



The Exponent

July 1-7, 2022

WORSHIP

Summer Worship Series

**The Deal on
Those Days**



Rebroadcast of GA Sunday Worship

July 3, 2022

Sunday, July 3 GA Sunday Worship Rebroadcast "The Deal on Those Days"

Anne Scott, Host

The last few years have not been easy, including in our local congregations. Whole swaths of members have simply stopped coming; COVID is confusing and polarizing; many ministers have joined the great resignation; and Pew studies and friends alike have pronounced the end of the local church.

In this moment, when so many of us might be wondering if we should just give up and relent, now's the time instead to double down on our commitment to the local church – this unique community that saves us and also breaks our hearts – often much more of the latter than we'd like to admit. In the midst of our culture of death, the church is a place of life. Or, it is as long as we are willing to bring our own lives to it.

Join us for a rebroadcast of the beautiful and moving GA Sunday Worship service from June 26th... a morning of celebration, witness, and future-visioning for the already and not yet power of the local Unitarian Universalist church. Leading us in worship will be Rev. Gretchen Haley, Rev. Shari Halliday-Quan, Rev. Sean Neil-Barron, Lea Morris, Adam Podd, Joseph and Aimee Santos-Lyons, and Allison King with the GA Choir.

In-Service and Zoom. ZOOM door opens at 9:45 am. See link below.

Order of Service [here](#) Go to [ORUUC](#) for zoom information.

Send Prayer Requests: prayers@oruuc.org or Text 865-272-2249

Summer Worship Series

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Christy White

SUNDAY, JULY 3

General Assembly Service from Portland, Oregon

SUNDAY, JULY 10

Rev. Gaye Morris, Community Minister, ORUUC

SUNDAY, JULY 17

Roddy Biggs (they/them), Seminarian at Meadville Lombard

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Heritage Trip Highlights from ORUUC teens

SUNDAY, JULY 31

Rev. Gaye Morris, Community Minister, ORUUC



UP FRONT



The Church Office will be closed the week of July 4 due to vacationing staff. It will reopen for normal business hours on Monday, July 11.

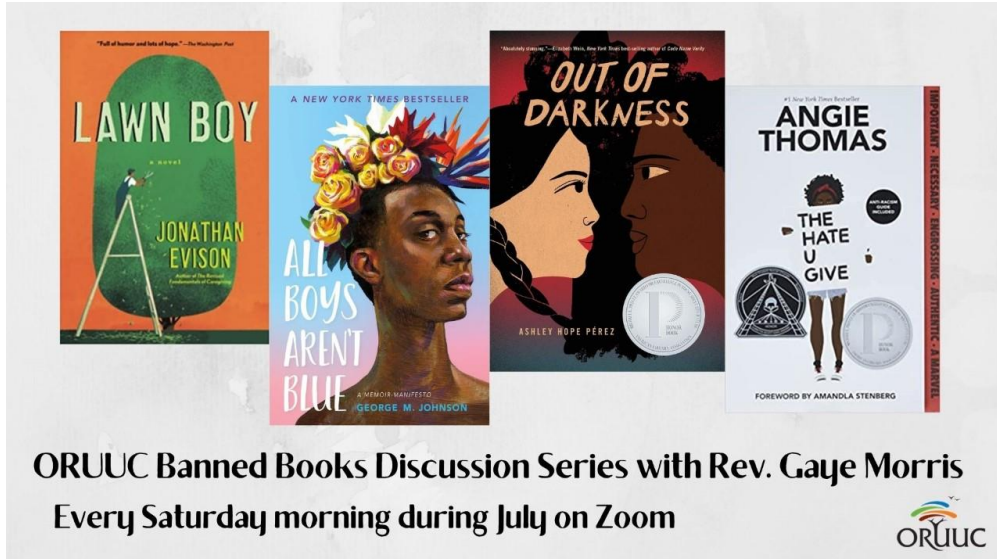


Need Childcare?

Do you need to plan for childcare for your upcoming meeting or event? Contact the church office at least two weeks in advance to make arrangements. 865-483-6761 or office@oruuc.org

Thank you!

***Join the ORUUC Banned Books Discussion Series
Saturday mornings in July on Zoom***



**ORUUC Banned Books Discussion Series with Rev. Gaye Morris
Every Saturday morning during July on Zoom**

Last year in the Young Adult fiction genre, more than 1500 books were either challenged or banned in the United States. The reasons they are banned vary; some because they are accused of being sexually explicit or violent...but they are worth exploring in the censorship climate we face today, especially in our education system.

Our Fourth UU Principle urges us to affirm and promote “a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.” What better way for our congregation to put this into action than to read a banned book?

ORUUC’s Community Minister Rev. Gaye Morris will facilitate a Zoom discussion each Saturday morning in July at 11:00 a.m. for book readers, including high school youth who want to read these books and contribute to the group discussions. A list of the books and their discussion dates appears below. You may wish to purchase these books for yourself, but I also urge you to ask your local librarian for these titles, as a gesture of solidarity against book censorship.

To register for the discussion series, please click on this

link: <https://onrealm.org/oruuc/Registrations/Info/c0dbc63c-4212-4e36-b75b-aea6013a534b>.

You will need a Realm log in to sign up for this discussion group. If you need help with Realm, or with registering for the class, please contact Rachel at communications@oruuc.org.

You can attend one, several, or all of the sessions. Registration will enable you to receive the Zoom link for that week's discussion.

Reading List

- **Saturday, July 2nd** - *Lawn Boy* by Jonathan Evison. Banned and challenged for LGBTQIA+ content and because it was considered to be sexually explicit, this is a novel about overcoming cultural discrimination and social class distinctions. Mike Munoz is the lawn boy who is a few years out of high school and, after being fired from a landscaping crew, realizes he needs to act in order to change his life – if only he can figure out how. A BookBrowse review says *Lawn Boy* “takes the reader into the heart and mind of a young man on a journey to discover himself, a search to find the secret to achieving the American dream of happiness and prosperity.”
- **Saturday, July 9** - *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson. This young-adult memoir tells of the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys. The book has been banned and challenged for LGBTQIA+ content, profanity, and because it was considered to be sexually explicit. Goodreads describes it as “Both a primer for teens eager to be allies as well as a reassuring testimony for young queer men of color.”
- **Saturday, July 16** - *Out of Darkness* by Ashley Hope Perez. “*This is East Texas, and there's lines. Lines you cross, lines you don't cross. That clear?*” Pérez takes the facts of the 1937 New London school explosion—the worst school disaster in American history—as a backdrop for a riveting novel about segregation, love, family, and the forces that destroy people. This book has been banned, challenged, and restricted for depictions of abuse and because it was considered to be sexually explicit.
- **Saturday, July 23** - *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas. This is the story of a 16-year old girl whose childhood best friend is gunned down by a police officer. Starr Carter lives in a poor neighborhood but attends a fancy suburban prep school; when she witnesses the shooting of the unarmed teen, her life is turned upside down and her community is caught up in the uproar and chaos surrounding the fatal shooting. This

book was banned and challenged for profanity, violence, and because it was thought to promote an anti-police message and indoctrination of a social agenda.

- **Saturday, July 30** – Concluding session. We end the month with a wide-ranging discussion of what freedom of speech means in the current censorship debate, and how we as UUs understand our obligation to contribute our voices and opinions to it.



Join us with your baby, toddler and/or preschooler for bouncing, tickling, touching, clapping and action rhymes, musical circle games, simple songs, and play.

**FIRST and THIRD Thursdays each month
at 10:30 AM
with “Father Goose” Michael Raymond**

We promote positive parent/child interaction as well as language and early brain development through traditional rhymes, circle games, musical activities, and simple play. We provide a meeting place and fellowship for caregivers of young children, especially those new to the community and far from home. Nothing is charged for Mother Goose; it is freely and lovingly offered to all.

Mother Goose of Oak Ridge meets in the Oak Ridge Public Library Auditorium.

Mother Goose of Oak Ridge meets in Oak Ridge Library Auditorium



Line Dancing

Sunday, 3:00 pm

We teach line dancing. Through our dancing, we bring together total strangers through-out the Oak Ridge community. We learn a variety of dances, country, jazz, waltz and cha-chas. Close friendships are developed with the willingness to share individual talents with others. A donation of \$3.00 per session is suggested. For more information, contact Jo Curran or Steven Albright.



Tai Chi

M-W-F, 11-12 am

We minister to health & stability through learning & practicing tai chi. Tai chi has helped individuals maintain & improve their balance, strength, & blood pressure, & reduce knee, arm, shoulder & back pain. It has helped with MS, Alzheimer's, dropped cervix, bunions, & more. For more information, call Janet Hoegler at 865-963-5115.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022-2023 Split the Plate

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our selection of the 2022-2023 Split the Plate recipients. The following nine organizations, listed in the order of vote totals, will be included for this year:

Free Medical Clinic (tie)

Planned Parenthood (tie)
Stone Soup
ADFAC
Child Advocacy Center
Blossom Center (tie)
Ecumenical Storehouse (tie)
Fresh Fruit for Kids
TORCH

The current alternates are:

Second Harvest Backpack Program
Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning
Clinch River Habitat for Humanity

Sanctuary Steward Needed

The office is seeking a volunteer to be a Sanctuary Steward. Coordinating with your steward partner you will organize Hymnal's and refill literature in pews about every 2 weeks. Please email office@oruuc.org or call 865-483-6761 if you would like an opportunity to volunteer an hour of your time to help keep things organized.

This week at Rainbow Camp...

All the colors in our beautiful rainbow! What a blessing to be see a diverse community of children create memories and relationships with each other. As first time Director, I'm especially proud of the leadership shown by our counselors who have come of age in this program. They are the carriers and keepers of this special tradition, and the models for the next generation of Rainbow Campers.

Christine Rehder, Director of Faith Formation



Responding to the Supreme Court Decision

(Original email sent June 24, 2022)

Friends,

This morning, the Supreme Court handed down a decision that was expected, but--for many in this country--dreaded. The reversal of *Roe v. Wade* and the naked partisanship that's taken root in the highest court in the land is heartbreaking and infuriating.

The inherent worth and dignity of every person includes the right for each person to decide what will happen with their own body. Worth and dignity will prevail in the end; but today, they have been set back in this country. People will die because of this decision.

I say all of this knowing that some of you will disagree. That's ok. It's your right. On this question, ORUUC has not gone through the process of a congregational resolution. Even so, there's room at ORUUC for people of good will to see things differently. But that can't stop us

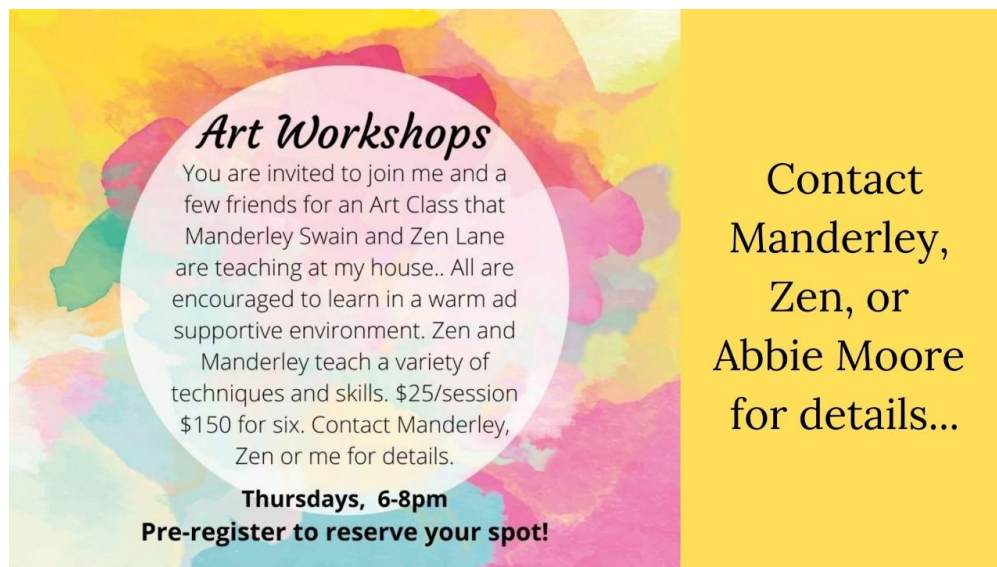
from responding wholeheartedly. And I know that a lot of ORUUC-ians are shocked and saddened by this news.

Feel your feelings. Reach out to others. Be gentle with yourself and others, trusting that the road ahead is long, but that you are not alone. The day for action will come. But today, at least for me and perhaps you, is a day for lamentation. What you feel and express is a reminder, if only to yourself, of what you love so much that you'll fight for it, and work to defend it. And what you fight for and work to defend matters. Thank you, in advance, for how you'll get involved. A better day is coming, because of how you choose to live.

Love,

Jake

Art Classes Offered Every Thursday Through July 14



Art Workshops
You are invited to join me and a few friends for an Art Class that Manderley Swain and Zen Lane are teaching at my house.. All are encouraged to learn in a warm and supportive environment. Zen and Manderley teach a variety of techniques and skills. \$25/session \$150 for six. Contact Manderley, Zen or me for details.

Thursdays, 6-8pm
Pre-register to reserve your spot!

Contact
Manderley,
Zen, or
Abbie Moore
for details...

We're planning to run the current class through July 14. **Please let us know before each Thursday class if you'll be attending so that we can reserve a spot for you (seating is limited).** A new class series will begin in September (dates to be determined). Thank you!
~Abbie Moore, Manderley Swain, and Zen Lane.

EXTRA ORUUC T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE!

\$20 each

Adult Large Baseball-style

*Please purchase in the church office,
or see Christine Rehder.*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



The Stone Soup Team needs your help!

The Stone Soup Team is in need of more help for both cooking soup and baking in the future! We're looking for at least 4 more cooks who can be available most months to assist. Please consider joining us this month! **Our next meal is Friday, July 29.** Please contact Miria at meg.harrison84@gmail.com or the church office to volunteer.



This Month

- Canned Meats (Tuna, etc.)
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Green Vegetables
- Individual Snack Crackers
- Canned Pasta/Meat Meals



COVID-19 Update

The current Covid-19 Community Level for Anderson and surrounding counties is **Low**. ORUUC's Covid-19 Task Force encourages church members and friends to get vaccinated and boosted. Wear a mask if you are more comfortable doing so; use your own judgment, based on your circumstances. If you have symptoms, a positive test, or known exposure to someone with Covid, please stay at home and worship with us on Zoom.

For the weekly Covid-19 data for Anderson County, click here: [Tennessee Department of Health Covid-19 Data](#). See this [link](#) for ORUUC's PALs reports and resources.

Know Your COVID-19 Community Level

Covid-19 Community Levels are a tool from the CDC to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high, and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Take precautions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area. [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautionsStay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear a mask indoors in publicStay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptomsAdditional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.



Get Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to receive **four free at-home COVID-19 tests**. Orders usually ship in 7-12 days. Order tests now so you have them when you need them:

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>

Note: At-home COVID-19 rapid test kits contain a small amount of sodium azide. To prevent accidental poisonings, poison control centers recommend the following tips:

- Store the kit “up and away,” out of the sight and reach of children and pets.
- Leave the kit sealed until needed and throw it away immediately after use.
- Make sure to read and follow the instructions on the package before using.

<https://blog.cincinnatichildrens.org/84/covid-19-home-test-kit-dangers-what-parents-need-to-know>



July Split the Plate Oak Ridge TORCH

Tennessee Out-Reach Center for Homeless was founded in 2012 to assist those in Anderson County who have recently lost their housing and have no-where else to go. Though they are trying to grow and offer more assistance to help those in need, TORCH is a very small organization, and the only one of its kind in Anderson County. Demand for their assistance is very high. They are currently experiencing an extremely large number of people who are reporting that they are living outside or in their cars. Currently they are in a capital campaign to fund building housing for those with the greatest need, especially families with children, until permanent housing can be found.

Give [HERE](#)

OUR ORUUC FAMILY

Caring for Each Other

Are you going through a difficult time? Are you in a situation where support and caring are needed--someone to do grocery shopping, take you to a doctor's appointment, or provide a meal following an upcoming surgery? Contact the church office: (865) 483-6761 or office@oruuc.org or a Caring Coordinator!

Caring Coordinators for July

Kate Holtkamp-Readle Kate.holtkamp@gmail.com 423-231-5482

Freddie Nechtow FreddieN123@gmail.com 865-599-4359



July Caring Coordinators

Kate Holtkamp-Readle kate.holtkamp@gmail.com 423-231-5482

Freddie Nechtow Freddie123@gmail.com 865-599-4359

If you are going through difficult times and would like emotional support, or are in any situation where support and caring are needed, contact Jeannie Cuevas, Office Administrator (865) 483-6761 or office@oruuc.org

Office Hours M-F 10 AM to 4 PM

Please call at least two days in advance to allow time for Caring Coordinators to find a volunteer to provide the care that you need. Our ability to provide transportation is limited. If your appointment is routine and/or can wait, please reschedule it rather than call a Caring Coordinator. Thank you for reserving our Caring Volunteers for those situations that address serious needs that cannot wait.



ORUUC LEADERSHIP

The ORUUC Board of Officers

President: Michele Thornton
Past President: Jim Nutaro
President-Elect: Sue Lasky
Secretary: Jason Fishel
Treasurer: Brandon White
Members-at-Large:
Freddie Nechtow
Charles Davis
Nathaniel Bass
Ethan Coon

The ORUUC Executive Team

Christine Rehder
Christina Elliott
Amanda Fishel

Community/UU

Self-administered COVID-19 testing available at library

Oak Ridge Public Library is providing free tests to people who have been exposed to COVID-19, show symptoms of COVID-19, or are at high risk for complications from COVID-19.

The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests are available Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Located to the right of the library's plaza entrance, these tests are self-serve, and you won't need to enter the library to get a test, according to a city of Oak Ridge news release.

More information [HERE](#)



Join us for a Mountain Experience

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center

3872 Dillard Road, P.O. Box 1299

Highlands, NC 28741

Intergenerational Camp

July 24 - 29, 2022

Open to the Public



A Mountain Camp experience for all ages! Adventures, entertainment, and workshops, including building a cob pizza oven. Please register by July 10.

[See the Schedule](#) [Register](#)

6th Annual Aaron Shearer Summer Institute

July 29 - Aug 4, 2022

Open to the Public



Masterclasses for individuals and groups in beginning to advanced technique, guitar harmony and rhythm, composing and arranging.

[Register](#)

Registration deadline for primary election is July 5

The deadline to register for the August primary elections is July 5. For more information, go to <https://onthehill.tnjournal.net/registration-deadline-for-primary-election-is-july-5>



REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Register to Vote Online:

Registering to vote, updating your address, or checking your registration status is easy, fast, and secure at GoVoteTN.gov.



1-877-850-4959



GoVoteTN.gov

2022 DATES & DEADLINES

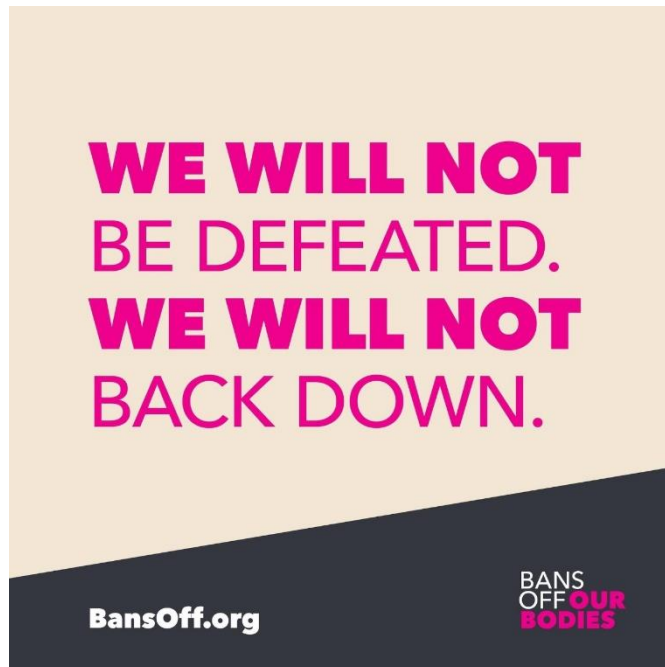
DATES & DEADLINES	AUGUST 4	NOVEMBER 8
	State and Federal Primary & State and County General Election	State and Federal General Election
Voter Registration Deadline	July 5	October 11
Early Voting Period	July 15-30	October 19-November 3
Absentee Deadline	July 28	November 1
Election Day	August 4	November 8

GoVoteTN.gov



Anderson County Election Commission [HERE](#)

A Message from Planned Parenthood of Tennessee and North Mississippi



→ Join or start a local Action Council and build community power.

Email advocacy@pptnm.org to learn more.

→ [Contact your Governor and state legislators](#) to demand they protect and expand abortion rights.

→ Make a gift to support nonjudgmental sexual and reproductive health care, accurate sex education, and fierce advocacy [HERE](#).

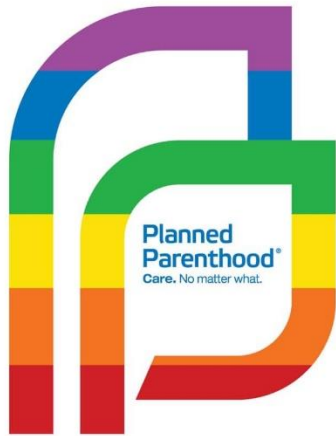
→ [Proudly wear your support](#) for abortion access and Planned Parenthood to help combat abortion stigma in our region.

→ Host a house party benefiting our Patient Navigation and Assistance Fund. Email [Jessica](#) for more information.

If you would like yard signs or stickers with these resources, please email advocacy@pptnm.org.

Thank you for standing beside us, our patients, and our staff. We will never back down. We are committed to health equity and will be bold and unapologetic in our demands — people need to control their own bodies, lives, and futures, no matter where they live. With you by our side, we're not going anywhere.

Planned Parenthood of Tennessee and North Mississippi
Tennessee Advocates for Planned Parenthood



New Initiative at the United Way of Anderson County: Volunteers Needed!



The United Way of Anderson County is working on a pilot program to mentor those in need of financial assistance. We will give them the tools they need to be independent and self-sufficient. But we need your help to get this program rolling! It will take a lot of help from our community, churches, and businesses to work closely with the clients that call United Way for help. The program will be a great way to bring those in financial crisis and community helpers together.

We're looking for volunteers who are

- compassionate, non-judgmental, and able to maintain confidentiality
- good at financial management/understand budgeting
- good problem solvers and are open minded

- able to understand and respect program boundaries
- willing to offer 4 to 8 hours per month of their time

The United Way of Anderson County is hosting a class for interested volunteers on Friday, July 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch will be provided. We will meet at First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge in Room 102. Please call Debbie Jordan, Community Initiatives Coordinator at the United Way of Anderson County, at 865-483-8431 if you will be attending or you would like more information on how you can help. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of so many people in our community! Thank you!

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Friday, July 1

Rainbow Camp
11:00am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, July 2

3:00pm Ukulele

Sunday, July 3

10:00am Worship Service
11:00am High School
11:00am Reflections
11:00am Together in Spirit
11:15am Circle IX
11:15am Circle of Trust I
11:15am Newcomers
12:30pm Buddhism Study Group
1:30pm Book Club
3:00pm Line Dancing
4:00pm Circle of Trust XI
5:30pm Circle of Trust X

Monday, July 4

Church Office Closed (Staff Vacation)
Independence Day
Office Closed
11:00am Tai Chi Practice
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group

Tuesday, July 5

Church Office Closed (Staff Vacation)
2:00pm (Rental) Friends of Literacy
6:00pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

Wednesday, July 6

Church Office Closed (Staff Vacation)
11:00am Tai Chi
11:00am Circle of Trust VIII

Thursday, July 7

Church Office Closed (Staff Vacation)
6:00pm Potluck
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group

Reminder: The deadline to submit news for the weekly Exponent is WEDNESDAY at NOON. Please send news to Rachel at communications@oruuc.org **AND** Debby Crider

at newsletters@launchpad.faith

Our mailing address is:

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

oruuc.org | 865-483-6761 | office@oruuc.org

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