



The Exponent

December 24-30, 2021

WORSHIP



This Holiday Season we will explore how living in a spiritual place of grace and justice is the antithesis of the life-threatening addiction to money, success, exclusion and looking out for ourselves. The chimes of the clock-tower bells in Dickens' classic "A Christmas Carol" provide a wake-up call for Ebenezer Scrooge and turn him from his resentment, fear and isolation. Just as Ebenezer was transformed, we too can be born anew, woken up and redeemed into renewed life, joy, passion, generosity, humility and love.

For more information about our worship services, please visit our website at <http://www.oruuc.org/sunday-worship>.

Sunday, December 26, 10:00 AM

" Christmas Future: Christmas Yet to Come?"

Christy White leading worship

When Scrooge awoke on Christmas morning, he knew exactly how to make his world a better place. Maybe it's because "A Christmas Carol" is a character-driven narrative or maybe it's because there was no such thing as hegemonic Western media in Olde Timey England, but one thing's for sure — at the end of 2021, after the two years we've shared, literally no one needs the weight of a "here's some changes you could make," sermon. So, instead join Christy White for a Tik Tok primer. What is it? Where is it? Is there value to be had in content delivered in three minutes or less? We'll take a look at her favorite videos and talk about how creators on this platform seek to affect change. LANGUAGE WARNING (probably, I mean, this is the internet after all).

Friday, December 24, 10:00 AM "Christmas Eve Service" Music 5 pm, Worship 6 pm.

Rev. Jake leading worship

Christmas Eve at ORUUC! Join us beginning at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary for an hour of Christmas music, followed by the 6 p.m. traditional service. Featuring musicians Heather Beverly, Anne Scott, Michael Bjerke, Michael Raymond, Duane Starr, Nancy Starr, Dave Dunkirk, and various band and choir members, all will enjoy carols sung by our talented vocalists and instrumentalists. For members and friends joining on Zoom, please have a candle ready to light at the end of the service for the singing of, "Silent Night." The entire offering collected on Christmas Eve goes to the Ministers' Discretionary Fund.

To log into Zoom, you must be registered, a one-time process you can complete by going to <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJArf-CvrT4iHtlsgktTYAWotY75rmxi5V78>

Then, either click the unique Zoom link you were sent when you registered, or go to <http://www.oruuc.org/sunday-worship> and click on Sunday Worship Zoom Link to open the app on your device, and find or enter meeting ID **946 8973 5846** (You may be prompted to enter your email address and may be redirected to register if you have not already done so.) **NOTE:** Do NOT go to the Zoom website to enter the Meeting ID. You will be misdirected to register again. **Open the Zoom app and enter the ID there.** If you have questions or need assistance getting logged on, check the Zoom Help Center at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193> or contact worship@oruuc.org.

Order of Service [here](#) Go to [ORUUC](#) for zoom information.

UP FRONT

Stone Soup



Final Friday of Every Month

Menu: Black Eyed Peas, Ham Sandwich, Brownie, Fruit

Drive through the ORUUC parking lot to the front of the building where a volunteer will assist you. Please remain in your car and maintain a safe distance from other drivers.

Friday, December 31, 2021

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. - Or Until Supplies Run Out

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Stoplight #2

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

(865) 483-6761



Special thanks to our Community Partners for participating in our meal:
Kroger Marketplace
Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge



Blossom Center, a local nonprofit daycare in Oak Ridge, noticed that a lot of their kids are lacking basic warm clothing. **Blossom is taking**



donations of socks, knit hats, gloves and mittens (toddler to school-age sizes) at least until the New Year. Blossom Center is located at 280 Royce Circle in Oak Ridge (Phone: (865) 294-4133 or <https://blossomcenter.org/>)

If you don't know where it is and would like to donate, or if it would just be easier, there is a box in the church lobby for your donations. I will be happy to take them there.

Thank you. Jason Fishel



CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS



The office will be closed Friday, December 24, 2021-Sunday, January 2, 2022.



New Year's Eve at ORUUC

Due to the increase in Covid cases the New Year's Eve celebration has been

RING IN 2022 AT ORUUC

ORUUC New Year's Eve Game Night
Friday, Dec. 31 8 p.m. to Midnight in the Social Hall
Bring games to share. Drinks and finger foods are welcome,
but must be consumed outside. Masks will be required.



anceled.



Join us with your baby, toddler and/or preschooler for bouncing, tickling, touching, clapping and action rhymes, musical circle games, simple songs, and play.

**FIRST and THIRD Thursdays each month
at 10:30 AM
with "Father Goose" Michael Raymond
September through May**

We promote positive parent/child interaction as well as language and early brain development through traditional rhymes, circle games, musical activities, and simple play. We provide a meeting place and fellowship for caregivers of young children, especially those new to the community and far from home. Nothing is charged for Mother Goose; it is freely and lovingly offered to all.

Mother Goose of Oak Ridge meets in the Oak Ridge Public Library Auditorium.

Mother Goose of Oak Ridge meets in Oak Ridge Library Auditorium



Nomadic Yoga Co-op



Sunday Morning yoga will be on hiatus until further notice, due to the cold weather and Covid restrictions for inside the building. Please continue your home practice and consider joining me on Monday evenings at Ascension Yoga for a Gentle Flow class. We hope to be able to gather again soon. Namaste. ~Jennifer

Yarrow Alexander



Line Dancing

There will be no Line Dancing the next two Sundays. Line Dancing will resume on Sunday, Jan. 9.

We teach line dancing. Through our dancing, we bring together total strangers through-out the Oak Ridge community. We learn a variety of dances, country, jazz, waltz and cha-chas. Close friendships are developed with the willingness to share individual talents with others. A donation of \$3.00 per session is suggested.

For more information contact Jo Curran or Steven Albright



Tai Chi

M-W-F, 11-12 am

We minister to health & stability through learning & practicing tai chi. Tai chi has helped individuals maintain & improve their balance, strength, & blood pressure, & reduce knee, arm, shoulder & back pain. It has helped with MS, Alzheimers, dropped cervix, bunions, & more.

For more information call Janet Hoegler at 865-963-5115

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A note from your Good Goodbye Committee (GGC) - Christy White, Charlene Luther & Maureen Hoyt

As Unitarian Universalists, it is in our nature to gather for fellowship, growth, and affirmation and celebration of shared values and service. The pandemic has put us to the challenge of just how to do that, especially since we are facing the leaving of our beloved ministers. The GGC was formed to find ways to celebrate our past gatherings, in the present, and to create special gatherings to enable us to move forward in the future. I believe the best reason for us to gather, though, comes from Jake's words in a recent post, "enjoy that good time with good friends in a good place."

~Maureen Hoyt



New Photography Exhibit This Month in ORUUC Gallery: David G. Liles

As a high school student, I chose photography as my creative outlet. I did it all in those days--the pictures, the film development, the printing--in black & white and color. I was inspired by the works of Ansel Adams and Eliot Porter. My career path was accounting and finance;

however, I have always been creative, and have had a lifelong interest in the natural sciences – especially rocks and plants. I have recently re-discovered this artistic passion of my younger days!

Inspiration often comes from the natural world. Great material is everywhere. My eyes are trained to look for textures, patterns, contrasts, and plays of color in everything I experience on a daily basis.

My imagery is often an abstraction, a departure from the normal "snapshot" type photograph. This is achieved through color, pattern, shape, and detail (or lack thereof). I like bold colors, and light and dark contrasts that enhance or exaggerate original image qualities! I want the viewer to see color, and to react to it--to amplify the essence of the original subject, or to suggest another interpretation. I look to view ordinary things in an extraordinary way. The image name is my reaction and interpretation.

I use mostly digital photography with cropping and image enhancements of color saturation, tone, and contrast, but no additions. The computer is my darkroom, via software tools of digital manipulation.

David Liles can be reached at 865-274-8271 and tnyellowtomcat@yahoo.com



Congratulations to former ORUUC Ministerial Intern Juniper Meadows, who the congregation voted to ordain as a Unitarian Universalist minister during the December 13 Congregational Meeting. The vote was unanimous among those attending in person and via zoom, for a total of 72 votes in approval Juniper's ordination. Juniper served as our ministerial intern from 2019 to 2021, and graduated with a Masters of Divinity from Meadville-Lombard earlier this year. We are excited to watch Juniper as she enters the next phase of her ministerial journey, and we know ORUUC is with her wherever that journey may lead. Her ordination ceremony is scheduled for **Friday, April 1, 2022**, at ORUUC. -Jason Fishel, Board Secretary

Too many 2022 calendars?



Louise McKown and her sister, Anne Childs, are challenging ORUUC-ians to donate their surplus 2022 calendars from charitable organizations to Stone Soup diners. Please bring 2022 calendars to ORUUC and put them in the box outside the main entrance. The Stone Soup crew will give them out during the Friday, Dec. 31 drive thru meal. Thank you!

BEGINNING IN JANUARY
ON ZOOM

**FEMINIST
PERSPECTIVES ON
WOMEN OF THE BIBLE**

Rev. Dr. Gaye Morris, Facilitator

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR BY LEARNING
MORE ABOUT HOW WOMEN ARE
PORTRAYED IN THE BIBLE: HOW ARE
EVE, LILITH, TAMAR, MARY MOTHER
OF JESUS, AND OTHERS WHOSE NAMES
ARE LOST TO US, BUT WHOSE STORIES
ARE IMPORTANT TO LEARN, SEEN BY
THE FAITHS THAT CLAIM THIS SACRED
TEXT AS THE BASIS OF THEIR
RELIGIOUS TRADITION AND PRACTICE?
HOW CAN WE USE A FEMINIST
THEOLOGICAL LENS TO UNDERSTAND
THE VALUE OF THESE ANCIENT
STORIES FOR US TODAY?

Interested in this 8-week series? Email
Rev. Morris at morrisgw54@gmail.com.

**Feminist Perspectives on Women of the Bible Series Begins
on January 8 - Register Now**

The Rev. Dr. Gaye Morris will facilitate a 90-minute Zoom meeting every Saturday morning for eight weeks. This series opens up the stories of women in the Hebrew Scriptures and the Gospels/New Testament to new insights; even if you have never studied the Bible before, consider joining us for a stimulating online group experience. We'll discuss how women are portrayed in the Bible, how they are seen by the faiths that claim this sacred text as the basis of their religious tradition and

practice, and how we can use a feminist theological lens to understand the value of these ancient stories for us today. You will need to have a Bible for study and discussion (the New Revised Standard Version is recommended).

The first session is Saturday, Jan. 8 at 11:00 a.m. Please register on ORUUC Realm for the series: <https://e.onrealm.org/events/63f53a62-234a-46ee-b4e4-ae05012666a9/meetings/bcf6f443-c14f-4729-81f8-ae05012666ae>

Once you are registered, you will have access to the series schedule, recommended reading, and a shared space for contributing your written reflections on the women of the Bible.

If you don't have a Realm account, here is a link to create one: <https://onrealm.org/oruuc/Account/Start>

*Rev. Dr. Gaye Morris is the affiliated community minister serving ORUUC. She lives in Manteo, NC. Gaye is an adjunct faculty member of Augusta University, teaching online courses for the Communication Department. She served as minister for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Augusta GA from 2013-19. She has published three books, including two on theology and film; currently she is writing a chapter for a book on theology and film, *Spirit and the Screen*, that will be published by Lexington Books in the fall of 2022.*

Updated Covid Policies

PALS Framework

The PALS level for this week is high, so masks required, no food or drink inside the building. See this [link](#) for more details

Everyone 18+ years who is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 is eligible for a booster.

When?

At least 2 months after a 1-dose vaccine, Johnson & Johnson/Janssen

or

At least 6 months after a 2-dose vaccine, Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna



FIND OUT MORE AT [CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



325530-CW

The PALs level for this week is HIGH. Masks are required in the building. No food or drink permitted inside the building. Please see the link (above) for details.

***Special Split the Plate for December 19 and 26:
Western Kentucky Tornado Relief***



In response to the devastation caused by record-breaking tornadoes last weekend in the region, the Executive Team, with the full support of the Stone Soup crew, voted Thursday to change the Split The Plate offering for the remainder of the month to Western Kentucky Tornado Relief. As ORUUC connects with local organizations in Western Kentucky that are working directly with storm victims, your contributions will have an impact.

OUR ORUUC FAMILY

Caring for Each Other

If you are going through difficult times and would like emotional support, or are in any situation where support and caring are needed, contact

Rev. Tandy Scheffler, Minister of Care and Connection

Jeannie Cuevas, Office Administrator

(865) 483-6761 Office Hours M-F 10 AM to 4 PM office@oruuc.org

Caring Coordinators for December

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

Mary Thornburgh ttae1@comcast.net 567-9535

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.

ORUUC LEADERSHIP

The ORUUC Board of Officers

President: Jim Nutaro

Past President: Val Herd

President-Elect: Michele Thornton

Secretary: Jason Fishel

Treasurer: Brandon White

Members-at-Large:

Shelaine Curd

Regina Guy

Nathaniel Bass

Ethan Coon

The ORUUC Executive Team

Rev. Jake Morrill

Christine Rehder

Christina Elliott

Debra Oscarson

Community/UU

Side with Love and Women's Reproductive Rights



Liz McGeachy has agreed to serve as the liaison between ORUUC and local volunteers who will work to educate those interested in our community on upcoming legislation involving women's reproductive rights and actions to be taken. Area UU churches—Foothills, Westside, and TVUUC—will be hosting informational services in the New Year—stay tuned for details! If anyone from ORUUC is interested in forming a group (through a Shared Ministry Agreement) to help bring awareness to these issues, please let the church office know or sign up online here <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd543P8nA-XOLnuTr56up-POqFj7V5cU4FzwuhnVYVGWtkgg/viewform> For more information about these efforts in East Tennessee, contact Mark Lucian Mohundro, a TVUUC staff member and long-time Planned Parenthood volunteer, at 865-292-4000 markm667@gmail.com or Angelina Carpenter, medical chaplain and Counselor/Educator at Knoxville Center for Reproductive Health, at 865-207-3166 or email etn_community@yahoo.com. To sign up for updates from the national Side with Love campaign, follow this link: <https://sidewithlove.org/subscribe>

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Friday, December 24

Office Closed
11:00am Tai Chi Practice
5:00pm Music 6:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day

Monday, December 27

Office Closed
11:00am Tai Chi Practice
5:00pm Caring Coordinators Transition Meeting
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group

Office Closed

Sunday, December 26

Office Closed

8:15am Circles of Trust VII

10:00am Worship Service

11:00am (Canceled)Yoga

11:00am Family Group (Canceled)

11:00am High School (Canceled)

11:00am Reflections (Canceled)

11:00am Together in Spirit (Canceled)

11:15am Circle of Trust II

12:00pm Circle of Trust V

12:30pm OWL 10-12 Grade

12:30pm Buddhism Study Group

1:30pm Book Club

2:00pm (3-5pm) Line Dancing
(Canceled)

3:00pm OWL (7-9 Grades)

Tuesday, December 28

Office Closed

6:00pm (Canceled) Nomadic Yoga

6:00pm Depression & Anxiety Support
Group

Wednesday, December 29

Office Closed

6:30am Breakfast Rotary

11:00am Tai Chi

6:45pm Choir Practice

7:45pm Band Rehearsal

Thursday, December 30

Office Closed

2:00pm (Rental) Friends of Literacy

5:00pm Potluck

6:50pm Meditation Learning and
Practice Group



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Our mailing address is:

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

oruuc.org | 865-483-6761 | office@oruuc.org

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