



FEBRUARY — MARCH 2026



Did you know that the Methodists have a strong tradition of participating in social justice movements, locally and abroad? During the industrial revolution, Methodists would go door to door to check on families to help curb domestic violence. When the Cherokee were forcibly removed from their land, Methodists walked with them on the Trail of Tears. Throughout history, the people called Methodists have made it their business to stand in the gap for those who had no voice. Flash forward to today, and you'll notice that the UMC is still very actively involved in working for justice in every corner of the globe.

A quick search on any web browser generates a quick, but thorough response. Here's what I came up with when I entered the following prompt... "United Methodist Tradition of Social Justice" (a response generated by bing.com).

"The United Methodist Church's tradition of social justice is deeply rooted in the Wesleyan heritage. It emphasizes communal participation in establishing equality among all people groups and the recognition that all individuals deserve fair and equal treatment. The social principles, adopted by the General Conference in 2020, guide United Methodists in their interactions with others and societal entities, addressing such issues as racial justice, gender equality, human sexuality, and the rights of marginalized groups. The Social Principles are not church law, but they do serve as a prayerful and thoughtful effort to address contemporary social issues from a biblical and theological perspective. They challenge all members to engage in deliberative reflection and intentional dialogue between faith and practice, reflecting the church's commitment to social holiness and justice."

Now, read that again. Take a moment to ponder. What you have chosen to do about the injustices in our world? How are we doing with living into our 'commitment to social holiness and justice'? If you are feeling pulled to fighting for a cause that's near and dear to your heart, know that the church has your back. If you hear a message that strikes a chord in your spirit – resonating with your deep desire for peace and doing what is right, trust that the Holy Spirit is working in your life too. Your choice to go and make a difference is exactly what God wants from the Church.

Of course, my hope is that we all feel an urgency to do the hard work of seeking justice. I pray that we are inspired to listen to the still small voice as we're called to do more and be more so that God may be glorified. Let me know if I can help you discern what God is doing in your life as we strive to make this world a better place.

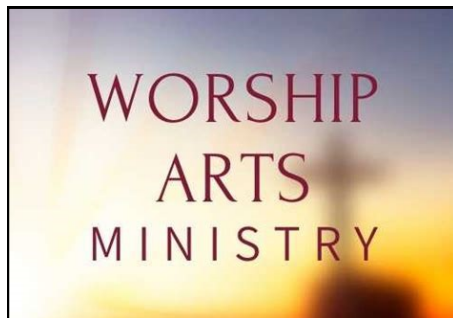
Blessings...Pastor Adam

CREATION CARE

On Saturday, January 17th, the Oak Hill UMC Green Team hosted a Winter Sowing Workshop for the community, in the MPAC building. Over 30 people attended, most of whom were members of the community, and a few church members. Emily Leake, a neighbor of David and Annette Henson, led the workshop. Emily taught attendees that certain pollinator seeds do well when planted in mini greenhouses in the winter. Milk jugs served as the mini greenhouses. The jugs are then left outside, in a wind- sheltered area open to sun, rain, and snow. By planting time, after the danger of frost has passed, little seedlings will be ready for transplanting into a garden. A good time was had by all, and many seeds were planted. Emily is already talking about leading another workshop next year. Funding for the soil, seeds, and other supplies came from the Community Church grant.



If you have questions about any of these activities, please contact a Green Team member: Maureen Colwell, Annette and David Henson, Pam Lookadoo, Ken Clark, and Pastor Adam. If you would like to join the Green Team, please let one of us know of your interest.



Our children's and music ministries will join together to present a sound story with instruments for Palm Sunday, March 29th during worship. Our alternate date will be Easter Sunday, April 5. Families will be contacted with more information and to let us know which date works for the greatest number.

We also are working on music for Easter Sunday for the Chancel Choir. We would welcome some of you who cannot make a year-long commitment to choir to help us with an Easter anthem on Easter Sunday, April 5th. Please contact Amalie, if you would like to help.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 18—Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper, 5:15, and Service, 6:00, in MPAC
- Feb. 22—Book Review in Fellowship Hall, 6:00
- Mar. 1—Brown/Boykin Baby Shower, 2:00-4:00, in MPAC
- Mar. 8—Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 8—UWiF General Meeting, 5:00
- Mar. 17—St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 22—Book Review in Fellowship Hall, 6:00
- Mar. 29—Palm Sunday
- April 2—Maundy Thursday
- April 3—Good Friday
- April 4—Blood Drive
- April 5—Easter Sunday



For weekly, recurring meetings, activities, and ALL church events, please go to our **Main Church Calendar** on the church website - www.ohumc.com
(On Homepage, CALENDAR link is at the far right on the top menu.)

~~ Birthdays ~~

February

Barb	Trout	02/03
Jennifer	Hampton	02/06
Tom	Seehorn	02/09
Heather	Smith	02/10
Kyle	Taylor	02/10
David	Butler	02/11
Madelyn	LeMaster	02/11
Ken	Clark	02/17
Maggie	Lookadoo	02/27

March

Jacob	Searcy	03/03	Foy	McNeely	03/20
Bryan	Searcy	03/06	Sandy	Maiella	03/20
Greg	Byland	03/08	Kitty	Williams	03/21
Ruth	Angley	03/09	Sofia	Clark	03/22
Jean	Fleming	03/11	Jane	Benfield	03/23
Lindsay	Williams	03/12	Lisa	Byland	03/23
Delores	Curfman	03/16	Rodney	Lambert	03/27
Barry	Davis	03/16	Brandon	Williams	03/29
Nancy N.	Clark	03/19	Myra	Paschall	03/30

~~ Anniversaries ~~

February

Nathan & Jenny Taylor 02/24



March

Matthew & Rebecca Mechem-Nantz 03/28



If your contact information has changed, please let the church office know.

You can email, call, or stop by the church office with your information.

Email: ohumcsecretary@gmail.com
or call 828-433-5308.



Let's join in prayer for one another so we all may remain in Christ's peace, grace, and the gift of health:

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Jay Fox, Donna Shoun, Linda Silver, Leon Norman, Hazel Davis, Barb Farrell, Dottie Whisenant, Mason Searcy (military), Ruby Searcy, Carolyn Barlow, Betty Watkins, Peg Leadbetter, Helen Winters, Donna & Ann Peeler, Barb Trout, Dennis Turman, Delores Curfman, Ruth Curfman, Jody Clark, and John Chapman

Extended Family and Friends

Barbara Vance; Linda Wiseman (Henry Parker's sister) – health;
Miguel Betts (grandson of Sharon Butler's friend, Cathy) – liver cancer);
Carolyn Teseneer; Brian Duckworth; Lori Barlow (Carolyn Barlow's daughter); **Pat Wheeler** (Maureen Colwell's aunt); **Peggy Basinger** (Maureen Colwell's sister-in-law) – cancer

If you have a prayer concern, or know of someone in need of prayer, please let us know.



When a church member or a family member is ill, hospitalized, or has passed away, please let Pastor Adam or the church office know of the need for pastoral care and for prayer. This will help us all better care for, pray for, and offer support to our church family.

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