

December 2-8, 2022

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News from Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

The Exponent



TODAY is your Last Chance to Order Tamales!

Order using this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LYqmWbOaoUQDZUrrTAbM-Zlsa57ZylzAIAEndXWwRE/edit>

or stop by the church office.

Tamales are \$20 per dozen.

Choose from Chicken or

Vegetarian. Pay online

<https://onrealm.org/oruuc/-/form/give/now>

Choose "Absolute

Best Tamales" from the drop

down menu) or pay cash at pick

up. Tamales will be frozen and

available for pick up at church

December 10 and 18. **There will be*

a limited number of extra tamales

available for \$25 a dozen for those

who didn't pre-order. Thank you for

your support!



Chalica: A Principled Celebration!

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister

You've gotta love Unitarian Universalists, willing as we are to celebrate any and all holidays and holy days. Sometimes it gets a little frantic around HannuKwanzaChristmaS olstiDiwaliVisak time, but who doesn't love a party? Did someone say cookies??

Yes, UUs find truth and beauty in many ancient and modern holidays. And yes, even so it would sometimes be great to have just one intentional celebration that's all our own. In 2005 that thought inspired Daylene Marshall, then a student at theology school, to dream up some ideas about what a UU holiday might look like. How would we celebrate? What would our rituals be if we could make 'em up fresh? How might a UU holiday evolve over time? Would there be cookies??

No one knows if Daylene and her

young adult friends were inspired by The Spirit, or just some of the spirits commonly shared among graduate students. But out of their musings the idea of Chalica was born. Chalica is not in competition with Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, or any other

celebration. It's just a simple way for UUs to deepen our knowledge of the seven (eight!) principles and strengthen our resolve to resist consumerism at this market-driven time of year.

It wouldn't be a UU holiday without some folks who ardently despise it, and it should go without saying that Chalica is not compulsory. But if you think a spiritual practice might help feed your soul and help you stay grounded at this frenzied time, check it out this Sunday, December 4th, and be sure to take home a guide to celebrating at home!

This Sunday, Dec. 4

Chalica: A Principled Celebration!

Unitarian Universalists are boundlessly curious about the world's religions, and we happily celebrate many winter holidays. Two decades ago a group of young adult UU seminarians began to yearn aloud for a holiday celebration that would be "our own thing." It's not meant to supplant or compete with the other joyous celebrations, but simply to proclaim our own faith and explore its embodied practice. Our Interim Minister, the Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, has been an enthusiastic Chalica lover for years, and she's excited to introduce the tradition to ORUUC.



Worship with us in person or on Zoom at 10:00 a.m.
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

December Split the Plate: [Planned Parenthood of TN and Northern MS](#)

The CDC Covid-19 Community Levels are Low this week in Anderson, Knox, Roane, and Morgan counties. Masks are not required in the building; however, we encourage you to do what makes you feel comfortable.



Congregational Meeting this Sunday, Dec. 4 11:15 a.m. In the Sanctuary and on Zoom

Adult Faith Formation classes are canceled. Youth are invited to participate in a Holiday Craft Party in the Social Hall. Nursery is available.

To view the agenda and proposed bylaws changes, please turn to Page 8.

December Split the Plate: Planned Parenthood of TN and Northern MS



The first Planned Parenthood chapter in the state was formed in Oak Ridge in 1961, and many of the first volunteers and board members were from ORUUC. Not only does Planned Parenthood provide birth control, STD testing, cancer screenings, AIDS testing and wellness visits, they provide truthful, accurate information regarding human sexuality and reproduction. In this age of misinformation, the truth is a most valuable resource.

Since the Supreme Court decision to abolish Roe v. Wade, PPTMN has hired

Navigators to provide information about other states that will still provide abortions to their patients; they are also building a new clinic in southeast Illinois to serve Tennesseans in a state that is close to Tennessee that does not oppose abortions. For more information, visit <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-tennessee-and-north-mississippi>.

Please give as you are willing and able. [GIVE HERE](#) or text "ORUUC" to 73256.

2022 Holiday Calendar

Sunday, Dec. 4 Chalica: A Principled Celebration!
Congregational Meeting at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary and on Zoom. *No Faith Formation.* **Holiday Craft Party** for Youth in the Social Hall. Nursery available.

Saturday, Dec. 10 Cocoa & Caroling at 2 p.m. in the Pavilion and Portico. Later, join ORUUC in the Oak Ridge Christmas Parade! Line up by 5 p.m. at the Corporate Center on Lafayette Drive.

Sunday, Dec. 11 Hanukkah-themed Worship. Youth and Adult Faith Formation as scheduled. **Deadline for dropping off Angel Tree gifts!**

Sunday, Dec. 18 No Rehearse Christmas Pageant at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary and on Zoom. *No Faith Formation.*
Faith Formation resumes January 8.

Wednesday, Dec. 21 Winter Solstice Service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. *Childcare provided.*

Saturday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Come at 5:45 p.m. to enjoy pre-service singing!

Sunday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day! *No Nursery during Worship.*

Monday, Dec. 26–Friday, Dec. 30 and Monday, Jan. 2 Church Office Closed *Happy Holidays!*

Friday, Dec. 30 Stone Soup. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Drive thru!

Saturday, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Coffeehouse Talent Show in the Social Hall. Supper and Social begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 7 p.m. program. After the Coffeehouse, stay for the **New Year's Eve Party, beginning around 8 p.m., and ring in 2023 at ORUUC!**



Holiday Announcements



Help brighten
a child's holiday!

The ORUUC Angel Tree

Gifts are due back by
Sunday, Dec. 11.



There are 16 names left on the Angel Tree! Take a name tag from the tree in the church lobby, record your info on the sign-up sheet, and purchase and wrap your gifts. **Please return gifts to the church by Sunday, Dec. 11.** Help us brighten the Christmas of some deserving children! **Questions? Contact Susan at 865-591-4037, or see her in the nursery on Sunday.**



The **Mitten Tree** is set up in the Hearth Room, ready to accept donations again this year for the Blossom Center, a local nonprofit daycare in Oak Ridge. **Donations of toddler to school-age sizes of new socks, knit hats, gloves and mittens are appreciated! The deadline to drop off items is December 14.** Questions? Contact Jason Fishel.

Oak Ridge Christmas Parade Saturday, Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m.



ORUUC is participating in the Oak Ridge Christmas Parade again this year.
How can YOU help?

- ***Donate candy** to be handed out during the parade. Donations may be dropped off in the church lobby.
 - ***Donate decorations.** Have any spare garland? Vinyl albums? Lights?
 - ***Walk with us!** It would be great to have at least a dozen people--the more, the merrier! The Parade forms at the Corporate Center on Lafayette at 5 p.m., and turns west on Oak Ridge Turnpike, disbanding in the parking lot of Oak Ridge High School.
 - *If there are enough volunteers, we could use a **lowboy flatbed trailer** for folks to ride on.
- If you'd like to help in any way, **contact Multigenerational Coordinator Whitney Cole at whit.cole79@gmail.com or the Church Office at 865-483-6761. Thanks!**



Start getting your act together for the New Year's Eve Coffeehouse Talent Show! All are invited Saturday, Dec. 31 to a Supper and Social beginning at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 7 p.m. program. Any kind of rehearsed, presentational act is possible, from the silly to the sublime. All ages and all kinds of talent are encouraged. **Advance sign-up is required for all performers; the deadline is Monday, Dec. 26. To sign up, contact Nancy Starr, email starroakridge@gmail.com, mobile 865-742-9993.**



After the Coffeehouse, stay for the new Year's Eve Party! 8 p.m. - midnight Bring your games, finger food, and drinks to share. We will have our token bubbly at midnight while we watch the ball drop!

Community Outreach

A note of gratitude for Stone Soup...

The church received the following Facebook message earlier this week from a woman who is very appreciative of our Stone Soup ministry.

"I want to express my deep appreciation for your church's kindness in having the Stone soup meal. My family moved to Oak Ridge this year due to the housing crisis in Knoxville, and have found it to be a nice town. In September, I sustained an injury which has put me out of work on disability until January, minimum. My husband has a wonderful job, but with the loss of income, we have struggled and make too much money to receive assistance. We are blessed to be able to afford our life necessities, but food has been an area that we have slashed our budget. Receiving a fresh, hot, delicious meal and a bag of groceries were a welcome blessing for our family. This experience has shown us that struggles can extend across all populations, including those who are employed. Your church truly showed love to my family, and that's what my concept of religion and faith is rooted in, is showing love to others, and the experience that night showed by your members is the best example of loving your neighbor with no judgements and no need to know the circumstances beyond being there for the community. Again, thank you so much!!!!"

Thank you, Miria Webb, for your leadership—and for the many members of the Stone Soup team, and our community partners, the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge and Kroger Marketplace.

Want to join this great group of bake-at-home bakers and cook-at-church cooks? Email Miria at meg.harrison84@gmail.com. Thank you!



Stone Soup
Friday, Dec. 30
5:30-6:30 p.m./
until supplies run out

Menu

Sausage and Potato Goulash
Fresh Fruit
Red Velvet Cookie Bars

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

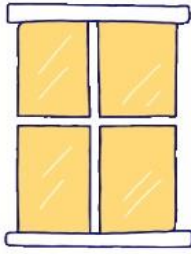
PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

Looking for a fun way to give back this month? Try this Reverse Advent Calendar! Once you've collected all of the non-perishable food items listed, drop them off at church for the pantry. You'll make a difference!



ORUUC has KARM coat vouchers! Pick one up in the church office today! Or call us 865-483-6761. Coat vouchers expire Dec. 10!

Caring for Each Other

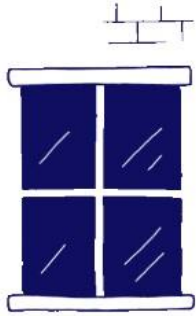


Are you going through a difficult time? Are you in a situation where support and caring are needed--someone to do grocery shopping, take you to a doctor's appointment, or provide a meal following an upcoming surgery? Contact the church office: (865) 483-6761 or office@oruuc.org or a Caring Coordinator!

Caring Coordinators for December

Amanda Fishel amsfishel@gmail.com 865-804-7033

Christina Elliott Christina.r.elliott@gmail.com 865-214-0756



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.



David O. Campbell, age 95 (formerly of Oak Ridge, Tennessee), passed away in his home at Parc Provence Memory Care in Creve Coeur, Missouri on November 20th, 2022. He received a B.A. degree in mathematics and chemistry from the University of Kansas City (now the University of Missouri-Kansas City) in 1947 and PhD in chemistry from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1953. David began his employment at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory right after graduation and lived in Oak Ridge for over sixty years. He served in the U.S. Army, Army Reactors Branch, from 1955-1957. He married Barbara Powers from Penn Yan, New York in 1954. In 2012, the couple moved to The Gatesworth, an independent living community in St. Louis to be closer to their children.

David spent his entire career at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, retiring in 1991 as a senior staff member in the Chemical Technology Division. He then served as a consultant for many years. He was a world-recognized expert in all chemical aspects of nuclear fuel reprocessing, separations and reactor chemistry, and nuclear waste management. He was granted seven patents, had over 75 publications and presentations, plus classified reports, and chaired many national and international meetings, and was a major contributor to international collaborations with Japan and the UK, including spending one year attached to the UK Atomic Energy Research Establishment Harwell Laboratory. He was heavily involved in cleanup efforts at Three Mile Island, and served on several assistance, advisory, and review groups. He was a member of several national committees including the U.S. Department of Energy's High-Level Waste Tanks Technical Advisory Committee Panel. David was a lifetime member of the American Chemical Society, the American Nuclear Society and a member of Sigma Xi. He received numerous awards, including the American Nuclear Society Special Award for Advancements in Nuclear Technology in Response to Three Mile Island, the Martin Marietta Energy Systems Technical Achievement Award and the Glenn T. Seaborg Actinide Separations Award.

David was a lifelong member of the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church and valued the role it played in his life. He enjoyed the outdoors and spent many years on the Anderson County Conservation Board helping to create recreational areas still in use today. David was an avid and excellent fisherman, who loved to spend time on lakes, rivers and streams, especially in pursuit of trout...

He will be buried in the Oak Ridge Memorial Park at a private service for the family. The Shepard Funeral Chapel of St. Louis, Missouri is honored to assist David's family with the burial arrangements. Please contact their office at 314-426-6000 for assistance or visit www.ShepardFuneralChapel.com to sign David's guestbook and share your favorite memories with his family.

Read more at [David O. Campbell Obituary - The Oak Ridger](#)
Published in The Oak Ridger. Posted online on November 23, 2022.

Weekly 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.



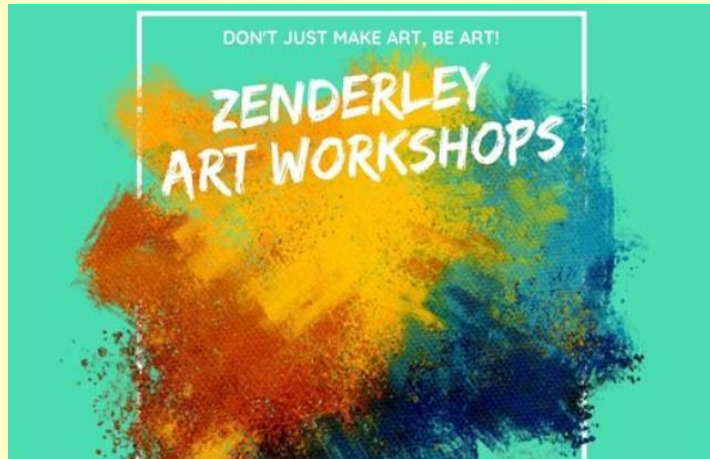
Tai Chi

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.



Join the Ukulele

Group! Beginners and Teens welcome! Upcoming practices are scheduled for December 3 and 17 at 3 p.m. Please join us! Contact Abbie Moore abbie.moore@icloud.com or Linda Osborne lindadrly@bellsouth.net for more information.



A message from Host Abbie Moore: More COVID has hit. Friends, sad to say we will need to cancel classes for the rest of the year. As you have spare time, pick up a pencil or a paint brush and just three colors and draw or paint something that brings you joy during the Holiday Season. We'll see you next year.

Contact Manderley stormpixey@gmail.com or Abbie abbie.moore@icloud.com for information about future classes.



It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like SpamBots

Just a reminder that email scammers and bots work overtime during the holidays. **No one on the ORUUC staff will ever email you requesting that you purchase gift cards or urgently transfer cash.** These spammy scams are the bane of modern ministry, with clergy of all faiths reporting an uptick during seasons of gracious generosity. Thanks for continuing to direct your financial gifts to the needy, not the greedy! ~Rev. Lisa



Church Maintenance Day Saturday, Dec. 3

Martin Bauer says it's time to replace filters on rooftop HVAC units (who likes climbing ladders?), mount some new brackets in the Faith Formation closet, plus the usual run of facility checks. Come help if you are into such things.

**Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church
Congregational Meeting Agenda
Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022 11:15 a.m.
In the Sanctuary and on Zoom**

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Opening Words

III. Approval of the minutes of the Spring 2022 Congregational Meeting

IV. President's Report

V. Minister's Report

VI. Treasurer's Report

VII. Endowment Committee Report

VIII. Bylaws Committee

A. Amendment to Bylaw Article V. Section 3.C.2. - Ministerial Search Committee

The Ministerial Search Committee shall consist of seven members selected by the Nominating Committee in consultation with the Board and Congregation. The nominated members shall be approved by a vote of the Board prior to the congregational vote. This slate of seven nominees is confirmed or rejected as a whole by a vote of the congregation.

to replace

The Ministerial Search Committee shall consist of seven members elected by the congregation. It shall be elected from at least twelve candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee plus any others nominated from the floor.

B. Amendment to Bylaw Article III. Section 4. - Membership Process

* meet with the Minister in a group or individually

to replace

* attend a conference with the minister

IV. Closing Words

X. Adjournment

*A copy of the current Bylaws may be accessed [HERE](#). Gina Grubb created a new **Ministerial Search Information** page in the [Members Section](#) of our website. It includes a link to the Town Hall Meeting recording from Sunday, Nov. 13 and the presentation materials. [Ministerial Search Hub — ORUUC](#). (Password ORUUC809)*

There will be a special Board meeting on Sunday following the Congregational Meeting to discuss the Board vacancy created by the resignation of Board President-Elect Sue Lasky in November. More information will be available soon.



ORUUC's Middle Schoolers had a blast at The Mountain earlier this month. They even got to see some familiar faces from ORUUC who are now PALs! The Elementary Group will be traveling to The Mountain this weekend, followed by the High Schoolers next weekend.

Already looking forward to Spring? Reserve these Spring CON dates on your calendar now! Registration will open a month or so before the event.

Elementary CON (Grades 3-5) February 17-19, 2023

Intermediate CON (Grades 6-8) March 3-5, 2023

Senior High CON (Grades 9-12) March 17-19, 2023

Interested in learning more about Mountain CON programs? Check out their website:

<https://www.themountainrlc.org/cons>

Thank you to all the adults who have served as advisors this fall. If you are interested in being an advisor for the spring, please contact Christine at crehder@oruuc.org. Advisors are required to undergo a background check every two years.

TAMALE MAKING DATES!

~~Sunday, Nov. 13 1-6 p.m.~~
~~Saturday, Nov. 19 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.~~
~~Sunday, Nov. 20 1-6 p.m.~~
Saturday, Dec. 3 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sign up at church or on Discord!

See you in the kitchen!



OWL Meeting Sunday, Jan. 8 for 5th and 6th Grade Parents

Do you have a fifth or sixth grader, or know someone who does, who might be interested in participating in the Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education program? You're invited to attend a Parent Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 8 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. **There are still spots available!** Contact Christine at crehder@oruuc.org for more information.

For an overview of the OWL program, visit <https://www.uua.org/re/owl>.

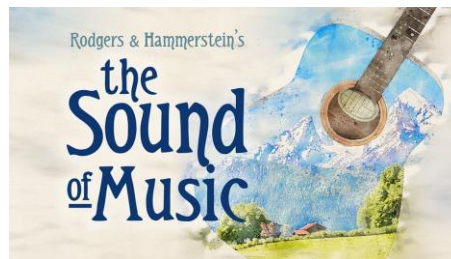
Interested in participating in an Adult Our Whole Lives (OWL) class at Westside Unitarian Universalist Church beginning in January? Fill out this form!

<https://forms.gle/82peS2A1iegyXddK7>



REMINDER: Unless it's raining, elementary age children go outside to play on Sunday mornings after the Story for All Ages. Please dress appropriately!

Announcements



Oak Ridge UU's Improving Democracy

The Shared Ministry Group, ORUU's Improving Democracy, has been meeting throughout this year with the goal of obtaining a congregational resolution supporting the National Popular Vote movement. The group got enough signatures from church members to hold a special congregational meeting Sunday, Oct. 16, but ended up being six members short of a quorum. ORUUIID is now meeting with Board members who will be advising the group on creating an AIW: Action of Immediate Witness. Here's some information from the UUA about AIWs:

<https://www.uua.org/action/process/planning-aiw-ga>

Anyone is welcome to attend meetings and join the group. If you'd like more information, contact Tim Holt at timholt39@comcast.net.

Volunteer at the Oak Ridge Playhouse!

There is a critical need for backstage crew for the Sound of Music. Volunteers need to be at least 16 years old. The role involves moving set pieces. Nothing heavy--everything is on wheels.

Showtimes are Dec 2, 3, 4. Call times are 6:30~10:30 p.m., except Sundays, when the call times are 12:30~ 4:30 p.m.

We could also use a **wardrobe lead**, someone to work with the costume designer to help with costumes every night, and to make sure everyone has what they need. Contact Mary Hope at 865-661-4462.

Looking ahead...Youth interested in trying out or volunteering for sound, costume, and backstage for February 4-5 *Gingerbread-A Hansel & Gretel Story*, contact Oak Ridge Playhouse Board Member Rose Weaver at rs_wvr@yahoo.com for more information!

ORUUC Covid-19 Update

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](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/community-levels/)

The CDC's Covid-19 Community Levels this week for Anderson, Knox, Morgan and Roane counties are **LOW**. Masks are not required at ORUUC in the building; eating and drinking is permitted indoors. For the entire report, check out our webpage: <http://www.oruuc.org/phased-reopening-plan>

	% of Counties	% of Pop.
Low	79.7%	79.5%
Medium	18.1%	19.5%
High	2.1%	1.0%

Percentages do not sum to 100% because of rounding.



Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

This Week at ORUUC



Friday, Dec. 2

Elementary Fall MountainCON

11am Tai Chi Practice
2pm Caring Coordinators Transition Meeting

Saturday, Dec. 3

Elementary Fall MountainCON

9am-until finished High School
Tamale Making
9am-noon Church Maintenance Day
3pm Ukulele
7pm A Holiday Celebration: Oak Ridge Chorus & Roane Choral Society Collaboration (FUMCOR)

Sunday, Dec. 4

Elementary Fall MountainCON

10am Worship Service

11am High School
11am Reflections (Canceled)
11am Together in Spirit (Canceled)
11:15am Congregational Meeting
11:15am Youth FF Craft Hour
11:15am Circle of Trust I (Canceled)
11:15am Newcomers (Canceled)
12:30pm Circle of Trust IX
12:30pm Buddhism Study Group
1:30pm Book Club
2pm(3-5pm) Line Dancing
4pm Circle of Trust XI
5:30pm Circle of Trust X

Monday, Dec. 5

10:30am Interfaith Christmas Brunch
11am Tai Chi Practice
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group

Tuesday, Dec. 6

11am-1:30pm League of Women Voters
6pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

Wednesday, Dec. 7

6:30am Breakfast Rotary
11am Tai Chi
11am Circle of Trust VIII
6:45pm Choir Practice
7:45pm Band Rehearsal

Thursday, Dec. 8

12pm NWUUC & Launchpad Meeting
5pm Rental (TN Wilderness Planning)
6pm Potluck (Canceled)
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group



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



The ORUUC Board of Trustees

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

The ORUUC Executive Team

Rev. Lisa Schwartz
Christine Rehder
Christina Elliott
Amanda Fishel
Jeannie Cuevas, Office Administrator

Coming up...



Sunday, Dec. 11
Hanukkah-themed Worship

Sunday, Dec. 18
No Rehearse Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 25
Christmas!

The deadline to submit news for next week's Exponent in Wednesday at noon! Please send news, comments, and feedback to Rachel at communications@oruuc.org.