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# Orchard Park United Methodist Church

## WEEKLY NEWSFLASH

Easter for Christians is not just one day - it's a 50-day period. The season of Easter, or Eastertide, begins at sunset on the eve of Easter and ends on Pentecost, the day we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church (see Acts 2.)

Easter season is more than just an extended celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. In the early church, Lent was a season for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The initial purpose of the 50-day Easter season was to continue the faith formation of these new Christians.

Today, this extended season gives us time to rejoice and experience what it means when we say Christ is risen. It's the season when we remember our baptisms and how, through this sacrament, we are "incorporated into Christ's mighty acts of salvation." As "Easter people," we celebrate and ponder the birth of the Church and gifts of the Spirit (Pentecost), and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Christ.



### April 11

## Worship Participants

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Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

*Pastor:* Jennifer Stamm

*Music Director:* Meiko Reigelman

*Liturgist:* Carol Brauer

*A/V Operator:* Peter Slotman

The flowers on the altar on April 11 are given to the glory of God and in honor of Donna Kroh's grandson's Steven's 25th birthday.

## Upcoming Events

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April 11 @ 9:30 AM:

**Adult Sunday School**

April 11 @ 10:30 AM:

**Sunday worship**

April 12, 9:30 AM-1 PM:

**Sewing Circle**

April 14 @ 7 PM:

**Church Council meeting**

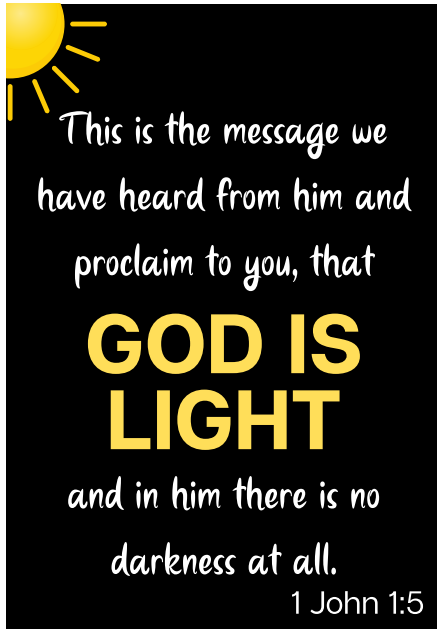
April 18: **Native American**

**Ministries Sunday**

April 24 @ 10 AM:

**UMW Gift Day at**

**Trinity UMC Grand Island**



## April Birthdays

Mattie Stamm (4/7)  
Mike Stamm (4/7)  
Candy Carberry (4/8)

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

George Slocum (4/4)  
Ed Nuse (4/11)  
Linda Carroll (4/18)  
Mike Waters (4/25)



### Orchard Park United Methodist Church

3700 N. Buffalo Street  
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email: opumc@verizon.net  
website: www.opumc.com

## Volunteer Opportunities

- **Altar Flower sponsors** - fill out an envelope and pink slip found in the church.
- We are collecting shoes, sneakers, flip flops and sandals for **Clara's Closet**. Please place footwear in bins under coat racks downstairs. Please tie sneakers together.
- We have decided to keep our **church food pantry** open! We will be accepting donations all year.
- April 18 is **Native American Ministries Sunday**. This is a Special Sunday where our generosity as a church equips and empowers Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

## Prayer Requests

- Continue to pray for Vignesh and his family. Vignesh would love to receive mail during his healing! His address is:

Vignesh Stradley  
158 Montrose Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14214

- Pray for Candy and Joe's neighbors: Roger, Debi, and Scott.
- Pray for Lurly Hunsberger.

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

*Orchard Park United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation.*

We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

### Pastor Jennifer Stamm, CLM

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email: jendstamm@gmail.com