

August 18-24, 2023

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News from Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

The Exponent



Rummage Planning Meeting this Sunday at 12:30 p.m.



The Fall Rummage Sale is only four weeks away! Stay after Faith Formation hour this Sunday, Aug. 20, for a planning meeting at 12:30 p.m. in the Hearth Room. Find out what goes into hosting this semi-annual sale the community loves, and what we've learned from more than 20 years of sales! Give of your time—an hour here and there to help unload or price items, a meal for volunteers, lending tables or clothing racks for displaying items for sale, and your donations of gently used items that can be recycled and repurposed by others. Anyone can play an important role in this sale! Teens can even help out and have their hours served turned into funds for upcoming Youth Trips!

Check out Page 8 for information on Big Rummage Pickup September 9, and items to set aside now to donate!

On Discernment

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister

Think about it: As you read this, “somewhere out there” the new minister for ORUUC is ... well, we don't really know. They may be walking on the beach or playing pickleball or taking a nap, or maybe even sitting before their computer honing their ministerial record for their upcoming search. But rest assured, your next minister is alive and engaged in the world, somewhere. (And if prayer is part of your spiritual practice, you might start lifting that person up!)

The new minister is already engaged in a process of discernment: they're weighing ideas and hopes and dreams about a new settlement, yearning to find a congregation that resonates in the same frequency as they do. They're looking for a place where willing people will share a sense of mission, and share in the ministry that makes the mission real in the world.

This year ORUUC will dive deep into the realm of discernment, too. What skills do you (the collective you, but also you personally) need from a pastor, a preacher, a prophet? (Maybe take a moment and write down your top three.)



A few years ago, the UU Minister's Association (UUMA) came up with a list of nine duties that ministers should have skills in: Preaching/ Leading Worship, Officiating Rites of Passage, Pastoral Care, Encouraging Spiritual Development, Witnessing to Justice in the Public Square, Administration, the Pursuit of Renewal and Professional Development, Serving the Larger UU Faith, and Leading the Faith into the Future. The UUMA was quick to point out that no minister is excellent in all nine of these areas; sometimes someone is simply proficient, or even still learning one of the roles. And when a church is beginning the exciting and arduous process of searching for their next settled minister, part of the discernment process is figuring out where your congregation wants, needs, and expects excellence, and where you can accept proficiency, or even a learning curve.

Part of discernment is pretty straightforward. And partly it's about listening to your heart. It'll be an exciting time, sometimes a frustrating time as needs and opinions collide (remember the definition of conflict is simply where two ideas exist together in the same space and time), and a richly rewarding time. I'm excited to be in this work with you.

This Sunday, Aug. 20

Ramps, Steps, and Thresholds

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz,
Interim Minister

Life is a series of changes, for living beings and for organizations. What changes are ahead as a church enters a year of searching for a settled minister? And how does an organization approach the different ramps and steps that make up the threshold to the new beginning for which we so ardently yearn? Interim minister Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz will talk about what's ahead in this exciting and momentous year.

Worship with us at 10 a.m. in person or on Zoom. Zoom door opens at 9:45 a.m.

Go to [Sunday Worship Info — ORUUC](#) for Zoom information.

The Order of Service may be found [here](#).

Email or Text Prayer Requests to prayers@oruuc.org

August 20, 2023

Ramps, Steps, and Thresholds

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz
Interim Minister

Discernment
WORSHIP SERIES
Week 3 of 4



This month's Split the Plate Offering:
[Fresh Fruit for Kids](#)

Adult and Youth Faith Formation classes meet his Sunday from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery is available during the FF Hour.

*Covid-19 Update: Masks are not required in the building; however, we encourage you to do what makes you feel comfortable. **There are currently Covid cases in our community. If you have recently tested positive, please stay home and worship with us on Zoom. We care for one another!***

ORUUC
**JOIN OUR
WORSHIP TECH TEAM**

Summary
Provide video & Zoom support for Sunday worship services and other ORUUC events as requested and available.

Duties

- Set up & run video equipment
- Manage Zoom live stream
- Ensure smooth operations during worship service

Apply Now
If you are interested in joining our team, send your resume to rev.lisa@oruuc.org.

865-483-6761 | ORUUC.org

The Worship Tech Team needs you! We're low on staff to run Zoom for worship services. Interested in learning more or applying? Check out the job description [here](#) and email your resume and cover letter to Rev. Lisa at rev.lisa@oruuc.org. We also need **Zoom Doorkeepers** - a simpler, but necessary job! But no financial compensation, just the joy of helping and seeing folks on Zoom.

This Month's Split the Plate Offering:

The Split-the-Plate recipient for the month of August is **Fresh Fruit for Kids**. This shared ministry group supplements Second Harvest's backpack program with fresh fruit. Since it was started by Elizabeth Peelle in 2012, this program has delivered over 17,000 pieces of fruit to area school children. While Fresh Fruit for Kids was limited in their service during the pandemic, they resumed deliveries in 2022, providing fresh fruit to nearly 450 children per week. This effort to alleviate hunger is social justice work that helps reduce instances of behavioral difficulties,



malnutrition, and food insecurity in our community. By bringing delicious and nutritious fruit to our at-risk children, we demonstrate through our actions that these children are a beloved part of our community. An increased number of children in need, coupled with the price of fruit have depleted the group's funds. As an ORUUC shared ministry, 100% of donations to Fresh Fruit for Kids go directly to providing food to area school children. Please [GIVE HERE](#) as you are willing and able, or text "ORUUC" to 73256.

Announcements

Habitat for Humanity Volunteer of the Year Martin Bauer



Gina Grubb photo

Congratulations to ORUUC member and Volunteer Extraordinaire Martin Bauer, who received the Tennessee State Habitat for Humanity Volunteer of the Year—for the entire state!--last Sunday, Aug. 13, during worship. Martin is pictured here with Laura Christenbury, Habitat COO, and Charlotte Cunningham, Clinch River Habitat for Humanity Executive Director.

Reignite Fair: A great turnout to reignite the fire of our commitment to ORUUC and the greater community!



Fresh Fruit for Kids volunteers

Last Sunday, dozens of ORUUC members and friends stayed after worship to talk to Shared Ministry and Essential Function Ministry groups, and to sign up to serve. At their meeting Tuesday night, the Board chose **the winners of the bingo card drawing—Jason Haberman—and the Best Decorated Table--Line Dancing**, with their fresh, hot sloppy joe sliders and music. Jason and the Line Dancing group will each receive a \$25 gift certificate from Dean's Restaurant & Bakery in Jackson Square. Thank you to all the groups who set up to talk about what they do, and to all those who came out for this special Faith Formation Hour.

Auction Meeting

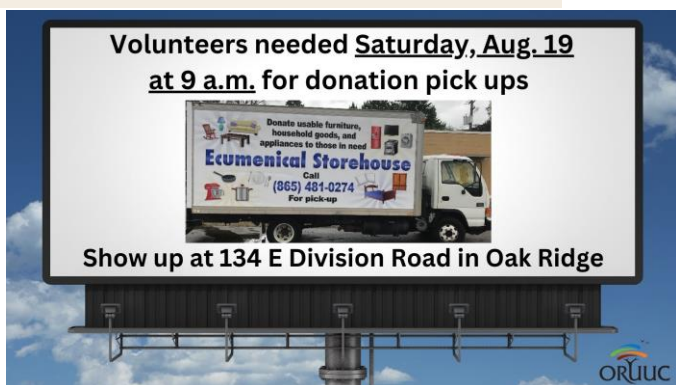
Tuesday,
Aug. 22
6 p.m.
Hearth Room



Interested in learning more about ORUUC's Auction Sunday, Oct. 22? Come to the Auction Meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Hearth Room! Can't make it? Contact Christy White at christy_white@comcast.net to see how you can get involved!



Announcements



It's ORUUC's turn to volunteer at Ecumenical Storehouse! If you've never given it a try, why not tomorrow? Your help would really be appreciated! Show up at 134 E Division Road at 9 a.m. tomorrow (Saturday, July 22). Donations range from heavy furniture to linens, lamps, and pots and pans, so don't think you have to be able to lift a sofa to help. Questions? Contact Martin Bauer at bauermlb@gmail.com.

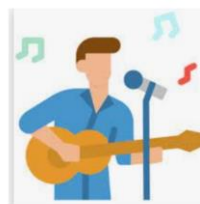
Pack "Food For Kids" with Second Harvest at First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge Monday, Sept. 11 at 12 noon



Our first packing of the new school year is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 11, with delivery to schools on Tuesday, Sept. 12. Reminder emails will go out before the 11th so if any changes do occur the correct info will be in those emails in September. For more information, or to be added to the mailing list, contact Cara Weigel, Food for Kinds Program Coordinator at FUMC, at rcweigel@comcast.net or 865-806-7544.

A green advertisement for Stone Soup. It features a central illustration of a bowl of soup with various vegetables. Text on the left says "FREE Meal! Groceries available". Text on the right says "Drive Thru ONLY". The main text reads: "Stone Soup", "Friday, Aug. 25", "5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.", "Or until supplies run out!", "Tuna Mac Salad, Fresh Fruit, and Lemon Bars". At the bottom, it says "Drive through the loop near the church entrance and a volunteer will bring meals to your vehicle. Non-perishable groceries available upon request." The footer includes "Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church 809 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Stoplight #2 (865) 483-6761", "Special thanks to our Community Partners for making this Final Friday Monthly Meal possible: Kroger Marketplace, Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge", and the ORUUC logo.

Stone Soup is returning to in-person dining September 29! The August meal will still be drive thru only, but come September, the Stone Soup team is going to need even more volunteers to help set tables, serve diners, box up to go meals, and clean up after, in addition to meal planning, grocery shopping, cooking, and baking. Contact Jen Stark at jen.stark@hotmail.com if you'd like to help!



COFFHOUSE TALENT SHOW

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22
6:30 P.M. FOOD AND SOCIAL
7 P.M. PROGRAM
AT 

Coffeehouse Talent Show Friday, Sept. 22

Food & Social starts 6:30 p.m.
Program starts at 7:00 p.m.

Start getting your act together! Any kind of rehearsed, presentational act is possible, from the silly to the sublime. All ages and all kinds of talent are encouraged. Past shows have included one-act plays, singer-songwriters, vocal and instrumental solos or ensembles, joke telling, dancers, and novelty acts. This is your chance to live out a performance fantasy, to ham it up, to build some experience performing in front of people, or to blow people's minds by unveiling a unique talent you've been keeping to yourself. Advance sign-up is required for all performers. **The sign-up deadline is Sunday, Sept. 17.** Contact Nancy Starr, starroakridge@gmail.com, mobile 865-742-9993

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!

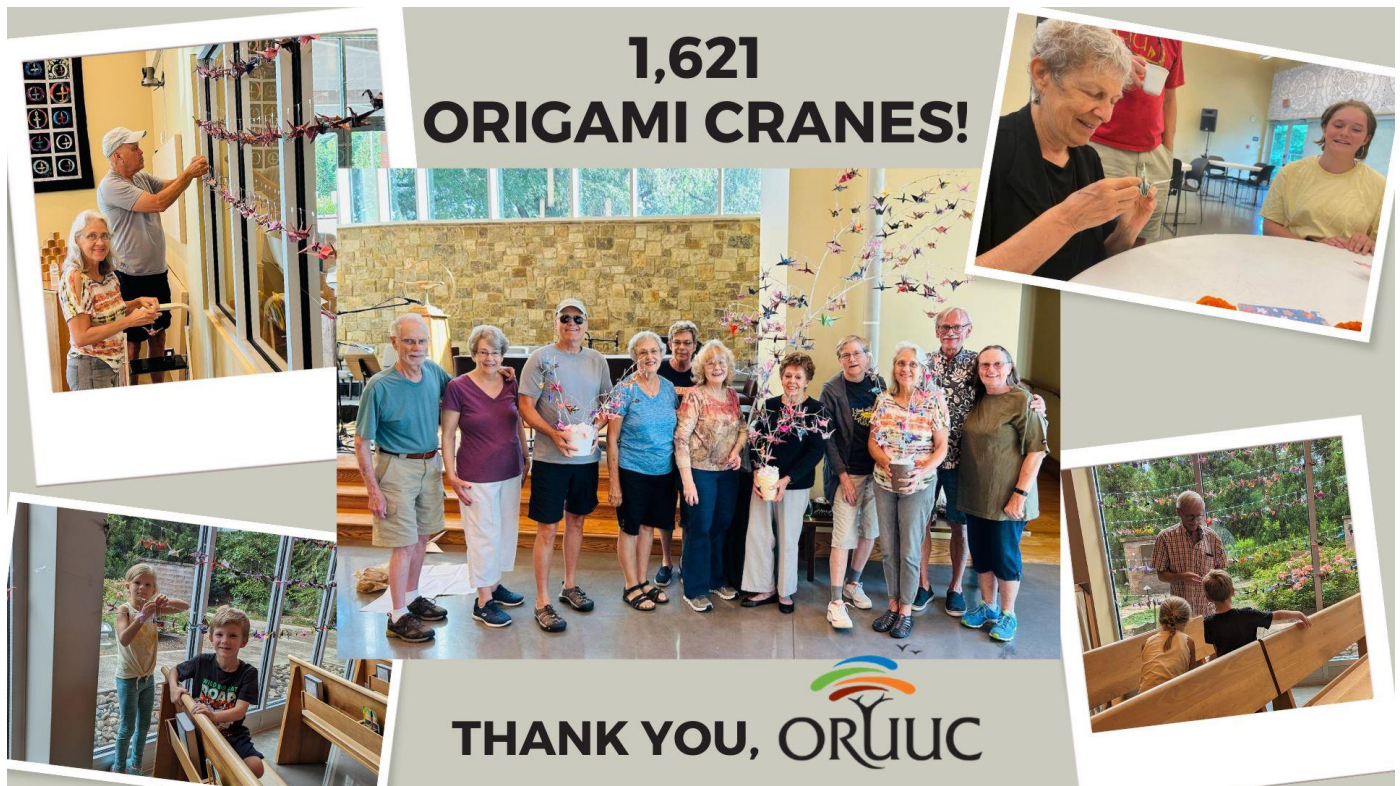
Caring Coordinators for August

Mare Martell maremartell@gmail.com 616-826-9984 (cell)

Rachel Smith-Jones smithnjones3@comcast.net 603-252-2295 (cell)

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.

Thank you to all who made origami cranes and created the Sanctuary display!



This beautiful display will be up through the end of August. At that time, the cranes will be boxed up and mailed to Hiroshima, Japan, where they will be placed at the Children's Peace Monument. The monument commemorates Sadako Sasaki and the thousands of child victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Sadako, featured in Rev. Lisa's Story for All Ages last Sunday— "Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes," written by Canadian-American author Eleanor Coerr—died at the age of 12 of leukemia from radiation from the atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The Sanctuary cranes were made in honor of Shigeiko Uppuluri, whose Celebration of Life was held at ORUUC earlier this month. <https://www.knoxnews.com/obituaries/kns059755>

Ongoing Activities at ORUUC



Line Dancing

Sundays at 3 p.m. We learn a variety of dances: country, jazz, waltz and cha-chas. Through our dancing, we bring together total strangers in the community and develop close friendships with the willingness to share individual talents with others. A donation of \$3 per session is suggested. For more information, contact Jo Curran or Steven Albright.



Tai Chi

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 11 a.m. – 12 noon

We minister to health & stability through learning & practicing tai chi. Help maintain & improve balance, strength, and blood pressure, and reduce knee, arm, shoulder & back pain. For more information call Janet Hoegler at 865-963-5115.



Ukulele Group

The group is scheduled to meet **this Saturday, Aug. 26 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** If you've been working on something and want to share it, please bring printed copies.

Abbie Moore
abbie.moore@icloud.com

Social and Volunteer Opportunities



Meets monthly at various churches in Oak Ridge. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/371268369619360> or email Anne Baccus baccusanne@comcast.net for more information about PFLAG Oak Ridge.

Help with Ecumenical Storehouse Pick Ups Saturday, Aug. 19!



Every Third Saturday of the month it's ORUUC's turn to volunteer at Ecumenical Storehouse. There's no training required, just a willingness to help! The items picked up range from heavy furniture to linens, lamps, and pots and pans. Questions? Show up at 134 E. Division Road at 9 a.m. and lend a hand! Contact Martin Bauer at bauermlb@gmail.com.



Beginning in October: Eggs and Pegs!
Play cribbage, eat breakfast, have fun! These get togethers will be held the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the Social Hall. Stay tuned for details!



ORUUC needs to add members to its Caring Team! **Contact Rachel in the church office (865-483-6761) or communications@oruuc.org** if you would be willing to be called upon occasionally to

- Provide transportation to Sunday services, evening events at church, or medical/dental appointments
- Run errands or grocery shop
- Provide/deliver meals
- Visit
- Perform minor home repairs
- Provide computer repair and support
- Haul items by truck
- Provide pet care
- Help with Memorial Service receptions
- Support new parents
- Perform yard work
- Sit with someone during Worship



ORUUC Pantry Needs

Fruit (small cans or cups) • Tuna • Peanut Butter • Soups • Vegetables (corn, green beans) • Kidney beans • Mac & Cheese • Hamburger Helper • Ravioli/SpaghettiOs

Donations are desperately needed and may be dropped off any weekday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., or on Sunday mornings. Thank you!

Family News



Faith Formation is off to a great start this month! We'd love to have you join us anytime! Please complete a [Youth Faith Formation Registration Form](#) and turn it in to Director of Youth Faith Formation Christine Rehder, or pick up a copy at church.

Faith Formation Dates for 2023-24

- August 6 – First Day of Youth Faith Formation
- September 15-16 - Rummage Sale (Teens can volunteer and earn money for the Youth Trip Fund!)
- September 29 - October 16 - OR Schools Fall Break
- October 1 - Church Potluck (No Faith Formation)
- October 13-15 - All Church Retreat (Harrison Bay State Park) (No Faith Formation)
- October 29 - Trunk or Treat
- November 3-5 - Fall Elementary Mountain CON
- November 17-19 - Fall Intermediate Mountain CON
- November/December - Tamaladas (A tamale making party!) TBD
- December 1-3 – Fall Senior High Mountain CON
- December 3 - Cocoa and Caroling
- December 10 - 5th/6th OWL Parent Orientation
- January 7 - 5th/6th OWL Begins
- February 11 - Hugs and Quiches
- February 23-25 - Spring Elementary Mountain CON
- March 1-3 - Spring Intermediate Mountain CON /Rummage Sale
- March 9-25 - OR Spring Break (Special Programming)
- March 15-17 – Spring Senior High Mountain CON
- March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt
- April TBD - Ministerial Visits
- April TCAP Test Break TBD
- May 12 - Last Day of Youth Faith Formation
- May 19 - Bridging/Reception
- June 24-28 -Rainbow Camp



If you or your group need childcare for a church meeting or event, please complete this form **TWO WEEKS** in advance:

<https://form.jotform.com/231284551294053>.

Childcare is provided for children ages 10 and under only. Once you click "Submit," the form will go directly to ORUUC's Multigenerational Coordinator Whitney Cole, who will work with Childcare Coordinator Laura Scott to arrange childcare for your church function. Thank you!



Mother Goose with ORUUC's own "Father Goose" Michael Raymond! Babies through preschoolers will have fun singing, clapping, dancing, and moving with their parents, grandparents, or other caregivers.

**First and Third Thursdays^{at} 10:30 a.m.
in the Oak Ridge Public Library Meeting Room**

Don't miss the next gathering September 7!

View and sign up for the Oak Ridge Public Library's newsletter here:

<https://mailchi.mp/oakridgetn/orplaug23>

Check out ORUUC's monthly newsletter for families, "Connecting in Spirit" [here!](#)

Fall Rummage Sale: September 15-16

BIG RUMMAGE PICKUP

Saturday, Sept. 9
9-12 noon

Trucks
We need: **Volunteers**
Donations



To schedule pick up of large items or tables, please contact Amanda Fishel or Christina Elliott by sending an email to oruucrummage@gmail.com, calling or texting (865) 804-7033 (Amanda) or (865) 214-0756 (Christina).

RUMMAGE SALE

Donation Drop off Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

We'll gratefully accept the following items in resalable condition:

- **Clothing & Linens:** Washed, no tears, stains, mildewed, or strong odors from cigarettes, pets or mothballs. It would be helpful to fold clothing and put in clean trash bags.
- **Upholstered Furniture & Area Rugs:** No significant tears, no stains, no mildew, or strong cigarette or pet odors.
- **Wood or Solid Furniture:** Not broken or badly dented or water damaged, and not missing any vital parts. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable.
- **Televisions:** Flat screens, still in good working condition, less than 5 years old, with no missing knobs or buttons. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable. No big projection TVs or consoles.
- **Electronics:** Still in good working condition stereo components and speakers, computers only with flat screen monitors.
- **Appliances:** Only small, still in good working condition such as toasters and microwave ovens, mixers, etc. No missing knobs or buttons. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable.
- **Miscellaneous Items:** Toys, tools, music instruments, patio furniture and décor items, knickknacks, books (no school textbooks or magazines please,) artwork, clean area rugs, dishes, pots/pans, shoes, antiques, and jewelry.

Things we are **UNABLE** to accept:

- Anything that is wet from rain or floods, etc. or otherwise damaged
- Combustible fuel in any tanks or containers
- Console stereos or TVs, big projection TVs, or any that are older than 5 years, are not working, and those missing knobs or buttons
- Child car-seats
- Baby cribs with a sliding side rail
- Building materials, including paint and carpet remnants**
- Auto parts
- Electronics not in working condition
- Mattresses*
- Large appliances such as dishwashers, stoves and refrigerators, etc.*
- Large exercise equipment (treadmills, elliptical machines, etc.)*
- Pianos or organs
- Slate-top pool tables
- Safety helmets, including baseball, football, and cycling helmets

***Call Ecumenical Storehouse: (865) 481-0274**

****Call Habitat ReStore: (865) 483-5433**

Does any of this belong to **YOU**?



Have you checked the Lost & Found table lately? Please pick up your items by Sunday, Sept. 10.

After that, any remaining items will end up in the Fall Rummage Sale (September 15-16). Stop by today and retrieve what's yours!

Community News

Are You "In the Know"?

Join Us for the
4th Annual

Anderson County Community Resource Fair

**The More We Know
The More Love We Show**

Become more knowledgeable about community resources and helping agencies so that we can work together and refer our neighbors in need!



**Sunday, Aug. 20th,
12:00-2:30 p.m.**

**In the gym of First Baptist Church of Clinton
230 N. Charles G. Seivers Blvd.**

Find your niche of volunteering! Find a good cause to support! Discover how to connect your neighbors to the help they need! Learn how to partner with other nonprofits to help our community! Find the resources you need!



•Free Lunch! •Info Table Freebies! •Door Prizes! •Kids' Activities!

www.acresourcefair.com

The Annual Anderson County Community Resource Fair takes place Sunday, Aug. 20, from 12 to 2:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center Gymnasium of First Baptist Church in Clinton (230 N. Charles G. Seivers Blvd.) Learn more about community services. Find a place to volunteer! For more information, visit <https://acresourcefair.com/>.

**Friday Night Community Concert at St. Paul
United Methodist Church, Knoxville
The Annual Beatles Birthday Bash!
Friday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m.**



ORUUC's Dave Dunkirk will be one of the performers at this annual concert. For more information, contact St. Paul United Methodist Church, 4014 Garden Drive, Knoxville. 865-687-2952



**Wednesday, September 6, 2023
AK Bissell Park • 5:00 - 7:00pm
Oak Ridge, Tennessee**

Monument Service Program with Guest Speakers

For more information:

<https://scarboro85monument.com>

John Spratling (865) 363-9759, jspratling@orn.tn.edu



The Oak Ridge/Anderson County NAACP invites all to a special program on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 5 p.m. in AK Bissell Park to learn about the planned Scarboro 85 monument. For more information, visit <https://scarboro85monument.com/>.

**ACCESS OAK RIDGE
Fair**

Creating Community for All Abilities

Mark your calendars to attend the Celebrate Different Abilities Fair, Saturday, Oct. 7, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Oak Ridge Civic Center. The first-ever disability fair in Oak Ridge has two main goals: to provide information on resources to people with disabilities, their families and caregivers, and to attract others to come and learn about how we can plan and build our communities so that all can live, work and play to their full potential. There will be 50 vendors, 20 activities, demonstrations, ten speakers, art exhibits, music, food, games, prizes and more! The City of Oak Ridge, United Way of Anderson County, and Periodic Tables: Healing Starts Here are putting on the event. For more information, visit <https://www.oakridgeperiodictables.com/blog/periodic-tables-fall-line-up-is-here>.

Ministerial Search Update July 2023



Christy White, Ministerial Search Committee Member

As the summer settles over us like a warm, steamy blanket; the ministerial search committee has begun meeting. Our two gatherings thus far have been very informal, with lots of snacks and ice-breaker questions, mostly geared toward settling into the task before us and learning how we will work best together.

One sentiment we've all shared is the great honor each of us feels at being called to serve ORUUC in this way. Each of us arrived at the decision with thoughtfulness and take very seriously the opportunity to do the hard labor necessary to accurately reflect the will and wishes of the congregation.

One thing we noticed is that the [ministerial search timeline](#) that has been shared thus far gets a little murky after the congregation votes on the committee. To that end, we thought we'd share more of a timeline of what search will look like (and what to look out for), including date estimates.

Roughly, the search is conducted in seven general phases. We've already finished phase one (The Good Goodbye) and phase two (electing the search committee), so pat yourselves on the back for a job well done!

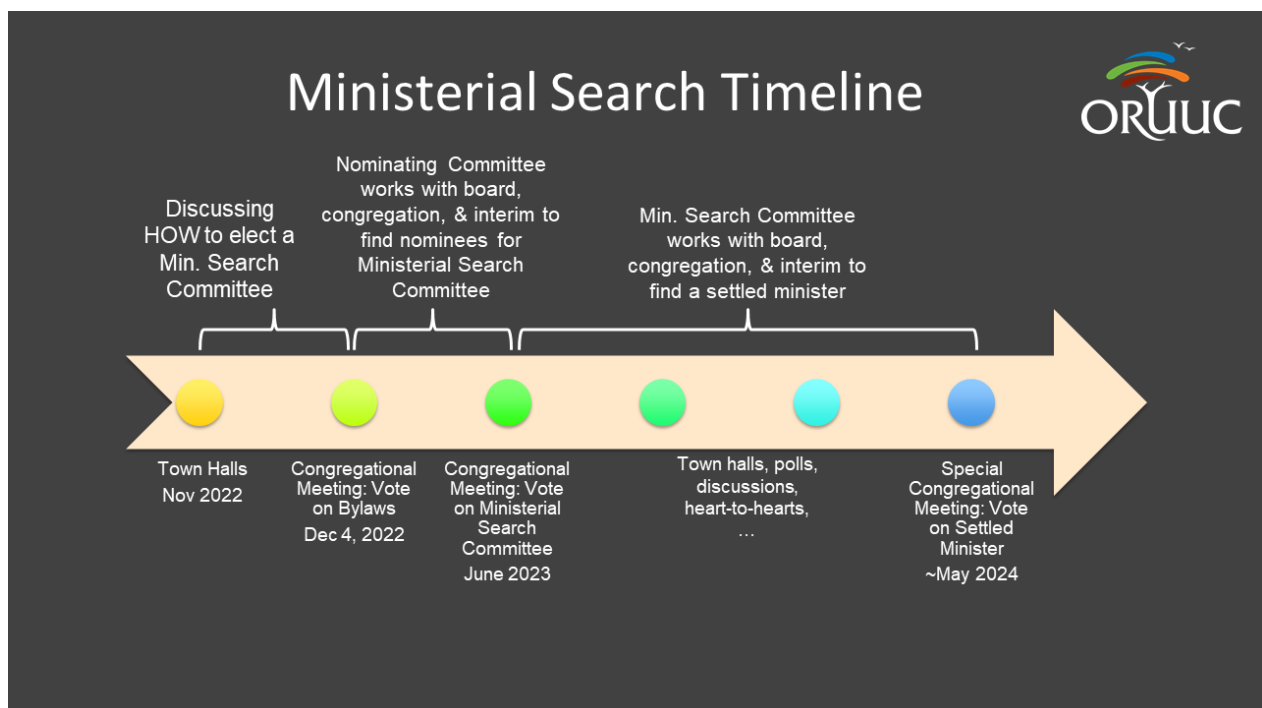
The next big lift is phase 3, "Building the Structure to Search." Major elements of this phase include.

- August - Search Committee retreat: Facilitated by representatives from the UUA, we will make a search covenant and take a deep dive into the roles and tasks necessary for our work on behalf of the congregation.
- September-ish - A congregational survey: Thoughtfully crafted by the UUA Transitions Team and regional staff, this survey will be made available to every member of the church and includes questions that emphasize what the congregation needs from a new minister.
- November-ish - Cottage meetings/focus groups: Smaller group gatherings, these meetings are an invitation to participate in group conversations to hear and build on what others say about ORUUC.

Phase 4 and beyond will start in winter of 2023, and there's plenty to keep us busy in the meantime.

We've created a [Ministerial Search Hub](#) in the Members' Section of the website. You can find open meeting recordings, updates, general information, and more. We hope you will bookmark this page and check back often.

Until next time, we appreciate your trust and support of us all as we embark on this grand adventure.



Community News

SPIRIT QUEST 2023
ELKMONT GROUP CAMPGROUND,
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 –
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



A special event sponsored by Earth Church East Tennessee

Join Rev. Carol Bodeau at this annual celebration of earth-spirit. We will gather in the Smoky Mountains to:

- Listen to the voice of nature as it speaks to us
- Learn about world traditions that have rooted their spirituality in the cycles of the natural world
- Make music that echoes the heartbeat of the earth, the songs of creatures, and the rhythms of wind and water
- Sleep outdoors and spend time alone on the land (*If sleeping outside isn't for you, there are other options*)
- Share in sacred fire circles
- Swim, hike, do crafts and generally have a rich, deep joyful time with others who love being on the land in a spiritual way

Cost: \$20 per person to cover campground and basic supplies (we will all bring food to share)

Registration: email Rev. Carol at revcarol@westsideuuc.org



Interested in being part of an East TN UU cluster table at this fall's Knox Pride event October 6-8 at World's Fair Park? Contact the church office at 483-6761 or communications@oruuc.org. ORUUC will work with other UU churches to be supportive at this important event. Questions? Contact Mark Mohundro at TVUUC: markm667@gmail.com. For more information on the Knox Pride event, visit <https://www.knoxpride.com/pride-fest-2023>.

Learning about the Eastern Cherokee
A UU Living our Values Field Trip
Saturday, Sept. 30
Organized by TVUUC



As Unitarian Universalists, we are committed to honoring the first nations peoples who stewarded and inhabited North America prior to settler colonialism. As part of living our values, we can learn directly from local indigenous peoples about their histories, cultures, and contemporary lived experiences. Join with other UU's to honor the Eastern Cherokee people by visiting:

- Oconaluftee Indian Village: on the site of a traditional village, where tribal members educate the public about their culture and lifeways (our group will have a private, guided tour) \$20 per adult, children 6-12 yrs \$10, children under 10 free.
- The Museum of the Cherokee Indian: one of the oldest tribally run museums in the US, this museum includes historical and archaeological exhibits, cultural specialists demonstrating crafts and skills, and a bookstore/giftshop with an excellent collection of books on Cherokee culture. Cost: optional (\$12 if you choose to view the exhibits; the bookstore is free to enter).
- Qualla Arts and Crafts store: Across the street from the museum, this store offers the work of native artists from around the US, with a focus on local Cherokee artists. Free to enter.

Scholarship support is available for anyone who needs it. You can also donate to the scholarship fund.

Transportation: We are currently planning on carpooling; please let us know if you need transportation support. We will meet in Cherokee at 10 am Eastern Time and be there until approximately 4 pm.

Bring your own lunch for a picnic by the river.

Register using this link-<https://tinyurl.com/3wepm4sj>

This Week at ORUUC



Friday, Aug. 18

11am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, Aug. 19

9am Ecumenical Storehouse Pickup

1pm Rental (Bridal Shower)

4-10pm Rental (Birthday Party)

5pm Board Potluck

Sunday, Aug. 20

10am Worship

11am High School

11am Together in Spirit

11:15am Bylaws Committee

11:15am Circle of Trust 1

11:15am Knitting and Crocheting Group

11:15am Newcomers

11:15am Reflections

12:30pm Buddhism Study Group

12:30pm Circle of Trust IX

12:30pm Rummage Planning Meeting

3pm Line Dancing

4pm Circle of Trust XI

5-7pm Zentangle Group

5:30pm Circle of Trust X

Monday, Aug. 21

11am Tai Chi Practice

Tuesday, Aug. 22

6pm Auction Meeting

6pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

Wednesday, Aug. 23

6:30am Breakfast Rotary

9am Stone Soup prep

11am Tai Chi Practice

5:30pm Circle of Trust III

7pm Choir Practice

7:45pm Band Rehearsal

Thursday, Aug. 24

12:30pm NWUUC & Launchpad Meeting

Meeting

12:30pm Thursday Lunch Bunch

7pm Cornhole Game



Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards! Visit

<https://www.kroger.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards>.

Sign in or create an account. Choose organization #63422 (that's ORUUC). That's it! Every time you shop at Kroger and use your and use your Kroger card or "Alternative ID" at check-out, a percentage of what you spend will get sent to ORUUC!



Check out the new art exhibit in the ORUUC Gallery!



809 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Contact us at 865-483-6761
<http://www.oruuc.org/>



The deadline to submit news for The Exponent is Wednesday at noon. Please send news, comments, and feedback to Rachel at communications@oruuc.org.

ORUUC Board of Trustees 2023-24

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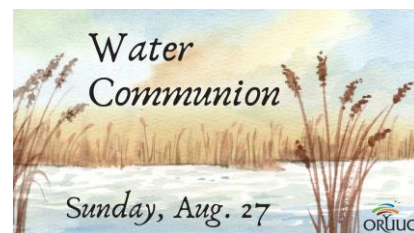
Donna Maloney

Jeannie Cuevas, Office Administrator

Sunday, Aug. 27

Water Communion: Let's Reconstitute Our Community

Worship Service led by Embers



The water communion has deep roots in Unitarian Universalism. At this annual ritual celebration, the Embers group will lead the congregation in a service of joy and community. We'll honor the ORUUC tradition of calling forth waters and associated energy from the four directions. All are joyously welcome!