

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Isaiah 43:18-19

In the past, God, through the prophet Isaiah warns His chosen people, the nation of Israel, that He was going to punish them for their unfaithfulness to Him. He will cause them to be defeated and taken captive by their enemies and they will be exiles in a foreign land away from home for years.

In this text, God is speaking to His people concerning a new thing that He is going to do for them. In other words, things will change in the future. No, they will no longer be the same because God is including them in His future plans.

Today, God is sending forth a promise of hope that can only be received when we choose to let go and forget the past and receive what He has now has in store for us.

Just like the children of Israel, we too have a choice. We could meditate on our past or we could focus upon what God wants to do in and through our lives now and in the future.

How will we respond to God's promise concerning our future? Let go and forget the past in order to receive the promise!

devotional by Debra Aiken, 2018

July 11 Worship Participants

Worship Service 11:00 AM

Pastor: Rev. Tanya Spencer

Music Director: Meiko Reigelman

Liturgist: Dianne Brent

A/V Operator: Margot Ip

Greeter: Marilyn Henning

The flowers on the altar on July 11 are given by Doug and Derith Pearl, in memory of their aunt *Philomenia Paglia*, and by Candy Carberry, in memory of her father, *Frank Condon*.



Help us welcome Pastor Tanya to OPUMC and join us after worship on **Sunday, July 11** for fellowship hour! Enjoy camaraderie, bottled drinks and pre-packaged snacks on the lawn.



Upcoming Events

July 11 @ 11 AM:

Sunday worship

July 11 @ 12 PM:

Fellowship Hour

July Birthdays

Beth Stuart (7/7)

Merrill Porter (7/8)

Donna Gray (7/9)

Ed Nuse (7/11)

Jan Nuse (7/11)

Jonah Liggett (7/18)

George Slocum (7/21)

Linda Carroll (7/24)

Phyllis Cooper (7/25)

Prayer Requests

- Vignesh Stradley and his family Vignesh is not having the hip and leg surgery until it is really needed (possibly 1-3 years).
- *Corley Gordon recovering from knee replacement* surgery
- Donna Kroh's friend Linda recurrence of cancer
- Marie Gorman recovering from a fall.
- Joan Zimmerman health
- Lurly Hunsberger

Have a prayer request you'd like to share? Has God answered your prayer? Email opumc@verizon.net. We will include your prayer request or praise report in next week's NewsFlash.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

Thank you to this month's St. Pauly's Clothing Shed volunteers!

Art Cooper (7/4), Linda Carroll (7/11)

Dan Liggett (7/18), Mike Waters (7/25)



Orchard Park United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation.

We celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

Orchard Park United Methodist Church

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