

August 11-17, 2023

In this issue >>>

This Sunday (pg.2)

Announcements (pgs.3-4)

Caring News (pg. 5)

Social/Volunteer Opportunities (pg.6)

Family News (pg.7)

Ministerial Search News (pg.9)

Church Calendar (pg.11)



News from Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

The Exponent



Don't Miss The Reignite Fair This Sunday During Faith Formation Hour!



Wondering how you can get involved at ORUUC? Looking for *your* group or activity? Or maybe you'd like to try something new? Stay after worship to visit the Shared Ministry and Essential Function Ministry group tables in the Social Hall, learn what each group does, and enter to win a prize! Finger foods will be served. **All Adult Faith Formation classes are canceled this Sunday. Youth Faith Formation classes will take place as scheduled, and the nursery will be available during that hour.** Reignite your spark and the fire of your commitment! Find your way to service at the Reignite Fair!

Why I Volunteer

Martin Bauer

I realize that I am a hyper volunteer. I was raised that way. In spite of considering myself a religious humanist, I do believe in salvation through good works – serving others. (Except I do not believe in salvation.)

Betsy and I came looking for a church for our children, and stayed at ORUUC for ourselves. Moving to Oak Ridge from Pennsylvania, away from family, this church became our local family. Knowing that I came from a Quaker background, the Rev. Howard Box pulled me into volunteerism almost from the very start. That was the Public Affairs committee, what we would now call the social action committee. I transitioned from that to the Board, to treasurer, to three stints as president over the years, and into a number of other committees, including the Tennessee Conference of UU Churches and the Thomas Jefferson District of UU churches. This exposed me to a number of other southeastern UU churches, and to the UUA General Assembly (GA). Gina Grubb then invited (volunteered) me to do technical support for a number of GA's, where I further improved my knowledge of audio and video technology. (Gina is why we are a model UU church for producing and Zooming services.)



ORUUC also supplied me with many mentors over the years for leadership training, project management, and non-profit finances, which I then applied to my professional life and to other volunteer organizations.

ORUUC has been an outlet for my hobbies as well. I am a died-in-the-wool Mr. Fix-It, having been so since childhood. ORUUC gives me a great outlet for that hobby in church maintenance (as does Habitat for Humanity). I started doing audio/video (well, films then) in high school. Church gives me a great outlet for that hobby as well. Volunteering also creates a circle of friends, and that helps one live a better, happier life.

While our church has a strong professional staff, much of the activity of the church runs on volunteer labor, from the safety team, Sunday coffee, Stone Soup, to planning and managing memorial services. But this names just a few of the worthy activities. As some of our members age out of being as active, we need to keep replenishing the reservoir of new volunteers. Please consider attending the Reignite Fair this Sunday during Faith Formation Hour and see how you can get involved.

This Sunday, Aug. 13

Reigniting the Fire of Our Commitment

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz,
Interim Minister

Can you babysit your own kid, or is that just called ... parenting? Think about the distinction for a minute. Many ORUUC members and friends say that this church is where we've (finally) found our people, our family. We have a deep sense of ownership in OUR church. So, can you "volunteer" for your church home, your family, or is service in a place like ORUUC a reflection of a deeper engagement, a more passionate commitment? Interim Minister Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz will discuss the question. Worship is followed by a Reignite Fair during Faith Formation hour to spark the fire of your commitment. Finger foods will be provided!

Worship with us at 10 a.m. in person or on Zoom.

Zoom door opens at 9:45 a.m.

Go to [Sunday Worship Info — ORUUC](#) for Zoom information.

The Order of Service may be found [here](#).

Email or Text Prayer Requests to prayers@oruuc.org

August 13, 2023

Reigniting the Fire of Our Commitment

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz
Interim Minister

Discernment
WORSHIP SERIES
Week 2 of 4



This month's Split the Plate Offering: [Fresh Fruit for Kids](#)

Adult Faith Formation classes are canceled this Sunday. Stay after worship for the Reignite Fair from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. Nursery is available during the FF Hour. Youth Faith Formation classes will take place as scheduled.

*Covid-19 Update: Masks are not required in the building; however, we encourage you to do what makes you feel comfortable. **There are currently Covid cases in our community. If you have recently tested positive, please stay home and worship with us on Zoom. We care for one another!***

ORUUC
JOIN OUR WORSHIP TECH TEAM

Summary
Provide video & Zoom support for Sunday worship services and other ORUUC events as requested and available.

Duties

- Set up & run video equipment
- Manage Zoom live stream
- Ensure smooth operations during worship service

Apply Now
If you are interested in joining our team, send your resume to rev.lisa@oruuc.org.

865-483-6761 | ORUUC.org

The Worship Tech Team needs you! We're low on staff to run Zoom for worship services. Interested in learning more or applying? Check out the job description [here](#) and email your resume and cover letter to Rev. Lisa at rev.lisa@oruuc.org. We also need **Zoom Doorkeepers** - a simpler, but necessary job! But no financial compensation, just the joy of helping and seeing folks on Zoom.

This Month's Split the Plate Offering:

The Split-the-Plate recipient for the month of August is **Fresh Fruit for Kids**. This shared ministry group supplements Second Harvest's backpack program with fresh fruit. Since it was started by Elizabeth Peelle in 2012, this program has delivered over 17,000 pieces of fruit to area school children. While Fresh Fruit for Kids was limited in their service during the pandemic, they resumed deliveries in 2022, providing fresh fruit to nearly 450 children per week. This effort to alleviate hunger is social justice work that helps reduce instances of behavioral difficulties,



malnutrition, and food insecurity in our community. By bringing delicious and nutritious fruit to our at-risk children, we demonstrate through our actions that these children are a beloved part of our community. An increased number of children in need, coupled with the price of fruit have depleted the group's funds. As an ORUUC shared ministry, 100% of donations to Fresh Fruit for Kids go directly to providing food to area school children. Please [GIVE HERE](#) as you are willing and able, or text "ORUUC" to 73256.

Announcements

Auction Meeting

Tuesday,
Aug. 22
6 p.m.
Hearth Room



Interested in learning more about ORUUC's next auction? Come to the **Auction Meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 6 p.m. in the Hearth Room!** Can't make it? Contact Christy White at christy_white@comcast.net to see how you can get involved!

RUMMAGE



Donation Drop off Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

Here's a list to help you start putting things aside to donate for the upcoming Rummage Sale Friday, Sept. (Pre-Sale) Saturday, Sept. 16 (Main Sale)

We'll gratefully accept the following items in resalable condition:

- **Clothing & Linens:** Washed, no tears, stains, mildewed, or strong odors from cigarettes, pets or moth-balls. It would be helpful to fold clothing and put in clean trash bags.
- **Upholstered Furniture & Area Rugs:** No significant tears, no stains, no mildew, or strong cigarette or pet odors.
- **Wood or Solid Furniture:** Not broken or badly dented or water damaged, and not missing any vital parts. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable.
- **Televisions:** Flat screens, still in good working condition, less than 5 years old, with no missing nobs or buttons. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable. No big projection TVs or consoles.
- **Electronics:** Still in good working condition stereo components and speakers, computers only with flat screen monitors.
- **Appliances:** Only small, still in good working condition such as toasters and microwave ovens, mixers, etc. No missing knobs or buttons. Minor dents or scratches are acceptable.
- **Miscellaneous Items:** Toys, tools, music instruments, patio furniture and décor items, knickknacks, books (no school textbooks or magazines please,) artwork, clean area rugs, dishes, pots/pans, shoes, antiques, and jewelry.

Stone Soup

FREE Meal!
Groceries available



Drive Thru ONLY

Friday, Aug. 25
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Or until supplies run out!

**Minestrone Soup,
Fresh Fruit, and Lemon Bars**

Drive through the loop near the church entrance and a volunteer will bring meals to your vehicle. Non-perishable groceries available upon request.

Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church (865) 483-6761
809 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Stoplight #2

Special thanks to our Community Partners for making this Final Friday Monthly Meal possible:
Kroger Marketplace
Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge



Stone Soup is returning to in-person dining September 29! The August meal will still be drive thru only, but come September, the Stone Soup team is going to need even more volunteers to help set tables, serve diners, box up to go meals, and clean up after, in addition to meal planning, grocery shopping, cooking, and baking. Contact Jen Stark at jen.stark@hotmail.com if you'd like to help!

Things we are unable to accept:

- Anything that is wet from rain or floods, etc. or otherwise damaged
- Combustible fuel in any tanks or containers
- **For the rest of the list, visit <http://www.oruuc.org/rummage>**

Announcements

SPIRIT QUEST 2023
ELKMONT GROUP CAMPGROUND,
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 –
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10



A special event sponsored by Earth Church East Tennessee

Join Rev. Carol Bodeau at this annual celebration of earth-spirit. We will gather in the Smoky Mountains to:

- Listen to the voice of nature as it speaks to us
- Learn about world traditions that have rooted their spirituality in the cycles of the natural world
- Make music that echoes the heartbeat of the earth, the songs of creatures, and the rhythms of wind and water
- Sleep outdoors and spend time alone on the land (*If sleeping outside isn't for you, there are other options*)
- Share in sacred fire circles
- Swim, hike, do crafts and generally have a rich, deep joyful time with others who love being on the land in a spiritual way

Cost: \$20 per person to cover campground and basic supplies (we will all bring food to share)

Registration: email Rev. Carol at revcarol@westsideuuc.org



COFFEEHOUSE TALENT SHOW

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22
6:30 P.M. FOOD AND SOCIAL
7 P.M. PROGRAM
AT 

Coffeehouse Talent Show Friday, Sept. 22

Food & Social starts 6:30 p.m.
Program starts at 7:00 p.m.

Start getting your act together! Any kind of rehearsed, presentational act is possible, from the silly to the sublime. All ages and all kinds of talent are encouraged. Past shows have included one-act plays, singer-songwriters, vocal and instrumental solos or ensembles, joke telling, dancers, and novelty acts. This is your chance to live out a performance fantasy, to ham it up, to build some experience performing in front of people, or to blow people's minds by unveiling a unique talent you've been keeping to yourself. Advance sign-up is required for all performers. **The signup deadline is Sunday, Sept. 17.** Contact Nancy Starr, staroakridge@gmail.com, mobile 865-742-9993

Does any of this belong to YOU?



Have you checked the Lost & Found table lately? Please pick up your items by Sunday, Sept. 10. After that, any remaining items will end up in the Fall Rummage Sale (September 15-16). Stop by today and retrieve what's yours!



Caring for Each Other



Are you going through a difficult time? Are you in a situation where support and caring are needed--someone to do grocery shopping, take you to a doctor's appointment, or provide a meal following an upcoming surgery? Contact the church office: (865) 483-6761 or office@oruuc.org or a Caring Coordinator!

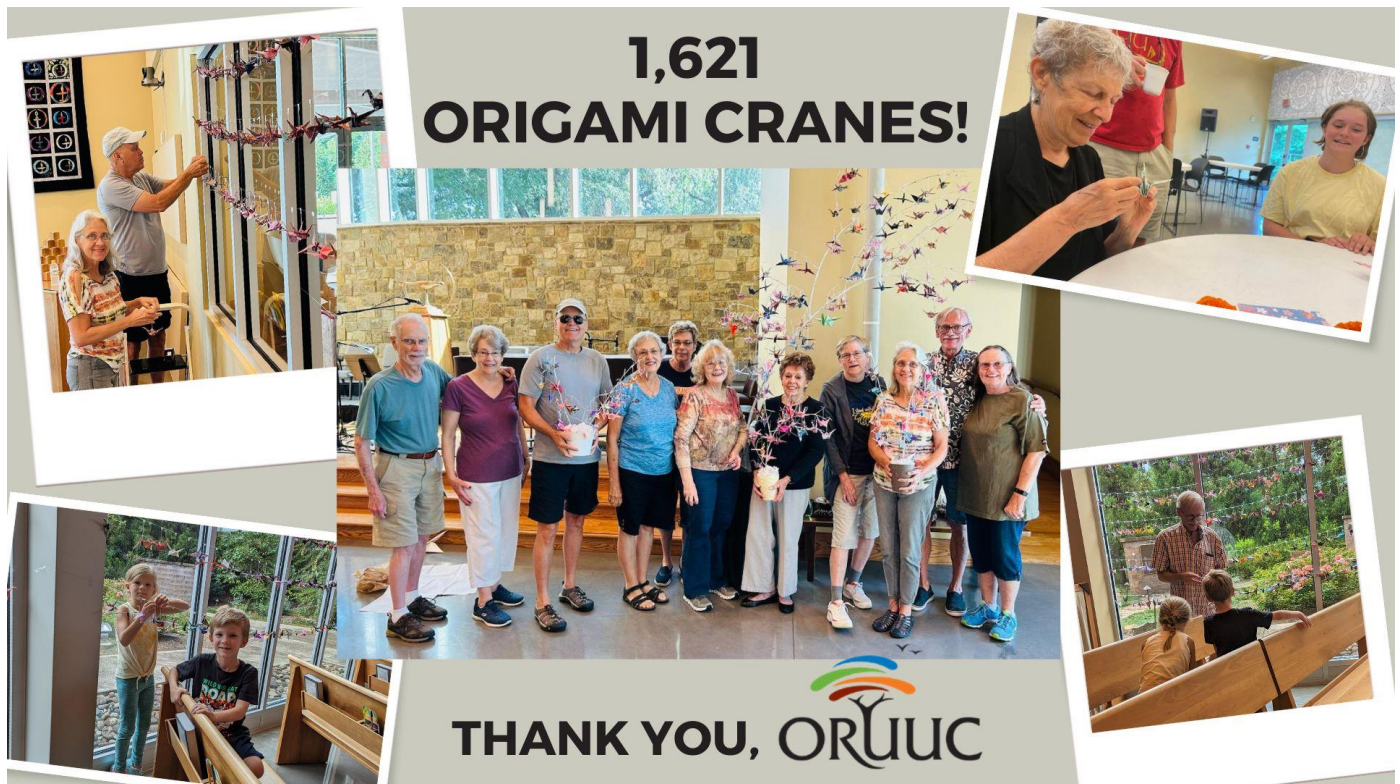
Caring Coordinators for August

Mare Martell maremartell@gmail.com 616-826-9984 (cell)

Rachel Smith-Jones smithnjones3@comcast.net 603-252-2295 (cell)

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.

Thank you to all who made origami cranes and created the Sanctuary display!



This beautiful display will be up through the end of August. At that time, the cranes will be boxed up and mailed to Hiroshima, Japan, where they will be placed at the Children's Peace Monument. The monument commemorates Sadako Sasaki and the thousands of child victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Sadako, featured in Rev. Lisa's Story for All Ages last Sunday—"Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes," written by Canadian-American author Eleanor Coerr—died at the age of 12 of leukemia from radiation from the atomic bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945. The Sanctuary cranes were made in honor of Shigeko Uppuluri, whose Celebration of Life was held at ORUUC last Saturday, Aug. 5. <https://www.knoxnews.com/obituaries/kns059755>

Ongoing Activities at ORUUC



Line Dancing

Sundays at 3 p.m. We learn a variety of dances: country, jazz, waltz and cha-chas. Through our dancing, we bring together total strangers in the community and develop close friendships with the willingness to share individual talents with others. A donation of \$3 per session is suggested. For more information, contact Jo Curran or Steven Albright.



Tai Chi

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 11 a.m. – 12 noon We minister to health & stability through learning & practicing tai chi. Help maintain & improve balance, strength, and blood pressure, and reduce knee, arm, shoulder & back pain. For more information call Janet Hoegler at 865-963-5115.



Ukulele Group

The group is scheduled to meet **this Saturday, Aug. 12 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** If you've been working on something and want to share it, please bring printed copies.

Abbie Moore
abbie.moore@icloud.com.

Social and Volunteer Opportunities



Meets monthly at various churches in Oak Ridge. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/371268369619360> or email Anne Baccus baccusanne@comcast.net for more information about PFLAG Oak Ridge.

Help with Ecumenical Storehouse Pick Ups Saturday, Aug. 19!



Every Third Saturday of the month it's ORUUC's turn to volunteer at Ecumenical Storehouse. There's no training required, just a willingness to help! The items picked up range from heavy furniture to linens, lamps, and pots and pans. Questions? Show up at 134 E. Division Road at 9 a.m. and lend a hand! Contact Martin Bauer at bauermlb@gmail.com.



Beginning in October: Eggs and Pegs! Play cribbage, eat breakfast, have fun! These get togethers will be held the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the Social Hall. Stay tuned for details!



ORUUC needs to add members to its Caring Team! **Contact Rachel in the church office (865-483-6761) or communications@oruuc.org** if you would be willing to be called upon occasionally to

- Provide transportation to Sunday services, evening events at church, or medical/dental appointments
- Run errands or grocery shop
- Provide/deliver meals
- Visit
- Perform minor home repairs
- Provide computer repair and support
- Haul items by truck
- Provide pet care
- Help with Memorial Service receptions
- Support new parents
- Perform yard work
- Sit with someone during Worship



ORUUC Pantry Needs

Fruit (small cans or cups) • Tuna • Peanut Butter • Soups • Vegetables (corn, green beans) • Kidney beans • Mac & Cheese • Hamburger Helper • Ravioli/SpaghettiOs

Donations are desperately needed and may be dropped off any weekday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., or on Sunday mornings. Thank you!

Family News



Faith Formation got off to a great start last Sunday. If you missed out, that's okay—we'd love to have you join us anytime! Please complete a [Youth Faith Formation Registration Form](#) and turn it in to Director of Youth Faith Formation Christine Rehder, or pick up a copy at church.

Faith Formation Dates for 2023-24

- August 6 – First Day of Youth Faith Formation
- September 15-16 - Rummage Sale (Teens volunteer to earn money for the Youth Trip Fund!)
- September 29 - October 16 - OR Schools Fall Break
- October 1 - Church Potluck (No Faith Formation)
- October 13-15 - All Church Retreat (Harrison Bay State Park) (No Faith Formation)
- October 29 - Trunk or Treat
- November 3-5 - Fall Elementary Mountain CON
- November 17-19 - Fall Intermediate Mountain CON
- November/December - Tamaladas (A tamale making party!) TBD
- December 1-3 – Fall Senior High Mountain CON
- December 3 - Cocoa and Caroling
- December 10 - 5th/6th OWL Parent Orientation
- January 7 - 5th/6th OWL Begins
- February 11 - Hugs and Quiches
- February 23-25 - Spring Elementary Mountain CON
- March 1-3 - Spring Intermediate Mountain CON /Rummage Sale
- March 9-25 - OR Spring Break (Special Programming)
- March 15-17 – Spring Senior High Mountain CON
- March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt
- April TBD - Ministerial Visits
- April TCAP Test Break TBD
- May 12 - Last Day of Youth Faith Formation
- May 19 - Bridging/Reception
- June 24-28 -Rainbow Camp



If you or your group need childcare for a church meeting or event, please complete this form **TWO WEEKS** in advance:

<https://form.jotform.com/231284551294053>.

Childcare is provided for children ages 10 and under only. Once you click "Submit," the form will go directly to ORUUC's Multigenerational Coordinator Whitney Cole, who will work with Childcare Coordinator Laura Scott to arrange childcare for your church function. Thank you!



Mother Goose with ORUUC's own "Father Goose" Michael Raymond! Babies through preschoolers will have fun singing, clapping, dancing, and moving with their parents, grandparents, or other caregivers.

**First and Third Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
in the Oak Ridge Public Library Meeting Room**

Don't miss the next gathering August 17!

View and sign up for the Oak Ridge Public Library's newsletter here:

<https://mailchi.mp/oakridgetn/orplaug23>

Check out ORUUC's monthly newsletter for families, "Connecting in Spirit" [here!](#)

Community News

Friday Night Community Concert at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Knoxville The Annual Beatles Birthday Bash! Friday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m.



ORUUC's Dave Dunkirk will be one of the performers at this annual concert. For more information, contact [St. Paul United Methodist Church](mailto:communications@oruuc.org), 4014 Garden Drive, Knoxville. 865-687-2952

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN THE PETITION!

Help us safeguard our public libraries for everyone in our community: Petition located in church lobby

For months, a vocal minority in Anderson County has challenged books in our Anderson County libraries and demanded that these books be removed from the library. Now the book banners have created a petition demanding that the books be banned. In response, a **petition has been written to demonstrate support for the Library Board and our professional library staff. Through this petition, we aim to demonstrate to our County Commissioners that there is broad community support for our dedicated librarians.** Additionally, we seek the endorsement of the County Commission for the changes recommended by the county law director. By doing so, we can establish a united front, fostering an environment that upholds intellectual freedom and ensures the continued success of our libraries as valuable community resources. **Please sign the petition (copies are available in the church lobby) and help us safeguard our public libraries for everyone in our community!**

The paper petition is intended for Anderson County residents only, and will be presented at the County Commission's August 21 meeting. County Commissioner Joshua Anderson has created a second petition online: "Support Our Local Libraries and the Freedom to Read!" Feel free to sign your name to both petitions, and share!
<https://www.change.org/p/support-our-local-libraries-and-the-freedom-to-read>



Interested in being part of an East TN UU cluster table at this fall's Knox Pride event October 6-8 at World's Fair Park? Contact the church office at 483-6761 or communications@oruuc.org. ORUUC will work with other UU churches to be supportive at this important event. Questions? Contact Mark Mohundro at TVUUC: markm667@gmail.com. For more information on the Knox Pride event, visit <https://www.knoxpride.com/pride-fest-2023>.

Information • Demonstrations • Speakers
Art • Music • Food • Games • Prizes

Saturday, October 7, 2023
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Oak Ridge Civic Center & Senior Center

Oak Ridge City Transit Bus is providing free rides within Oak Ridge. Call 800-232-1565 to schedule a ride.

Wheelchair Basketball	Dancing	X-Treme Challenge Course
Low Vision Resources	Panel Discussion	Outdoor Sports Demo
Door Prizes	Kids' Games	Independent Living Aids
Guide Dogs	Mobility Resources	Aging in Place
Adaptive Technology	Punch for Parkinson's	Education Programs

Thank you to our sponsors. Additional sponsors are invited.

For general information or accessibility accommodations, call (865) 425-3999

Mark your calendars to attend the Celebrate Different Abilities Fair, Saturday, Oct. 7, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Oak Ridge Civic Center. The first-ever disability fair in Oak Ridge has two main goals: to provide information on resources to people with disabilities, their families and caregivers, and to attract others to come and learn about how we can plan and build our communities so that all can live, work and play to their full potential. There will be 50 vendors, 20 activities, demonstrations, ten speakers, art exhibits, music, food, games, prizes and more! The City of Oak Ridge, United Way of Anderson County, and Periodic Tables: Healing Starts Here are putting on the event.

Ministerial Search Update July 2023



Christy White, Ministerial Search Committee Member

As the summer settles over us like a warm, steamy blanket; the ministerial search committee has begun meeting. Our two gatherings thus far have been very informal, with lots of snacks and ice-breaker questions, mostly geared toward settling into the task before us and learning how we will work best together.

One sentiment we've all shared is the great honor each of us feels at being called to serve ORUUC in this way. Each of us arrived at the decision with thoughtfulness and take very seriously the opportunity to do the hard labor necessary to accurately reflect the will and wishes of the congregation.

One thing we noticed is that the [ministerial search timeline](#) that has been shared thus far gets a little murky after the congregation votes on the committee. To that end, we thought we'd share more of a timeline of what search will look like (and what to look out for), including date estimates.

Roughly, the search is conducted in seven general phases. We've already finished phase one (The Good Goodbye) and phase two (electing the search committee), so pat yourselves on the back for a job well done!

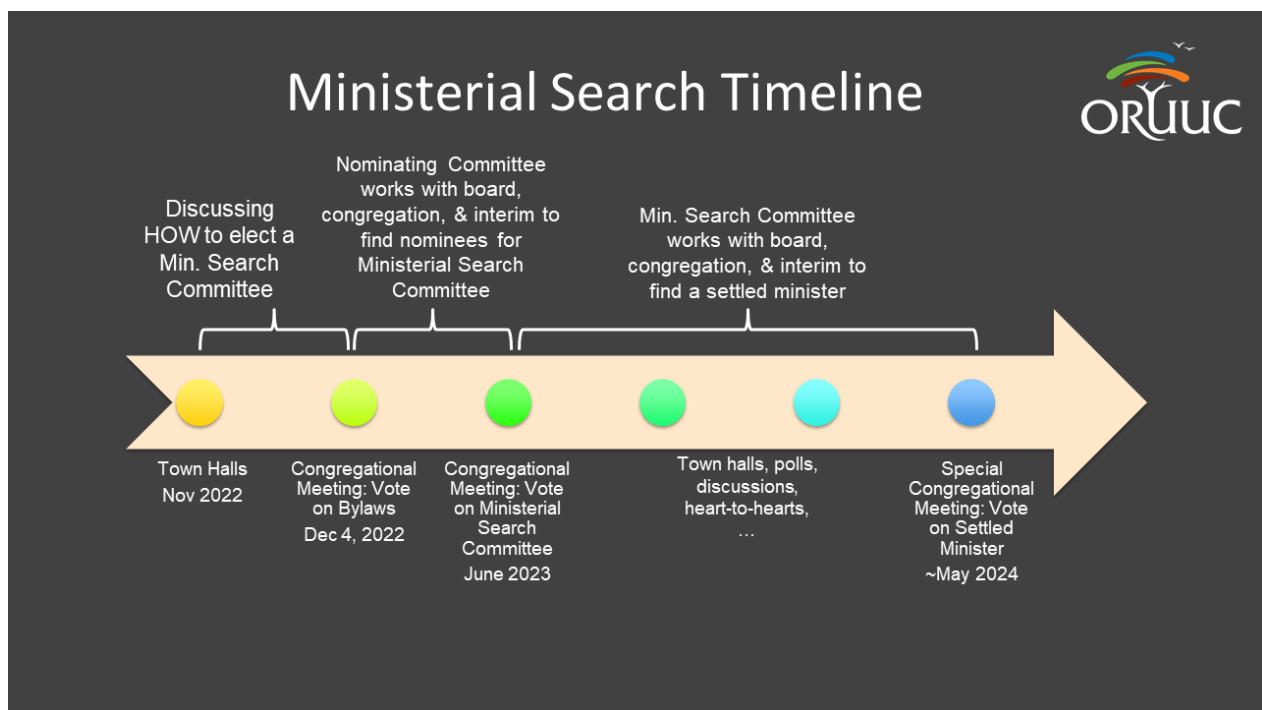
The next big lift is phase 3, "Building the Structure to Search." Major elements of this phase include.

- August - Search Committee retreat: Facilitated by representatives from the UUA, we will make a search covenant and take a deep dive into the roles and tasks necessary for our work on behalf of the congregation.
- September-ish - A congregational survey: Thoughtfully crafted by the UUA Transitions Team and regional staff, this survey will be made available to every member of the church and includes questions that emphasize what the congregation needs from a new minister.
- November-ish - Cottage meetings/focus groups: Smaller group gatherings, these meetings are an invitation to participate in group conversations to hear and build on what others say about ORUUC.

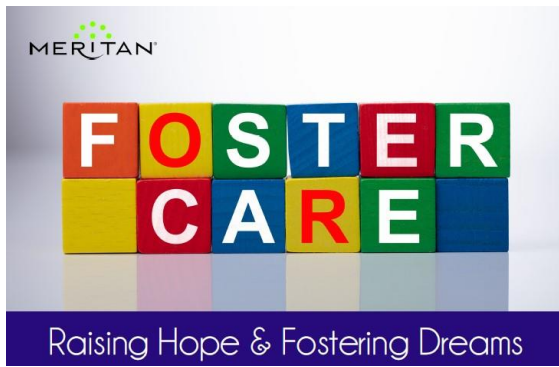
Phase 4 and beyond will start in winter of 2023, and there's plenty to keep us busy in the meantime.

We've created a [Ministerial Search Hub](#) in the Members' Section of the website. You can find open meeting recordings, updates, general information, and more. We hope you will bookmark this page and check back often.

Until next time, we appreciate your trust and support of us all as we embark on this grand adventure.



Announcements



In the greater Knoxville area, the need for foster families is particularly critical. **There are over 9,000 Tennessee children in foster care, with approximately 900 of these children in the greater Knoxville area, and there is a huge shortage of foster families.**

Meritan's newly reorganized foster care office in Knoxville has reached out to ORUUC to explore the possibility of collaborating with the church to spread awareness about foster parenting. ORUUC could:

- Organize information sessions and workshops to educate interested individuals about foster parenting, the application process, and the support available to foster families.
- Establish a referral network, where ORUUC's members or staff can refer individuals who show interest in becoming foster parents. By providing them with our contact information or organizing dedicated recruitment sessions, we can offer personalized guidance and support throughout the application and training process.

Deborah Walker, M.Ed., Foster Care Case Manager Supervisor in Knoxville, would be delighted to discuss this opportunity further. She can be contacted at 865-769-8007 or deborahwalker@meritan.org to schedule a meeting or discuss any questions or ideas members or friends of ORUUC might have. Thank you for considering this partnership and for your unwavering commitment to our community's well-being.

Warm regards,
Deborah Walker, M.Ed.
Foster Care Case Manager Supervisor - Knoxville
9050 Executive Park Dr. Ste 106B
Knoxville, TN 37923
Mobile: 603-238-7260
Office: 865-769-8007



Zentangle Group
Sundays 5 to 7 PM
at
ORUUC
Introductory and Continuing Classes
\$10 including starter supplies (cash only)
For more information, contact
Nancy Starr, Certified Zentangle Teacher
865-483-8684 (landline)
865-742-9993 (mobile/text)
starroakridge@gmail.com

*****Cash only. Supplies available to purchase.**

Offered every week — no RSVP required!***

These classes are open to the public—invite a friend and have fun! For more information, contact Nancy Starr, Certified Zentangle Teacher, at 865-483-8684 (landline) 865-742-9993 (mobile/text) starroakridge@gmail.com



Have you signed up for Kroger Community Rewards? To enroll, go to: <https://www.kroger.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards>. Sign in or create an account. Choose organization #63422. That's it! Every time you shop at Kroger and use your Kroger card or "Alternative ID" at check-out, a percentage of what you spend will get sent to ORUUC!

ORUUC Covid-19 Update

With the expiration of the Covid-19 national public health emergency on May 11, the CDC has ceased tracking community level transmission because it no longer receives the data needed to do so. Therefore, ORUUC is ending its weekly Pandemic Action Levels (PALs) report. **Masks are not required inside the building;** however, if you have symptoms or have had a COVID exposure, please stay home and follow us on Zoom. We appreciate your continued cooperation as we work to keep our community safe and healthy.

This Week at ORUUC

Friday, Aug. 11

11am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, Aug. 12

10am Setup for Reignite Fair

3pm Ukulele

Sunday, Aug. 13

Reignite Fair during FF Hour:

All Adult FF classes canceled

10am Worship

11am High School

11am Together in Spirit (Canceled)

11:15am Circle of Trust IV

11:15am Newcomers (Canceled)

11:15am Reflections (Canceled)

11:15am Reignite Fair

11:30am Circle of Trust II

12pm Circle of Trust V

12:30pm Buddhism Study Group

1pm Circle of Trust VI

3pm Line Dancing

5-7pm Zentangle Group

Monday, Aug. 14

11am Tai Chi Practice

Tuesday, Aug. 15

6pm Board Meeting

6pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

9pm Circles of Trust Prep Team Meeting

The deadline to submit news for The Exponent is Wednesday at noon! Please send news, comments, and feedback to Rachel at communications@oruuc.org.

Wednesday, Aug. 16

6:30am Breakfast Rotary

11am Tai Chi Practice

11am Circle of Trust VIII

1:30pm Executive Team Meeting

6:45pm Choir Practice

7:45pm Band Rehearsal

Thursday, Aug. 17

12:30pm Thursday Lunch Bunch

Mark your calendar:

Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 5:30 p.m.



On Wednesday, Sept. 6 there will be a gathering **at the Peace Bell, near the proposed site of the Scarborough 85 monument, marking the day that desegregation began in 1955.** There will be a handful of speakers and special music from several churches in the Scarborough Community. Periodic Tables will be providing light food after the gathering. More details to come!

**MEMBERS & FRIENDS
ART EXHIBIT**
This Summer in the Gallery!

Check out the new art exhibit
in the ORUUC Gallery!



809 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Contact us at 865-483-6761
<http://www.oruuc.org/>



ORUUC Board of Trustees 2023-24

President: Jason Fishel

Past President: Michele Thornton

President-Elect: Kara Raymond

Secretary: Nathaniel Bass

Treasurer: Brandon White

Members-at-Large:

Freddie Nechtow

Charles Davis

Jami Garner

Jen Stark

ORUUC Executive Team

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz

Christine Rehder

Amanda Fishel

Donna Maloney

Jeannie Cuevas, Office Administrator

Sunday, Aug. 20 “Ramps, Steps, and Thresholds”

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister



Life is a series of changes, for living beings and for organizations. What changes are ahead as a church enters a year of searching for a settled minister? And, how does an organization approach the different ramps and steps that make up the threshold to the new beginning for which we so ardently yearn? Rev. Lisa will talk about what's ahead in this exciting and momentous year.