

The Courier



for the Orion United Methodist Church

January 2018

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Strength to Love

The first federal Martin Luther King Jr. Day was in 1986, although it took some states longer to adopt it. At any rate, this January will mark the 32nd M.L. King Day and it will fall on his actual birthday, January 15. Had he lived, Dr. King would be celebrating his 89th birthday.

Or should I say *Rev. King* would be celebrating his 89th birthday. Even 32 years later, I'm still amused that our "separation-of-church-and-state" nation nonetheless sets aside one full day every year to honor a preacher of the Gospel.

Recently I picked up my copy of Rev. King's book, *Strength to Love*. It's really a collection of his sermons, and most are just as timely today as they were when they were published in 1963. Here are a few tidbits from Rev. King:

•"How oft,' (Peter) asked, 'shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?' Peter wanted to be legal and statistical. But Jesus responded by affirming that there is no limit to forgiveness. 'I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.' In other words, forgiveness is not a matter of quantity, but of quality. A man cannot forgive up to four hundred and ninety times without forgiveness becoming a part of the habit structure of his being. Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a permanent attitude" (pg. 40).

•"Wisdom born of experience should tell us that war is obsolete. There may have been a time when war served as a negative good by preventing the spread and growth of an evil force, but the destructive power of modern weapons eliminates even the possibility that war may serve as a negative good. If we assume that life is worth living and that man has a right to survival, then we must find an alternative to war."

•"We are commanded to love God, not only with our hearts and souls, but also with our minds...We have a mandate both to conquer sin and also to conquer ignorance" (pg. 47).

•"Hate is injurious to the person who hates. Like an unchecked cancer, hate corrodes the personality and eats away its vital unity. Hates destroys a man's sense of values and his objectivity. It causes him to describe the beautiful as ugly and the ugly as beautiful, and to confuse the true with

the false and the false with the true" (pg. 53).

•"Our abundance has brought us neither peace of mind nor serenity of spirit" (pg. 75).

•"The Christian faith makes it possible for us nobly to accept that which cannot be changed, to meet disappointment and sorrow with an inner poise, and to absorb the most intense pain without abandoning our sense of hope, for we know, as Paul testified, in life or in death, in Spain or in Rome, 'that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose'" (pg. 96).

•"When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a great benign Power in the universe whose name is God, and he is able to make a way out of no way, and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows. This is our hope for becoming better men. This is our mandate for seeking to make a better world" (pg. 114).

Happy New Year!
Pastor Dave



We wish you many blessings for 2018 from
the Staff & Families of Orion United
Methodist Church

Pastor Dave & Candice Schultz

The families of Amy Killion, Joy Seys, Jerry Meyer, Jill Kosek, Carrie McCunn, Andrea Cooper, Karl Bodenbender, Peggy Crayne, and Erin Herring

Prepare Your Hearts for Sunday

When we last worshipped together in 2017, we observed Epiphany which celebrates the Christ being made known to the Gentiles as wise men come to pay him homage and give him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. By the time we worship together on Sunday, January 7, Christ will have grown into adulthood and will be baptized by John. Scriptures include Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7 and Mark 1:4-11. I will serve communion and lead us in a service of covenant renewal as we begin the New Year.

In the United Methodist Church, Sunday, January 14 is Human Relations Day which always falls on the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Scriptures include 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 and John 1:43-51.

Scriptures for Sunday, January 21 include Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 and Mark 1:14-20.

We wrap up the month on Sunday, January 28 with Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 and Mark 1:21-28.

As always, scriptures for liturgists are underlined.

I'll see you in church,

Pastor Dave

Greening of the Church...In Reverse

You are invited to help the youth take down Christmas decorations on Sunday, Jan. 7 at noon. A light lunch will be served. Everyone is welcome to help and be involved!

Festival for Missions

Thank you for all the support given to our Festival for Missions. We had so many wonderful designs for this year's festival, and we appreciate all of you so willing to make and donate your creations. A special thank you to all our bidders. The YouthWorks members again were of great help to us. The missions of OUMC are successful because of the generosity of our congregation.

We raised \$767 including \$312 for YouthWorks mission trips. Thank you for your support of missions!

—The Missions Team

Thank you to all who were involved with our special December worship services. The music and messages were wonderful and helped everyone get into the Christmas spirit!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Orion Christmas for Kids. Your generosity helped to make Christmas brighter for Orion area children.

Julie Bosold

Christmas for Kids Representative

WALK THE MAC

Trustee Jerry DeBaillie will open the Activity Center weekdays at 9:30 for persons who would like to walk. Remember – 25 laps are a mile. Should Jerry not be available, a key is available in the church.

BIBLE STUDIES AT ORION UMC

Orion UMC offers two small groups for Bible and book study. The **Factory Bible Study** meets Thursday mornings at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. Our **Ladies Small Group** meets at 7:00 pm on Tuesday evenings in the high school classroom, room 104. All are invited!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ORION UMC

Sunday school classes are offered for all ages at Orion UMC. Children's classes begin with our 2/3/4-year-old class through high school age. We have two adult classes. Generation XYZ meets in the nursery so parents with infants may bring their children with them. The Seekers meet in Fellowship Hall. All classes begin at 9:15 a.m., and everyone is welcome!

NEW ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the MAC

A new worship experience is taking place in the MAC on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour. The target group is young adults, but everyone is invited.

The service is casual, and it is filled with readings and conversations around the table. We'd love to have college students and other young adults come and see what this service is all about. *Let us know what you want it to be and what you'd like to get out of it.*

If you have any questions or want more information, please talk with Pastor Dave. We hope to see you in the MAC on Sunday morning for this new and casual worship experience at Orion UMC!

Chili Cook-Off

Get out your special spices and secret ingredients and start cooking for our **Chili Cook-Off** which will be Feb. 11 following the 10:30 service. Proceeds from the meal will be directed to missions.

Thank You

Thank you for all the loving support from this church family as Nancy declined physically and mentally. All the cards, prayers, visits, and memorials touched us deeply. Special thank to Pastor Dave, Karl, the quilting ladies, and the UMW for the delicious luncheon.

The Family of Nancy Poust

Thank You

To all of you who remembered Candice and me with a card, a treat or a gift during Christmas or my birthday, thank you. We would also like to thank the congregation and the Pastor/Staff/Parish Relations Team for remembering us with a gift card to Circa 21. We deeply appreciate every kind gesture and are most grateful for your love and support. Please keep us in your prayers.

Blessings,

Pastor Dave and Candice

KEEPING OUR TEENS SAFE

Orion Girl Scout Cadette Troop #8917 is hosting Jason Wilson, District 7 Safety Education Officer on Monday, January 8 at 7:30 pm in the MAC. He will present a program on legal ramifications of inappropriate use of social media and texting. He will also talk on bullying using technology and human trafficking in our local area and how teens are being lured into it.

The presentation is well-suited for students in grades 6-12. But it is not limited to only teens and their parents. We encourage concerned community members to attend. A question and answer session with Officer Wilson will follow his talk.

Contact Troop leader, Autumn Manning, with questions at 738-6515 or autumnmanning@hotmail.com.



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Council will meet Jan. 7 following the “undecorating” of the church which begins at noon.

The Confirmation class will serve Cookie Fellowship at 10 a.m. Sunday, January 28.

“Souper” Bowl collection will be Feb. 4 with proceeds going to the Orion Food Pantry. We will have the kettle out for donations Jan. 28 and Feb. 4.

Youth Bake Sale will be Feb. 11.

Perfect Sunday School Attendance for November

Mandy Browning
Owen Bollinger
Peggy Crayne
Ian Bollinger
Tara Miller
Noah Seys
Autumn Manning

Barb Cooper
Dylan Nelson
Thea Seys
Hope Seys
Faith Catour
Clayton Browning
Rob Manning

Jill Kosek
Sophia Seys
Derek Nelson
Nick Browning
Cullen Langley
Sandy McCreedy
Lanie Nelson

Carrie McCunn
Erin Herring
Lonnie Catour
Greg McCunn
Karsyn McCunn
Margaret Johnson
Joy Seys

Deb Miller
Dylan Manning
Adam Browning
Diane McCunn
Maryn Bollinger
June Rettig
Beth Carlson

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Ladies Lunch – January 28 at Noon

“My Favorite Things”

We have a fun afternoon planned for our “My Favorite Things” Ladies Luncheon. I would encourage all the ladies of the church to attend as well as ask some friends perhaps outside the church to join you for this entertaining afternoon.

I would like to thank those who volunteered to design a table and would like to encourage the designers to invite people to sit at their table. Remember your table design can be anything that you consider to be one of your favorites. The ideas are endless!

The cost is \$10.00 per person and 1/2 price for kids 2-10 years. Under that age are free. Be sure to call the church office at 526-8511 and put in your reservation. All reservations must be in by January 25. Appetizers are served from 11:30 – noon with the lunch beginning at noon. Sign up today.

You don't have to be a part of a group to attend. There is room for everyone with many open spots at tables. Please come and visit with friends and meet new ones. It is an enjoyable afternoon for all ages!

Please contact me if you have any questions. I hope to see you there!

*Thank you,
Candice Schultz*

Blessings on your Birthday!

1/01	Mary Johnson	1/15	Tom Bosold
1/03	Michael Edmund	1/16	Jennifer Coe
	Scott Calhoun		Ben Coe
1/04	Tracy Calhoun		Sarah Venker
1/05	Shelley Atkinson	1/19	Kyle Doxstader
	Robyn Schultz	1/21	Cash Ainsworth
	Beverly Foley	1/23	Tori Matzen
1/06	Rosalee Haars		Ian Cooper
1/07	Claire Smith		Kevin Gladkin
1/08	Mandy Browning		Ava Schultz
	Jack Poust	1/24	Amy Arango
	Michael Lees		Mike Matzen
1/13	Margaret Stickle	1/27	Andrea Fisher
	Rick Bohland		Troy Larson
1/14	Allison Blade	1/29	Jim Cooper
	Dylan Manning	1/30	Theadosia Seys
		1/31	Karen Woolley

*Contact the church office
if we need to add your name.*