




ORUUC
Newsletter

The Exponent

March 11-17, 2022

WORSHIP

March Series Theme



Good Enough:
Embracing the Imperfections
of Life and Faith

A Worship Series based on
the work of Kate Bowler
and Jessica Richie.

March 6 - April 17, 2022

ORUUC *Bloom where you are planted!*

Sunday, March 13, 10:00 AM " Navigating Life in a World of Uncertainty"
David Savoie leading worship service

So much is out of our control. How should we understand this? Is it because we are not trying hard enough? Or is it simply a foundational fact of life in the world we live in: something we can arguably influence, but never fundamentally change. And if it is just a fact of life, are there ways we can learn not only to cope, but to live abundantly, creatively, even confidently, in a world of probabilities only?

In-Service and Zoom. ZOOM door opens at 9:45 am. See link below.

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

Send Prayer Requests: prayers@oruuc.org or Text 865-224-6388

Join us for

Planting Days

SUNDAYS IN MARCH:
MARCH 13 AND 20



Sunday, March 13 and 20 during Faith Formation Hour following Morning Worship. Help with Groundskeeping tasks around the church and plant a pot to take home with you. Nursery care will be available.

UP FRONT



This Saturday, March 12, is a Maintenance Day at ORUUC--**MAYBE**. This work day is scheduled between 9 a.m. and noon, but Anderson County is currently under a Winter Storm Warning. If the roads are bad, Martin Bauer advises folks not to come. Stay safe.

From the Board

In March the board met with Christine Purcell, who serves the UUA as its Transitions Program Manager. In the month of April, the board will submit our

congregational profile to the UUA. The information in this profile will be used by the UUA to match us with a set of ministers seeking a transition ministry and that are a good fit for ORUUC. With this list in hand and with the assistance of the UUA, the board will engage in interviews and discussions with our candidates and then, sometime in May, make final selections and extend an offer. Once our search process with the UUA has gotten underway, we will host an informational meeting for the congregation to keep you abreast of the process.



Huge Rummage Sale!!

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike

Oak Ridge, TN

Pre-sale = Prices Doubled

Friday, April 15, 6 pm to 8 pm

Main Sale

Saturday, April 16, 9 am to 2 pm

Let's Get Ready to Rummage!



Large Item Pickup

Saturday, April 9 - 9am to Noon

Volunteers with Strong backs and trucks needed!

(Bagels, donuts, and coffee provided)

If you can help or want to schedule a pickup, contact

Amanda Fishel oruucrummage@gmail.com (865) 804-7033

Watch for important rummage sale information in the Exponent and on bulletin boards and other locations throughout the church!

Endowment Fund Grant

APPLICATIONS FOR ENDOWMENT FUND GRANT DUE APRIL 7: The objective of the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church Endowment Fund is to provide objects of enduring value to the church or support activities that promote, provide, or enhance the church experience of the members of ORUUC, or ORUUC's reputation in the community. The Endowment Committee asks that requests for support not overlap normally existing church activities or operations. Proposals should be consistent with the goals and objectives of the church and positively affect the community.

The application deadline for the current year is April 7 at 5 p.m. Please submit this form to office@oruuc.org. Copies are also available in the church

office. You can access the application online at the following link: [Endowment Fund Grant Application 2022](#)

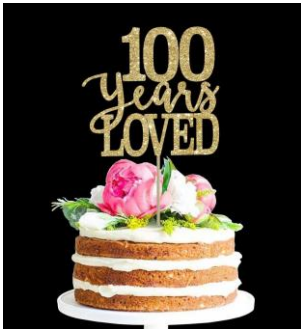


Meals for Marge: We have plenty of soup for Marge in March, but we need folks to sign up for later this spring:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xxgAn_6eOCPsMZONSCnoMb-Tzo_z9jWe0eJaCgztM1Q/edit#gid=710810914 Thank you for signing up to make Marge's 100th celebration special!

Team up with others to donate 100 items to a good cause in honor of Marge. Perhaps you want to donate 100 pencils to a local school. Or 100 pennies, or dimes, or quarters, or dollars to a favorite charity. Maybe it's 100 pieces of fruit for "Fresh Fruit for Kids" or 100 canned items for Second Harvest. Get creative, share ideas on Facebook, work together and give 100 of something

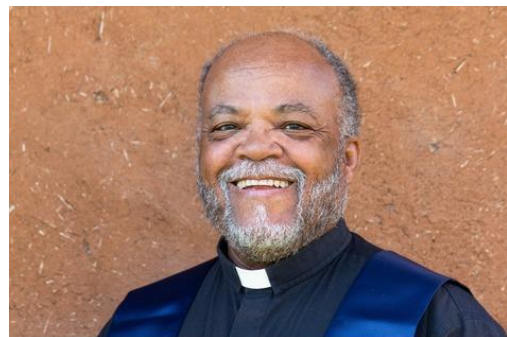
to someone in honor of our Marge. If possible, bring your donations to Marge's party on March 12 for Marge and all to appreciate. Big thanks to all of you for your creativity and generosity!



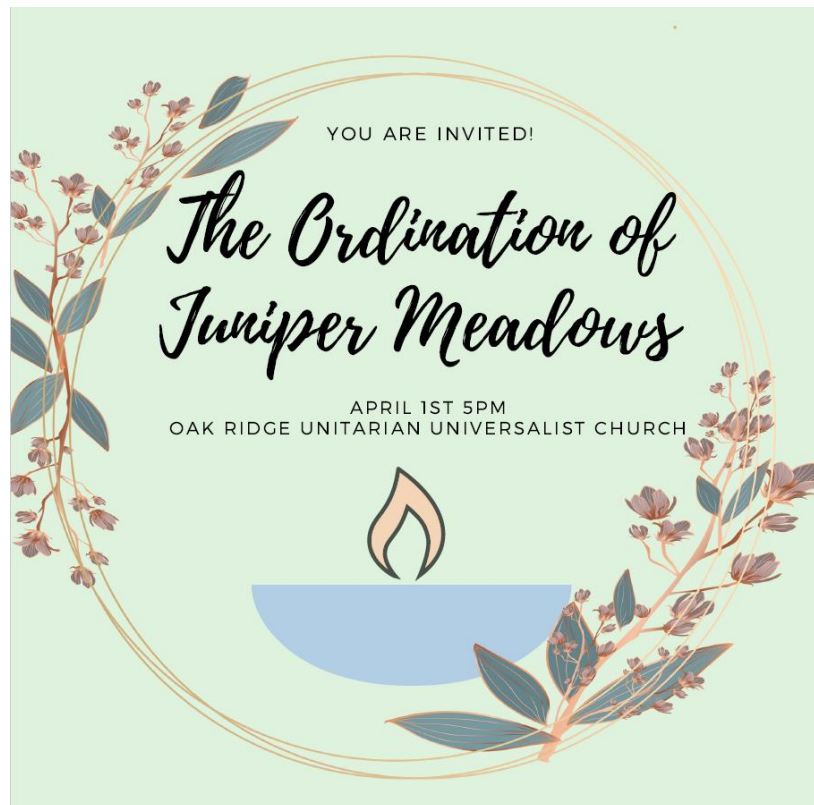
This Saturday, March 12, drop by the ORUUC Social Hall between 2 and 4 pm to tell Marge in person how much she means to you. You can also meet her family, see some of her personal history on display, bring/see all of the 100s of things we are all donating in Marge's honor, enjoy some refreshments and each other, check out Marge's amazing scrapbook, and see the calendar of 100 Meals for Marge. *The party has been moved indoors due to forecasted wintry weather.* There will be cake and light refreshments, and an opportunity to greet Marge in small groups. Please wear a mask except when eating and stay distanced. Everyone should use their own judgment about weather and driving. If it is not safe for Marge to get out at all, Rev. Tandy will post a cancellation in the ORUUC Facebook Group on Saturday around noon. Join here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oruuc> Also, **NO GIFTS, PLEASE: Marge has specifically stated that she does not want people to bring presents.**

Save the Date

Former Ministerial Intern Clovice Lewis will be ordained March 26 at 2:00 PM PST at the Unitarian Universalist Community of Lake County, California, his home congregation for over 22 years. Please register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../clovice-lewis-ordination...> if you wish to attend online. *[Photo by Olivia Consterdine]*



Save the Date



Letters for Juniper: DEADLINE MARCH 25

Members and Friends of ORUUC, and all those who know and love Juniper, are invited to write letters of congratulations and encouragement to be included in a special keepsake guest book for Juniper to take with her as her journey continues to Omaha this summer. For those who may not be able to attend the Ordination Ceremony in person, this will be a wonderful way to share words of advice and support and wish Juniper well in her ministry.

Please send letters by mail to ORUUC, 809 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 or by email to communications@oruuc.org with "Letters for Juniper" in the Subject line. **The deadline is March 25.**



More information coming soon!

Mother Goose



of Oak Ridge

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

Sunday, 3:00pm

(Check with the group leader for cancelation due to weather)



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, Alzheimer's, dropped cervix, bunions, & more.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID-19 Update

Ours Pandemic Action Levels (PALs) risk remains HIGH. Masks are required in the building. Coffee Hour will be held outside under the portico.

Worship and Faith Formation hour classes will be in-person and online. If you're unsure what this means for you, check with your group leader.

For the weekly Covid-19 data for Anderson County, click here: [Tennessee Department of Health Covid-19 Data](#). See this [link](#) for ORUUC's PALs reports and resources.

Know Your COVID-19 Community Level

Covid-19 Community Levels are a new tool from the CDC to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high, and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Take precautions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area. [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

What Prevention Steps Should You Take Based on Your COVID-19 Community Level?

Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautionsStay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear a mask indoors in publicStay up to date with COVID-19 vaccinesGet tested if you have symptomsAdditional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.



Get Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to receive **four free at-home COVID-19 tests**. Orders usually ship in 7-12 days.

Order tests now so you have them when you need

them: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>

Note: At-home COVID-19 rapid test kits contain a small amount of sodium azide.

To prevent accidental poisonings, poison control centers recommend the following tips:

- Store the kit “up and away,” out of the sight and reach of children and pets.
- Leave the kit sealed until needed and throw it away immediately after use.
- Make sure to read and follow the instructions on the package before using.

<https://blog.cincinnatichildrens.org/84/covid-19-home-test-kit-dangers-what-parents-need-to-know>

MARCH Split the Plate

Free Medical Clinic



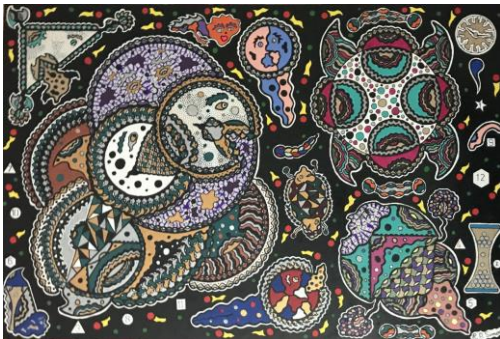
The Free Medical Clinic is a non-profit primarily volunteer staffed organization offering free medical services to those who live in Anderson, Roane, and Morgan Counties. It serves people who do not have insurance and cannot afford to pay for medical services due to their income level. Because they are a primarily volunteer organization they rely on donations from individuals, churches, groups, etc.

This clinic provides medical care to those who have no other resources. It can literally mean the difference between life and death for some people (such as undiagnosed cancer). We all deserve adequate health care and to be treated with worth and dignity (our first principle). Our support for the Free Medical Clinic helps us live our principles while providing support to the disadvantaged.

ORUUC Art Gallery

ROBERT SIMON

Exhibit runs through March



Robert Simon was born in 1949 in East St. Louis, Illinois. He spent most of his early life in small railroad towns in southern Illinois and West Tennessee. He began teaching in 1972 and spent 40 years teaching US History, Government, and Sociology, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where he still resides in

retirement. Simon began drawing about age 12, penciling and shading boxes, triangles, and circles in the margins of his school books and notebook paper. He has never taken an art class and, until his early fifties when he sold his first piece, he never considered himself an artist. He hid his work from outside eyes and it remained “his secret” for years, stacking up in closets and under beds, becoming his own private gallery. Overtime, his drawings became significantly more complex, the shading gave way to brilliant, vivid colors, the shapes and figures became ever more diverse and multifaceted. Today, with each drawing, a new expression of his changing inner consciousness emerges.

FROM THE ARTIST ~ Drawing is and has been an incredible escape for me throughout most of my life. People often ask me how I can do this. To me, it makes more sense to ask how can I not do it. Drawing puts a sense of balance and order into my world.

People frequently ask me what certain drawings mean. I believe that art evokes thoughts and feelings that are the viewer’s own. To dictate what should be interpreted interferes with what the viewer may need most out of the experience. Each person is free to input whatever meaning they wish on my work. There is much about my work that at first seems chaotic and confusing, but, if one looks closely, continually repeating patterns form a larger entity. I see my art as visual jazz of limitless patterns and infinite combinations with no set conventions to follow.

EXHIBITIONS ~ Simon has exhibited around the country over the last 20 years, both in traditional galleries and online. His work has been chosen for the 22nd and 23rd Arts in the Airport exhibitions at McGee Tyson Airport in Knoxville; the current exhibition is underway. The Oak Ridge Art Center regularly selects Simon’s art work for their annual Open Show. The 2020 show netted Simon the Dot Hightower Award for Excellence in Any Media Depicting a Strong Sense of the Individual. Simon has exhibited at the New York Outsider Art Fair and the

Chicago Outsider Art Fair through his connection with Henry Boxer, founding director of Raw Vision magazine and Gallery Director at Henry Box Gallery of London, England, the leading gallery of its kind in the UK. Simon has also exhibited at the Webb Gallery in Waxahachie, Texas; the Home Gallery, curated by Michael Smith in Greensboro, North Carolina; the former TAG Gallery in Nashville, Tennessee; Caladan Gallery, a Massachusetts-based online gallery; Folk Fest, Atlanta, Georgia; Arts in the Garden at Skyland Trails Residential Treatment Center in Atlanta; Java House, Knoxville; the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge; and in the second place cover spot in the 14th Edition of Encyclopedia of Living Artists, May 2005 issue.

FROM ART CRITICS & JOURNALISTS ~ Simon was described as an amazing outsider talent by the Director of the former Tag Gallery. "His outlet is creating beautiful, abstract pieces filled with brilliant colors and themes that constantly change no matter how long one looks at them," Jerry Dale, curator for Tag Gallery, wrote of Simon. "His drawings are mirrors of his soul, expressing streams of thoughts that he cannot articulate to others or even to himself. Refreshingly original and raw, each piece is unique with his imprint on it."

The Encyclopedia of Living Artists described his work as "manifesting from a purity that invites the ceaseless flow of form and symbol from his inner self. He is a vehicle for the collective unconscious, mirroring the heartbeat of the mind and introducing the viewer to their own set of memories."

Marjorie Kaye, Director of the former Caladan Gallery and Gallery 181, said that Simon's images are loaded with love and humor, observation and declaration. "He is an artist shooting from the hip, with no restraints on the material manifestation of his imagination! His work exudes a freedom and natural exuberance rarely seen - probably because he does not impose any conventions on himself. One could find one's reflection in his work for hours, days, and even

an eternity! We also must mention his use of color, texture, and form as being highly bindless in nature. This is a gift to us.”

Simon has spoken about healing through art and art itself to groups of children and adults in Vermont, Georgia, and Tennessee.

<https://mindmuses.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/mindmuses>

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 March

Christina Elliott christina.r.elliott@gmail.com 214-0756

Jill Adler TEXT/PHONE 704-989-2252 Jill.adler.62@gmail.com

Please call at least two days in advance to allow our 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

Tuesday, March 15
5pm PT / 6pm MT / 7pm CT / 8pm ET
Political Education Webinar

**COMBATTING
ANTI-TRANS LEGISLATION 101**

with The Trevor Project

Register at
bit.ly/CombatingAntiTransLegislationMarch15



Currently, there are approximately 150 anti-transgender bills moving through state legislatures across the country. From banning participation in sports, to so-

called "bathroom bills," to legislation that criminalizes providing life-saving gender affirming health care, these bills are deadly for trans and nonbinary people of all ages.

To those of you who are trans, non-binary, genderqueer, gender fabulous, and those of you with children, grandkids and other loved ones who are gender fabulous: we see you in your beauty and wholeness. We send you our love in these scary times. Our upcoming training may be exactly what you need, or you may have other ways you need to take care of yourself as you and your family face these attacks. Take care of yourself.

To our allies, and gender fabulous folks ready to take action: join Side With Love's Rev. Michael Crumpler and Rev. Ashley Horan for a [conversation on March 15th](#) with our friends at the Trevor Project about this horrifying trend, and what we can do to Side With Love on behalf of our trans and nonbinary kin everywhere. This 101 level webinar will educate and inspire so we may side with love and publicly declare that trans lives are sacred.

Oak Ridge AKIN message from Abbie Moore

A few of us at ORUUC have joined the Oak Ridge AKIN (Allies of Knoxville's Immigrant Neighbors) group that meets the Greyhound Bus in Knoxville a few times a week. AKIN is a network of people in the Knoxville area who work to encourage dialogue about issues related to immigrants and refugees, and to build better understanding among immigrants, refugees, and members of local receiving communities. AKIN seeks to promote more just and reasonable policies toward immigration and asylum, and to foster a welcoming atmosphere in which all people are treated with dignity and respect and recognized for their positive contributions to the community.

During the pandemic, AKIN's monthly public meetings were suspended, but they are about to start again via Zoom. Whether you're new to AKIN or a long-time friend, this meeting will be an opportunity to learn about what's new (and old) with [police-ICE collaboration in Knox County](#), hear about the [lawsuit against Knox County for illegally participating in 287\(g\)](#), and spend time meeting new allies or reconnecting with old friends.

I hope you can join us **Wednesday, March 16 at 5:30 pm**. [Register for the zoom link here](#).

Find out more about AKIN:

Twitter: @WeAreAkin

Website: <https://weareakin.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alliesofknoxvillesimmigrantneig.../>

Oak Ridge Civic Music Association

Harlem Quartet performs as part of the (ORCMA) Chamber Music Series

Saturday, March 19, 7:00 – 9:30 pm

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

Chamber Music Series

Harlem Quartet

Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 7:30 PM

Come at 7:00 for the Pre-concert Talk

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church



The Grammy-award winning Harlem Quartet advances diversity in classical music while engaging new audiences with varied repertoire that includes works by minority composers. Members of the string quartet are Cuban violinist Ilmar

Gavilan, American violinist Melissa White, Puerto Rican violist Jaime Amador, and American cellist Felix Umansky. The ensemble will present a Pre-concert Talk at 7:00 pm.

Individual tickets for Youths and Adults are available at the door, by phone at (865) 483-5569, or at <https://www.orcma.org/harlemquartet>

Ticket prices are Adult \$25 and Young Adult (ages 19-29) \$10. The concert is part of our Penny4Arts programming offering FREE attendance for youths 18 and under.

Masks, social distancing, and adherence to other guidelines may be required. Venues, programs, and artists subject to change or cancellation depending on health guidelines.

ON THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Friday, March 11

11:00am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, March 12

9:00am Church Maintenance Day

2:00pm Marge Swenson's 100th Birthday Party

2:00pm Tabletop Adventures Group

3:00pm Ukulele

Sunday, March 13

8:15am Circles of Trust VII

10:00am Worship Service

11:00am (Canceled)Yoga

11:00am Family Group

Monday, March 14

11:00am Tai Chi Practice

6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group

Tuesday, March 15

6:00pm Board Meeting

6:00pm (Canceled) Nomadic Yoga

6:00pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

Wednesday, March 16

6:30am Breakfast Rotary

11:00am Tai Chi

11:00am Circle of Trust VIII

11:00am High School (canceled)
11:00am Reflections
11:00am Together in Spirit (canceled)
11:15am Circle of Trust II
11:15am Circle of Trust IV
12:00pm Circle of Trust V
12:30pm OWL 4-6 Grade (canceled)
12:30pm OWL 7-9 Grades (canceled)
12:30pm OWL 10-12 Grade (canceled)
12:30pm Buddhism Study Group
1:00pm
Circle of Trust VI
3:00pm Line Dancing

12:00pm Exponent Deadline
6:45pm Choir Practice
7:45pm Band Rehearsal
8:00pm Evening Prayer

Thursday, March 17

2:00pm (Rental) Friends of Literacy
3:00pm Executive Team Meeting
5:00pm Potluck
6:50pm Meditation Learning and Practice Group



Reminder: The deadline to submit news for the weekly Exponent is WEDNESDAY at NOON. Please send news to Rachel at communications@oruuc.org **AND** Debby Crider at newsletters@launchpad.faith

Our mailing address is:

809 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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

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