



MILESTONES

Oxon Hill United Methodist Church
March 2019 | Volume 2, Issue 1

FROM THE PASTOR... GREETINGS!

It seems like we just packed up the last of the Christmas decorations and here we are in the season of Lent. We haven't even gotten a hold on those New Year resolutions that we made and now we have to think about if not already give up something.

Indeed life seems to move at such a pace that we can hardly catch our breath from one life moment before the next has made its entrance. Lent is that season where we are invited to pause, to reflect, and to reconnect. Our pausing comes in the way of self-sacrifice and self-denial. Pausing to fill that time with intentional practices and acts which remind us of our relationship with Christ.

Lent is a time for reflection; time to re-examine our relationship, our life choices our spiritual walk and where we need to grow deeper, where we need to get it together. Lent is that time when in the pausing and reflecting, we reconnect with Christ. We acknowledge that our relationship really isn't what it should be or what we think it is and intentionally move to reconnect with Christ by r-e-p-e-n-t-i-n-g. Repenting is not a 360 degree move because that puts you right back in the same place you started. Repenting is a 180 degree turning away from what was and turning toward what should be.

With our lives filled with social media, activities, play dates, work and home responsibilities the busyness of our days tends to push Christ to the perimeter of our lives. Use this season to bring Christ back into the midst of your life, the everyday moments of your life. Then and only then will Easter be the resurrecting experience that allows us to continue on this journey. May it be so!

~ Pastor Pat

MARCH INTO SPRING!

Church Clean-up - See George Martin for jobs that still need to be done! Thanks to all helpers!

5th Sunday Mission Collection - March 31st.
Missions will sponsor coffee hour 3/31 as well.

Congregational and Community Care Ministry Meeting - Sat., April 27th 10 am.

Food Pantry Collection - April 28th, May 26th
Thank you for March contributions - over 80 items!

Women's Spring Luncheon - Sat., May 4th
Church Fellowship Hall. More details to come!

Pastor Pat's Graduation Celebration - Sun.,
May 19th following worship. More info to follow.

Flea Market - June 1st Start saving your fleas!

Grief Workshop with Melinda Ruppert - Thurs.,
June 6th, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Memorial Service for Bertha Henvis (Carol
Dempsey's mom) - Fri., June 14th, 11:00 am

Church Council Meeting - Sun., June 23rd after
worship. (previously scheduled for May 19th)
Reports are due June 1st.

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

Holy Week at OHUMC

Monday, April 15 - 12 noon

Tuesday, April 16 - 12 noon

Thursday, April 18 - *Maundy Thursday* 6 pm

Friday, April 19 - *Good Friday* service with
fellowship meal following - 12 noon

Sunday, April 21 - *Easter Sunday* 10:30 am

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
oxonhillumc.com
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DID YOU KNOW??

- We are combining our second and third quarter **student achievement awards** and honoring student achievement Sunday April 28, 2019. Please submit all grade reports and report cards by Sunday April 21, 2019
- A new Ministry has been established in order to facilitate cross-ministry discussion and event planning. Current discussion is focusing on how welcoming we are. All are asked to think about radically hospitable acts to explore. The **Congregational and Community Care Ministry (CCCM)** will gather on the 3rd Saturday of February, June, August, October and December. April's meeting will be April 27th because of Easter week the previous Saturday.
- **Communion** will be celebrated every Sunday during Lent
- **Update from Trustees:** The parsonage kitchen will be finished by Easter or shortly thereafter. The Sanctuary doors and the carpeting on the stage in the Fellowship Hall will be replaced by the end of May!

WARM NIGHTS - THANK YOU AND AN INVITATION!

Thanks very much for all the helping hands that made Warm Nights possible. We served more than 30 clients on average each night. We have conducted an evaluation; notes are available on request. Planning for 2020 already underway! We invite you to be involved! More information soon!

CONFIRMATION

We are excited to offer a confirmation class in 2019. Confirmation is the way that youth are able to express for themselves their desire to live the life God has created for them. Youth in sixth grade (or 12 years old) to high school (18 years old) are invited to participate. An informational meeting for parents and youth was held Sunday March 24, 2019. Please see Pastor Pat if you are interested and were unable to attend meeting.

**THE COMMISSION ON THE WAY FORWARD
SPECIAL GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION**

Information regarding the outcome of the Special General Conference Session may be found on the Baltimore Washington Conference website, www.bwcumc.org. As always, Pastor Pat is available for those who may still have questions.

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 - March 17th

Reports were received from the various ministries before the meeting. Additional info was shared. The Trustees presented format for The Seventh Day Adventist Church sign for the front lawn. Pastor Pat shared Congregational and Community Care Ministry's (CCCM) discussion on the church being "friendly" v. "welcoming;" input was invited.

The Council discussed a proposal received from the Speight family to run a food pantry at OHUMC on two Saturdays a month. After extensive discussion, the Council felt it needed more information before making a decision.

Pastor Pat presented a request to establish a community garden within the back fenced-in area. Pastor Pat and George will work on next steps.

Further VBS discussion and decision have been referred to CCCM.

Council Minutes are available upon request.

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 Spring will find each of you in a class!

WHAT HAPPENS IN YOUR WILDERNESS**2019 Lenten Schedule**

Services begin with Praise at 7:15 pm and Worship at 7:30

- ❖ Wednesday, March 27, 2019 7:00 PM Service at Grace UMC with Rev. Patricia Allen as guest speaker
- ❖ Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:00 PM Service at Shiloh UMC with Pastor George Hackey as guest speaker
- ❖ Wednesday, April 10, 2019 7:00 PM Service at Shiloh UMC with Pastor Peggy Ireland as guest speaker

Every Wednesday there will be a service at 12:00 pm at Providence-Ft. Washington UMC

Thanks for reading "The Milestones." We are happy to have feedback at any point in order to provide you with the news that you want and need!