so we can grow. The S.O.A.P. journaling method has been a huge success by helping us dive into deeper thinking that doesn't require hours of our time. Here's how it works...

Read a passage of scripture

S- Scripture. Choose 1-2 verses out of the passage you read that stand out to you the most. Write those verses down.

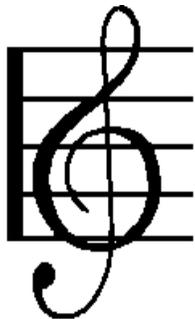
O- Observation. After writing the verses down, write down your observation of the details surrounding this passage. Who is this written for? Who is the author? What do you think God is trying to say to you in this passage?

A- Application. How does the Lord want you to apply this passage of scripture to your life right now?

P- Prayer. Write down a prayer your way to pray regarding these verses and what God has shown you in this reading.

By adopting this journaling method, you may very well be on your way to carving out time in your schedule to really dive deeper into God's Word. The S.O.A.P. method has allowed me to really focus in on just a few verses of scripture at a time and I am able to retain more and meditate more on God's Word. Grab a journal and give this a shot!

If you have experience with music, please consider joining one of these groups...



Bell Choir

The Excelsior Bell Choir rehearsals are on

Wednesdays (6:30-8pm)

If you have any questions please contact Rosemary Rumbold (248-391-0973)

Praise Singers

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns.

Rehearsal days and times are midweek.

If you have questions or if you would like to be a part of the Praise Singers please contact Lucinda Bellairs (248-417-0214).

UMC Camping

There are many choices at our Michigan United Methodist Camps for all ages and interests. Be sure to look at the camp brochures or go online [www.umccamping.org].

Our church, and the camps, can also help you pay for camp.

Call Lucinda Bellairs [248-417-0214 or lucindabel-lairs4@gmail.com] or the church office [248-628-1289] for more info.



Scouting



Boy Scouts:

<https://beascout.scouting.org>
(1-248-338-0035)

Girl Scouts:

<https://www.girlscouts.org>
(1-800-482-6734)



Fellowship & Service Groups



Our group started 2020 with the #HatNotHate Project which was launched in 2018 by Lion Brand Yarn and has now been joined by Be Strong, a non-profit organization empowering youth to prevent bullying and social isolation. This project represents an anti-bullying campaign by distributing blue hats to select schools around the country which are participating in National Anti-Bullying Month during October. The color blue represents awareness, peace, and solidarity.

Although we haven't been gathering in person since early in March, we ended this project in May and mailed out our hats, all ninety-eight of them in June. Currently we are working on lapghans which we hope to distribute to nursing homes and/or veterans associations when that becomes safe for all involved.



We certainly miss the fellowship of gathering and may try to meet again sometime this fall. For any questions, contact Mary Garrard (810-797-5840).



Reading for Fun



Do you enjoy reading? We do!!!

Our Book Group is always looking for more readers who like to chat with friends about books. We meet the **second Wednesday** of the month at **1:00pm** in the Memorial Room.

Wednesday, September 9th: *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne. September is our "read a classic" month. One night in the reform club, Phileas Fogg bets his companions that he can travel across the globe in just eighty days. Breaking the well-established routine of his daily life, he immediately sets off for Dover with his astonished valet, Passepartout. Passing through exotic lands and dangerous locations, they seize whatever transportation is at hand—whether train or elephant—overcoming set-backs and always racing against the clock.

Wednesday, October 14th: *Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts. This richly imagined novel tells the story behind *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, the book that inspired the iconic film, through the eyes of author L. Frank Baum's intrepid wife, Maud. Hollywood, 1938: As soon as she learns that M-G-M is adapting her late husband's masterpiece for the screen, seventy-seven-year-old Maud Gage Baum sets about trying to finagle her way onto the set. Nineteen years after Frank's passing, Maud is the only person who can help the producers stay true to the spirit of the book—because she's the only one left who knows its secrets. But the moment she hears Judy Garland rehearsing the first notes of "Over the Rainbow," Maud recognizes the

yearning that defined her own life story: from her youth as a suffragette's daughter to her coming of age as one of the first women in the Ivy League, from her blossoming romance with Frank to the hardscrabble prairie years that inspired *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Judy reminds Maud of a young girl she cared for and tried to help in South Dakota, a dreamer who never got her happy ending. Now, with the young actress under pressure from the studio as well as her ambitious stage mother, Maud resolves to protect her—the way she tried so hard to protect the real Dorothy.

Wednesday, November 11th: *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. In the summer of 1956, Stevens, a long-serving butler at Darlington Hall, decides to take a motoring trip through the West Country. The six-day excursion becomes a journey into the past of Stevens and England, a past that takes in fascism, two world wars, and an unrealized love between the butler and his housekeeper.

If you have any questions, please contact
Joanne Bogus (248 747-7544).
Hope to see you at Book Discussion!



2020 Church Council

Lay Leader: tbd

General Fund Treasurer: Becky Sallans (248)628-1289

oumc.office@sbcglobal.net

Designated Fund Treasurer: Kevin Kater (248)628-7804

KKater@att.net

Financial Secretary: Larry Bradford (248)628-5759

Finance Chairperson: tbd

Board of Trustees: David Cischke (248)863-8037

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

SPRC Chairperson: John Warren (interim)

Worship: Pastor Julius E. Del Pino (248)628-1289

& Rosemary Rumbold (248)391-0973

Missions & Outreach: John & Devon Warren

(248)778-8735

Adult Bible Study: Sue Rizzo (248)628-1787

Christian Education: Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

Camp Ed. Coordinator - Lucinda Bellairs (248)417-0214

lucindabellairs4@gmail.com

UMM President: Fred Nelson (248)628-9826

UMW / Rachel Circle: Carolyn Lawrie (586)925-2687

Lay Member to Annual Conference: John Warren

(248)778-8735

Members at Large - Church Council:

Bernie Rumbold (2020), John Warren (2021)

Church Council meets the 4th Monday of the month at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to be considered for an open position please contact the Pastor (248)628-1289



*"Do all the good you can,
in all the places you can,
to all the people you can."*

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)

**The United Methodist Church News & General
Conference information is available at:
michiganumc.org and
umcom.org (UM communications)**

Stewardship & Finance Update

Thank you for your faithful giving each month to God's Church. We as a Finance team keep track of giving and expenses each month. Thank you for your faithfulness during these trying times. Please continue to help monthly with our General Fund.

January Giving	\$ 5,580.00
February Giving	\$ 7,178.74
*March Giving	\$ 4,501.00
*April Giving	\$ 5,425.00
*May Giving	\$ 10,860.00

(*Note that these amounts may not have been deposited during the months given as the church office was closed due to COVID19)

June Giving	\$ 6,315.00
July Giving	\$ 7,018.00
August Giving [til 8/23]	\$ 8,596.00

Budget for 2019 \$ 147,613.00
(2020 budget tbd)

Trustees Update

"Thank you!" to the Trustees and all those who also helped keep the church clean and sanitized during the coronavirus outbreak. For our Trustees this is on top of all the regular duties they perform keeping the parsonage, church building, and lawns healthy and maintained. We are thankful for our hard-working group of Trustees:

Michelle Wood, David Cischke, Steve Laidlaw,
Dan Mumbroe, Bob Richter, and John Warren

And grateful to our additional cleaning volunteers:

Tony Rizzo, Lucinda Bellairs,
Kathy Laidlaw, Carol Hauxwell,
Ro & Bill Van Wagoner



*Keep your giving steady by giving
your donations electronically!*

*Forms are available in the Sanctuary or from
the church office. There is no fee to join.*

Note: If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash, please use your offering envelopes. If you need envelopes, please call the office (248-628-1289) or Larry Bradford, financial secretary.

If you would like to mail in your offering please send it to
21 E. Burdick St. Oxford, MI 48371.



Marcella Frost Linda Brown Bill Conner
 Gertrude Curtis Sue Enekes Pearl Hoard

World Communion Sunday

OCTOBER 4, 2020

According to the 1972 Book of Discipline paragraph 163.b there shall be a World Communion (formerly Fellowship of Suffering and Service) offering to support the division of chaplains and ministries, Crusade Scholarships and the scholarship fund for minority groups.

Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy.

What would it look like if the church today imitated Jesus' affirmation of the full dignity and God-given potential of all women and men—especially those who've historically been assigned to the world's margins? On World Communion Sunday your giving helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve.

As a small child Mary Grace Galapon labored as a

housemaid in exchange for food and clothing. Yet, allowed to attend church, she found hope. As a member of The United Methodist Church, your giving on World Communion Sunday has allowed this deaconess, of the Mindanao Philippines Annual Conference, to pursue an education that is now changing her community as she works to eliminate poverty.



Mary Grace's work, and the impact of hundreds more like her, are possible because you give.

Will you give generously on World Communion Sunday to make education and vocational impact possible for more students, like Mary Grace? Will you equip gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be?

Nelson Mandela said, "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." And because the people of The United Methodist Church believe that all of God's children have been created and gifted to build the kingdom Jesus ushered in, we're resourcing them to do just that. Because of your giving on World Communion Sunday, the most powerful tool to change the world is in more hands.

Reformation Day

OCTOBER 31, 2020



(1483 – 1546) Martin Luther was a German priest, Dominican monk, and professor of theology who is attributed with starting the Protestant Reformation. He strongly disputed the claim that freedom from God's punishment of sin could be purchased with money. He confronted Johann Tetzel, a special papal envoy sent to Germany to sell indulgences. He is said to have nailed his Ninety-Five Theses to the church door in Wittenberg in 1517 in order to confront several teachings of the Church. He refused to recant from his teachings and writings at the Diet of Worms in 1521. Pope Leo X excommunicated him following his refusal and he became an outlaw by decree of the Emperor.

Luther's major teachings are still found in Protestant teachings today:

Sola Fide - salvation cannot be earned by good deeds but is a free gift of God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Sola Scriptura - he taught that the bible is the only source of divinely revealed knowledge excluding the papal decrees.

Priesthood of all Believers - all baptized Christians are priests. There is no need for a mediator (confessional priest) to confess sins to God.

He also translated the Bible into his German dialect that later become known as "high German" while he was in hiding. His hymns influenced the development of singing songs in church with contemporary melodies (some of them having apparently been bar tunes).



- 1 - Mike Bellairs
- 4 - Dan Mumbroe
- 7 - Sydney Richter
- 13 - Todd Davidson
- 18 - Teddi Bradford
- 18 - Janice Smith
- 19 - Jason Dudewicz
- 21 - Mary Dempsey
- 26 - Bernie Rumbold
- 29 - Megan Imirowicz
- 30 - Laura Clancy



- 1 - Chris Barclay
- 1 - John Pearson
- 2 - Gail Enekes
- 5 - Lisa Dalmia
- 6 - Robert Willobee
- 7 - Charles Garrard
- 9 - Sam Dettorre
- 13 - Bruce Conrad
- 14 - Kevin Smith
- 16 - Pastor Julius
- 29 - Bruce Bunker
- 30 - Steve Laidlaw
- 30 - Susan Smith
- 31 - Mary Adekitan



- 1 - Earl & Jan Hopper
- 3 - Bill & Shirley Conner
- 12 - Bruce & Deb Bunker
- 13 - Tom & Martha Riley
- 18 - Tim & Jean Davidson
- 23 - Mark & Amy Fleischer
- 27 - Robert & Colleen Richter
- 28 - Kevin & Keri Kater



- 10 - Steve & Kathy Laidlaw
- 10 - David & Jennifer Moore

We are praying for each other using the 2019 OUMC directory.
 [If you do not have a directory please pick one up from Becky in the church office.]
 For September please pray for those from Ruth Patterson to Bernie & Rosemary Rumbold.
 For October please pray for those from Lorrin Schwartz to Millie Solon.



Praying Through the Directory



*Thank You! Pastor Steve Buck for your calm leadership and kindly care during these summer months between pastors. You were a breath of fresh air.
 Your friends at Oxford UMC*

***Thank you! Pastor Jennifer Jue for your five years of Christian care and leadership. You will be missed.
 Your friends at Oxford UMC***

*Thank You so much for all the prayers, cards and concern during my Father's passing! It was wonderful knowing we were being held in prayer. May God bless the Oxford UM Church.
 Becky Sallans and family*

Dear Oxford United Methodist Church,

*Thank you so very much for the beautiful card that you sent to me after the death of my husband, David. There are no words to express my gratitude! I also want to thank you for the privilege of playing in the Excelsior Bell Choir. I have been a member for over 20 years and consider the members to be very good friends. I hope to continue as long as I am able. Thank you again for remembering me at this difficult time. May God Bless you always!
 With Love, Joanne Sweeney*

Dear OUMC Friends,

Thank you so much for the prayers, cards and the prayer quilt for Earl. It really means a lot.
 Jan Hopper

Dear OUM Congregation & Quilt Makers,

*I only wish you could hear all the wonderful comments and exclamations when they see my beautiful prayer quilt!! How gorgeous! I sit & admire it as well. Also thank you for all the beautiful cards and God's Blessings! I know they are working as I am getting stronger with each new day!! God Bless You All!
 Gert Curtis*

SEPTEMBER 2020

Oxford United
Methodist Church
21 E. Burdick St.
Oxford, MI 48371

[This calendar is online at:
www.oxfordunitedmc.org]

Please Note: ALL BUILDING USAGE IS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED BY OUTSIDE USERS.

The only building usage allowed must adhere with current Covid19 guidelines - social distance 6 feet apart; wear a face mask please; no food or drink; wash your hands often; if you touch something please disinfect if after use.

Oxford UMC trustees/volunteers are disinfecting high touch surfaces before and after the worship services. Please stay home if you are feeling sick.

Weekly Events :

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
10a (S) Worship 11a (F/FK) Fellowship	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 6p (CD/F/FK) Quilting Projects (2nd & 4th weeks)	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 12p Bulletin Deadline	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 5:30p (F/FK) Community Free Meals	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 2p (U) Knit Knack	

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
		1	2 9:30a (F/FK/SK) Community Free Meals Set-up	3	4	5
6 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	7 LABOR DAY (Office Closed)	8 7p (Y) Trustees	9 9:30a (F/FK/SK) Community Free Meals Set-up 1p (M) Reading for Fun	10	11	12
13 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	28 7p (U) Church Council	29	30			

October 2020



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				1	2	3
4 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST <i>World Communion Sunday</i>	5	6	7 9:30a (F/FK/SK) Community Free Meals Set-up	8	9	10
11 19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	12	13 7p (Y) Trustees	14 1p (M) Reading for Fun	15	16	17
18 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 REFORMATION SUNDAY	26 7p (U) Church Council	27	28	29	30	31 REFORMATION DAY / HALLOWEEN 

Oxford United Methodist Church
21 E Burdick Street
Oxford, MI 48371

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



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Church office: 248-628-1289 Fax: 248-628-9411

Website: www.oxfordunitedmc.org

Facebook: Oxford UMC

The Reverend Dr. Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor
pastor.oumc21@sbcglobal.net

Becky Sallans, Office Administrator / Editor
oumc.office@sbcglobal.net

Alexander Wolf, Pianist

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We thank all who create, fold, mail and read The Grapevine!



Regular Sunday Worship:

10:00 a.m. Worship

10:20a.m. Sunday School to classes
(during Worship Service, Sept - May)

Nursery available

Coffee & Refreshments after service

All Are Welcome!