



## February Calendar Dates

Feb 6, 13, 20, 27

We will meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the Youth Room.



### Outing for February

February 3  
after church

Pizza and bowling at OC Lanes, bring a friend!!

Darren Dewitt, Youth Director 574-276-

## Sunday Morning Nursery Help Needed!!

We need a couple more volunteers to serve in the nursery on Sunday mornings on a rotating basis.

If you enjoy babies and toddlers this just might be your calling.



Please contact Susan Adkins in the church office if you are interested.

Contact our office at 574-679-4435 [www.osceolaumc.org](http://www.osceolaumc.org)  
For Prayer Requests, email: [prayerministry@osceolaumc.org](mailto:prayerministry@osceolaumc.org)  
431 North Beech Road., Osceola, IN 46561

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

# The Messenger - February 2019

## Monthly Newsletter of

### Osceola United Methodist Church



## February

### Sermon Series Lineup

Feb 3

**Finding Joy in Real Life: The Bible's Key to Unlocking True Wealth**

1 Timothy 6:18-19

Feb 10

Finding Joy in Real Life: Living with Peace in an Unsettling World

Matthew 22:37

Feb 17

What it means to be a Disciple - I identify in Christ

1 Corinthians 2:14 & 3:1

Feb 24

What it means to be a Disciple - Life with Christ

Acts 4:5-12

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Dear Church family,

Larry and I want to thank you for all of your prayers, food and outward pouring of love. And to both Pastor Will and Pastor Leroy for their prayerful visits.

How blessed we are to be part of such a God loving church.

Thank you again, Larry and Shirley Weaver



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

# The Pastor's Corner

The United Methodist Church has a mission statement. Maybe if I asked you to quote it you would be able to rattle it off to me? Or maybe not? Our mission statement in the United Methodist Church is, "Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." I absolutely love this mission statement. I think it captures the heart of who we are called to be as the church. I don't love everything the Methodist Church does but I do love our mission statement.

I would suggest we take this mission statement as our own. I believe making disciples of Jesus for the transformation of the world is our calling. Let me break this statement down a little for you. This mission statement basically comes from a passage of scripture. We read in Matthew 28 this phrase:

**18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The word "disciple" is similar to the word student or follower of Jesus. We are called to make followers of Jesus or students of Jesus. This is not a process we ever complete it's a journey we take together as we seek to become more and more like Jesus. As we become a student or disciple of Jesus he places within us the desire to reach out to others and share his love with them. As we follow Jesus we ask others to follow us as we follow him. It's a process in which we all become transformed by the love of Christ!

This mission statement is the motivation for making a change in our service times. If we are called to make disciples we have to make our Sunday mornings the most effective we can. Sunday mornings are our main time for getting together and making disciples of Jesus. Making disciples is lifelong process of studying, praying, having fun, worshipping, and doing life together. Looking at our Sunday mornings we wanted to take full advantage of the time we are spending together. Adding an hour in between our services gives us more time to spend studying, praying, having fun, fellowshiping together. We will have more life on life time spent together. This will give us opportunities to make more and better followers of Jesus! Its exciting to think what God will do with this new opportunity. Join us as we seek to continue to fulfill our mission statement.

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the world!

Peace, Love, and Disciple-making,

Pastor Will



The Men's group is using a new devotional this year,

"God's Man" by Don Aycocock. This devotional has 52 topics and Scriptures relevant to men who wish to deepen their relationship with God and live more like Christ. Please join us at Bravo's every other Wednesday morning for breakfast at 6:00 am or at OC Café every other Tuesday at 11:30 for lunch. If you want a devotional book, contact David Fox at 574-259-4770.



WOW!! February, and time for me to take another class at the Lay Servants Academy, time to continue to stretch my knowledge and faith walk. Just like our muscles we all need to continually stretch our faith, in order to strengthen our bodies, minds and our hearts. February is also National Heart Month, an easy fit with Valentine's Day a day when many show their love to others.

What if the Lord only showed His love to us one month, or one day each year?? The good news is He loves us always and forever!! What if we all took the extra steps and opened our hearts and showed the kind of love we have received and shared it with others in this month where we celebrate love? There are plenty of ways we all can do it, a card, a note, random act of kindness, maybe just a pleasant hello to a total stranger. So that is my personal challenge this month and I challenge all of you to share the love of Jesus Christ as well.

The special session of the General Conference (concerning the "Way Forward") is Feb 23-26; please keep the conference and those attending in prayer.

By Allen Bishop

## 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:  
Jenaro Delprete

Sunday Morning  
**Children's Coordinator:**  
Angie Perkey  
perkeya@com

Youth Director  
Darren Dewitt

Bookkeeper:  
Jennifer Witmer  
book-keeper@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

### Medical Equipment Available Upon Request

We want all members of Osceola United Methodist Church to know that the church has a variety of health assistance equipment items available upon request.

Among the items available are crutches, walkers, a raised toilet seat, a shower chair, and a portable commode.

Our most recent addition is a battery powered mobility scooter **with a recharger. This "like new" device was donated** to us by Judy Weber.

Any of this equipment can be borrowed by contacting the church office.

Thanks, Jo Ann Overmyer



### Custodian Needed

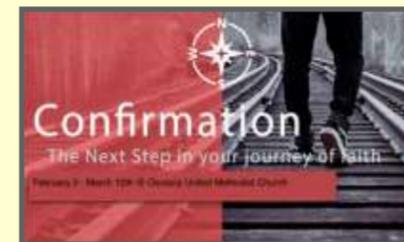


A daytime custodian is needed for our church.

Approximately  
18-20 hours a week

Duties include: cleaning restrooms and kitchens, vacuuming and moping floors, dusting and general cleaning. Please contact Dena Phillips at 574-679-4133

### Take the next step on your faith journey.



Confirmation is a faith formations class, open to 6th graders and up, that will meet February through March after our 2nd service covering the basics of the Christian faith, what it means to be a United Methodist, and what it means to be a member of Osceola United Methodist Church. Confirmants have a chance to wrestle with questions about their

faith while they process and determine what they believe, with a group of people their age and committed adults who serve as Confirmation Mentors in small group settings. The class meets once a week from 12:15-1:15 in the Youth Room for lunch. In addition to the class confirmants participate in a Confirmation retreat together. It all builds up to Confirmation Sunday where confirmants have the opportunity to affirm their baptism or be baptized for the first time and join the church (if they so choose). Confirmation is a step on a life-long journey of faith and development and is a great chance to reflect and ask some of tough questions you have about what we believe and why.

#### IMPORTANT CONFIRMATION DATES

**February 3rd:** Confirmation begins

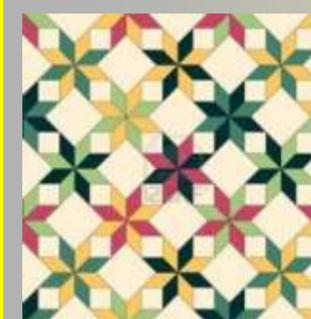
**Feb 3rd-March 10th:** confirmants meet after 2nd service at 12:15 for lunch and mentoring.

**March 15th-16** Confirmation Retreat

**April 2nd :** Confirmation Sunday

#### **\*\*SIGN UP FOR THE 2019 CONFIRMATION CLASS\*\***

We are also looking for adults willing to be a confirmation mentor. You will eat lunch with your student and discuss a prepared sheet of fun and interesting questions



The prayer quilt displayed in the narthex is for Betty Privitt.

Betty is now a resident at the Golden LivingCenter, 811 E. 12th Street in Mishawaka. Please tie a knot in the quilt and remember Betty in prayer.

## Volunteer Opportunities at Noah's Ark daycare

We want to begin partnering with our daycare on a regular basis and we would like you to join us!

Did you know that our church daycare, Noah's Ark, is always looking for volunteers to minister to the children? What a great opportunity for us to build bridges with our daycare staff, as well as our daycare families than to volunteer some of our time with them.



Do you love babies? The daycare is always looking for an extra pair of hands or lap to hold and rock one of these precious ones. Sometimes it can become quite a juggling act in the nursery when these darlings are all demanding your attention at the same time. Another pair of hands to cuddle and calm the needs of these babies may be just the job for you!

Maybe you enjoy toddlers or preschool aged children, then how about volunteering with this fun and energetic group. We are always looking for someone to play music and lead them in songs, or read a book or two to them. Maybe you are crafty and can lead an art project or if you like baking, how about making cookies with them.



Perhaps something more rousing is your cup of tea, then there

are all kinds of gym activities, both indoor and outdoor they'd love to do with you!



If this sounds interesting and you have some spare time, then please jump right in by contacting our director, Karen Kroening at 574-674-4359 or you can contact the church office for more information on other ways you can support the daycare.



**Mom's Night Out**

Hello Church Family,

We are in the process of setting up a monthly "Single Mom's Night Out" group. I am asking the youth for baby sitting help here at the church to play, watch movies, and hang out with the kids while these mom's get a much needed break. I also would like to ask for some adult help for these nights.

If you are willing to lend a hand it would be greatly appreciated. This will only be one night a month on a Friday or Saturday night. If you are interested in helping to get this new group going, please contact Darren Dewitt, 574-276-3453, or Jessica Bolinger, 608-354-2095

We will set a date for the first night out when we have volunteers lined up. Please watch for more information to come as this group begins to develop.

Thank you, Darren Dewitt

## Discipleship Hour and the Survey Results



For three Sundays in January, from 1/6 through 1/20, people have been encouraged to fill out a survey that was presented in the Sunday Church Services. The survey was to get ideas about adding more time between the services so we could have Sunday School for the kids and other things as Bible Classes, Fellowship, etc. for adults. This idea of a time for discipleship is important to the life of the church and comes from Jesus in Matthew 28:19-20 (Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.) Below is a summary of the information gathered from the surveys. Thank you to all the people who spent time answering the survey. It was nice to get so many returned.

Out of an average of 130 people attending those services 78 surveys were turned in. Five people did not want to add an hour between services, 45 said 'yes' and 26 didn't have an opinion. In getting to know who answered the surveys, 44 people attend First Service, 21 attend Second Service and 7 attend both services. Twenty six people currently attend Sunday School for adults and 7 would like to attend a class. Ten people bring children on Sunday and 62 don't have a child here.

With changing service times, for First Service: 38 want it at 9:00, 10 at 8:45 and 12 at 8:30. For Second Service: 13 want the service at 11:20, 4 at 11:10 and 9 at 11:00 with 3 people suggesting 11:30. (Note: If a person marked 11:20 and another time, those other times were not counted. Without the modification there were 11 for 11:00 and 8 for 11:10. Also a person's suggested times were only counted if they attended that service.)

There were 3 areas that were surveyed for needing help. Seventeen people said they would help with the kids (5 during First Service, 8 during the middle time, and 6 for Second Service), and 44 said they were not interested in working with the kids. Thirty six people would like food on Sunday with 43 being interested in providing food. Yes, there were people who didn't want the food themselves but were willing to bring food in for others. Lastly there were 11 people who were willing to help plan the kid's classes.

Where do we go from here? The Ad Council suggested, after the surveys were in, that we have a special committee to work with planning the changes. If anyone is interested in serving on this committee, please contact Susan Baldwin at 574-291-8637 or SB4JesusRU@Juno.com. If you offered to help in any of the three areas discussed in the survey; help with the kids or help plan the kid's classes, contact Susan Adkins in the church office, or Angie Perkey at perkeya@hotmail.com or to help with food on Sunday mornings you can contact Susan Baldwin. The initial suggestion for changing the service times and adding the time between services is in April. The special committee will make the decision with Pastor Will concerning the date of the change.

The next few months will be busy for those involved in working on the changes. Please keep us in your prayers as we do God's work in serving OUMC and the people who come here.

Susan Baldwin – Ad Council chairperson



### THANK YOU

As 2018 has come to an end, I would like to say A HUGE THANK YOU to all of the people who have helped to keep the physical plant of the church clean, safe and functional.

First of all, there is the Trustee Committee: Gene Cocanower, Chuck Grove, Bob Hughes, Jim & Jo Ann Overmyer, and Jeff Sawyer.

Secondly, there is the crew that has worked very hard to keep the building clean: Mike & Amy Jo Wilfret, and the Thomas Girls, Darla and Mamie.

The Office Staffs of both the church and Day Care have worked with me to keep everything running smoothly. Then there are the many people within the church who have picked up trash, cleaned up dirty objects, reported problems, offered suggestions, said "Thank You", and in so many ways just shown support. You are appreciated.

Dena Phillips, Trustee Chair



## Young at Hearts

### Hey Seniors....

Come join Pat Eller at The Great Wall Chinese Restaurant, 610 N. Nappanee St (St.Rd. 19) Elkhart, for Lunch on Wednesday Feb. 6th at 11:30am. RSVP to Pat Eller by Feb 4th at 522-4796, or email her at peller72@hotmail.com, you can also let her know at church.



### Christian Book Club

February 10, at 4pm We will meet at the home of Jo Ann Wolfe, 10101 Cleveland Rd., Granger, phone 674-5089

Our selection this month: *Redemption*, by Karen Kingsbury  
Come and join us for a fun afternoon of discussion and fellowship.  
Hope to see you there!!



### Christian Book Club Reading List through June 2019

February 10, *Redemption*, by Karen Kingsbury

March 10, *Michaelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*, by Ross King

April 14, *Shelter Me*, by Juliette Fay

May 12, *The Mountains Between Us*, by Charles Martin



### Women's Breakfast Bunch Macadoo's

February 27 at 9:00am  
2108 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka  
We hope you can join us !!  
Contact: Linda Trader 574-256-9567 if you have questions .

### Euchre

February 24  
5:30-7:30

Everyone welcome  
Bring a snack to share.  
Play cards, eat food, have fun!!! See you there!



### Prayer Retreat



#### What's a Prayer Retreat?

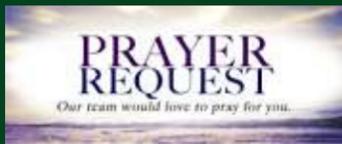
Here at OUMC we have a Prayer Retreat twice a year. In 2019 the Spring Prayer Retreat is Saturday, April 6 from 9-4 and the Fall one is October 26 at the same time. Our main purpose is to learn about prayer. So, we study the Bible and use an outside reference on prayer which people can take home with them. In April we will be studying about the Lord's Prayer. The pamphlet we will be using states the Lord's Prayer is a dangerous, life-changing prayer. I think we have some things to learn about this prayer.

Quite a while ago we decided to not spend the retreat time praying (we can do that at home) but to spend time learning. There is a morning session from 9 to noon and then after a pot luck lunch there is an afternoon session from 1 to 4. People can come to either session or both sessions.

The sessions are designed for all types of people from those who have never prayed before to those who are considered prayer warriors. Besides reading scripture, we also have discussions and can ask questions. It's really a great time to get away and do something different as a Christian.

We meet in a room just off the south parking lot at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS). It is an easy place to find in Elkhart and the room has a big area to meet and a kitchen. The way we pay for the event is through donations. The sessions are led by Susan Baldwin, so call (574-291-8637) if you have any questions.

We'd love to have you join us.



If you need prayer or have a prayer request during the week, you can contact the church office or email us at

[prayerministry@osceolaumc.org](mailto:prayerministry@osceolaumc.org) and we will get your request to the pastor and prayer ministry team immediately.

Galatians 6: 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

# 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 Worship Service		8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting in the reception room	6:30 p.m. Youth Group Meeting in the youth room	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		

WWW.OSCEOLAUMC.ORG

**Promise Keepers Breakfast:** Every other Wed of the month at Bravo Café at 6 a.m.  
**(Real Services Senior Lunch:** Monday – Friday at 10 a.m. in the reception room  
**Promise Keeper's Lunch:** Every other Tuesday of the month at O.C. Café at 11:30 a.m.  
**Women's Breakfast Bunch:** Last Wednesday of every month Macadoo's Restaurant at 9 a.m.  
**Young at Hearts** Senior Luncheon - first Wednesday of the month at an area restaurant at 11:30  
**Caring Hands** Meets the 3rd Friday of each month (Parlor) 9am -12pm  
**Christian Book Club** Once a month 2nd Sunday of each month (off site & times, TBA)



All Meals Served with Milk



Menus Subject To Change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	All donations directly support this program. Please donate what you can comfortably afford. Thank you.		Your donation counts. Even small donations make a big difference. We provide over 160,000 meals each year to seniors.		1 Penne Pasta Bake Salad & Dressing Cannellini Beans Bread & Margarine Mandarin Oranges	2
3	4 Cheeseburger Pickled Beets Baked Beans Mixed Fruit	5 Country Fried Steak White Gravy & Mashers Veggie Blend Bread & Margarine Tropical Fruit	6 Stuffed Chicken Peas Cauliflower Bread & Margarine Pineapple	7 Turkey Sausage, Egg & Muffin Spiced Peaches Yogurt	8 Chili Baby Bakers Crackers Applesauce	9
10	11 Ham Slice Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans Roll & Margarine Cupcake	12 Liver & Onions Mashed Potatoes Glazed Carrots Bread & Margarine Tropical Fruit	13 Sloppy Joe Potato Soup Mixed Veggies Pears	14 Bbq Chicken Leg Roasted Sweet Pots Country Blend Veggies Bread & Margarine HOLIDAY TREAT	15 Spaghetti Vegetable Blend Garlic Bread Fruited Jello	16
17	18 Potato Crusted Fish Bun & Tartar Sauce Brussel's Sprouts Applesauce	19 Chicken & Dumplings Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Peaches	20 Meatloaf Cheesy Potatoes Stewed Tomatoes Bread & Margarine Fruit Cocktail	21 Cheese Pizza Salad & Dressing Corn Cobbler	22 Turkey Manhattan Mashed Potatoes Carrots Bread & Margarine Jello	23
24	25 Baked Chicken Thigh Creamed Corn Broccoli Bread & Margarine Mixed Fruit	26 Stuffed Peppers Braised Cabbage Hot Potato Salad Roll & Margarine Chocolate Pudding	27 Pork Stew Cauliflower Bread & Margarine Spiced Peaches	28 Chicken Casserole Wax Beans Roll & Margarine Apricots		

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