



# THE CONNECTION

## Orlean United Methodist Church



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*Build now your Church, my brothers, sisters. Build  
never with brick nor Corten nor with granite.  
Build with lithe love. With love like lion-eyes.  
With love like morningrise.*

---Gwendolyn Brooks

Message from the Pastor:

Happy New Year!

The beginning of the new year always invites us to review, remember, and consider the events of the “old” year and to renew, reenergize, and make plans and even resolutions for the new year, 2013. I am sure that for each of us, and for our nation, community and our church as well, there have been highs and lows; times even of incredible joy and happiness and times of incredible sadness and grief.

Time marches on as they say, and the coming weeks and months will be leading up to Lent and will culminate in our experience of the incredible highs and lows of Holy Week and Easter. For many, the new year is met with anxiousness, concern, uncertainty, and even fear. Who knows what twists, turns, and detours lie ahead and what effect they’re going to have on our lives? Life is full of changes---some we choose and some we don’t. But of course we are not the first to face the uncertainty of the future. Paul wrote to the Philippians:

*“In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)*

You can’t predict the future, but you can choose how you will respond to it ---- you can worry about what’s going to happen next, or you can be confident and trust God to lead the way. An old gospel song puts it this way:

“I don’t know about tomorrow,  
I just live from day to day;  
I don’t borrow from its sunshine,  
For its skies may turn to gray;  
I don’t worry ‘bout the future,  
For I know what Jesus said;  
And today he walks beside me,  
For he knows what lies ahead.  
Many things about tomorrow  
I don’t seem to understand;  
But I know who holds tomorrow  
And I know who holds my hand.”

Praise God! And may it be so for you and for me.

*Pastor Jim*

New Member

A warm welcome to Sharon Bramble who joined Orlean United Methodist Church on 11 November.

Tip of the Halo to:

- the **trustees** for taking down the dying tree in front of the church
- **Carol Payne** for coordinating Angel Tree and delivering the gifts
- **everyone** who provided gifts for the Angel Tree children
- **Joan Poole** for acquiring and putting up the new Christmas tree and for coordinating the doves; **everyone** who designated a dove
- **Sharon Stanberry** for the greenery and Christmas decorations in the sanctuary
- **everyone** who helped with Sharon Bramble’s reception
- **Beth Darrough** for obtaining the Methodist Flame sign that is by the front door of the church
- **Steve** and **Craig** for donating their time and materials for the crèche
- **everyone** who donated Campbell’s Labels for Education
- **everyone** who made the December 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck a success
- **Carol Payne** for planning and conducting the Children’s Message each week
- **everyone** who donated food and money to the Food Pantry
- **everyone** who helped with Christmas at Fauquier Family Shelter

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry was able to serve 5 families with food, sundry items, and gift cards during the last quarter of 2012. There were no calls for financial assistance. During October through November, the escrip program donated \$24.94 to the Food Pantry fund.

## Birthdays and Special Occasions

Gus C.	Jan.13	Julie R.	Feb. 28
Mary Ann D.	Jan. 16	Peggy & Mack Baer	Mar. 3
Joan B.	Jan. 31	(anniv.)	
Joan & Ken Poole (anniv.)	Feb. 6	R. O. U.	Mar. 12
Connie Scott D.	Feb. 7	Bob T.	Mar. 14
Gracie Edna W.	Feb. 14	Peggy B.	Mar. 15
Erin M.	Feb. 15	Rose R.	Mar. 16
Bill D.	Feb. 18	Mary & Bobby Tarr (anniv.)	Mar. 19
Shaw M.	Feb. 26	Sandra P.	Mar. 26

## Calendar of Events

Jan. 6—Administrative Council meeting after worship

Jan. 10 – UMW meet via email at [1931karma@gmail.com](mailto:1931karma@gmail.com)

Jan. 24 – Ladies Night Out, 6:00 p.m., place to be announced; all women welcome

Feb. 13 -- Ash Wednesday

Feb. 14 – UMW meet via email at [1931karma@gmail.com](mailto:1931karma@gmail.com)

Feb. 24 – potluck lunch & free will offering for Orlean Fire and Rescue Department

Feb. 28 – Ladies Night Out, 6:00 p.m., place to be announced; all women welcome

March 14 – UMW meet via email at [1931karma@gmail.com](mailto:1931karma@gmail.com)

March 24 –Palm Sunday

March 28 – Ladies Night Out, 6:00 p.m., place to be announced; all women welcome

March 29—Good Friday; service at 7:00 p.m.

March 31 –Easter Morn; Sunrise Service at Orlean Cemetery (time to be determined) followed by breakfast at Orlean Baptist Church and in case of inclement weather, the service will be held at the Orlean Baptist Church. Regular 10:00 a.m. worship at Orlean United Methodist Church.

## Schedule Change

There will not be a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck in March because that is Easter Sunday. However, we will have a potluck and free will offering after worship on 24 February to benefit Orlean Fire and Rescue Department.

## Notice

If anyone would like to donate to the Food Pantry fund by shopping at Safeway, please contact Shaw Moffett.

## Announcement

If anyone would like to receive the newsletter by cyber express, please send your email address to [1931karma@gmail.com](mailto:1931karma@gmail.com) and put **newsletter** in the subject line.