Orchard Park United Methodist Church
WEEKLY NEWSFLASH

We are encouraged to press on, to move toward a more just society, to claim a better vision of the beloved community, to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. But we hold fast to that which will keep us on track, that which will define us. We need to hold fast so that we may press on. If we don't hold fast to our faith and to our relationship with Jesus Christ, when we press on, we will quickly lose our way. If we surrender our hope, our passion for our church and our Lord, then we will have no reason to press on; the business of the church becomes meaningless. But by holding fast to Christ, pressing on becomes the joy that it can be.

Pastor Jennifer

Service Opportunities

Currently seeking volunteers for...

- **Altar Flower sponsors** - fill out an envelope and pink slip found in the church
- **Acolyte** on Sundays starting 9/13
- **Liturgist** on Sundays starting 9/13
- "Middlers" (grades 5-7) **Youth Group leaders** - email jendstamm@gmail.com to find out more
- **Clara's Closet** is currently accepting **donations** for new or gently used comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, kitchen tools, dishes, brand-new socks (kids and adults), and very clean winter coats. Contact Candy (716) 867-5395 to arrange your donation.
- **Treasurer** - speak with Pastor Jen or Carolyn Wrinn

There are two upcoming Work Days, October 10 & 17, at Camp Asbury. This is a great mission opportunity, sponsored by conference youth ministry. Contact Judy Hipes at (607) 624-2145.

October 4 Worship Participants

Pastor: Jennifer Stamm, CLM
Musician: Meiko Reigelman
Liturgist: George Slocum
A/V Operator: Peter Slotman

The flowers on the altar on October 4 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marilyn Henning's parents, **Erwin and Lois Bowell.**

This Sunday is **World Communion Sunday**. This day calls the Church to reach out to all people and model diversity among God's children. The special offering support the division of chaplains and ministries, Crusade Scholarships and the scholarship fund for minority groups. You may pick up this special offertory envelope on your way into the sanctuary and place it in the collection plate. Or, you can send your donation to OPUMC in the included envelope.

Upcoming Events

There is a **Worship Committee Meeting** following service on October 4.

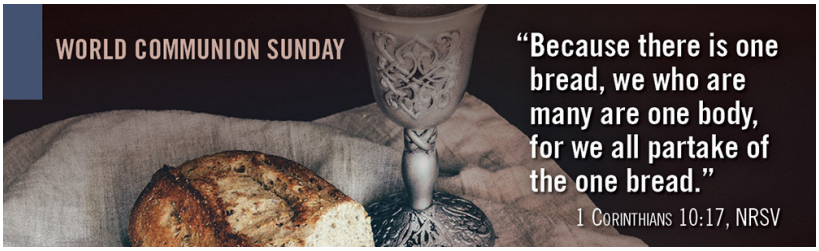
We have scheduled a **Trunk Or Treat** event on October 31. More details to come.

October Birthdays

Monica Restorff (10/3)
Zach Restorff (10/5)
Rich Spinelli (10/6)
Bob Laurie (10/7)
Bill Russell (10/25)

Thank you to this month's St. Pauly's Clothing Shed volunteers!

Art Cooper (10/4)
Ed Nuse (10/11)
Linda Carroll (10/18)
George Slocum (10/25)



On Saturday, November 7, the Niagara Frontier District UMW invites everyone to participate in the virtual program Network of Leaders, 10 AM-12 PM. The book *So You Want To Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo will be presented and discussed. This is a good follow-up to our 30 Days of Anti-Racism focus. You have time to read the book, it will be a good discussion. The Zoom invitation will be sent prior to the event. Questions? Call Carolyn: (716) 648-1179.

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for the friends and family of congregant *Jim Harp*, who passed away on Tuesday.
- Please pray for peace and good health for *Tony*, friend of Beth Stuart, who is anxious about a possible recurrence of cancer.

I appreciate so much all the healing thoughts and prayers during my recovery of a broken clavicle. Still a few weeks to go, I feel wrapped in God's love with all the warmth, well wishes and help from so many. Thank you ❤ Carolyn

Have a prayer request you'd like to share? Has God answered your prayer? Email opumc@verizon.net or call Pastor Jen at 603-4470. We will include your prayer request or praise report in next week's NewsFlash.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.
James 5:16

Reconciling Ministries Network

Orchard Park United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation.
We affirm the sacred worth of all people and strive to practice Christ's example of unconditional love without exclusion. All are welcome to participate fully in the life and ministries of this congregation. Whatever your race, ethnicity, economic situation, background or belief, age or condition of ableness, whether single or partnered, you are God's beloved and are welcome here. God calls us to acts of love, grace, and advocacy to promote healing and reconciliation. We welcome and affirm our LGBTQIA+ brothers, sisters and siblings, sons, daughters and children, people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.
We desire to follow God's vision to be a place without barriers, a sanctuary for all.

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