



# The Grapevine

Oxford United Methodist Church ~ Rev. Julius E. Del Pino, PhD., Pastor  
Issue 20 | November/December 2023

**"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

We envision a church with a vibrant Christian spiritual life where we welcome and value all God's people... Where we grow, discover, and share our gifts in the church and in the world.

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From  
the  
Pastor



The fall leaves remind us how easily the trees let go of what no longer serves them. They were once beautiful in color providing autumn splendor for all to see. But nature must let go of this beauty preparing trees to become dormant. Buds will form again in spring. That's the cycle of life.

We too can learn lessons from nature....valuable, life-giving lessons from nature. Fall is a good time to let go of those things that no longer serve us. What can you let go of that no longer serves you? Where will you find the motivation to let go and let God be more at the center of your precious life?

After discernment and prayer, I have decided to let go of my complaining nature. This will take effort and patience. But I know I can do it because I will lean on my faith and prayer. When I start to complain about something....no matter what it is, I will let go and ask God to fill my heart and mind with hopeful and positive thoughts. I will speak words of gratitude.

Letting go of the familiar is not always easy to do. Remembering how God's grace blesses us with new beginnings, we can and we shall embrace the new future that is given to us in every season of life. May each of you be filled with blessings to keep you hopeful and full of grace which frees and unites.

The fall season is here and we have been given another opportunity to let go of old ways and things, then receive the joy and strength the circle of Christ holds.

See you soon and often.

God go with you,  
Julius E. Del Pino,  
Pastor



WE ARE  
grateful  
FOR YOU!





## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5:

*Daylight Savings Time Ends!*



◆ At our 10am worship we will celebrate all those whom we have lost since our last All Saints day by lighting a candle and lifting them up in prayer to the Lord. We ask that you continue to keep their families and friends in prayer. Here are the names of church members, constituents, family and friends we will include (please let us know if you have others to add to the list):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Entered into Eternity</u>
Lil Prawdzik - <i>Oxford UMC Member</i>	April 6, 2023
Keith Acheson - <i>Son of Shirley Acheson</i>	April 16, 2023
Ruth Patterson - <i>Oxford UMC Member</i>	June 16, 2023
Gene Dempsey - <i>Father-in-law of Mary Dempsey</i>	July 11, 2023
Sharon Patterson - <i>Oxford UMC Member</i>	September 22, 2023

**We invite you to take a stroll through the Memorial Garden.**

Brick Orders for the Memorial Garden are available on the kiosk or from the church office.

◆ After Fellowship Hour we will be assembling the shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child mission. Volunteers are appreciated!



*The Trustees Invite You to Help with the Fall Clean-up...*

**NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>**

8:30am - noon

outside and inside help is needed!

## **Zone 7 Church Conference**

**Sunday, November 19**

**1:30pm**

**@ Oxford United Methodist**

**D.S. Rev. Margie Crawford to officiate**

**Rev. Margie Brice covering for Rev. Del Pino**

*[SPRC meeting with the DS is on November 14 @ 2pm via Zoom]*



# 2024 Commitment Card

*[Please cut out and place in the offering plate]*



## 2024 Commitment Card

We thank God for our blessings!  
I/We commit to giving our  
prayers, volunteer service  
& year-end donation

My/Our Financial Commitment

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ weekly (for 52 weeks)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ monthly (for 12 months)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Electronic Giving  
*[Please include authorization form  
and submit with voided check]*

**Offering Envelopes Request (check one):**

Weekly envelopes (52)    Monthly envelopes (12)

Name(s) *(print)*: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Oxford UMC - 21 E. Burdick St. Oxford, MI 48371



Commitment Sunday is **December 3rd** with special musical guest David Vaughn. We will also be praying about our commitment of time, talents, prayers, and finances to God's Church in mission and ministry in 2024. Please pray over and turn in your 2024 Commitment Card (see left), either then or by mail. Your commitment is kept confidential by Larry Bradford, Financial Secretary. It may be changed at any time.

Thank you

## Traveling Lightly

By **SCOTT HARMON**  
Superintendent, Northern Skies District | Posted on October 17, 2023

*In this season of change, Rev. Scott Harmon suggests that we pack lightly as we sort through our belongings and ready ourselves for transformation.*

Leaves are turning and, in the highlands, falling from the trees. Canada geese fly overhead, filling the morning air with their cries as formations head south. The season of color tours and highways crowded with camping trailers and side-by-sides is here. Fall in northern Michigan is in full display.

Fall is also a season of preparation, for we know what will soon be upon us. It's time to put away the deck furniture and terra-cotta pots, install the storm windows, and complete the painting projects long overdue. Garden rakes need to be exchanged for snow shovels, and the garage should be rearranged so the snow blower is closest to the door.

It's the time in our household when we "thin," intentionally letting go of those things no longer used. Throughout summer, treasured finds haphazardly settle in the garage with the promise, "I have a great idea for this in just a couple of weeks." A couple of weeks turn into a couple of months, and soon, the dust has accumulated like snow on a frosty November afternoon.

Never one to join the lament of the changing seasons, I

love the winds and snow of winter for the hearty intentionality it all requires. Yet, whether hunkering down for another snowy season or packing the car to follow the geese in their annual migration, it is a time of thinning for us all.

### **Read More**

*(if you are unable to follow the link, just ask Becky to copy this article for you!)*



~ image by Ikostudio from Canva Pro

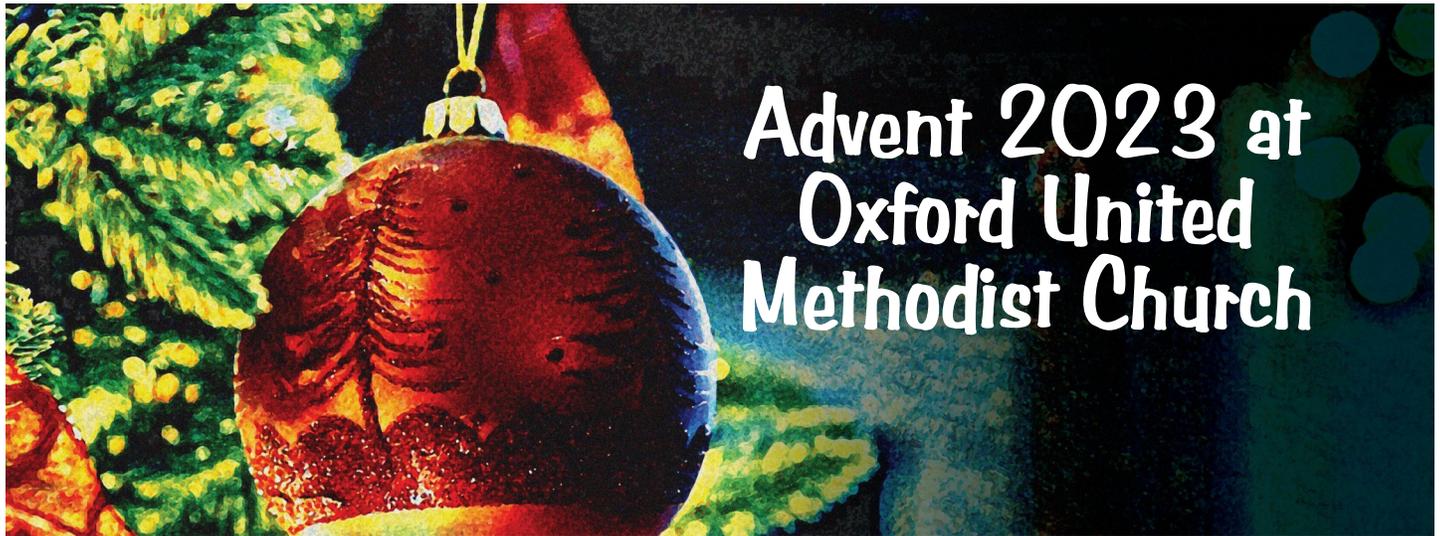


*You are invited to a...*  
**COMMUNITY  
THANKSGIVING  
DINNER**

NOV  
23

*at LakePoint Community Church*  
Thursday | from 12noon-3pm  
Free Drink & Food  
*1550 W. Draher Rd. Oxford*





# Advent 2023 at Oxford United Methodist Church

**December 2** 1pm Oxford Parade / 2pm Oxford UMC Party - hot dog luncheon

**December 3** 1st Sunday of Advent - Musical Guest: David Vaughn - *Holy Communion*

**December 10** 2nd Sunday of Advent

**December 17** 3rd Sunday of Advent - *Bell Choir and Brunch*

**December 24** 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve

10am & 7pm Christmas Eve Worship

*[last day to make a 2023 offering]*



*The 10am service will include Holy Communion. The 7pm service will be a Carol service including: Christmas carols, readings, and music by piano and bells. If you would like to help by being a greeter or usher at either service please let Michelle Mumbrue, Laura Clancy or Rosemary Rumbold know. Share the enclosed flyer on the next page with a friend or neighbor or ask if you can post it around town in various businesses.*

## Please Help Give!

The Giving Tree will be set up when we decorate the church for Christmas and will be dressed with Christmas “ornaments” upon which will be written items for the **Grace Centers of Hope homeless shelter and for our neighbors in need**. In addition to the usual **hats and mittens**, we are collecting **socks and underwear** for children, adults and families. All sizes are needed.

Please take one or more of these “ornaments”, purchase the item, and place it in the collection box near the Giving Tree. **These items must be NEW, not used, and please do NOT wrap them.**

This mission project gives us the opportunity to show our love for those less fortunate and to bring blessings to children, youth, and adults.



## Trimming the Church

**Sunday, December 3rd**

*(after the worship service)*

All are invited to stay after the service to help decorate for the Christmas season. Pizza will be provided for lunch. Thank you in advance for your time and service.



# WORSHIP

*with us*

Sunday  
24  
December

Join Us In-Person  
for Christmas Eve Services at  
Oxford United Methodist Church  
at 10am and 7pm.

*We invite you to join us for a 10am worship with  
Holy Communion and a 7pm Carol service  
including Christmas carols, readings, and  
music by piano, and bells.  
Cookie Fellowship to follow.*

*welcome*

21 E. Burdick St  
Oxford, MI  
48371  
website::  
[oxfordunitedmc.org](http://oxfordunitedmc.org)



## **PRAY for and Encourage One Another Daily**

Lord - we lift up these people to you by name:

Pastor Julius Del Pino Dottie Borgne Beverly Jones & Family Carolyn Foss Chuck Patterson  
Rick Smith Clifford Warren Todd Lawrie John Hauxwell Kip Lawrie Church McIntyre  
Millie Solon Sue Smith Joyce Del Pino Kent Patterson Ron Shedlowsky Ro Van Wagoner  
Bruce Conrad Amy Thorsen Kristina Del Pino Shirley Ricketts Ron Bunker Shirley Conner

We ask your blessings upon:

*All Families - those expecting new children; dealing with loss of a loved one*

*All our school children, their teachers, school workers and administrators*

*Our Revived Church - **that Oxford UMC may be a great source of love  
for this community and that we may revive our vision***

*Those affected by Natural Disasters & all Violence in the US and worldwide  
Oxford UMC, Pastor, Staff, Guests, United Methodists, and Christians everywhere*

*First responders, caregivers, medical personnel and all affected by illness*

*Those with mental illnesses, are lonely, or do not have someone to pray for them*

*Those in the military [especially Kevin Friesmuth & crew: USS West Virginia]*

*Our local and national representatives in all three branches of government*

*All affected by the Oxford High School and all other School Shootings*

*All of our brothers and sisters who deal with racism & hatred*

*We also pray for those whose names are unmentioned, dear Lord, for you know and love them.*

*We ask all these things in your name, Lord Jesus.*

*Amen!*



**"Blessing and glory and  
wisdom and thanksgiving and  
honor and power and might  
be to our God  
forever and ever! Amen."**

**Revelation 7:12, NRSV**

**Need prayer with a Pastor?  
Please contact Becky in the church office to arrange.**

# Local Missions & Outreach

## Oxford / Orion FISH Food Pantry

*“Neighbors Helping Neighbors”*

We are collecting FISH donations on the first Sunday of each month. You may also make out a 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!”

**Current Needs -**

Canned pineapple	Beef stew	Canned mandarin oranges	Baked Beans
Canned chicken	Canned tomatoes	Manwich (sloppy joe mix)	Chili
Chunky Soup	Cake mix	Personal care items	Feminine Products

**Current Hours -**

Office: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 9 to noon  
 Pantry: Tuesdays - 1-3pm; Wednesdays - 10-2pm; Thursdays - 1-5 pm; 3rd Saturdays of month - 9:45-11:30am

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

FISH is a 100% volunteer organization and they need your help.  
 All donations are tax deductible. Remember - NO EXPIRED FOOD PLEASE!

*FISH Location: 1060 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford  
 Website: [www.oxfordorionfish.org](http://www.oxfordorionfish.org)*

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



## Oxford UMC Meal Outreach



**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

All are invited to the community  
**Free!** meal program at OUMC!!

On Saturday mornings we are serving breakfast at PFP (People Feeding People)! We encourage you to attend and not only be fed by food but also with fellowship. We are lifting people up through nutrition and friendship. We are providing a hot breakfast and most weeks a sack lunch for people in the Fellowship Hall (the 3rd week is carryout).

**PFP is looking for more volunteers** to help serve the community. The following are the dates that OUMC will be serving for the next few months (subject to change): November 4th, December 2nd, December 30th, January 27th, February 3rd. Volunteer time is 8:30-11:30am. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kathy Laidlaw (248) 701-5910. We hope that you come and enjoy!!!

WHERE: Oxford United Methodist Church  
 WHEN: Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 am

## Community Free Meals

If you or someone you know would like a **Free!** hot meal please invite them to visit:

Lake Orion UMC (Mondays)  
 Immanuel Congregational (Tuesdays)  
 Lakepoint Community (Thursdays) - 5:30-6:30pm  
 and/or Oxford UMC (Saturdays) - 9:30-10:30am



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. They try to provide any help that is beyond the scope of the churches on their own.

The Clothing Closet (at Oxford Free Methodist Church at 790 S. Lapeer Road) needs help sorting donated clothes on Tuesdays from 9:00am-12:00pm or helping clients shop, two Tuesdays a month, from 12:00pm-3:00pm.

Bed, Blessings & Beyond and Little Luxuries (at Lakepoint Church at 1550 W. Drahrner Rd) needs help sorting items on Tuesdays from 9:00am-12:00pm and helping clients shop from 12:00pm-3:00pm.

If you would like to donate your time or money to help your neighbors in need please contact them:

Website - [www.loveincfnoc.org](http://www.loveincfnoc.org) or  
 call 248-693-4357 for more information.

# Seeking an Antidote to

## Loneliness By Bishop David Bard | MI Area |

Posted on October 4, 2023 in “Bishop’s Blog”

*Bishop David Alan Bard urges us to cultivate a culture of connection and encourage virtues of kindness and respect as an antidote to the loneliness and meanness we see today...*



Lonely and mean. No, those are not the results of my most recent psychological inventory or a descriptor of my enneagram type.

“Lonely” and “mean” are words frequently used to describe life in our society. In a recent essay in *The Atlantic*, columnist David Brooks asked, “Why have Americans become so mean?” He shares stories of nurses leaving the profession because patients have become so abusive, the rise in hate crimes (they hit their highest level in 12 years in 2020), and plummeting social trust.

Brooks acknowledges many factors contributing to such meanness but identifies what he considers the most important: “We inhabit a society in which people are no longer trained in how to treat others with kindness and consideration.” He argues that we need to build up a healthy moral ecology by, among other things, encouraging genuine curiosity about the lives of others, engaging in intergenerational service, and constructing moral organizations.

In his essay, Brooks also makes a connection between loneliness and meanness. Loneliness is a kind of pain, and “pain that is not transformed gets transmitted. People grow more callous, defensive, distrustful, and hostile.”

Loneliness. Essayist Nicholas Kristof noted recently in *The New York Times*, “A majority of Americans now report experiencing loneliness.” Recent research correlates loneliness with physical illness and distress, substance abuse and deaths of despair.

Earlier this year, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy released a report entitled “Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation.” Murthy cites research indicating that “social isolation and loneliness are significant predictors of premature death and poor health.” Data shows that lacking social connection is as dangerous as smoking up to 15 cigarettes daily. Among the remedies to the epidemic of loneliness offered in the report are strengthening social infrastructure and building a culture of connection, including cultivating “core values of kindness, respect, service, and commitment to one another.”

I am a bishop of the church, so what does this have to do with us? After all, our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, regardless of the social landscape. Yes, and . . . we offer the good news of God’s love within particular times, places, and contexts. And as we make disciples for the transformation of the world, we make disciples so that the world will be kinder, less violent, more just, more compassionate, more thoughtful. As the church, we have something to say and offer in a society that is lonelier and meaner than we would like it to be.

In the introduction to his recent book, *Countercultural*, United Methodist church consultant Gil Rendle penned these words: “It is time for the church to speak again

because we live in a time of anxiety, and we live in a culture of crisis. In this time of anxiety and crisis, the truth that the church holds is both missing and deeply needed. . . . It is time for leaders, clergy and lay, to be quietly courageous and bring meaning to this world by honoring

God and by loving neighbor. This simple act, well within the capacity of the church, would bring quite a change to a culture that is divided and oppositional.”

Rendle argues that congregations, along with other institutions of morality, “give us ways by which we can live with and value others. . . . [They] speak of the importance of the other, the common good, and at their best, what brings us together rather than what divides us.” He makes the case that the church needs to find and share its core message: love God, love your neighbor, include everyone, and live that out, recognizing the complexities of doing so. Later in the book, he says, “The questions that accompany the choice of a life-narrative and the subsequent steps of discipleship to live into that narrative prove curiously complex, making faith a life project of discovery with constantly changing and maturing actions.”

In a world that is filled with loneliness and meanness, we have a message to share about God’s love and our need to be kind in response to God’s love — a message that God loves us, that we desire to love God in return, and to love those whom God also loves. It is also a message about forming communities. In recent sermons, I have been preaching that the journey with Jesus is not just me and Jesus. It is Jesus and me, and all the people Jesus is bringing me with in the community called the church. Our message about God’s love and love of others is intended to shape our lives and change our world.

If we are to share and live this message authentically, we need to confess how we have failed to be the church as a community of love and forgiveness. We have not always lived up to our aspirations, and even now, some church communities seem captive to narrow stories more exclusive than inclusive. Knowing our history, we should always share our story with kindness and humility.

Friends, we have a story to share and live, a story of love, kindness, compassion, caring, and our need for one another and our need to care for one another. This story of God’s love for all in Jesus Christ has always been ours to share. Yet, in this particular day and time, where loneliness is epidemic and meanness an all-too-common social currency, this message is profoundly relevant and deeply resonant. Sharing and living out our message contributes to a healthier moral ecology, thereby transforming the world. When we share and live out our message, we help cultivate a culture of connection and encourage virtues of kindness, respect, service, and commitment to others.

May we find the quiet courage to humbly bring meaning to the world through honoring God and loving our neighbor. It is why we are here. It is who we are. It makes a difference.

**To read the latest from the Bishop ([click here](#))  
Conference ([click here](#))  
Or the East Winds District ([click here](#))**

# UM Student Day

**NOVEMBER 26, 2023**

*This year at Oxford UMC we will be celebrating  
UM Student Sunday with Special Guest Speaker: James Cook  
and Musical Guest: Katie Lyndel*



**100%** of your UM Student Day donation goes to scholarships for students?

Every year, GBHEM (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry) awards an average of \$5.5 million in financial aid to United Methodist students. These funds are truly an investment in the future. Every dollar spent goes towards supporting and educating a new generation

of principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. We are blessed to support thousands of students through scholarships, but we would like to do more. Our funds are limited, and every awards cycle we end up with a large pool of qualified candidates who we are unable to help because there was no money left to give. You can help us change that! Donate on November 26th and help more students answer God's call to higher education.

## **ABOUT UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY (UMSD)...**

United Methodist Student Day was the original Special Sunday created by United Methodist Church Sunday Schools who collected offerings to help advance education for their children. The fund was originally established in 1872 as the Children's Fund. Today United Methodist Student Day Sunday has the same purpose, calling upon the denomination to support their students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith. The funds received from the offering go into the United Methodist Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students. Currently, there are over 70 scholarships available for United Methodist students. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM). Students can apply for scholarships at [gbhem.org/loansandscholarships](http://gbhem.org/loansandscholarships).



*We invite all High School and College age students to come and be a part of our worship service on November 26th to honor them for their service to the church and their academic achievements. This will be a special Sunday for all of us as we celebrate the gift that these young people are to their family, this church, and their schools.*

*If you would like your child to be a part of this worship service please contact the church office as soon as possible.*





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

Rev. John Wesley (founder of Methodism)

## 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. Please help monthly with our General Fund.*

January Giving	\$	7,267.05
February Giving	\$	5,966.15
March Giving	\$	5,890.00
April Giving	\$	7,622.34
May Giving	\$	8,823.90
June Giving	\$	6,354.17
July Giving	\$	8,153.40
August Giving	\$	6,532.20
September Giving	\$	5,610.99

Giving Subtotal	\$	54,880.20
Budget for 2023	\$	118,856.00

*If you prefer to write a check or donate with cash please use your offering envelopes.*

*If you need envelopes, please call the church office or Larry Bradford, financial secretary.*

*Please consider giving your donation electronically! It will be paid as you decide and directly deposited into the church account. It is so easy!*

*And no more check writing!*

*There is no fee to join. Safe and secure.*

*Forms are available from the office.*

## 2023 Church Council

Church Council Chairperson:

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

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

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

Financial Secretary: Larry Bradford (248)628-5759

Finance Co-Chairpersons:

Bernie Rumbold (248) 391-0973  
and AmyBeth Fleischer

Board of Trustees: Tony Rizzo (248)628-1787

Michelle Wood (248)969-2545

SPRC Chairperson: John Warren (248)778-8735

Worship Team: Michelle Mumbrue (248)969-9173  
Laura Clancy (248)628-6648

Missions & Outreach: John & Devon Warren

(248)778-8735

Adult Bible Study:

Sue Rizzo (248)628-1787

Rosemary Rumbold (248)391-0973

Education Team:

Mary Dempsey (810)797-5736

Amie Von Knorring (248)342-8051

Bob Willobee (248)628-2357

Camp Ed. Coordinator: (available)

Revive Team: Steve Laidlaw (248)801-5924

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

Church Council meets the last Monday of the even months at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.



*Thankful*  
FOR YOUR KINDNESS

On behalf of Pastor Julius, Alex and myself - we would like to thank you so very much for our Staff appreciation gifts. You are always so generous!  
Becky Sallans

It is with a grateful heart that we welcome and thank Rev. Margie Bryce as she covers for Pastor Julius Del Pino while he is on medical leave. We also thank D.S. Rev. Margie Crawford and the East Winds District for providing her.



*Knit  
Knack*

We meet every Friday from 1-3pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us if you enjoy any type of needle work. We are always willing to teach anyone who would like to learn. If you have any questions, please call Mary Garrard, 248-613-4505.



*Excelsior Bell Choir*

The Bell Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm  
Come to hear us play every third Sunday during the school year.  
Please remember to join us for brunch immediately after the service.  
If you have any questions please contact Rosemary Rumbold (248-391-0973)

*Piece Makers Quilting*

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.

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!



*Praise Singers*

Join us to practice Sunday's songs and hymns. Rehearsals are at 5:30p on Wednesdays and 9am on Sunday mornings.  
If you have questions or if you would like to be a part of the Praise Singers please contact Renae Shagena (248-969-2225).



*November*

- November 2 - Keri Kater
- November 6 - Peyton Kater
- November 12 - Richard Nelson
- November 17 - Linda McIntyre
- November 18 - Todd Lawrie

*December*

- December 4 - Becky Sallans
- December 5 - Natale Vincentini
- December 7 - Jan Hopper
- December 10 - Ed Hepp
- December 12 - Kayleigh Von Knorring  
Madeline Maline
- December 13 - Colleen Richter
- December 14 - Shirley Ricketts
- December 16 - Fred Nelson
- December 17 - Dominic Vincentini
- December 23 - Nadine Lychuk
- December 24 - Carol Hauxwell
- December 29 - Daniel Moore

- November 22 - Tony & Sue Rizzo*
- November 24 - Bill & Ro Van Wagoner*
- November 30 - Chris & Vonda Barclay*

- December 12 - Chuck & Linda McIntyre*
- December 19 - Eric & Catherine Richard*

**Birthdays**

**Anniversaries**

## UM Women: Rachel Circle

All of us at Rachel Circle invite you to join us this holiday season, as we strive to build on our spiritual connections with our Lord Jesus Christ & our Holy Spirit.

If you are apprehensive about the coming holiday season, which can bring on anxious feelings & loneliness especially, if you have recently lost a loved one - Make happy plans, put Rachel Circle on your calendar! Fellowship with friends you may not have met yet, reconnect with old friends. Join us on a journey to build & grow relationships & personal & spiritual growth. We will also have the ability to assist the Revive Team with some exciting November & December community activities.

### Mark your calendars:

Meetings: Monday, November 13th & the Christmas Party luncheon Monday, December 11th, at noon.

Friendship Hour hosting: Sunday, November 26th & Sunday, December 31st.



Questions? Need a ride?  
Contact: Carolyn Lawrie  
Rachel Circle President

## Bounty of Thanks



We thank thee, Lord, for the glory of the late days and the excellent face of thy sun. We thank thee for good news received. We thank thee for the pleasures we have enjoyed and for those we have been able to confer.

And now, when the clouds gather and the rain impends over the forest and our house, permit us not to be cast down; let us not lose the savor of past mercies and past pleasures; but, like the voice of a bird singing in the rain, let grateful memory survive in the hour of darkness. If there be in front of us any painful duty, strengthen us with the grace of courage; if any act of mercy, teach us tenderness and patience.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

[Used with permission of ChurchArt Online]

## 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).



Please contact **Michelle Mumbroe, Laura Clancy** or a member of the **Worship Team** to be a **Sunday Servant.**

We very much appreciate your service!  
**Thank You!**

Visit Us  
**ONLINE**

We are always updating and keeping our website current

Did you know there are daily scripture readings?

Have you seen it lately?

Join us at - [oxfordunitedmcc.org](http://oxfordunitedmcc.org)

# November

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

[This calendar is online at:  
[www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)]

Usual Events :

<u>Sundays</u>	<u>Mondays</u>	<u>Tuesdays</u>	<u>Wednesdays</u>	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u>	<u>Saturdays</u>
9a (S) Praise Singer Practice 10a (S) Worship	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels <b>12p Program Deadline</b> 1p (CD/F/FK) Piece Makers Quilting Projects (1st & 3rd weeks) 8a-4p (W) Dragonfly Hybrid	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 10:30a (F/FK) Wednesday Book Study 5:30p (S) Praise Singers Practice 6:30p (S) Bell Choir Practice	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 8a-4p (W) Dragonfly Hybrid	10:30a (SK) Meals on Wheels 2p (U) Knit Knack	9:30a (F/FK) People Feeding People

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
			1 7p (Y) Trustees	2	3	4
 5 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ALL SAINTS SUNDAY HOLY COMMUNION Daylight Savings Time Ends!	6	 7 <b>Election Day</b>	8 1p (M) Reading for Fun	9	10	11 VETERANS DAY 8:30a-noon (W) Fall Cleanup
12 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 11:15a Revive Team "CRT"	13 10am (FH) Rachel Circle 7pm (FH) Worship Team	14	15	16	17	18
19 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Bells & Brunch	20	21	22	 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 UM Student Sunday! 12noon UMC Discussion w/ the DS	27	28	29	30	Church Office Closed - Becky on vacation until December 4	

# December 2023



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

[This calendar is online at:  
[www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)]

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					1	2 1pm Oxford Parade [Oxford UMC Party to follow]
 3 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - HOPE HOLY COMMUNION COMMITMENT SUNDAY <b>Blessing of the Greens &amp; Trimming the Church</b>	4	5	6 7p (Y) Trustees	7	8	9
10 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - LOVE  11:15am (U) Revive Team "CRT"	11 12noon (TBD) Rachel Circle Christmas Luncheon 7p (FH) Worship Team	12 7p (Zoom) Staff Meeting	13 1p (M) Reading for Fun	15	15	16
17 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - JOY  Bells & Brunch	18 6p (CC) SPRC	19	20	21	22	23
24 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - PEACE CHRISTMAS EVE 7p Christmas Eve Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Church Office Closed - Becky on vacation until January 3, 2024</b>						
31	January 1, 2024 NEW YEAR'S DAY					

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

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## The Grapevine

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### Oxford United Methodist Church

21 E Burdick Street, Oxford, MI 48371  
Church office: 248-628-1289 Fax: 248-628-9411  
Website: [www.oxfordunitedmc.org](http://www.oxfordunitedmc.org)  
Facebook: Oxford UMC

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The Reverend Julius E. Del Pino, Pastor  
[oumc.pastorjdp@gmail.com](mailto:oumc.pastorjdp@gmail.com)

Becky Sallans, Office Administrator / Editor  
[oumc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oumc.office@sbcglobal.net)

Alexander Wolf, Pianist

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#### **Article Deadline:**

#### **The 15th of the Even Months**

The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space

**LARGE PRINT EDITION** available upon request

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



### **Regular Sunday Worship:**

(and also join us either online or via radio)

10:00 a.m. Worship

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

Coffee & Refreshments after service

**All Are Welcome!**