

September 1-7, 2023

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News from Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church

The Exponent



BIG RUMMAGE PICKUP

Saturday, Sept. 9
9-12 noon

Trucks

We need: **Volunteers**
Donations



ORUUC

The Fall Rummage Sale is only two weeks away! **Big Rummage Pickup is next Saturday, Sept. 9.** We need trucks, volunteers, and your donations! **To schedule pick up of large items or tables to be used during the sale, please contact Amanda Fishel or Christina Elliott by sending an email to oruucrummage@gmail.com, calling or texting (865) 804-7033 (Amanda) or (865) 214-0756 (Christina).**

Volunteers are needed for Rummage week and the sale itself! Give of your time—an hour here and there to help unload or price items, a meal for volunteers, and your donations of gently used items that can be recycled and repurposed by others. Everyone plays an important role in these semi-annual sales, beloved by the community for more than 20! Teens can even help out and have their hours served turned into funds for upcoming Youth Trips!

Check out Page 9 for information on items to donate and more!

Here's to the Idealists

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister

Have you ever been called an “idealist?” Usually the word is a judgmental jab. If you believe the story that idealists can’t get things done, allow me to counter the narrative with the tale of British socialist Robert Owen.

Owen must have been called an idealist when, in the 1830s, he started building support for an eight-hour work day. His timing was good: British laborers had been suffering in poverty, hunger and oppression for so long that demonstrations and acts of industrial sabotage were becoming widespread. The standard work day for adults and children alike was about 14 hours. The work week was six days long, conditions were often dangerous, and there was no sick leave or social safety net.

Robert Owen started to make the argument for balance: A human needed to labor with intention and integrity for eight hours, and then have equal time for recreation that could be pursued with equal vigor. Then, eight full hours of rest would restore a person to embark on that balanced journey the next day.

Caught in the gears of the Industrial Revolution, many people saw an eight-hour work day as an unrealistic goal. But then workers started to organize. Robert Owen founded the Grand Consolidated Trades Union, which was the first labor federation. (He also, by the way, is credited with coining the term “socialism.”)

Owen had plenty of time to organize, I

guess. Back in his days as a capitalist he’d made a fortune in the textile industry, though even then he was active in improving conditions for workers. Owen came to the United States and used most of his money to buy the town (!) of New Harmony, Indiana, and start a utopian community (the same place George Rapp and his followers had pursued Christian perfection).

Owens’ social experiment only lasted two years, dissolving in 1827—which, if you’re paying attention, means that Robert Owen did his British labor organizing on the heels of this failed experiment.



Meanwhile, the town of New Harmony lived on. They established the first public library, opened schools that welcomed girls and boys, and and boys, and started a community playhouse. A literary club for women

was founded there, one of the nation’s first. New Harmony became a haven for an international community of scientists, scholars, and educators.

Robert Owen ultimately moved back to Britain, but his son Robert Dale Owen went on to become an Indiana congressman who supported workers’ rights and women’s rights, advocated for the abolition of slavery and for Federal aid to Freedmen.

So here’s to the idealists, especially those who labor on behalf of the general well-being of all humans. If you’re laboring for a goal that seems achingly distant, take strength from knowing: You’re not alone. Like Unionists know, we’re better together.

This Sunday, Sept. 3

Putting Labor back in Labor Day

The Rev. Dr. David Breeden says, "In the face of the tragic meltdown of the political process here in the United States, in the face of a media utterly unconcerned with issues of justice and equity, the religious voice appears to be one of the last holdouts against forces such as neo-liberal hyper-capitalism and globalization. To paraphrase Max Horkheimer, without the 'totally Other' in the end materialism triumphs. Without the 'totally Other' in the end greed triumphs. Without the 'totally Other' in the end the powerful win." ORUUC is honored to present a sermon by Rev. Dr. Breeden to kick off our theme of "welcome."

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



This month's Split the Plate Offering: [TORCH](#)

Adult and Youth Faith Formation classes meet his Sunday from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery is available during the FF Hour.

*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 September is **Tennessee Out-Reach Center for Homeless (TORCH)**. Using a Housing First model, TORCH serves the homeless by providing assistance with a permanent housing address, thus allowing them to gain better access to stable employment, promotions, success in school and disability benefits. Eligible clients are connected to needed resources until housing is available. In the spring of this year, TORCH celebrated the opening of Brookhart Village, which will provide temporary housing

for six homeless families or up to 30 individuals.

Please donate to TORCH to help in their mission to make homelessness part of our past instead of our present.

To learn more about the various programs available to assist the homeless, visit <https://oakridgetorch.org/>.

Please [GIVE HERE](#) as you are willing and able, or text "ORUUC" to 73256.

September Worship Series

The Gift of Welcome

September 3:

Putting Labor back in Labor Day

September 10:

Love Meets the Dragons

September 17:

Sweet Dreams of Autumn

September 24:

*The Soul's Beautiful
Affliction*

**Join us for Sunday Worship at
10 a.m. in person and on Zoom**

*Youth and Faith Formation classes
are from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.*

Nursery is available during the FF hour.



Announcements

DONATE MEALS AND SNACKS TO RUMMAGE WORKERS!



We need your help! **The semi-annual rummage sale is just around the corner! Please help us provide meals for the workers who contribute long hours to make the sale a huge success.** Not everyone can join the crew to sort, price, and collect items for the sale. If you're one of these folks, you can participate in this important fundraising activity by joining the "yummy victuals" team. This team supplies rummage workers with meals during the marathon days leading up to the sale on Friday night and Saturday. It takes a village, or in this case, a whole lot of church people to keep workers fed and highly productive. For those who sign up, the victuals committee will be in touch with you to give you details about what you can do to feed the hungry rummage sale workers. Your help will be greatly received and highly appreciated!

Days food will be served: Sunday, Sept. 10 thru Saturday, Sept. 16. Call Sue Lasky at 731-588-4448 to help or for more information. Come and join us in this important part of the ORUUC rummage sale!

Yummy Victuals Committee members
Sue Lasky, Jo Curran, and Janet Hoegler



The Church Office will be closed Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day. If you have an urgent need, please call 865-483-6761 and leave a message, or email office@oruuc.org.

Adult OWL Orientation Sunday, Sept. 24 at 11:15 a.m.



ORUUC is offering *Adult OWL* this fall during Faith Formation hour. Show up at the informational meeting September 24 to find out more! The 7-week course begins October 22 and runs through December 3. You do not have to attend all sessions.

ORUUC **Fall All-Church Retreat**

OCTOBER 13-15
HARRISON BAY STATE PARK

REGISTER TODAY!

Re-TREAT Yourself! Register for the ORUUC All-Church Retreat TODAY!

Join your friends or make new ones October 13 thru 15 at Harrison Bay State Park group camp. There will be fun, fellowship, games, and more! **Register [HERE](#) today! Pay online via Realm: <https://onrealm.org/oruuc/-/form/give/now>** Choose "All Church Retreat" from the drop down menu under "Fund." (Cash and checks are also accepted.) Registration closes October 1.

ORUUC Auction

Sunday, Oct. 22



3-7 p.m. at ORUUC

Interested in learning more about ORUUC's Auction and how you can help? Come to the **Auction Meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 5 at 6 p.m. in the Hearth Room!**

Announcements



Friday, Sept. 29

5:30- 6:30 p.m.

SOCIAL HALL

Welcome back to dining in person!

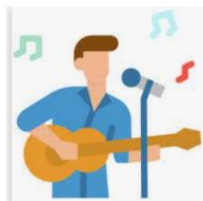
Celebrate 13 years of Stone Soup!



Contact Jen Stark at jen.stark@hotmail.com to join the team!

Stone Soup is returning to in-person dining September 29!

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 the meal. Contact Jen Stark at jen.stark@hotmail.com if you'd like to help!



COFFHOUSE 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 sign-up deadline is Sunday, Sept. 17.** Contact Nancy Starr, starroakridge@gmail.com, mobile 865-742-9993



Take the Congregational Survey beginning September 8--check out next week's Exponent for details!

Yeah, yeah, we've all filled out surveys: How was your last doctor visit? Did the kid who cleaned your gutters do a good job? Was the mechanic who fixed your car personable? Truly not the most exciting way to spend your free time. But this one is well worth the 15 minutes that it will take.

Prospective ministers want to know as much as possible about a congregation they are considering serving at. They want to know not only the history of our church, but also what its members think are the important things we've done. Above all, they want to know what kind of a minister we are looking for. There are many ways that a minister can serve a church, some essential, some less so. This survey will ask you to rank the most important tasks for the minister. Do you want good sermons more than anything else, or maybe great pastoral care? What about administration of the staff? No minister can be great in all of these tasks, so it is important for us to be honest about what we are looking for.

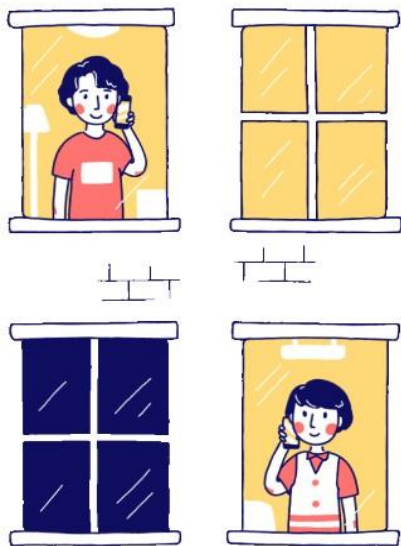
Please fill out the survey, either online or on paper, in September. Thank you! ~The Ministerial Search Committee

Zentangle Group
Sundays 5 to 7 PM
at

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

Classes are held weekly and are open to the public! For more information, contact Nancy Starr, Certified Zentangle Teacher, at 865-483-8684 (landline) 865-742-9993 (mobile/text)

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 September

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

Janet Fryer fryerjanetr@gmail.com 847-821-1205 (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.

Barbara Katherine Moon July 3, 1928 — August 26, 2023



Barbara Katherine Longfellow Moon, age 95, passed away peacefully on Saturday, August 26, 2023. Barbara met her husband, Ralph, during their senior year of high school in Kansas City, MO and they married in 1950 after her graduation from Vassar College. In 1963 they moved to Oak Ridge, TN with their four children and Barbara began her involvement in numerous community activities. She served as a Camp Fire group leader for each of her daughters and eventually became President of the Clinch Valley Council. She served the Oak Ridge League of Women Voters in many capacities, notably as newsletter editor and Co-President of the Board. She also served on the League's state board and was editor of the state newsletter. At the Oak Ridge Unitarian Church she taught Sunday School, was on countless committees and served twice on the Board, once as President and once as Assistant Treasurer. Barbara loved supporting a good cause and spending time with friends and family. She instilled in her children her passion for reading, the arts and civic involvement. Her hobbies included needle work, family genealogy research and travel. Barbara is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Ralph; parents, George and Isabelle Longfellow; daughter, Mary Ann Moon; and brother-in-law, John J. Moon. She is survived by children, Kathy (Gary) Kelly; Laura (Grant) Gardner; David (Naomi) Moon; son-in-law, Dave Pierce; sister, Lois Longfellow Moon; and sister-in-law, Mary Alice Moon. She is also survived by grandchildren Patrick (Heather) Kelly, John (Jessi) Kelly, Daniel (Maya Wagner) Gardner, Philip Gardner, Emma Moon, Alli Moon and David (Angela) Pierce, nine great grandchildren and the rest of her extended family. The family would like to express its deep appreciation to the staff at Commonwealth Senior Living for the years of respect, care and compassion they provided. They also thank the nurses from Amedisys for their advice and assistance. **A memorial is planned for Saturday, November 18. Details will be announced at a later date.** In lieu of flowers, donations in Barbara's name may be made to the Oak Ridge Unitarian Church, 809 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 or to a charity of your choice.

<https://www.mottmckameyfh.com/obituaries/barbara-moon>

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. *There will be no Line Dancing September 10 due to Rummage Setup.*



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, Sept. 9 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 Backus

backusanne@comcast.net for more information about PFLAG Oak Ridge.

Help with Ecumenical Storehouse Pick Ups September 23, 9 a.m. to noon



One Saturday each month, ORUUC takes a turn volunteering 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 Michael Bjerke at michaelbjerke@comcast.net.



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!



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



A new year of Youth Faith Formation is off to a great start! It's never too late to join us! Bring a friend! **Check out our updated programming** at <http://www.oruuc.org/religious-education>.

Faith Formation Dates for 2023-24

- August 6 — First Day of Youth Faith Formation
- **September 15-16 - Rummage Sale (Teens who volunteer during Rummage Week can 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 September 7!

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!](#)

Fall Rummage Sale: September 15-16

BIG RUMMAGE PICKUP

Saturday, Sept. 9
9-12 noon

Trucks

We need: **Volunteers**
Donations



To schedule pick up of large items or tables, please contact Amanda Fishel or Christina Elliott by sending an email to oruucrummage@gmail.com, calling or texting (865) 804-7033 (Amanda) or (865) 214-0756 (Christina).

RUMMAGE SALE

Donation Drop off Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

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

- **Clothing & Linens:** Washed, no tears, stains, mildewed, or strong odors from cigarettes, pets or mothballs. 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 knobs 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:

- 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

*Call Ecumenical Storehouse: (865) 481-0274

**Call Habitat ReStore: (865) 483-5433

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!



POTLUCK for PFLAG Monday, Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge

PFLAG will have a welcome-new-and continuing-friends potluck, and a rousing game of Trivia at its meeting, Monday, Sept. 11 at First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge, 1051 Oak Ridge Turnpike. Members and friends will gather in Room 102 at 6:30 p.m. for food and social time; the meeting will be from 7 - 8 p.m. Bring a side or dessert if you wish, but most importantly, bring yourself.

Oak Ridge has an active PFLAG group which meets monthly, rotating the venue among faith communities including the First Presbyterian, First United Methodist, and Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist churches, United Church Chapel on the Hill, and the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge. PFLAG (formerly known as an acronym for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is the United States' largest organization uniting families and allies with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ). Its mission is to provide opportunities for dialogue about sexual orientation, gender identities, and to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. For additional information, contact PFLAG President Anne Backus backusanne@comcast.net.

For more information:

<https://scarboro85monument.com>

John Spratling (865) 363-9759, jspratling@ortn.edu



The Oak Ridge/Anderson County NAACP invites all to a special program on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 5 p.m. in AK Bissell Park to learn about the planned Scarboro 85 monument. For more information, visit <https://scarboro85monument.com/>.

Pack "Food For Kids" with Second Harvest at First United Methodist Church of Oak Ridge Monday, Sept. 11 at 12 noon



Our first packing of the new school year is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 11, with delivery to schools on Tuesday, Sept. 12. Reminder emails will go out before the 11th so if any changes do occur the correct info will be in those emails in September. For more information, or to be added to the mailing list, contact Cara Weigel, Food for Kinds Program Coordinator at FUMC, at rcweigel@comcast.net or 865-806-7544.



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! Sponsored by The City of Oak Ridge, United Way of Anderson County, and Periodic Tables: Healing Starts Here. For more information, visit <https://www.oakridgeperiodictables.com/blog/periodic-tables-fall-line-up-is-here>.

**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



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>.

**Learning about the Eastern Cherokee
A UU Living our Values Field Trip
Saturday, Sept. 30
Organized by TVUUC**



As Unitarian Universalists, we are committed to honoring the first nations peoples who stewarded and inhabited North America prior to settler colonialism. As part of living our values, we can learn directly from local indigenous peoples about their histories, cultures, and contemporary lived experiences. Join with other UU's to honor the Eastern Cherokee people by visiting:

- Oconaluftee Indian Village: on the site of a traditional village, where tribal members educate the public about their culture and lifeways (our group will have a private, guided tour) \$20 per adult, children 6-12 yrs \$10, children under 10 free.
- The Museum of the Cherokee Indian: one of the oldest tribally run museums in the US, this museum includes historical and archaeological exhibits, cultural specialists demonstrating crafts and skills, and a bookstore/giftshop with an excellent collection of books on Cherokee culture. Cost: optional (\$12 if you choose to view the exhibits; the bookstore is free to enter).
- Qualla Arts and Crafts store: Across the street from the museum, this store offers the work of native artists from around the US, with a focus on local Cherokee artists. Free to enter.

Scholarship support is available for anyone who needs it. You can also donate to the scholarship fund.

Transportation: We are currently planning on carpooling; please let us know if you need transportation support. We will meet in Cherokee at 10 am Eastern Time and be there until approximately 4 pm.

Bring your own lunch for a picnic by the river.

Register using this link-<https://tinyurl.com/3wepm4sj>

This Week at ORUUUC



Friday, Sept. 1

10am Caring Coordinators
Transition Meeting
11am Tai Chi Practice

Saturday, Sept. 2

Sunday, Sept. 3

10am Worship

11am High School
11am Together in Spirit
11:15am Circle of Trust 1
11:15am Knitting and Crocheting
Group
11:15am Newcomers
11:15am Reflections
12:30pm Buddhism Study Group
12:30pm Circle of Trust IX
1:30pm Book Club
3pm Line Dancing
4pm Circle of Trust XI
5-7pm Zentangle Group
5:30pm Circle of Trust X

Monday, Sept. 4 Labor Day

Church Office Closed

11am Tai Chi Practice

Tuesday, Sept. 5

6pm Auction Meeting
6pm Depression & Anxiety Support
Group

Wednesday, Sept. 6

6:30am Breakfast Rotary
11am Tai Chi Practice
5:30pm Circle of Trust VIII
7pm Choir Practice
7:45pm Band Rehearsal

Thursday, Sept. 7

12:30pm Thursday Lunch Bunch
1:30pm Executive Team Meeting
7pm Cornhole Game



Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards! Visit

<https://www.kroger.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards>.

Sign in or create an account. Choose organization #63422 (that's ORUUUC). That's it! Every time you shop at Kroger and use your and use your Kroger card or "Alternative ID" at check-out, a percentage of what you spend will get sent to ORUUUC!



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



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

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Sunday, Sept. 10 Love Meets the Dragons

Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz, Interim Minister



When 16th century explorers charted the oceans, a vast area was outside their ken. Of that uncharted realm, old maps designate "Here Be Dragons." As the Fellowship leans into welcoming a settled minister, Interim minister Rev. Lisa Romantum Schwartz will lean into the work of Rev. Tom Owen-Towle to explore what that might entail.