



# THE CONNECTION

## Orlean United Methodist Church



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**O save thy people, and bless thy heritage; be thou their shepherd, and carry them for ever. Psalms 28:9**

Message From The Pastor:

As I write this, I find myself pausing from time to time and before I know it, I am looking out the window and marveling at the beautiful day that God has created; a day full of sunshine and blue sky and birds sharing their melodious messages with us, and all this as flowers, trees and plants begin to wake from their winter's nap. Familiar thoughts come to my mind.... wanting to be outside ---- to take a walk with my family ---- to spend a little time outside in my wood shop ---- to spruce up and pick up, and so many other things that we often associate with the coming of another spring.

Other thoughts vie for my attention as well. Spring is indeed upon us; a beautiful time and season, a time of newness, birth and renewal. And a perfect time to introduce other things ---- perhaps other new things ---- into our daily routines; things such as spending a little time each day reading and reflecting upon God's word and how it helps us to understand, appreciate and strengthen our faith as we live our everyday lives and walk the journey that is ours and ours alone.

Zimmie Goings is a member of the St. John's United Methodist Church's *Bells of Praise*, and she has visited and played her bells at Orlean on prior occasions. She has written beautifully of her experiences and observations here at our little church and also writes these words that I share with you today:

### THE WORD

*"In the Gospel of John (1:1-4), its namesake talks about Jesus, the Son of God. He also calls Him "The Light."*

*Before the world began, there was The Word.  
The Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.  
All things were made through him.  
Nothing was made without Him.  
In Him there was life.  
That life was light for the people of the world.*

*The Light that shone from the beginning continues to shine and will continue to shine through all eternity. Beginning to End... time in between... and time that is beyond.*

*It shines in the deepest of darkness... and the darkness can't even begin to comprehend it.  
("The Word," by Zimmie Goings. Taken from Preludes... Postludes...  
and A-mens, 2011.)*

*Think about it my friends. Think about Zimmie's words and reflect upon what she has shared with us. Now.... go and find that Bible that is hidden on a bookshelf somewhere, or perhaps gathering dust on a coffee table; or even treat yourself to a new one from the Christian bookstore. It's all there for you. A little each day is all it takes. Think about it my friends.*

The Word..... God's revealing of God's self and the Greatest Story Ever Told. Now is the time to start. You are in the perfect place with others who journey as do you. Go and learn.... go and study.... go and read!

*Think about it my friends.*

Pastor Jim

Tip of the Halo to:

- **everyone** who helped with the OVFD benefit potluck on 24 February
- **everyone** who donated to OVFD on the 24th—we raised \$477.00!
- **everyone** who donated Campbell's labels
- **everyone** who donated food and money to the Food Pantry
- **the cast** of readers and singers at the Good Friday service
- **everyone** who donated Easter lilies and **Joan Poole** for purchasing them

Food Pantry

During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, the Food Pantry was able to help six families with food, sundry items, and gift cards. The PDF fund helped one family with lodging. Escrip donated \$30.80 to the Food Pantry fund in January and February.

#### Birthdays and Special Occasions

S. Gredler	April 3	Beth Darrough & Rusty Rawson (anniv)	June 11
Brenda & Paul Hackett (anniv)	April 7	Susan & Harry Russell (anniv)	June 11
J. Russell	April 25	S. Goff	June 16
M. Sweeney	April 29	Sandy & Bill Gilliam (anniv)	June 17
E. Leamon	May 2	Shaw Moffett & Sandy Swenson (anniv)	June 22
M. Statler	May 3	T. Bramble	June 24
Elizabeth & Steven Miller (anniv)	May 7	P. Statler	June 25
B. Darrough	May 13	Sharon & Tom Stanberry (anniv)	June 25
B. Hackett	May 14	Jim Leamon (began ministry at OUMC)	June 27
C. Hall	May 17	G. Leamon	June 27

#### Calendar of Events

April 11	Orlean United Methodist Women meet via internet
April 13	OUMW host Alexandria District Officers meeting
April 27	Hoofin' It for the Homeless Walkathon at the Airlie Conference Center
April 18	Ladies Night Out; time and place to be announced
April 21	Administrative Council meets after worship
April 28	PPRC meeting after worship; bring-in date for the cookies
May 9	Orlean United Methodist Women meet via internet
May 23	Ladies Night Out; time and place to be announced
June 13	Orlean United Methodist Women meet via internet
June 27	Ladies Night Out; time and place to be announced
June 30	Joint worship with congregation of Mt. Morris Baptist Church 10:00 a.m.at Orlean followed by pot luck luncheon

#### OUMW

Orlean United Methodist Women support Red Bird Mission--located in the Appalachian region of Kentucky--by mailing Campbell's Labels for Education to them so that they can get supplies or equipment for their school. Also, the mission accepts Tyson A+ clippings.

Red Bird also accepts Box Tops, but, because they are usually cardboard and cost more to mail, Shaw Moffett gives those to a local school; which this year is St. John's Catholic School.

We will be collecting homemade cookies for the Kairos prison ministry program.