February 17-23 2023

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News from Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

The Exponent



Big Rummage Pick Up Is Next Saturday, Feb. 25!

Volunteers of all ages who are willing to help: meet in the church Social Hall at 9 a.m. on February 25. Grab a bite to eat and some hot coffee before heading out to pick up donations around town. Trucks and large vehicles are needed!

Have large item donations that need to be picked up? Email oruncrummage@orunc.org to schedule a pick up, or contact Rummage co-leaders Amanda Fishel (call or text (865) 804-7033) or Christina Elliott. The deadline to request a rummage pick up is next Friday, Feb. 24. at 5 p.m. Please provide your address, phone number, and types of items you need picked up. Thank you!



Creating a Valentine of Caring

Rev. Lyn Cox, UUA

As Unitarian Universalists, we stand on the side of love in many ways. We live out our UU values through acts of caring and service, both large and small.

In our families, in our friendships, in this congregation, in our schools and workplaces and neighborhoods, across our country, and all over the world, our acts of caring and service make the Spirit of Love visible and tangible.

On a piece of paper, write down one act of caring and service that you have done in the last year, or maybe even in the last week. If it is

easier for you, draw a picture of how you care and serve.

If you have done something helpful for a friend in need, that is an act of caring and service. When we send a thoughtful card, give someone a ride, bring food to a neighbor in their time of grief, hold someone in prayer or meditation, take notes for a classmate who is sick, model and remind each other about covenantal behavior, we are creating a valentine of caring.

If you have been kind to animals, that is an act of caring and service.
When we offer birdseed in the winter,

care for our gardens without pesticides in the summer, walk our dogs, play with our cats, volunteer at the animal shelter, clean up after our pets, plant flowers for bees and butterflies, we are creating a valentine of caring.

If you have offered public witness for a more just, equitable, and fair

world, that is an act of caring and service. When we help people register to vote, write to our legislators, speak up for equality, learn about racial justice, sponsor and protect refugees, build coalitions for change, we are creating a

valentine of caring.

If you have volunteered to make someone's life or this world a better place, that is an act of caring and service. When we increase access to food and clean water, work in a community garden, help out in a soup kitchen, visit friends in prison, collect blankets, knit hats, plant trees, help a neighbor learn a new language, volunteer for the church, we are creating a valentine of caring. We have so many ways of showing love.

Adapted from a worship ritual.



This Sunday, Feb. 19 Where is Love?

Valentine's Day was this week. But, what is love? Where do we find it? What better time of the year, as we hopefully emerge from winter, to think about the warmth and caring that comes with love. Is it in a flowery card, or a wilting bouquet? Where is love? I've been thinking about this, and have some thoughts to share. I am confident that each of us has our own ideas about what love is, and where it is. Our ideas may differ, but we'll share them with love, anyway. That's what UU's do.

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



February Split the Plate: Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties (ADFAC)

Adult and Youth Faith Formation Classes take place from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

This week, the CDC Covid-19 Community Levels are **Low** for Anderson and Knox counties; Morgan and Roane counties are **Medium**. Masks are not required in the building; however, we encourage you to do what makes you feel comfortable.

Interested in church leadership, governance, and the ministerial search process? Get involved!

prayers@oruuc.org



This Sunday after worship, join members of the Board and Nominating Committee in the Social Hall for a short informational meeting! We'll be talking about the various nominated positions in our church that we'll be voting on at the Congregational Meeting in June and what each committee does.

Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties

Our Split-the-Plate offering for February is Aid to Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties (ADFAC). ADFAC began in the mid 1980's as a local ecumenical effort to provide assistance to impoverished families. As the broad needs of the low-income community became evident. the faith-based collaborative moved to become a 501(c)(3) public charity in January 1987. Over the years, ADFAC has honored its roots by developing a variety of programs designed to meet unfilled needs in the community, and currently answers over 6,000 requests for assistance each year.



ADFAC is the prime and preeminent social service agency in Oak Ridge and surrounding counties. Not only does ADFAC provide direct services to our needy community, it is also the clearing house for most other local social service agencies and churches. For more information on ADFAC, visit https://www.adfac.org/. Please **GIVE HERE** as you

Please **GIVE HERE** as you are willing and able, or **text** "**ORUUC**" to 73256.

Announcements



The church office will be closed Monday, Feb. 20 in observance of Presidents Day.



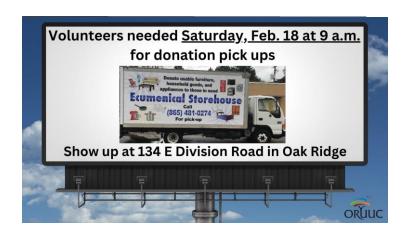
Stone Soup is next week! Contact Mary Beth Robinson Mary Beth Robinson at placesynergy@comcast.net if you're interested in baking at home on your own schedule, working with other volunteers in the church kitchen to prepare the soup, or handing out meals Friday!



For more information about the League of Women Voters of Oak Ridge, visit

https://www.facebook.com/LeagueOfWomenVoters OakRidge Lunch with the League is held in person and online. Join by Zoom here:

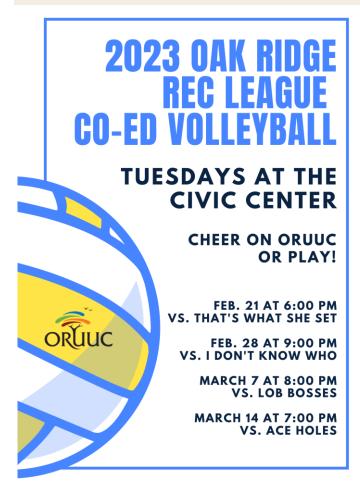
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85481905266



Tomorrow is the third Saturday of the month, and that means it's ORUUC's turn to **volunteer at Ecumenical Storehouse! Show up at 134 E Division Road at 9 a.m.--no training required, just a willingness to help!** The items picked up range from heavy furniture to linens, lamps, and pots and pans, so don't think you have to be able to lift a sofa to help. Questions? Michael Bjerke is the contact person this month:

michaelbjerke@comcast.net

More Announcements



Contact Shelaine Curd or Christina Elliott with questions, or just show up to play or watch!



COFFEHOUSE TALENT SHOW

FRIDAY, MARCH 10 6:30 P.M. SUPPER AND SOCIAL 7 P.M. PROGRAM

Rescheduled from NYE—this your chance! Live out a performance fantasy! Ham it up! Build some experience performing in front of people! Blow people's minds by unveiling a unique talent you've been keeping to yourself!

Advance sign-up is required for all performers. Contact Nancy Starr at starroakridge@gmail.com or mobile 865-742-9993. All ages and talents welcome!



It's time for the Executive Team to refresh and renew the information for the Church's Shared Ministry Agreements (SMAs and EFMAs). In past years, SMA and EFMA leaders had until April 1st to get the info together, but APRIL FOOL'S, we're trying to get things sorted in a more timely fashion this year. Please fill out the appropriate form using the link provided by March 6th:

SMA https://form.jotform.com/oruucsignups/shared-ministry-agreement

EFMA https://form.jotform.com/oruucsignups/EFMA

Thank you in advance for your timely response! Contact Jeannie in the church office with questions.



Interested in joining a Circle of Trust? Contact any Circle of Trust Support Team Member—Todd Sherline, Ann Miller, Donna Maloney, or David Savoie—and they'll find a place for you. They're happy to answer questions!



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 February

Jami Garner <u>Jamigarner@me.com</u> 865-250-5505 Hope Waddle <u>karasue54@gmail.com</u> 865-254-4006

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.



Marge Swenson is temporarily at NHC in Farragut for therapy services. It is expected that she will be there for three weeks. She's also celebrating her 101st birthday on March 8! Send her a card or give her a call!

Marge Swenson, Rm. 429 c/o NHC

122 Cavette Hill Lane, Knoxville, TN 37934 (865) 777-9000

Volunteer Opportunities



The Free Medical Clinic is partnering with Remote Area Medical (RAM) to provide a FREE Pop-Up Clinic at the Oak Ridge Civic Center this Friday and Saturday, Feb 18-19. Volunteers can register here https://www.ramusa.org/volunteers can register here https://www.ramusa.org/volunteers can register here https://www.ramusa.org/volunteer-with-us/ If you are a non-medical volunteer, when you get to the section titled "Profession or Volunteer Classification," choose General Support from the drop down menu under "Event Area" and General Support from "Profession/Classification." Questions? The RAM point of contact can be reached at kristinasoliza@ramusa.org or 865-579-1530.

PATIENTS: For more information on this clinic, visit https://www.ramusa.org/event/oak-ridge-tn-2023/?instance_id=584&fbclid=lwAR3H4sEgFdttzgTAQu-wwWQTkY11BATTe3OrrHSxT-g9EyQaaqW5NwcRVBg.

Pack and Deliver Food For Kids March 6 and 7 at First United Methodist Church



Mark your calendar for Spring Packing Dates:

Monday, March 6: Packing begins at 12 noon Tuesday, March 7: 8:30 a.m. Delivery to schools

Monday, April 10: Packing begins at 12 noon **Tuesday, April 11:** 8:30 a.m. Delivery to schools

Monday, May 1: Packing begins at 12 noon Tuesday, May 2: 8:30 a.m. Delivery to schools

Questions? Contact Cara Weigel at 865-806-7544. The multipurpose room at First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge can be accessed via the back entrance on the Vienna Road side of the building. On street parking is available. Help is also needed around 10:00-10:30 on Monday when the Second Harvest truck arrives. Once Second Harvest brings in the food on pallets, help is needed unloading the boxes from the pallets to the tables; lifting is involved.

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.



Join the Ukulele Group! Our next practice is Saturday, Feb. 25 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. If you're interested in trying something new this year, stop by! We're still working on Hotel California for the next Coffeehouse, March 10. We'd love to have you join us. Abbie Moore abbie.moore@icloud.com

RUMMAGE WEEK is February 25-March 4



Donations Needed

Here's a list to help you start putting things aside to donate for the upcoming Rummage Sale

Friday, March 3 (Pre-Sale) & Saturday, March 4 (Main Sale).

Questions? Email <u>oruucrummage@gmail.com</u>.

We'll gratefully accept the following items in <u>resalable</u> 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.

Things we are unable to accept:

There wouldn't be a Rummage Sale without our volunteers and your generous donations! You can help us greatly reduce work for our volunteers by disposing of items not in resale condition.

- Anything that is wet from rain or floods, etc. or otherwise damaged
- Combustible fuel in any tanks or containers
- Console stereos or TVs, big projection TVs, or any that are older than 5 years, are not working, and those missing knobs or buttons
- Child car-seats
- Baby cribs with a sliding side rail
- Building materials, including paint and carpet remnants**
- Auto parts
- Electronics not in working condition
- Mattresses*
- Large appliances such as dishwashers, stoves and refrigerators, etc.*
- Large exercise equipment (treadmills, elliptical machines, etc)*
- Pianos or organs
- Slate-top pool tables
- Safety helmets, including baseball, football, and cycling helmets

Family News

Mountain CON

Registration Deadlines

Intermediate (Grades 6-8): Friday, Feb. 17 to attend Spring CON March 3-5

Senior (Grades 9-12): Friday, March 2 to attend Spring CON March 17-19



Middle School Families: Last chance to register for Spring Mountain CON TODAY! **Register here:**

https://www.themountainrlc.org/springintermediate-con

Contact Director of Faith Formation Christine Rehder at crehder@oruuc.org once you've registered or if you have questions.

Teens! Did you know you can earn \$10 an hour (up to \$1,000) for your Youth Trip Fund by volunteering to help with

Rummage? Email oruucrummage@gmail.com Rummage Team Leaders are Christina Elliott and Amanda Fishel. High schoolers: sign up on Discord.

SPRING **RUMMAGE** is March 3-4



Big Rummage Pick Up: Saturday, Feb. 25 starting at 9 a.m.

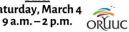
Rummage Donation Drop Offs:

Sunday, Feb. 26 through Thursday, March 2

Preview Sale:

Friday, March 3 6-8 p.m. (all prices double)

Sale: Saturday, March 4



Do you have children in your household from birth through high school? Join our monthly **Connecting in Spirit** Family Newsletter mailing list! Email Rachel at communications@oruuc.org

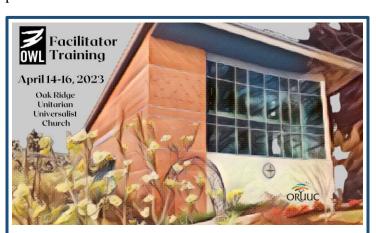




Multi-Gen Coordinator Whitney Cole recently added new items to the sensory table in the Sanctuary. Thanks, Whitney!



Join "Father Goose" Michael Raymond Thursday, March 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Oak Ridge Public Library Auditorium for this free **program!** For more information, go to ORPL Children's Programming. We provide a meeting place and fellowship for caregivers of young children, especially those new to the community and far from home. Mother Goose is held on the First and Third Thursdays each month at 10:30 a.m., and is geared toward babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.



ORUUC is hosting an in-person training in April for anyone interested in becoming a facilitator of the Our Whole Lives (OWL) lifespan sexuality curriculum. This training will cover the Secondary OWL curriculum for Grades 7-9 and Grades 10-12.

Interested? Go to

https://www.oruuc.org/owl-facilitatortraining. Contact Christine Rehder at crehder@oruuc.org with questions.

Community News





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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023 AT 9:00 AM EST

Abundant LUUv and the 8th Principle of Unitarian Universalism Workshop-Featuring Rev. Duncan Teague

Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church

Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church warmly invites and welcomes members and friends of the East Tennessee UU Cluster (Foothills, Westside, Oak Ridge, and TVUUC) to attend a workshop with the Rev. Duncan Teague. Rev. Teague will discuss his work in Atlanta founding the Abundant LUUv Unitarian Universalist community ("A West End Unitarian Universalist congregation in Atlanta, centered in the African American religious tradition, where we welcome your authentic self to join us in community-centered work.") and how they are bringing the 8th Principle of Unitarian Universalism to life.

The workshop will be held at Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in the Greg McKendry Fellowship Hall on Feb. 25th. Doors open at 8:15 am and light refreshments will be available. The program will start at 9:00 am and end at 2:00 pm. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP so we can order enough food. Please use this link to register-

https://forms.gle/F9q5sScXYVOW6P4a7

The Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (TVUUC) community adopted the 8th Principle in June of 2021: "We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions."

This workshop is being sponsored by the TVUUC 8th Principle Task Force, with the help of a generous grant from the TVUUC Endowment Fund. You can email markmohundro@tvuuc.net with any questions.

Facebook event: https://fb.me/e/3ZZ3yYa4R





Scarboro 85 Monument Luncheon: Thursday, Feb. 23 at 11:00 a.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Oak Ridge. Tickets are \$50 each with the option for table sponsorships. Hear Civil Rights Activist and Minister, the Rev. Dr. Harold Middlebrook, and learn about plans to erect a monument in recognition of the 1955 integration of ORHS and Robertsville Junior High School https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scarboro-85-monument-kickoff-luncheon-tickets-514041310397 Contact John Spratling at 865-363-9759 or jspratling@ortn.edu for more information.

Roots of America: An Exploration of Cultures: A Four-Part Series Presented by the Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning in partnership with the Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club



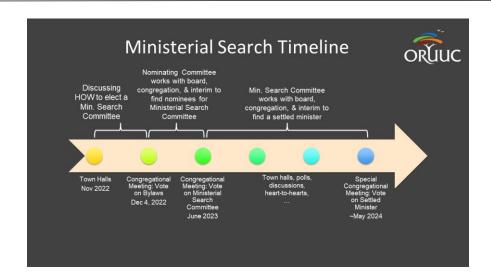
March 9 at 5 p.m. Roots of Indigenous Heritage – proposed renaming of Clingman's Dome to "Kuwhoi." Pollard Auditorium, ORAU, 210 Badger Ave. Speaker: Lavita Hill, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. For more information on this series, visit https://www.roanestate.edu/?8465-ORICL-Oak-Ridge-Institute-for-Continued-Learning

Ministerial Search News



The Nominating Committee met on January 18 with all members present. The committee members are Amanda Sunshine, Steven Barker, Robin Naughton, Sheila Norton, and Nancy Highfill. We were joined by Michele Thornton (representing the board) and Rev Lisa.

We are gathering information for search committee selection and making plans to be in contact with all church members. We will be holding "listening sessions" after church. ~Nancy Lain Highfill



Check out the **Ministerial Search Information Page** in the **Members Section** of our website. This page will be updated regularly. http://www.oruuc.org/min-search-hub (Password ORUUC809)

Church Pantry Needs



Please pick up some of these non-perishables when you're out shopping:

Canned Meats (Tuna, Chicken, etc.)
Peanut Butter
Canned Soups
Canned Pasta/Meat Meals
Canned Fruit
Canned Green Vegetables
Individual Snack Crackers

Donations may be dropped off in the church lobby during office hours (M-F, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.) or on Sundays. Thank you to the line dancers for their generous donation this week!

ORUUC Covid-19 Update

Covid-19 Community Levels are a 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

The CDC's Covid-19 Community Levels for Anderson and Knox counties are LOW; Roane and Morgan counties are MEDIUM. Masks are not required at ORUUC in the building; eating and drinking is permitted indoors. For the entire report, check out our webpage: http://www.oruuc.org/phased-reopening-plan



Rock to Bach Music Festival and Fundraiser is back TOMORROW! Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at ORUUC

For the fifth time, ORUUC will host the Oak Ridge Rock to Bach Music Festival, a fundraiser for the Oak Ridge Civic Music Association. ORCMA is the umbrella organization for the Oak Ridge Symphony Orchestra, Oak Ridge Chorus, Oak Ridge Chamber Music Series, and the free Family Concert and Coffee Concert series.

After a hiatus of three years because of the COVID-19 pandemic, **Rock to Bach is back, returning on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** The doors open at 9:30 a.m., giving early attendees a chance to look over and bid on the silent auction items. Here is your chance to enjoy live music all day, coffee and sweets in the morning, and sandwiches and drinks for lunch.

You can come and go as you please or stay all day for a low cover charge of the advanced ticket price of \$12 or the same day charge of \$15. The cost for children ages 5 to 18 is \$5 per child, and for families of three or more, \$30. Children under the age of five get in free. Tickets can be purchased at the Ferrell Shop, TNBank, or the ORCMA office, 118 E. Division Rd.

In a separate fundraiser, a buffet dinner provided by Birdwell Catering and Irish music performed by Four Leaf Peat will be offered between 5:15 and 7:30 p.m. Learn about the menu offerings and make your reservation for the \$70 dinner by Feb. 15 by calling the ORCMA office at 865-483-5569. The Rock to Bach Celebration Dinner, which is preceded with wine and cheese appetizers, will start at 5:45 p.m.

The following individuals and bands will be performing in the music festival: Melony Dodson, pianist and WUOT classical music host and producer; Alex Engle, Oak Ridge soprano (opera music); Battle Brass (swing music); Jorge Veriago (original bass clarinet and electronic music); Oak Valley Baptist Church Voices of Praise (gospel music); Mt. LeConte Jug Band (Americana music); Elza Gate (acoustic Southern mountain and bluegrass music); Liz and Tim Folk Duo (original and traditional songs); Missing Goats (Irish, Americana, folk and bluegrass music); Roane State Community College Bluegrass Band; Silver Winds Flute Choir; Tanasi Winds (woodwind quintet); Secret City Winds; Shadyland (jazz and funk music), and the Knoxville Classical Guitar Ensemble.

Thank you to Carolyn Krause for providing this information!

This Week at ORUUUC

Friday, Feb. 17

Elementary Mountain CON

11am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, Feb. 18

Elementary Mountain CON

9am Ecumenical Storehouse Pickup 10am-7:30 pm Rock to Bach (pg. 10) (Sancutary and Social Hall)

Sunday, Feb. 19

Elementary Mountain CON 10am Worship

11am High School

11am Together in Spirit

11:15am Circle of Trust I

11:15am Knitting and Crocheting

Group

11:15am Newcomers

11:15am Reflections

12:30pm Buddhism Study Group

12:30pm Circle of Trust IX

2pm(3-5pm) Line Dancing

4pm Grades 5/6 OWL

4pm Circle of Trust XI

5:30pm Circle of Trust X

Monday, Feb. 20 Church Office Closed (Presidents' Day)

11am Tai Chi Practice6:50pm Meditation Learning andPractice Group

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

Tuesday, Feb. 21

9am Stone Soup prep 12noon Lunch with the League (pg. 2) 6pm Board Meeting 6pm Depression & Anxiety Support Group

Wednesday, Feb. 22

6:30am Breakfast Rotary 11am Tai Chi Practice 5pm Stone Soup prep 5:30pm Circle of Trust III 6:45pm Choir Practice

Thursday, Feb. 23

7:45pm Band Practice

12noon NWUUC & Launchpad Mtg6pm Potluck6:30pm Zenderley Art Workshop

6:50pm Meditation Practice Group

ORUUC Weather Closure Policy

<u>Weekdays</u>: If Oak Ridge City Schools are closed, the church office will be closed.

<u>Sundays</u>: A decision will be made by 9 a.m. whether to have inperson worship. Please check your email and the ORUUC Facebook group for updates.

Weeknight and Saturday events: A decision will be made one hour prior. Check email and Facebook.



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





The ORUUC Board of Trustees

President: Michele Thornton
Past President: Jim Nutaro
President-Elect: Jason Fishel
Secretary: Nathaniel Bass
Treasurer: Brandon White

Members-at-Large:
Freddie Nechtow
Charles Davis
Jami Garner

Ethan Coon

The ORUUC Executive Team

Rev. Lisa Schwartz Christine Rehder Christina Elliott Amanda Fishel

Jeannie Cuevas, Office Admininstrator

Sunday, Feb. 26 Maintaining your Balance When the World is Off its Rocker Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz,

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister



What does it mean to be "rooted in love?" How do we maintain connections within our faith, let alone with others whose perspectives are very different from our own? Is it possible to move past isolation and fear and into relationship with folks who aren't just like us? Rev. Lisa will ask whether civil discourse is even possible, or just a naive dream.