

# The Window

***The Ontario United Methodist Church  
We Care as Christ Cares***

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**NOVEMBER 2014**

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## ***From Pastor Peg...***

Dear brothers and sisters,

Peace be yours, and grace, through him who freed us from our sin. Many of Paul's letters to the early churches began with similar wishes. Paul lived in turbulent times when government (Roman) oppression was great. Christians were persecuted, cruelly tortured, and killed because of their faith. In our world today, there are Christians being tormented.

We must never take our freedoms for granted. The freedom to worship, the freedom to vote, the freedom to speak our minds - these are precious gifts (among others).

This month, our prayer focus will be on our military. We will be praying for their safety, for courage, for blessings for those who work hard to protect our freedom. As we remember them, we will also celebrate their presence in our midst the Sunday closest to Veterans' Day. If you are a veteran and have a uniform that is wearable, we would welcome having you be a greeter, in uniform, any Sunday this month. That especially holds true for anyone on active duty, or in the reserves. Please sign-up as a greeter on the bulletin board in the hallway.

I would encourage all of us to utilize our freedom to vote this month. Every election is important.

However, you won't hear politics preached from my pulpit, unless it's an issue on which the United Methodist Church has a clear stand (for example, against gambling). I neither endorse candidates, nor speak against them for a variety of reasons. The most important reason I don't endorse candidates is that I truly believe in our freedom. I believe you have the freedom to vote your conscience, just as I do. Therefore, I believe it's my job to teach biblically based Christian principles and ethics, then encourage you to vote based on your own evaluation of candidates. It is not my God given task to tell you how to vote.

The United Methodist Church is a Christian organization that truly believes in democracy. At

each level of the church, we elect leaders through democratic vote. At each level of the church, leadership is composed of both lay persons and clergy. At each level of the church, we follow due process.

I celebrate my freedom as an American and my church which believes in the democratic process. Thanks be to God.



## ***Christmas Shoeboxes for Missions***

This year we are asking you to fill shoeboxes for a local charity. Children at Harmony House ages 2 thru 14 will receive our boxes of goodies.

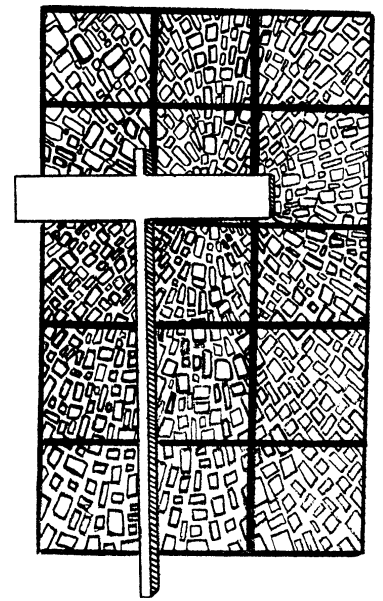
Start with a toy item a child will cherish, like a doll or plush stuffed animal. Add other toys like cars, musical instruments, puzzles or jump ropes. Include some necessity items such as school supplies, toothbrushes, socks and hats.



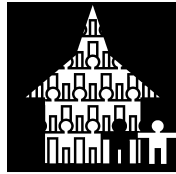
Watch for our display with all the details on filling a box that will bring delight to a local child in need.

## ***Hope for the Holidays***

The holidays can be a very difficult time for those who have lost a loved one. During the 9:00 am Sunday School hour on November 16, we're offering a workshop called ***Hope for the Holidays*** to help those who are grieving. Come for conversation, information and comfort. You don't have to be a church member to attend.



## Our OUMC Family



### Sympathy to~~~

Ken and Karin Starbuck and family in the death of his sister, Christine Stott.

Lois and Carl Crider and family in the death of her nephew, Gary Wirick.

Bev and Tom Bence and family in the death of her sister, Linda Smith.

Pam and Ron, Matt and Kathy, Todd and Brianne Dille, Mike, Scott and Trish, and Mark Fulmer, Beth and Brian Waterhouse, Bob and Linda Eyerly and family in the death of their mother, grandmother and sister, Dorothy Rader.

Bill and Becky, Heidi, Ted, and Sarah Miller and Emily Rayborn and family in the death of their mother and grandmother, Doris Miller.

Wilma Palmer, Gary Palmer and Connie Smith and family in the death of their sister-in-law and aunt, Masako Palmer.

### Congratulations to~~~

Barb Petit and Jeanne Johnson in the birth of a great-granddaughter, Livy Renee, born to their shared granddaughter, Amber, in Atlanta, Georgia. Livy is Barb's first great-grandchild.

### Celebration Days~~~ Blessings on your special day!

#### Birthdays:

2 Chester Bryant	22 Cindie Phelps
4 Dale Smith	22 Roger Mowry
6 John Grove	23 Ginny Carlson
9 Ken Starbuck	23 Ed Beeman
10 Avalon Evans	28 Diana Garver
13 Kathleen Franta	28 Mick Motley
17 Cole Dille	29 Bob Eyerly
19 Leroy Santmyer	29 Aiden Metcalfe
21 Bob Wagenhals	30 Esther Case

#### Anniversary:

17 Pat and Wayne Bell

### Thank you~~~

Dear OUMC, First of all I want to thank you for the many prayers that have been uplifted for me during my recent back surgery, and also during the last several weeks as I continue to recover. Secondly, I want to thank you for the many beautiful cards and notes of encouragement. Your care and concerns have touched my heart. Love to all, —Joan Beer

### Thank You~~~

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and kindness during this difficult time. To Shirley Wright and all her helpers, thank you for the delicious luncheon served after Dale's funeral. It was very much appreciated.

—Donna Hounshell and Sons

OUMC Family, Your kind expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. Words cannot express how grateful we are for your support during this difficult time for our family. The lunch provided after the funeral was fabulous.

—Steve, Val, Kristine, Steven and Emily Toth

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the prayers, calls, cards and gifts. I am glad that my church family is here to support me.

—Myra Myers

Dear OUMC Family, Thank you for the prayers, cards, emails and kind words while Mom was in the hospital dealing with her mass and breathing issues. As everyone knows, the mass was benign and Mom is recovering nicely. Our family truly appreciates the kindness OUMC provides. God is good all the time! Blessings,

—Eric and Krista Grove

Dear Ontario UMC, It has been a year since my problems began with pneumonia, respiratory problems, valve replacement, and so forth. Thank each one of you for praying and praying and praying for me during this time. Also a big thank you for all the cards and visits. They meant so much. God is good. God bless you all!

—Geretha Barndollar

Once again our family has been blessed by the love and support of the people of Ontario UMC. Your calls, cards, food, flowers, prayers and hugs are helping us through the loss of our mom, grandmother and sister, Dorothy Rader. She dearly loved her church family, and we will forever be grateful for the caring and patient way she was loved by all of you, especially as her health began to fail. Sincere thanks to Pastor Peg for the beautiful celebration of Dorothy's life, to Bonnie Fisher for her special music, and to Shirley Wright and everyone who helped with the delicious luncheon. Love and thanks to you all.

—Pam & Ron, Matt & Kathy, Todd & Brianne Dille,

Mike, Scott & Trish, Mark & Amanda Fulmer,  
Beth & Brian Waterhouse, Bob and Linda Eyerly  
and Families

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### ***Grateful Kids***

Adults aren't the only ones who benefit from counting their blessings. Research shows that thankful kids get better grades, experience less depression and jealousy, and maintain a more positive outlook on life.

Experts emphasize that parents must model gratitude, especially in today's consumer-driven culture. But professor Robert Emmons notes that being thankful usually comes pretty easily for children. "Kids have a natural affinity to gratitude," he says. "They often teach parents as much or more about gratitude than the other way around."

As the holiday season approaches, be sure to spend some time talking with the children in your life about the many reasons we have to be thankful.

### ***Comfort Food to Conquer Cancer Saturday, November 15, 4:00—7:00 pm***

We're serving all-you-can-eat homemade soup and gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches along with dessert, with donations accepted to help Jay Welch pay for his fight with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Health insurance co-pay, travel expenses to Cleveland and inability to work have left Jay and his wife financially devastated.

We can help and give them hope not only for Jay's recovery, but for their financial future as well. Come and enjoy food and fellowship!

### ***Looking Ahead***

Instead of the "Advent-ure" that been held the past two years during the Advent season, we will hold a "Winter Festival" on January 25. After the holidays are over and winter has set in, plan to come and enjoy an afternoon of fun here at OUMC.

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