

The Courier



for the Orion United Methodist Church

August 2017

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A Testimony in Concrete and Stone

As this edition of *The Courier* is being prepared, Justin King Landscaping is nearing the completion of the retaining wall and sidewalk outside the Activity Center. Funds for the final payment have been set aside and like the rest of our Activity Center project, we are paying as we go; we have not incurred any debt on either the renovation of the Activity Center nor the site work outside it. That's something we can truly celebrate!

Our next step will be the parking lot itself. Our trustees are weighing our various options for the surface of the parking lot. However, their decision will likely be impacted by the availability of our funds. Most of the money designated for the work outside the MAC is being used for the retaining wall and sidewalks; there is not enough money left over to pave the parking lot and it may have to wait until next spring. We do not want to withdraw invested funds because that will have an adverse effect our ability to fund our General Fund in future years. Clearly, your gifts will help us move on to this phase of our project.

If the completion of our parking lot has to wait until next spring, so be it. We've accomplished so very much already and the MAC is fully functional. Today, the MAC is a testimony of our love for Christ; our love for our community and the vigilant stewardship of our resources.

Speaking of stewardship, for three weeks in July, three different members of our finance team spoke in church to thank you for your continued support of the General Fund of our congregation. Summer is typically a lean time of the year for churches, but with your support, we've kept current with all of our general church expenses.

Our general church budget for 2017 is approximately \$265,000. That may sound like a lot of money—and it is. However, we have approximately 400 members, so all it takes to meet our budget is for every member of our church to give just \$12.75 per week.

Of course, we don't give to a budget as though we were paying dues; rather, we give to God in an act of worship.

*Yours for the Mission,
Pastor Dave*



The Chosen Ones

At the Fall Festival Community Worship Service
Sunday, Sept. 3 – 8:00 a.m. in Central Park
*Their Southern Gospel music will entertain
and inspire you.*

Special Guest Austin Vallejo

We'll enjoy a special treat on Sunday morning, August 6 as Austin Vallejo joins us to lead our congregation in a contemporary worship experience.

Austin has roots in the Quad Cities but now lives in California where he is the lead guitarist for the Keifer Sutherland Band. He also serves as the worship leader at his church.

Austin will be in town following
Main Street Orion's *Night of Music* on
Saturday, August 5.

Sunday's service will also feature
Holy Communion and Pastor Dave will
be preaching.

You can visit Austin at
twitter.com/austinvallejo.



Prepare Your Hearts for Sunday

At some point in August, I plan to return to my sermon series on the Fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), although I haven't decided when.

Either way, we begin the month with Holy Communion on Sunday, August 6. I will be preaching and special guest Austin Vallejo will lead worship for us. (See page 1). Scriptures include Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17; Romans 9:1-5 and Matthew 14:13-21.

Scriptures for Sunday, August 13 include Genesis 37; Psalm 105; Romans 10:5-15 and Matthew 14:22-33.

On Sunday, August 20, I'll gather as many YouthWorks missionaries as I can and feature them in worship so you can hear from them a report of their mission trips to Toronto and Louisville. Scriptures will include Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 and Matthew 15:10-28.

We wrap the month up with Rally Day on August 27. Scriptures include Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Roman s 12:1-8 and Matthew 16:13-20.

Once again, underlined scriptures will be read by the day's lay liturgist.

I'll see you in church,
Pastor Dave

Schwan's Cares Activity Center Fundraiser

This summer and fall, OUMC will partner with Schwan's to raise money for the MAC landscaping project. OUMC will receive a percentage of customer's sales when they indicate their support of the OUMC Activity Center Fundraiser when they order online or over the phone.

Through August 13, OUMC will earn 20% of online and phone sales. We will also earn \$10 for every of \$25 eGiftCard purchased. (Limit of 1 per person) *Hint: Purchase the eGiftCard to use on your own order.* Simply buy the eGiftCard first and then use the redemption code to pay for your order.

From Aug. 14-Nov. 13, we will earn 5% of online and phone sales orders.

Visit Schwan's website at www.schwans-cares.com or call 855.870.7208 to start shopping. Simply enter the OUMC Activity Center Fundraiser campaign ID (**33438**) at checkout. Ordering is easy and Schwan's delivers directly to your home.

Friends and family members (near and far) can support our Schwan's Cares campaign by entering in our campaign ID (**33438**) when they checkout.

Please contact Autumn Manning with any questions at autumnmanning@hotmail.com or 738.6515.

Orion Fall Festival News

We are happy to help the Orion Fall Festival with two youth events over Labor Day Weekend. These Fall Festival events will be held in the MAC.

Fri., Sept. 1, 9:30-11:30 pm High School "Overtime" Party

Sat., Sept. 2, 8:30-11:00 pm Middle School Party

DJ for both events is Don Rahn

Mission of the Month

Two ministries will benefit from our August Mission of the Month: Churches United of the Quad Cities Area and Christian Care. In the past, our church has supported each ministry with an annual gift of \$500 and that will be our goal for August.

Churches United of the Quad Cities Area is an ecumenical ministry sponsoring a number of food pantries as well as Winnie's Place which provides shelter for women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse. It is a cooperative association of over 136 churches representing over twenty Christian Faith traditions in the greater Quad Cities area. You may visit them at www.cuqca.org.

Christian Care's services are available in the Quad Cities to a growing number of homeless men and abused women and children 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Through its two facilities—a domestic violence shelter for abused women and children and a rescue mission for homeless men—Christian Care provides safe shelter, food, clothing, counseling, referrals and guidance to anyone in need. They serve homeless individuals, victims of domestic violence, veterans, men and women coming out of prison and the mentally ill, all with the goal of offering to each the opportunity to start a new, more productive life. You may visit Christian Care at www.christiancareqc.org.

Please remember that your mission giving should be above your regular support of Orion UMC.

Thank You from the VBS Committee

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Vacation Bible School a success by donating items and volunteering! The children had a wonderful week learning through crafts, games, and stories. VBS would not be possible without everyone's help. Thank you!

Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who helped make our 9th annual Breast Cancer Salad Luncheon held on Saturday, July 15 another huge success. It takes a lot of faithful volunteers, family, and friends to continue to make this event successful. We couldn't do it by ourselves.

A special thank you to Julie and her crew for making everything just perfect, to Pastor Dave and the church for allowing us to hold the luncheon in the church, to our sponsors BankORION, Office Machine Consultants, Barb & Tom Pasmore, Aaron Tennant Simplex Trucking, Michelle Payne of Mid-American Energy, Terri Werkheiser, Enchanted Florist, and Betsy Catour for photography.

Thanks to everyone's generosity we raised \$3,332 for Camp Kesem.

Last, but not least, thank you to our families and friends for the love and support they always show us. *Thank you!*

Live for Today!

Kathy Anderson & Karen Bloomberg



YOUTHWORKS MISSION TRIPS

As of this writing, the mission trip to Toronto was a tremendous success. Our missionaries experienced the life-transforming touch of God in their lives.

Our middle school mission team will be ministering in Louisville the first week in August.

We're already looking ahead to 2018. YouthWorks alumni, their parents, and prospective YouthWorks missionaries are invited to a planning meeting Sunday, August 20 following the 10:30 service. Prospective missionaries are those youths who are going into 6th grade this fall.

Our first fundraising activity for the 2018 trips will be a walking taco bar offered at a 5:30 p.m. "Fall Fiesta" on Sunday, September 3 just prior to Comedy Sportz. Both the Fall Fiesta and Comedy Sportz will be held at our church as a part of Orion's Fall Festival.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Plan to attend our lunch & workshop on Aug. 13 following the late service as we plan for this year. RSVP to Deb Miller at 738-5582. The Education Team will also meet during this workshop and lunch.

The Seekers adult Sunday school class will study the book "Slaying the Giants in Your Life" this fall. The book discusses how to manage emotions & situations according to God's word & direction. Books are available, at no charge, on the shelf at the north end of Fellowship Hall. Get yours now to read before class starts. Contact Sandy McCready (309-334-2625) with any questions. *Everyone is invited to join & see what adult Sunday school is all about!*

Sunday School News

The kick-off to Sunday school begins on August 27 with our **Rally Day** activities in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m.

Regular classes begin Sept. 10 at 9:15 a.m. If you've never attended a class, this is the time to check them out. We have classes for our very youngest, the 2,3,4 year old class, through high school, and also two adult classes.

Gen XYZ meets in the nursery so if you have a little one too young to attend regular class, please bring them to class with you.

The Seekers adult class meets in Fellowship Hall.

As always, Pastor Dave will visit all classes a couple of times throughout the year.

If you have questions about any of the classes, please contact Pastor Dave, Deb Miller, or Tara Miller.

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ORION UMC & THE FALL FESTIVAL

Friday, September 1 – Sunday, September 3 the Orion Fall Festival comes to town. Once again it will be set up across the street from the church, giving us a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Christ with our community.

- Sunday morning we'll cancel our regular church services so we can participate in the 8:00 a.m. community-wide service held at Central Park's Band Shell. This year's special guests will be **The Chosen Ones**. Our church will be the rain location.
- We'll wrap up the Fall Festival at 5:30 pm with our **Fall Fiesta** featuring walking tacos by OUMC Youth Missions and dessert by TLC Pre-school.
- At 6:30 p.m. we'll welcome back "**Guys with Ties**" from **Comedy Sportz** in Rock Island. Please join us. It's free. It's funny. And it's sponsored by our youth.

Rally Day and All-Church Potluck – August 27

During the 9:15 **Sunday School** hour, youth and children will meet in the sanctuary. Promotion certificates will be given to all, and Bibles will be presented to 1st and 5th grade students.

Following the 10:30 worship service, join us for our annual **All-Church Potluck** in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish or two to pass. Education will provide meat, table service & drinks.

There will be an opportunity this fall to **become a member of Orion United Methodist Church**. Please contact Pastor Dave for more details.

We are beginning to fill vacancies on committees for next year. If you'd like to **join a committee**, please contact Pastor Dave. There are many areas in which to help, and it's a great way to share ideas.

We also **need ushers and greeters**. If you aren't on our list, please sign the attendance pad to volunteer. Barb Cooper will contact you with more information. This is a wonderful way to support our church and to meet new people!

Blessings on Your Birthday!

8/2	Cheryl Stone Alisha Terronez	8/18	Rhonda Gainey Jackson Bingham
8/4	Julie Doxstader	8/19	John Schenk
8/8	Jeanine McGaughy	8/21	Forrest Sawlaw
8/9	Dylan Nelson	8/22	Brandon Cooper
8/10	Jim McGaughy Nevan Browning Jennifer Garrity	8/23	Jane Meyer Jolene Richardson Santana Terronez
8/12	Scott Mason	8/25	Fran Riggs
8/14	Emily Crayne	8/27	Michael Crayne
8/15	Ashlee Amador Jared Carr	8/28	Kinsley Lough Chad Woolley
8/16	Barb Cooper Kelli Knox	8/30	Darci Watson

Contact the church office if we need to include your birthday.