

# The Window

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

---

JUNE 2019

---

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

Recently, a problem walked through my door, and I began reflecting on the kinds of things I did not ever want to deal with in ministry and the kinds of things I didn't ever expect to have to do. Decades ago, when I began in full-time ministry, there were things I hoped never to have to do.

I knew funerals were inevitable, but hoped never to have to do the funeral of a child, but I did it. It never occurred to me I would one day do the funeral of someone who overdosed.

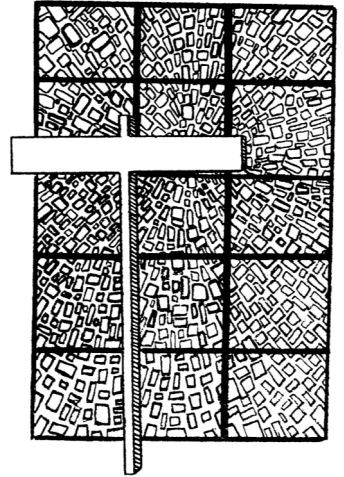
I knew from the beginning that protecting children from predators was important, and prayed I would never have to deal with someone who had hurt a child on my watch. I didn't, at least, not in church. It never occurred to me we would have to put protocols in place to protect children from their own family members. I knew accidents happen, but prayed I would never have to deal with a violent death or unexpected tragedy. I've done both.

As the years rolled past, I began praying I would never have a terrorist attack on my watch, or a natural disaster. I've done follow up for both, but not in my parish, fortunately. During this time of reflection, I've noticed a few things that have broad application:

- None of us can predict the worse things that could happen. But we have to have our spirits prepared to trust in God to pull us through.
- We are all stronger than we realize when we rely on the power of the Holy Spirit. There are things I've done that I could not have done relying on my own strength and abilities.
- The worst thing is never the last thing when God is around. There is always hope, always possibilities, always God's peace.

As I prepare to leave OUMC, I have become quite contemplative. I have been remembering our good times together, marvelous events

Shared and powerful ministry we've done together. I'll be sharing those memories in these final weeks, along with a message of hope for the future. Thanks be to God.



## **POST GENERAL CONFERENCE 2019**

Following worship one Sunday, I led an information session regarding the events at General Conference 2019 and what we might expect to see as decisions affecting the local church during the next few years. I discovered that newspaper accounts of what is happening are confusing many people as are the online comments on Facebook and in other places. Please refer to United Methodist web sites to get accurate information.

In summary, The General Conference in February recommended that the United Methodist Church retain its prohibitions against same sex marriages and against ordaining homosexual clergy.

The problems arise in how to enforce this in areas like the Western Jurisdiction, where conferences in several states are already doing both. This is in contrast with many African and Middle Eastern conferences where the practice of homosexuality is forbidden by law. How do we, as United Methodists, operate in all these places? The General Conference had many recommendations for enforcing the prohibitions. The legal arm of the church has declared that most of those recommendations are not consistent with the constitution of the United Methodist Church (yes, we have a Constitution). Continued on page 4

*Our OUMC Family*



**Our Condolences To~~~**

**To the family and friends of Wilma Elliott.**

**Our Congratulations To~~~~**

**The confirmation class of 2019, Amelia Shaum, Nate Christian, Nick Nagel, Ayvette Knapp, Aaron Ryan, and Moe Bolen.**

**Natalie Stevens graduating from Mount Vernon Nazarene College on May 4th with a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She is the daughter of Tony & Jackie Duncan.**

**Congratulations to Abbey & Logan Schwing. Logan graduated from University of Cincinnati, and Abbey graduated from Ohio University. Proud parents are Larry & Donna Schwing and grandparents Carl & Lois Crider.**

**Celebration Days~~~**

**Birthdays**

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 3 Val Toth         | 15 Ron Seifley   |
| 6 Rachel Miller    | 15 Lyn Fisher    |
| 7 Linda Eyerly     | 23 Alice Seifley |
| 8 Beth Strohming   | 24 Buzz Rupe     |
| 10 Rob Chilcote    | 25 Rob Roth      |
| 11 Katherine Beach | 29 Jeromy Bolen  |
| 15 Georgie Kaber   | 29 Kyler Dille   |
| 15 Don Yeager      |                  |

**Anniversaries**

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Wayne & Jenny Motley | 16 Keith & Sue Kisling     |
| 7 Tim & Kathy Strunk   | 24 Dennis & Ruth Atkeson   |
| 7 Bob & Linda Eyerly   | 27 Terry & Gloria Loughman |
|                        | 30 Dave & Bonnie Fisher    |

*Congratulations on your special day!!*

*Leave your birthday and anniversary dates at the Welcome Center to be included in Celebration Day lists.*

**THANK YOU ~~~~**

The friends of the Harmony House would like to thank Ontario United Methodist Church for the use of Giffin Hall for the annual Soup Supper. They would also like to thank the members of the congregation for bringing in soup and cookies to share. #1,300.00 in profit was made this year thanks to this wonderful, caring church.

You are invited to Pastor Peg's Party in Giffin Hall following worship on June 23! For the past six years, Pastor Peg has provided our congregation with leadership in worship, prayer, Bible study, outreach and pastoral care. She has served as pastor to Methodist churches for the past 25 years. There will be an opportunity to share with Pastor Peg and Ash Welch as we enjoy a fellowship meal prepared by our good cooks led by Nan Shaw. Please plan to attend as we wish Pastor Peg all of God's blessings as she retires from pastoral ministry.

Also, we will be giving Pastor Peg a retirement gift and if you would like to contribute to that, plan to do so by June 16. Contributions can be dropped off or sent to the church office or place in the offering on Sunday morning. If using a check, make it payable to OUMC and marked for Pastor Peg. Cards and notes of appreciation are welcome.

**SILENT, STRONG DAD**

He never looks for praises.  
He's never one to boast.  
He just goes on quietly working  
For those he loves the most.  
His dreams are seldom spoken.  
His wants are very few,  
And most of the time his worries  
Will go unspoken, too.  
He's there...a firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life,  
A sturdy hand to hold onto  
In times of stress and strife.  
A true friend we can turn to  
When times are good or bad.  
One of our greatest blessings,  
The man that we call Dad.

**Happy Father's Day!!**

**Happy Summer!!**