



Youth Group December Calendar

- December 1 Scavenger Hunt 3:00pm-6:00pm
- December 15 Movie Night 6:00pm-8:30pm
- December 19 Christmas Party 6:30pm-8:30pm
- December 26 NO YOUTH GROUP
- December 31 Youth Group Lock-In 6:00pm

Contact our Youth director, Darren Dewitt with questions, 574-276-3453



Amazing News!!

We have exceeded our Goal with the building fund Challenge.

We raised a total of: \$20,542.07

This will be added to the \$20,000 private donation which will allow the Trustees to begin working on updating several areas in the church. They will keep us posted on the progress.

Thank you to everyone who helped reach this goal.

Contact our office at 574-679-4435 www.osceolaumc.org
 For Prayer Requests, email: prayerministry@osceolaumc.org
 431 North Beech Road., Osceola, IN 46561

If you would like to sponsor the news letter, contact the church office.

Osceola, IN 46561
 431 N. Beech Road
Osceola United Methodist Church
 OUMC



The Messenger - December 2018

Monthly Newsletter of Osceola United Methodist Church

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Noah's Ark Event

Baugo Bay

Youth Group Schedule



December Sermon Lineup Sent, The Gift of Hope at Christmas

Sunday December 2,
Jesus Reconciles
Luke 2:8-10

Sunday December 9
Jesus Sets Us Free
Luke 4:16-19

Sunday December 16
Jesus Is God With Us
Matthew 1:23

Sunday December 23
Jesus Brings New Life
Ezekiel 37:1, 3

Sunday December 24
Jesus Changes Everything
Galatians 4:4a

*Christmas Eve Services this year
will be 5:30 pm & 11:00 pm

The Pastor's Corner

Hello Church Family,

The advent season is here! Now, what is that? **If you're like me I had to ask this question a few years back.** Growing up I knew all about Christmas but advent had little significance to me. The word advent literally means the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event. So we, during advent, celebrate the arrival of Jesus into this world. We reflect on the Christmas story and what it was like for them to wait on a Savior. We reflect on his humble birth and arrival into our world. Ultimately we celebrate God taking on human flesh to walk and live with us and eventually die so we could be free. We also celebrate that Christ says he will come again. We wait with hope and expectation that Jesus Christ will once again be with us! What amazing good news! God sent his son and they called him Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us! He came to die, heal, and forgive. Jesus then reveals in one of his prayers that he wants us to join in the same work.

As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them . . . —John 17:18

God sent Christ at Christmas. In turn, Christ sends us into the world to be his hands and feet, head and heart. **Join us as we study this advent a book called "Sent".** As we celebrate this beautiful season let us also reflect on what it means to be sent as Jesus was sent into the world.

Topics will include:

- Jesus Reconciles Dec. 2
- Jesus Sets Us Free Dec. 9
- Jesus Is God With Us Dec. 16
- Jesus Brings New Life Dec. 23
- Jesus Changes Everything. Dec. 24

Sent by Jesus into the world,
Pastor Will



Merry Christmas!!

Luke 2:11-12, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

What a wonderful birth announcement, and delivered by angels too. Wishing you all blessings of a great and wonderful Advent and a Merry Christmas, may it all be filled with the joy, surrounded by family and friends. Jesus is the reason for the season.

Tidings of Comfort and Joy!

Allen Bishop

PASTOR

The ones who do the offices of the church and are worthy of death have especially those who send in preaching and teaching
1 Timothy 5:17

Thank you to the many people of OUMC who expressed appreciation to their pastors. We are grateful for the words, cards, and gifts sent over the weeks. Thank you for your love and kindness!
Pastor Will & Pastor Leroy



Noah's Ark Childcare Ministry

will have their Christmas program on Tuesday, December 18, at 6:30 pm. Join us in the sanctuary for this fun filled program with refreshments to follow in the fellowship hall.



The prayer quilt displayed in the narthex is for Larry Weaver. Larry was in a car accident several weeks ago and has also suffered a stroke. He is having difficulty with his eyes and mobility. Please tie a knot in the quilt and pray for Larry and his wife, Shirley as she is his caregiver.



Baugo Bay Gospel Singers Christmas Concerts

Join BBGS for free Christmas concerts

12/2/18-at 6:00 PM at Hubbard Hill
Vespers, Elkhart, IN

12/16/18-at 3:00 PM at Hamilton Grove,
New Carlisle, IN

12/30/18-at 3:00 PM at OUMC, Osceola, IN

Coffee, cookies, and fellowship after the 12/30 concert
Relax in the after Christmas glow.

OUMC STAFF

Pastor:
Will Deeds
willdeeds@osceolaumc.org

Visitation Pastor:
Rev. Leroy Wise
wise_w@sbcglobal.net

Office Manager
Susan Adkins
oumcoffice@osceolaumc.org

Worship Leader:
Matt Boggs

Sunday Morning
Children's Coordinator:
Angie Perkey
perkeya.com

Youth Director
Darren Dewitt

Bookkeeper:
Jennifer Witmer
bookkeeper@osceolaumc.org

Noah's Ark Childcare Ministry
noahsark.oc@gmail.com

Custodian:
Mike Wilfret, Darla Thomas

Maintenance:
James Trader

Nursery Team:
Emily Egendoerfer,
Becky Wennerstrom,
Brenda Blanton

Worship & Choir Accompanist:
Lynn Lambert

Choir & Handbell Director:
Jim Gramza

Visual Communications:
Neil Bakshi
techteam@osceolaumc.org

Food Pantry to Replace Food Baskets
Christmas is quickly approaching, and because OUMC now has a food pantry we will not be doing separate food basket donations. If you know of a family in need please direct them to our food pantry which is open every 3rd Saturday of every month. The month of November, we served 173 people, 52 families. The Food Pantry is always in need of the following items:

- Cereal, Oatmeal etc...
- Crackers
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Noodles (all kinds)
- Soup (all kinds)
- Pasta sauce
- Canned vegetables
- Canned pastas-ravioli,
Spaghetti O's, beef-a-roni, etc...
- Boxed meals-**Hamburger Helper, etc...**
- Pork and Beans
- Any type of Beans (canned, jar, dry)
- Mac N Cheese
- Boxed Instant Potatoes
- Canned chicken / tuna
- Canned Fruit
- Salad Dressing

We will also accept any personal hygiene items **such as shampoo's, tooth paste, tooth brushes, body and bar soaps, etc.**

Monetary gifts would also be greatly appreciated to purchase turkeys and/or hams. Thank you in advance for giving. No family should go hungry over the Holidays!

Wanda Weston, Mission Chair



TRUSTEES

Hello Everyone,

It has once again been brought to my attention that the new door locks are confusing for many of us. I will try to help explain them to you.

First of all, please **do not try to lock or unlock the crash bars**. We have put them in the correct position. Secondly, all of the doors in the building have crash bars that work properly -- you can always get out of the building using any of the doors. If you do not know what the crash bars are, please ask some one. The doors will be open/unlocked for several events such as Sunday Church; for other events please check with your chair person.

Now, the north door, the one that leads from the parking lot directly to the main offices and the sanctuary: it works this way. To get in if you do not have a blue key fob, you need to press the button marked bell on the number pad to the right of the door. Someone will either buzz you in or come to let you into the building. If you have a key fob, use it properly. Remember, it is *** pin number, #**". If you are locking the building from the inside, **DO NOT TOUCH** the crash bar, just make sure the switch on the left of the door is in the "UP" position. These instructions have been posted by/on the door.

The south door, the one that leads directly from the parking lot to the Reception Room and the Fellowship Hall has different directions. Again **DO NOT TOUCH** the crash bar just make sure the switch next to the door is in the "UP" position.

To get into the south door from the parking lot, remember the word "LOVE". If you use a blue key fob, the left door will be the one that unlocks, not the right door. If you need to be buzzed in, the left door is the one that will unlock. So, it goes like this: L for "left", "O" for "open" the door, "V" for "viewing" the door, "E" for "entry" into the building. Left-Open-View-Entry. We will post instructions on the door for you to read. If the door is unlocked, use the left door-- it is the one that is open.

I hopes this helps all of us.

Dena Phillips, Trustee Chair



Ad Council Chair's Thoughts - Changes

When you read this, we will be starting the new year with Advent. The secular calendar may run until December 31, but the Christian calendar begins with looking forward to Christ's birth. As Christians, we may look back to remember our Christian history, but we also look forward to what God will do for us now and in the future.

In our own church we have had changes this year from losing some of our staff to getting new ones as Pastor Will. We have gained members and lost some members. Some months our income has surpassed our expenses but we also have months were we have been behind in income. We had the unexpected challenge of matching \$20,000 from an unknown person if we can add that much to the Building Fund from July to mid December. (So far, we are doing well.) We have added outreach ministries to school kids in Mishawaka and Osceola, but have decided not to do other things such as going to one rummage sale a year.

So, what changes might we expect in our next church year? Maybe you will be serving at OUMC in a different way. Some have been wanting a new and better website to reach out to people who are looking for a church. Others would like better streaming of our church services to reach those who can't come to church on Sunday mornings. Maybe we will be doing different things to encourage the discipleship of our adults and children. It looks like we may be having fund raisers to cover our basic budget needs. So many things could be happening and only God knows what they will be.

God expects us to serve Him and others. He will also provide the means for us to do that service. Change happens. Just like last year when we have seen change, we can expect it will happen again next year. None of us stands still in our own lives, and it is the same at OUMC. God is already preparing us for the changes He is bringing our way. Let's look forward to them and have a Happy New Christian Year.

Susan Baldwin
Ad Council Chairperson



2019 Offering Books will be available in a few weeks. They will be in the Narthex for pick up and will be sorted Alaphabetically by LAST NAME. If you do not see your name and wish to obtain a book, please contact me at 574-679-4435 or

bookkeeper@osceolaumc.org.

Annual Giving Statements will be mailed out in January 2019. Please review carefully. If you have any questions or did not receive your statement, please contact me.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to Osceola UMC! Jennifer Witmer, OUMC Bookkeeper

DECEMBER



Young At Hearts Christmas Luncheon will be at Bent Oak Country Club 3610 Bent Oak Trail, Elkhart On Wed. Dec. 5, at 11:30. Reservations need to be made with Pat by Monday Dec. 3. 574-522-4796 or Email: peller72@hotmail.com

Christian Book Club

December 9, 4:00pm
At the Home of Doris Speicher,

1911 Stonehedge, South Bend, phone 256-2963
Our selection for the month of December is Woman of God, by James Patterson. Come enjoy discussion and fellowship.

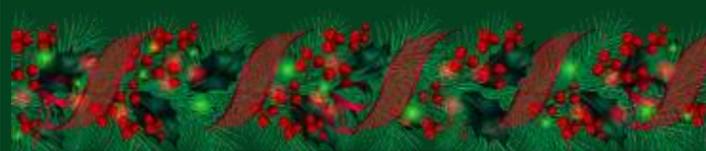


Women's Circle & Women of Fellowship

When: December 11, 12:30

Where: Home of Doris Speicher
1911 Stonehedge, South Bend

Come and join in as we enjoy a delicious bowl of soup, snacks and desserts. Doris and others will provide the soup but we are asking each of you to bring a snack or dessert to share. We look forward to having you join with other ladies from the church to continue our celebration of the Christmas season.



Women's Christmas Party

When: Saturday December 8, 1:00pm
Where: OUMC reception room
Program: "Christmas Celebration"
Bring a dessert or snack to share and an unwrapped **child's gift for the Christmas Jubilee Store at Broadway Christian Parish**, (*there is a list of suggested items on the counter in the Narthex*) OR an **unwrapped child's or woman's gift for the Christmas Store at St. Margaret's House, in South Bend.**

Join us for the afternoon to celebrate the Christmas Season!



Women's Circle and Women of Fellowship

Invite you to: Christmas Evening Girls Night Out. Where: Reception Room at OUMC
When: Monday December 17th, at 6pm.

Lynn Lambert will be playing Christmas carols for us to sing, JoAnn Overmyer will provide a craft for us to make and we will have a drawing for prizes.

Chicken, coffee and tea will be provided, bring a dish to pass and join us for fellowship and holiday fun. For more information contact:
Cindy Sawyer: 574-849-4248
Susan Sebesta: 574-850-3259



Women's Breakfast Bunch

December 26, 9:00am

Macadoo's, 2108 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka

We hope you can join us and enjoy a "day after Christmas" breakfast and relaxation. Call Linda Trader at 574-256-9567 if you have questions.

Ongoing Events

SUNDAYS	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
8:15, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi in the youth room	9:00 a.m. Tuesday a.m. Bible Study in the parlor	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi in the youth room	4:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting in parlor	9:30 a.m. Tai Chi in the youth room	Consult the church website calendar or church bulletin calendar for further information
9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service		6:00 p.m. Modern Worship Band Practice in the sanctuary	6:15 p.m. Hand-bells rehearsal	6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop Meeting in the fellowship hall		
11:00 a.m. Modern Service		8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting in the reception room	6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting in the youth room (only until June 13)	6:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Bible Study in the parlor		
11:00 a.m. Children's Church			7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sanctuary	8:00 p.m. Baugo Bay Gospel Singers practice in the sanctuary		

Promise Keepers Breakfast: (Real Services Senior Lunch):
Promise Keeper's Lunch:
Women's Breakfast Bunch:
Young at Hearts
Caring Hands

Every other Wed of the month at Bravo Café at 6 a.m.
Monday – Friday at 10 a.m. in the reception room
Every other Tuesday of the month at O.C. Café at 11:30 a.m.
Last Wednesday of every month Macadoo's Restaurant at 9 a.m.
Senior Luncheon - first Wednesday of the month at an area restaurant at 11:30
Meets the 3rd Friday of each month (Parlor) 9am -12pm



All Meals Served with Milk

Menus Subject To Change

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 	3 Chicken Thighs Creamed Corn Broccoli Bread & Margarine Mixed Fruit	4 Stuffed Peppers Braised Cabbage Hot Potato Salad Roll & Margarine Chocolate Pudding	5 Pork Stew Cauliflower Bread & Margarine Spiced Peaches	6 Chicken Casserole Wax Beans Roll & Margarine Apricots	7 Sausage/Egg Scramble Grits Apple Slices Cinnamon Bread	8
9	10 Vegetarian Lasagna Veggie Blend Garlic Bread Applesauce	11 Teriyaki Beef Rice Veggie Blend Roll & Margarine Fruit Salad	12 Bbq Pork on Bun Broccoli Soup Mixed Veggies Pears	13 Smoked Sausage Bun & Sauerkraut Baby Bakers Veggie Blend Sherbet	14 Chicken Tenders O'Brien Potatoes Green Beans Cookie	15
16 	17 Beef Tacos Spanish Rice Corn & Beans Butterscotch Pudding	18 Bbq Ribbette Bun Mac & Cheese Brussel's Sprouts Applesauce	19 Chicken Fried Chicken Mashed Sweet Pots Breaded Tomatoes Pineapple	20 Ham & Bean Soup Butternut Squash Corn Braed Crisp	21 Special Holiday Meal Reservations by December 7th	22
23	24 Closed for Holiday 	25 Closed for Holiday 	26 Stuffed Chicken Peas Cauliflower Bread & Margarine Pineapple	27 Turkey Sausage Egg Round & Muffin Yogurt Spiced Peaches	28 Chili Baby Bakers Crackers Applesauce	29
	31 Closed for Holiday 	<i>Happy New Year!</i>	Your donation counts. Even small donations make a big difference. We provide over 160,000 meals each year to seniors.		Your donation counts. Even small donations make a big difference. We provide over 160,000 meals each year to seniors.	

Wasted meals are costly. Please, if you cannot make it for any reason, please call to cancel.