



MILESTONES

Oxon Hill United Methodist Church
December 2018 | Volume 1, Issue 2

FROM THE PASTOR... GREETINGS!

As we near the end of this year we find ourselves in the betwixt and between moments of joy and sadness. We celebrate a successful VBS, our continued support of our sister church in Puerto Rico, one more excursion to ROCK, joyful caroling, successful school supply drive, and holiday sharing, all of which are just the tip of the iceberg of the many great things God has allowed us to do this year.

We also find ourselves in sadness, as we remember with thanksgiving the saints of Oxon Hill UMC who have crossed from earth to eternity. To God be the glory for what God has done.

With the prospect of a new year on the horizon we look forward to what God has in store for us. 2019 offers us a year of many growth opportunities, some which can be tangibly measured, others only God can measure. But through it all we will continue to journey forward in faith, that in all that we've seen God's best for us is still ahead!

So stay safe this holiday season. Find time to enjoy the simple pleasures, hot chocolate and cookies, singing carols with or without music, checking out the Christmas lights in the community, and most of all God's peace for you.

May the peace of Christ be yours today, tomorrow and always!

~ Pastor Pat

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

December 24th - 6 pm

DECEMBER INTO THE NEW YEAR!

Donna's Dance Studio Holiday Presentation - open to all! 4-5 pm Sat., December 15th in the Fellowship Hall

Potluck and Cookie Exchange - Sun., December 16th - bring a dish and cookies to share or just bring your appetite!

Christmas Basket Delivery to partner schools - Mon., December 17th - drivers still needed

Bread Ministry - Holiday schedule: Tues., Dec 11th, Tues., Dec 18th, Fri., Dec 21st, Fri., Dec 28th. (closed Christmas and New Year's Day). Regular schedule will resume Tues., Jan 8th. Additional volunteers welcome!

Church Leadership Installation - Sun., January 6th during worship

Church-wide Leadership Retreat - Sat., January 12th - details to be announced

Pancake Brunch - fundraiser for ROCK Youth Retreat Sun., Jan 13th after worship

Church Council Meeting - Sun., January 20th following worship. See article page 2.

Join a choir - Handbells 🎵 Thursdays 6 pm
- Sanctuary Choir (adult) Thursdays 7 pm

YEAR END GIVING

Any additional giving that is to be included on your 2018 statement needs to be submitted by Sunday, December 30th, preferably via the offering plates at morning worship.

Oxon Hill United Methodist Church
6400 Livingston Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745
Phone - (301) 839-4748
E-mail address - oxonhillumc@verizon.net

We're on the Web!
See us at:
oxonhillumc.com
Like us on Facebook

DID YOU KNOW??

- Our own Gabriel Bisrat is a member of the Conference Council on Youth Ministry. Thank you for serving!
- The Messiah concert was standing room only and a beautiful choral presentation. A piled high grocery cart of canned goods was taken to Oxon Hill Pantry, which was greatly in need of the donations.
- The Sanctuary bi-lingual banners were added by Pastor Pat. They are a wonderful way to celebrate our shared worship space.
- Boy Scout Troop 1005 is currently meeting at OHUMC. The troop, which has held a chapter for over 60 years, is desperately in need of adult leadership, without which it will fold at the end of January. If you can help, please contact George Martin or Joe Vlcek
- Girl Scout Juniors (5th graders) Troop 5483 meets in the Social Hall on the 2nd and 4th Fridays at 6:30 pm. Interested? Contact Lukisha Biggs, lbgibbs@fcps.edu
- A confirmation class for youth in 6th grade thru high school is planned for 2019. Meeting day and time will be determined by interested families. Contact Sandy Vlcek or Pastor Pat.
- Nevin Campbell-Adams and a group of fellow artists will be creating a mural on the walls of the Sanctuary level hallway. Plans will be submitted to Trustees before work is begun. Thank you to Nevin and company for sharing their talents!

WARM NIGHTS for the homeless

Sun., Jan. 27 - Sun., Feb 3, 2019

Helping hands needed for:

Preparing dinners (Wed. and Fri. already covered)
 Spending the night - 2 people per night
 Doing grocery shopping
 Setting up shelter on Sun., Jan 27th
 Working with Cindy to be a facilitator for a day
 Slow cooker recipes for hot breakfast items

THE COMMISSION ON THE WAY FORWARD

For more information on The Way Forward, visit the United Methodist Church website:

www.bwcumc.org

Need to schedule a future event or see what is on the calendar? Check out the calendar on the church website! Go to: <http://oxonhillumc.com/>. Calendar link is in the right-hand column. The Trustees appreciate your continued use of green forms to schedule events!

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

The Church Council closed out 2018, celebrating the service and leadership of Earlene Anders as chairperson and Barbara Hale Johnson as Worship chair. We welcomed the incoming Council chair Vivian Sayeh-Weeks and vice chair Neville Campbell-Adams. In 2019 the Council looks to move forward in growing the church in many ways to include expanding relationships with sister churches and school partners, seeking opportunities to invite others to use our church and expanding the Bread Ministry. The Council will meet bimonthly on the 3rd Sunday after worship. December Church Council minutes may be request after December 16, 2018.

BIBLE STUDIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult: Pastor - Tuesdays - 6:30 pm Sanctuary
 - Thursdays - 11 am Social Hall;
 Ms. Sandy - Fridays 10-noon Room 303;
Young Adults: Selina Brijbasi - online via church
 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/oxonhillumc/>

Sundays 9:30 - 10:15 am

Adults: Tommy Schwartz - Rm 302

Youth: Tim Johnson - Youth Center

Children: Sandy Vlcek - Rm 303

We hope that 2019 will find each of you in a class!

ESSENTIAL PARSONAGE REPAIRS

Due to other church maintenance priorities, the needed repairs to the parsonage have been delayed.

The microwave, dishwasher, stove and refrigerator are to be replaced. The new gas stove, instead of electric, will be connected to the already available gas line. The non-standard kitchen doorway may need to be enlarged to get the refrigerator in.

In addition, a grading problem has caused water to enter the parsonage sunroom. Installation of a French drain in the yard will resolve the problem.

Total cost: approx. \$7,600. The Trustees are exploring fundraising ideas in order to get the long-overdue work done. See George Martin if you have any thoughts or are interested in helping in any way.

Thanks for taking the time to read "The Milestones" (electronic version). Most who responded to the survey after the first issue wanted to keep the "Milestones" name so that is what we have done. We are happy to have feedback at any point in order to provide you with the news that you want and need!