



Oak Hills United Methodist Church

The Oak Notes

October 2022



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A Message from Our Pastor

Did you know that 25% of people in the United States state that they have no faith background of any kind? That means that 1 out of every 4 people you encounter each and every day, whether you are at work, at school, in your neighborhood, or at the store, have no relationship with Jesus Christ. For that reason I'd like to take this month's newsletter to give you a few simple, yet practical suggestions for how to impact your friends, your neighbors, your family, and our community for Jesus Christ.

I'd like to admit up front, that most of the wording and content of this article is not my own. It comes from Jonathan Dodson's article "8 Ways to Easily Be Missional" found at www.vergenetwork.org.

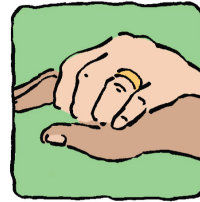
(1) Spend Time Eating with Others: We all eat 3 meals a day. Why not make a habit of sharing one of those meals each week with someone else? Go to lunch with a co-worker, not by yourself. Invite neighbors and friends over for dinner. If it's too much work to cook a big meal, just order a pizza and put the focus on the conversation. When you go out for a meal, invite others with you. Or take your family to family-style restaurant where you can sit at the table with strangers and strike up a conversation.

(2) Walk, Don't Drive: Make it a practice to get out and walk around the neighborhood. Instead of driving everywhere, walk when you can. And be deliberate in your walk. Say hello to people you don't know. Strike up conversations. Offer to pray for people. Attract attention by walking the dog or taking a 6 pack of pop and sharing. Bring the kids. Make friends. Engage with folks. Get out of the house. Pray as you go. Save some gas. Take better care of your bodies, and get to know the people around you.

(3) Be a Regular: Instead of hopping all over the place for gas, groceries, restaurants, and coffee, go the same places at the same time of the week. Get to know the staff who are working there. Find out their names. Ask questions about their lives. Hear their stories. Be a regular. Build deep relationships.

(4) Hobby with Others: Pick a hobby that you can share with others. If you have kids, get involved in a school sports league. Play board games with others. Share your hobby by teaching lessons. Teach sewing, piano, violin, guitar, knitting, sports, etc. Form mom groups. Schedule play dates with the neighbor's kids or grandkids. Be prayerful and be intentional. Have fun and be yourself.

(5) Talk to your Co-Workers: Take breaks with intentionality. Go out with your team or task force after work.



Always
give
yourselves
fully to
the work
of the
Lord ...

1 Corinthians 15:58

Show interest in your co-workers' lives. Pick four or five of them and pray for them each day. Ask them how you can be praying for them and invite them to come to church with you. When they ask about your weekend, tell them about what you learned at church that week.

(6) Volunteer with Non-Profits: Find a non-profit around the Oak Hills community and take one Saturday a month to serve. Bring your friends, neighbors, or small group with you.

(7) Participate in Community Events: Instead of playing on your phone, watching TV, or surfing the net, participate in community events. Go to fundraisers, festivals, clean-ups, the park, city council, and school sporting events. Strike up conversations. Pray for the community. Love the people. Participate.

(8) Serve your Neighbors: Help a neighbor by weeding, mowing, building a cabinet, or fixing a car. Stop by the school, the police station, the EMS, or the Fire Station. Ask if there is anything you can do to help.

Don't make the mistake of making "missional" another thing to add to your already busy schedule. Instead, make your existing schedule missional.

—Pastor Justin

Ministry Fair

On Sunday, October 9, following worship, there will be a church ministry fair. This is your chance to explore what's currently going on with each of the ministries of our church, ask questions, listen to the stories of God's faithfulness among us, and, if God so moves you, sign-up to get involved in a new ministry. Please make it a priority to be with us in worship on Sunday October 9 and to take 15-20 minutes after church to explore the booths and all the ways that God is working among and through us.

All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, October 23, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday. All Saints is an annual observance of the church that is set aside to celebrate and remember the godly legacy of those men and women who have gone on to glory in the last year. Due to the impact of COVID-19, our Passionate Worship team has decided to take time this year to remember all those who have passed on since COVID-19 began. During worship, we will remember the following people:



Tom Morenz, Ralph and Helen Gillham, Lori Ernst, B.J. Haussler, Leroy Foster, Chris Reynolds, Jeff Broz, Pat Lacy, and Ernie Freudemann. There will also be a potluck dinner following worship that day. We hope that you will be able to join us for this special day!

Announcements

10/3 – Trustees, 7 pm

10/5 – UMW Lunch at Shine Restaurant, 3245 Westbourne Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45248, 12 pm
(call Carol Reitzes at 513-319-4204 if you have questions or need a ride)

10/9 – Church Ministry Fair (after worship)

10/17 – Finance 6:30; Administrative Board 7 pm

10/22 – Trunk or Treat, 12 noon–2 pm

10/23 – All Saints Celebration & Church Potluck

10/26 – Community Dinner, 6 pm

11/5 – Great Indoor Christmas-theme yard sale benefiting Sissy's Pantry

11/14 – Church Conference, 6 pm

Zoom Prayer Meeting – Wednesdays 6:00-6:30 pm

Sissy's Pantry – Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm

Bible Studies

Sunday School 9 am, upstairs classrooms

Women's Bible Study, Mondays at 10 am (9:30 am on first Monday of the month) at church

Thursdays, 10:30 am, at church with John Wieman

TOGA (Thursdays on Green Acres), 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7pm @ 5609 Green Acres Ct., 45248

Mondays, 7 pm—starting Oct. 10—at church with John Wieman, studying *Return of the Gods* by Jonathan Cahn

Online Giving

Do you know you can now give on our church website? Simply go to www.oakhillsumc.org and click give in the bar at the top of the page or scan the QR code below and go directly to our online giving portal.



iPhones Needed

We are seeking to improve the quality of our online stream. If you have an iPhone 11 Pro or more recent that you are no longer using (the ones with 3 camera lenses), or if you plan to upgrade to the iPhone 14 when it comes it, please consider donating your old phone to the church. This will allow us to use multiple camera shots for an improved viewing experience online. Thanks!

Amazon Smile

Oak Hills United Methodist Church is now set up as a beneficiary on Amazon Smile. This gives a small percentage of each purchase you make at Amazon back to the church. We would encourage you to go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0873960> to connect your Amazon account to Oak Hills United Methodist Church.

Step 1: Go to *smile.amazon.com* every time you shop on Amazon.

Step 2: Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com.

Step 3: Search for Oak Hills United Methodist Church.

Step 4: Select **Oak Hills United Methodist Church** in Cincinnati (there is also one in Austin, Texas listed so be sure not to grab that one).

Step 5: Go to *smile.amazon.com* when you shop at Amazon. If you just go to *amazon.com*, it won't give back to the church.

Church Conference

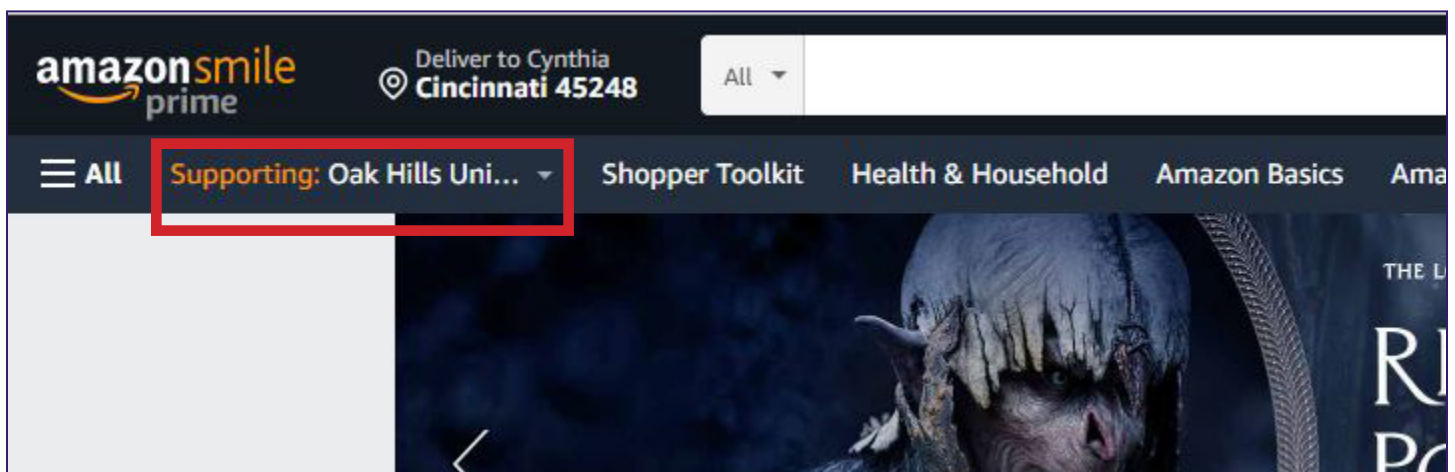
Our annual church conference will be held on Monday, November 14 at 6 p.m. During this time, we will vote on whether to move forward with the sale of the parsonage located at 2701 Ebenezer Road. Pastor Justin, upon receiving his appointment here, opted not to move into the parsonage and instead receives a housing allowance as a part of his compensation package. The administrative board wrestled with whether we should rent or sell, but ultimately opted for selling the parsonage.

Renting does not appear to be a viable option at this time for at least two reasons: (1) the home needs extensive repairs which the church cannot afford, and (2) there isn't anyone in our congregation who desires to serve as a landlord. Selling makes more sense for several reasons: (1) The housing market is hot. (2) The price of homes in our zip code continues to rise. (3) The renovations needed to make the home marketable are not as great as they are for renting. (4) We anticipate that proceeds would likely generate between \$270,000 and \$300,000 in income that could be used to offset the cost of repairs and improvements that will be needed in the upcoming years of the church's existence, among them a new church roof.

All official members of Oak Hills United Methodist Church have voice and vote in this matter. We invite you to pray, encourage you to ask any questions, and ask that you come prepared to act on this matter.

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Justin will be on vacation from Monday, October 10 – Sunday, October 16. Cindy Lanning will be speaking on Sunday, October 16. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact **Rev. Scott Meeker of Zion UMC (Clevs) at 513-617-5952**. For all other church related questions, please contact **Bob Schloss (513-702-7118)**, **Amit Dutta (513-658-2867)**, or **Lorna Dutta (317-503-0894)**.



2023 Proposed Leadership Slate:

The following slate has been proposed by our nominations committee, to be approved at our 2022 Church Conference on Monday, November 14 at 6 p.m. Red names (color is visible in online version) are new.

Administrative Board

Chair: Mary Flannery

Pastor: Justin Fuhrmann

Finance Chair/Lay Leader: Bob Schloss

SPPRC Chair: Kim Warman

Trustee Chair: Anthony Smith

Treasurer/UMW: Mary Atkinson

Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Risk Taking

Missions Rep: Linda Wise

Lay Delegate: Diane Cordell

Radical Hospitality Rep: Sue Schloss

Faith Forming Relationships Rep: Kathy Cramerding

Passionate Worship Rep: Karen Freudemann

Youth and Family: Amit and Lorna Dutta

Staff, Pastor, Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC)

Chair: Kim Warman

Pastor Justin Fuhrmann

Diane Cordell

Tami Ernst

LaRue Janson)

Jennifer Meyer

Sherilyn Reynolds

Kris Smith

Bob Schloss

Finance

Chair: Bob Schloss

Pastor Justin Fuhrmann

Diane Cordell (Lay Delegate)

Mary Flannery (Board Chair)

Kim Warman (SPPRC Chair)

Anthony Smith (Trustee Chair)

Mary Atkinson (Treasurer)

Linda Wise (Financial Secretary)

Nominations

Chair: Pastor Justin Fuhrmann

Bob Schloss (Lay Leader)

Joan Seurkamp

Carol Reitzes

Marjie Bauer

Kathy Cramerding

Linda Wise

Amit Dutta

Coty Dance

Karen Freudemann

Trustees

Chair: Anthony Smith

Sally Wieman

Scott Wieman

Steve Meyer

Michael Kleimeyer

Rae Shaeperklaus

Tim Janson

Michael Hirsch

Endowment

Chair: John Wieman

Pastor Justin Fuhrmann

Bob Schloss (Finance Chair)

Mary Atkinson (Treasurer)

Anthony Smith (Trustee Chair)

Mary Flannery (Board Chair)

Alan Cordell

Jennifer Meyer

Sarah Rihm

Proposed Leadership Slate continues on next page

Team 1: Radical Hospitality

Team Lead/Pantry: Sue Schloss
Bob Schloss
Mary Atkinson
Kathy Cramerding
David and Ronda Glassmeyer
Cheryl Ackerman
Rose McDowell
Mary Flannery
Kim Warman
Carrie Sicking
Yvonne Foster
Jeanne Coble
Dawna McWilliams
Margie Bauer

Team 3: Faith Forming Relationships

Team Lead/Children's
Ministry: Kathy
Cramerding

Family Pastors: Amit and Lorna
Dutta
Pastor Justin Fuhrmann
Women's: Lissa Hubbard
Women's: Rae Schaeperklaus
Adult Sunday School: John
Wieman

Team 4: Risk Taking Missions


Team Lead: Linda Wise
Cindy Lanning
Peggy Morenz
Barb Beckmann

Youth and Family Ministry Team


Family Pastors: Amit and Lorna
Dutta
Pastor Justin Fuhrmann
Kathy Cramerding
Kim Warman
Joe Heath
Mary Flannery
David Glassmeyer
Ronda Glassmeyer
Mary Grace Heath

Team 2: Passionate Worship:

Team Lead/Band: Karen Freudemann
Pastor Justin Fuhrmann
Lay Speaker: Diane Cordell/Cindy Lanning
Décor: Margie Bauer
Puppets/Communion: Mary Flannery
Media/Sound: David Freudemann
Michael Kleimeyer
Melissa Fuhrmann
Amit Dutta
Lorna Dutta



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Emmanuel Tradition
FOR PERSONS 60 AND OLDER



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- Hope for Christ's love to be real in every relationship you have, and
- Wish to make a deeper impact on the world and your community of faith by living a life centered on Jesus, then

Face to Face *is for you.*
facetoface.upperroom.org

Montfort Heights United Methodist Church
3682 W Fork Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
August 22, 24, 27, 29, 2022
For More Information
Call Linda St Myers 513-402-7587
Sandi Fenstermacher 513-532-2872

UR20

Praying Through the Storms of Life

by Diane Cordell

“the Lord is at hand.” (Philippians 4:5)

I was thinking of several specific guidelines for prayer this month when things cascaded out of control. All of a sudden people we loved were in serious danger and our winter home was within the wide path of a fierce storm named Ian. It was time to quit thinking and PRAY!

If there is any time that you absolutely know you are NOT in charge it's in watching a hurricane approach. When and where will it touch land? Will there be a surge? Will the kids need to evacuate? Fortunately our son has lived in Florida awhile, and took the family to the East Coast. The wait for the storm's arrival is tedious and time passes slowly. My niece who also lives in Ft. Myers said that “Waiting for a hurricane to land is like being stalked by a turtle!”

I know you all have seen many pictures of the devastation—particularly in Southwest Florida. Our building had a 7-foot water surge which gushed into the ground floor and ruined the lobby and drowned over 30 cars in the garage—including ours. The kids' house was spared the surge, but they may not have power for a while and are still with cousins. But we are fortunate—many people lost everything!

Years ago Anne Lamott wrote a book on prayer titled, *Help! Thanks! Wow!* (Penguin Group USA, New York, NY, 2012). Although I don't agree with all of her theology, I do like her practical way of communing with God. This book title is her ultimate prayer—use your own modifiers.

Help those who are hurting!

Thanks for keeping so many (including my family) safe.

Wow God! Even in the power of your creation you show love for us.

At a time when things are tough, the world is rushing in, and it's hard to concentrate and not panic, remember this prayer. Always ask God for help and turn the situation over to Him. Thank him for your many blessings such as family and health. Praise Him for His creation and for His love. Wow! Ω



Do not be anxious
about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV





October 2022

OHUMC Family Ministries

I Corinthians 3:6-7



I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

Upcoming Family Ministries Events:

Trunk or Treat - Saturday, Oct. 22nd from 12 pm - 2 pm

What: A fun family fall event with candy for kids in costumes, grilled hot dogs, games, crafts, corn hole, and fellowship - invite your friends!



All Saints Sunday Potluck & Operation Christmas Child Donation Drive - Sunday, October 23rd

What: Bring a dish to share and a monetary donation to help the youth group pack Operation Christmas Child in November.



Shoebox Party - Sunday, November 13th, from 9 am - 10:20 am

What: Packing shoeboxes and eating Christmas breakfast food - Join us!



Consecration Sunday Catered Potluck Dinner - Sunday, November 20th

What: A delicious catered meal by Kim Warman's family - respond to her with a number in attendance by *Sunday, November 6th*.



Jesus' Birthday Party - Sunday, December 18th

What: Birthday party for Jesus with games during Sunday School and more fun activities during JAM time - all kids bring a gift to share with another child in need.



Christmas Candlelight Family Service - December 24th from 7 pm - 8:30 pm

What: Family gathering led by Pastor Justin & a kids and youth Christmas presentation.

OHUMC Kids & Youth Update:

Sunday school is from 9-10:20 am every Sunday. Join for a Bible-based lesson with crafts and prizes you can take home! Then enjoy JAM (Jesus and Me) in the Sunday school hall during the main worship service. Puppets also visit the worship service multiple times a month, and that's always an exciting time!

The youth enjoy meeting weekly for group time on Sunday mornings at 9:30 for a fresh coffee bar and breakfast. We are talking about the book of I Corinthians and how we can be a part of God's growing church. We are learning some principles of Christian living as it relates to behavior, morals, and interpersonal relationships. This past weekend, a group of us visited the Creation Museum and had a great time learning about how our God has created a beautiful, majestic world full of order and much beauty. Please come and enjoy one of our other upcoming events. Please feel free to share any suggestions for Family Ministries with Amit Dutta at amitincincy@gmail.com.

Below are some picture updates: Our group at the Creation Museum; the kids taking communion with their parents; the youth group painting fun glitter canvas shoes

