

# The Spires



**January 2012**

Oxford United Methodist Church  
14 North Poplar Street  
Oxford, Ohio 45056  
(513) 523-5115  
[www.oumc.org](http://www.oumc.org)  
[oumc@oumc.org](mailto:oumc@oumc.org)

## **Oxford United Methodist Church**

### **Sunday Worship Services & Sunday school**

8:30 a.m. Informal Worship in Fellowship Hall  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship in the sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Sunday school  
12:15 a.m. Grace Korean Church, OUMC Chapel

### **Pastor's Contact Information & Office Hours**

Karen Montgomery, cell (513) 255-2232; Mon., Wed., Fri. 10-12 or by appointment  
Don Dixon, cell (513) 312-5237; By appointment  
Pastors are available beyond scheduled hours by appointment  
**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 9 – 12, 1 - 4

### **OUMC Staff**

Karen Montgomery, Executive Pastor, [kmontgomery@oumc.org](mailto:kmontgomery@oumc.org)  
Don Dixon, Pastor of Preaching, [ddixon@oumc.org](mailto:ddixon@oumc.org)  
Donna Sargent, Lay Pastor of Care, [donna\\_mae\\_caywood@yahoo.com](mailto:donna_mae_caywood@yahoo.com)  
Susan Walker, Office Administrator, [oumc@oumc.org](mailto:oumc@oumc.org)  
Bob Mucha, Choir Director, [moochr@gmail.com](mailto:moochr@gmail.com)  
Dorothy Samter, Organist/Music Director, [samter.dorothy@gmail.com](mailto:samter.dorothy@gmail.com)  
Robert & Rachel Pritchard – Youth Directors, [youth@oumc.org](mailto:youth@oumc.org)  
Karen Montgomery, Campus Student Director  
Cassie Lechien, Children's Director, [kids@oumc.org](mailto:kids@oumc.org)  
Scott Kuehn, Sexton (513) 461-3258

# Pastor's Page

As we begin a New Year may we offer all that we are and all that we have to God and his purposes! Let us pray in the tradition of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Movement:

*"I am no longer my own, but yours.  
Put me to what you will,  
Rank me with whom you will;  
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.  
Let me be employed by you,  
Or laid aside by you,  
Exalted by you or brought low by you. Let me be full, let me be empty.  
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.  
I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.  
And now, O glorious and blessed God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it.  
And the covenant which I have made on earth, Let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."*



## Financial Update

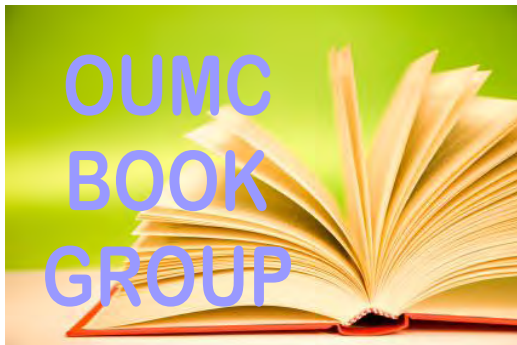
### Pledging Continues for the 2011 Stewardship Campaign

Our annual Financial Stewardship Campaign began in the fall through expressions of gratitude to God and the offerings of time, talents and financial commitments to support the ministries of OUMC for the coming year. **Thank you for your commitment and the many ways you invest yourselves in God's purposes in our community and world!**

If you haven't done so as yet, **it's not too late** to make your financial pledge for the 2011 OUMC Stewardship Campaign. You may mail or bring your Commitment Card to the church office or place in the offering plate or email your pledge amount to Amy Hudepohl, Financial Secretary ([jeffamy@docupros.com](mailto:jeffamy@docupros.com)).

Our personal stewardship is essential to the functioning of our church. As children of God we are uniquely blessed with time, talents, and financial resources. We ask that every parishioner give during our annual Financial Stewardship Campaigns. Pledging a fixed annual amount serves as a reminder of our responsibility to give back to the Lord, and allows the church leadership to effectively budget for all financial needs during the fiscal year.

Please share your blessings and give to God first and abundantly. Stewardship helps Oxford United Methodist Church provide the programs and support needed to realize our vision and mission, and to achieve our priority of "Making Disciples of Christ". **We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to sharing with you all God has in store!**



The OUMC Book Group is meeting at Jo Will's (1Historic Crescent, Hamilton), weather permitting, on January 23 at 2:00 p.m. Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo is being discussed. Lane Library has numerous copies of this book.

Looking ahead to February, the group is planning to meet at Donna Sargent's on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. to discuss The School of Essential Ingredients by Erica Bauemeister.

The OUMC Book Group is attended by both males and females. If you like to discuss books with others and enjoy being a part of a diversified group, consider making this group a part of your monthly schedule and attend the January meeting whether or not you've had a chance to read the book or not. All book lovers are welcome!

If you have any questions, please call Linda Augspurger,  
(513) 756-0285

**NEW  
ADDRESS**

MRS. "C" (RUTH CONNER)  
906 LANNING LOOP  
BIGELOW, AR 72016



*Youth*

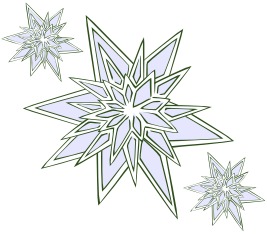
Robert and Rachel will be on vacation from *December 28, 2011 to January 8, 2012*. We will not have access to our email or the youth group email or our phones while away. If there is a youth group related issue that needs addressed please contact the church office at 513-523-5115.

**Events for January**

Sunday School – 10:00 AM on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>

Youth Group – 5:30 – 7:30 PM January 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

Ice Skating at the Goggin Ice Rink – 3:30 – 5:30 PM – January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meet us there and bring your friends.



# OUMC KID'S January Newsletter

## January at a Glance:

OUMC Kid's Learning Classes are available January 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> and include classes for 3-5 year olds, Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades.

Nursery childcare is available January 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 & 10:00 am for children birth-2 years old in room 302.

## WE ARE LOOKING FOR HELPERS!

Interested in serving with the children? We are currently looking for more volunteers to help in Sunday School. Please sign up in the education wing or email [kids@oumc.org](mailto:kids@oumc.org)

Thank you to everyone who helped with or attended December's Movie Night. Take a look at the fun we had!



The kids enjoyed popcorn while watching Veggie Tale's The Little Drummer Boy and making drums out of oatmeal containers.



Cassie Lechien, Learning Director  
[kids@oumc.org](mailto:kids@oumc.org) 765-730-8546

## Thanks for Christmas program



Thanks to **Becky Heckert, Nancy Kane and Jo Will** for their Christmas program of stories and carols for the December guest luncheon. It was very much appreciated and a wonderful addition to the Advent season.

## Hazel Merrill honored

United Methodist Women each year honor someone with a Special Mission Recognition for their service and many contributions.

When a person is so honored, a monetary gift is sent to the Women's Division for mission work in the honoree's name and the honoree receives a small gold lapel pin and a certificate.



The honorees do not know of their selection until they are surprised at a luncheon. This year's honoree was **Hazel Merrill**, honored at the luncheon in November before her move to Florida to live near her son, Scott, and his family.

When her many years of service were read, Hazel was heard to remark, "My goodness, I didn't know that I had done so much." Yes, Hazel, you did, and thank you for your many years of service and dedication to Oxford United Methodist Women.

Hazel Merrill joined our church in 1979 and she soon became an active member of the morning circle. She also served in a variety of different positions over the years.

In 1981 Hazel was the UMW Key Woman for Church Women United, as well as from 1985 to 1988. In 1982 and 1983 Hazel was the circle leader for the morning circle.

For four years, 1990 thru 1993, Hazel served as Treasurer of United Methodist Women. And for another four years, from 1995 thru 1998, she was the Secretary.

In 1999 and 2000 she was again leader for the morning circle as well as the Project Leader for our church cookbook with recipes from the wives of former pastors and illustrations by our artistic member **Martha Blackiston**.

When the afternoon circle was started at the Knolls, Hazel changed to that circle where she was responsible for the Fellowship of the Least

Coin, keeping the bank and reading the selections at each month's meeting.

Hazel has also been faithful working at the Spring and Fall luncheons and Rummage Sales.

Hazel will be missed but we wish her the best in her new home in Florida. And we know that she takes with her many fond memories of her 32 years of involvement in, and commitment to, Oxford United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.

**Thank you, Hazel.**

Hazel's new address is:

2425 20th St., Apt. 323

Vero Beach, FL 32960 (Phone: 772-567-4754)

## Circle day January 18

**Morning Circle** meets at 9:30 a.m. at the home of **Marian Jackson**, 4891 James Rd. (523-4398). **Ethel Hock** is the assistant hostess. **Linda Augspurger** will lead the discussion of Chapter 3 in the study book, *the journey: forgiveness, restorative justice and reconciliation*.

**Afternoon Circle** will not meet in January and February.

Plans for **Sara Norris Circle** are pending. Please contact **Diane Perry** at 523-3044 for more information.

## Our UMW PURPOSE

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

## United Methodist Women Quarterly Calendar



Jan	4 at 10 a.m.	Executive/Planning meeting
	11 at 10 a.m.	Executive Committee
	18	Circle day (see above)
	19	Otterbein Auxiliary
Feb	8 at 10 a.m.	Executive Committee
	15	Circle day
Mar	7	General meeting
	14 at 10 a.m.	Executive Committee
	21	Circles meet

*All women are invited to participate in UMW events.*

# Missions @ OUMC

*"As you have done it for one of these, you have done it for me." Matthew 25:40*

## **When We Work Together, Good Things Happen!**

Together, the women of the Evening Circle, under the leadership of Melva Brown, the Missions Committee, with the leadership of Ray Cook, and many in our congregation and around Oxford who gave generously, two families have a better living situation!

Melva put in many hours finding household items, money, and workers. She recruited her husband and his friends as "moving men". She didn't take no as an answer.

Ray worked with PUSH and helped organize fixers and painters and did a share of the labor himself.

You gave furniture, kitchen items, curtains, towels, linens, carpeting, appliances, prayers, willing backs, money, and more.

### **The result?**

One family of five was moved from a badly decayed trailer to one that is in far better shape. They now have all the things needed to make life a bit more comfortable, including a working furnace!

Another family of five had already made arrangements to move to a better trailer home but needed furniture. After their move, the 6 year old girl was asked how the new house is. She replied that it was good. Then with awe and real joy on her face, she said, "And I even have a bed!"

***You have made a big difference for these ten people whom you have never met. Rejoice!***

## **Pill Bottles! Pill Bottles! Pill Bottles!**

Over the last two years, we have delivered over 25, 30-gallon bags full of pill bottles to Matthew 25 Ministries in Blue Ash! We really are making a difference to medical missions world wide.

***At the request of Matthew 25 Ministries, we need to make a couple of small changes.***

- ❖ First be assured we still want all of your orange prescription containers and their lids!
- ❖ Second, we have been asked to bring only the **smaller white plastic bottles** (about 4 inches high by 2 inches in diameter).
- ❖ Third, Matthew 25 Ministries does not want any glass bottles of any sort.

Remove any labels you can without leaving a sticky residue. Be sure to obliterate your name on any label left behind. Leave all contributions in a pull-out bin in The Bridge at church.

Thank you for your caring for others around the world and for helping keep these reusable items out of the landfill.

## ***Are You Being Called to a Mission?***

***OUMC has a "Mission Enabling Fund". This money is available to all who worship in our congregation to help defray the costs of going on mission trips. Find your passion! Let us help with the costs! Contact Alice Laatsch or Pastor Karen for an application.***

**I'm Going! Would You Like to Go With Me?** Alice Laatsch, momlotch@brecnet.com, 523-6482, 504-4044

### **Volunteers In Mission (VIM) Team to Nicaragua**

A VIM team to the Managua, Nicaragua barrio of Nejapa is scheduled for June 15-23, 2012. Applications are now being accepted. The team will work with the Fundacion El Samaritano ministry and the Nicaragua Methodist Evangelical Church on various projects. There may be light school construction/maintenance, also hospital visitations with donations of layettes, health kits and toys (maternity, pediatric, women's oncology), Bible school presentations, child feeding program, neighborhood visitations, and visits to other ministries. Time will be available for worship in the Nejapa community, sightseeing and shopping. The cost is estimated to be \$1,300 per person plus materials for layettes/health kits/toys. An informative brochure and application are available from the team leader, Jack Reif, at [jack.reif@zoomtown.com](mailto:jack.reif@zoomtown.com) or phone 513-831-5550.

## **Habitat for Humanity Has Summer Volunteer Opportunities**

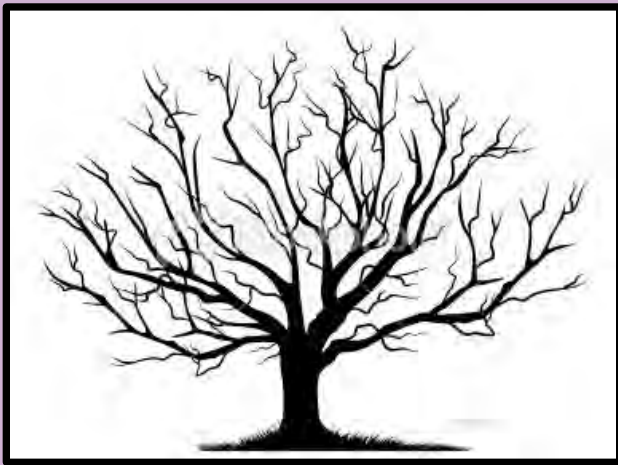
To our 16-18 year old volunteers, if you want to travel and make new friends this summer while also serving a great cause, then check out Learn and Build: [Learn and Build Trips 2012](#) The trips are meant for individuals to sign up, so no worries about getting a group together.

The 2012 Learn and Build Experience will offer three domestic trips, two international trips and one alumni trip. All applications are due **Feb. 29, 2012**. Contact us at [learnandbuild@habitat.org](mailto:learnandbuild@habitat.org) for more information.

The trips are organized through Habitat for Humanity International. Contact [learnandbuild@habitat.org](mailto:learnandbuild@habitat.org) for more info.

# January

## Birthdays Anniversaries Ministry Schedules



### Birthdays

01/02 Denise Zimmerman  
01/03 Matthew Blomquist  
Eilene Smith  
01/05 Cameron Marston  
01/06 John Blocher  
01/09 Jan Belka  
Hugh Clawson  
Ann Larson  
Dick Salhoff  
Brandon Worl  
01/10 Mina Treick  
01/13 Margaret Brackney  
Dee Fisher  
David Jennings  
01/14 Daniel Atkin  
01/17 Dora Smith  
Stu Worl  
01/18 Ryan MacDonald  
01/19 Cathy Greene  
Bud Williamson  
Calvin Ziegler  
01/20 Linda Augspurger  
Jim Cashell  
01/23 Ed Jackson  
01/24 Jenny Presnell  
01/25 Mary Fuller  
01/27 Tom Lorenz  
Sherill Moss  
01/28 Ann Cox  
Wilma Mucha  
01/29 Annmarie Morrow  
Bob A. Smith  
Lisa Wespiser  
01/31 Nicholas Frymier

### Anniversaries

01/01 Elizabeth & Randolph Runyon  
01/02 Don & Emily Eberwine  
01/03 Barb & Dick Kolb  
01/06 Barb & Brad Cotterman  
01/10 Don & Judy Fairburn  
01/28 Flo & Howard Fortney  
01/31 Dotty & Earl Folker  
Jean & John James

### Greeters

01/01  
10:00 Barb Clawson, Alice Laatsch, Wynetta & Bob Martin  
01/08  
8:30 Jane, Norm & John Krumpe, Margi & John Moul  
10:00 Barb & Brad Cotterman, Debbie & Joe Hurley  
01/15  
8:30 Cathy Greene, Pam Termeer, Peggy Lewis  
10:00 Beth, Mike, Brady & Evan Arnos, Dotty & Earl Folker  
01/22  
8:30 Mary Evans, Barb Broida  
10:00 Amy & Jim Clawson and the boys, Dixie & Bill Utter  
01/29  
8:30 Jerome Conley, Melva & Jim Brown  
10:00 Amy, Mark, Kaylyn & Molly Macechko  
Doug, Audra, Ben & Emma Drake

### Lay Readers

01/01 Pastors  
01/08 Jerome Conley  
01/15 Becky Heckert  
01/22 Sue Holmes  
01/29 Bob Harp

### Ushers

01/01 Team Hesselbrock  
01/08 Team Haskins  
01/15 Team Hock  
01/22 Team Hild  
01/29 Team Hesselbrock

### Sound Technicians

01/01 Earl Folker  
01/08 Chris Allison  
01/15 Brad Cotterman  
01/22 bob Montgomery  
01/29 Earl Folker

### Fellowship Time

01/08 Margi Moul  
01/15 Jana Webb  
01/22 Carolyn Wengler  
01/29 Mary Evans



# OUMC JANUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Grace Korean Church	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>10:00 AM</b> UMW Executive/Planning <b>5:30 PM</b> Community Dinner <b>6:15 PM</b> Bell Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectionary Study	<b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>2:00 PM</b> Shawl Ministry <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Resingled	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting
<b>8</b> <i>Nursery available 8:30 &amp; 10:00</i> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:30 AM</b> Fellowship Time <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday school K-12 <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Grace Korean Church	<b>9</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Congregational Care Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Missions Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Trustees Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>10:00 AM</b> UMW Executive Committee <b>6:15 PM</b> Bell Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectionary Study	<b>12</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Resingled	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting
<b>15</b> <i>Nursery available 8:30 &amp; 10:00</i> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:30 AM</b> Fellowship Time <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday school K-12 <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Grace Korean Church <b>5:30 PM</b> LiveWire Youth Group	<b>16</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Finance Meeting	<b>17</b> SPIRES DEADLINE	<b>18</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Morning Circle <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>6:15 PM</b> Bell Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectionary Study	<b>19</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>2:00 PM</b> Shawl Ministry <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Resingled	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting
<b>22</b> <i>Nursery available 8:30 &amp; 10:00</i> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:30 AM</b> Fellowship Time <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday school K-12 <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Grace Korean Church <b>3:30 PM</b> LiveWire Youth Ice Skating	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>6:15 PM</b> Bell Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectionary Study	<b>26</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Resingled	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting
<b>29</b> <i>Nursery available 8:30 &amp; 10:00</i> <b>8:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:30 AM</b> Fellowship Time <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday school K-12 <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:15 PM</b> Grace Korean Church <b>5:30 PM</b> LiveWire Youth Group	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30 PM</b> Community Dinner <b>6:15 PM</b> Bell Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> AA Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectionary Study	<b>2</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir Practice <b>7:00 PM</b> Resingled	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> AA Meeting