

# FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ORLAND PARK

## FAITH MATTERS

Faith Matters  
June 2023



### Changeover Zone

*"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."*

- Philippians 1:6

There is a unique part of a track-and-field relay race known as the changeover zone. This is the section of the track where one runner passes the baton to the next runner. If this is done well, the transition looks smooth and effortless. If this is done poorly, it can ruin the entire race.

For the first time in 13 years, Faith UMC of Orland Park is in the changeover zone involving the senior pastor. When I was appointed to Faith in July 2010, I experienced a wonderful "passing of the baton." The previous pastors paved the way for me to start well. Our congregation welcomed me with open arms. Church leaders gave me permission to take risks - including space to make mistakes.

*"History tells sad stories of good churches that are calcified as monuments to former pastors."*

- Colin Hansen

Last month, I attended a pastoral transition workshop. The workshop presenter shared that while transitions are difficult for both pastors and congregations, they can be times for new growth and development. He offered 5 Keys to a positive pastoral transition. (I'll share 2 Keys.)

The first (and most important step) involves ATTITUDE. If we're going to have a positive transition, we need a positive and hopeful attitude. Even before we know the name of the new pastor, we can celebrate God's grace and ongoing work among us. We can encourage one another to be grateful & gracious & optimistic for the future.

Second, let's saturate this time with our PRAYERS. In the midst of uncertainty and/or anxiety, let's pray for the incoming pastor and family. Let's pray for the outgoing pastor and family. Let's pray for one another - our congregation members and families. Let's pray for the people in our neighborhoods and community, who God is calling us to love during this period of change.

The Changeover Zone is a unique and special time. Sure, there are challenges, but there are also opportunities. So, let's be hopeful and prayerful. Let's keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who is not done with us yet.

### Closing Words

When I look back on my years as a pastor, I cannot help but smile. I am living proof that God has a sense of humor. I wrestled with doubts. I offered lots of excuses. I was convinced that God made a mistake in calling someone like me to pastoral ministry. Over the years, I was reminded that 1 - God doesn't make mistakes and 2 - God equips us (individually / communally) in unexpected ways.

### INSIDE

- \* Family Ministries
- \* United Methodist Men
- \* United Women in Faith
- \* Fellowship Events



I never saw myself as a leader. I never saw myself as a public speaker. I struggled for many years with stage fright. For God, this was not a problem. As the apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Needless to say, God has always been faithful, and you (Faith UMC of Orland Park) have been gracious.

Thank you for allowing me to journey with you – to pray with you – to laugh with you – to cry with you – to share your burdens. It has been a privilege and honor serving as your pastor – growing with you, and doing my best to guide our ministry. Just as I came to Faith knowing that God was doing a good work in us, I leave Faith with confidence that God is not done with our congregation yet. I am excited about Faith’s next chapter under the pastoral leadership of Pastor Jacques. I am excited to hear about the ways Faith will continue to love God, serve others, and bring people to Jesus Christ through worship, education, mission, and fellowship.

God loves you and so do I,  
Pastor Caleb



***Congratulations!***  
*on your*  
***Confirmation***



***2023 Lake South District Confirmation Class  
May 21, 2023***



## Sanctu-brary

Sunday School has gone on break for the summer, and with it we welcome more joyful voices into our sanctuary. I want to take the opportunity to tell parents that these voices are welcome in our services, and that we embrace all the noises and wiggling that comes with being a kid into our Sanctuary. To help with some of the wiggles, I am introducing a new thing I am calling our "Sanctu-brary" (Sanctuary Library) to provide kids books to read along with the regular worship folders. The sanctu-brary currently has a few books and a series of 10 bible themed graphic novels. If you are interested in helping stock the sanctu-brary with more books, you can look at the list on my office door, crossing off books that you order. Or you can look up age appropriate Christian themed books and graphic novels to show me to approve.

We know that children are not just the church of the future, they are the church now, and we welcome them into every part of our worship on Sunday. We hope that this is one way that helps them to participate.

-Jamie



There is still time to volunteer and/or sign up for our June 26 - 30 VBS.  
Contact Miss Jamie at:  
[kids@faithumcop.org](mailto:kids@faithumcop.org) with any questions.





## Faith Matters June 2023



The first small group of studying The Chosen ended on 5/13. The group consisted of 34 people who all enjoyed food while watching an episode of the series, we then discussed it in small groups before reconvening together for a large group discussion. This group was so successful we are now going to continue to meet. We are currently coming up with a plan and a schedule to continue on. If this is something that you would be interested in joining, contact Diane Barnett at 708-651-0368 or [dmbbarnett@gmail.com](mailto:dmbbarnett@gmail.com).



Worry can sometimes be the fear we make up in our minds, over and over. We can become trapped in a never-ending cycle of "what ifs". But if we "let go and let God", our worries will lessen with prayer and meditation. The Bible gives us positive affirmation of God's never-ending love for us. Remember the power of prayer lifts the burdens of life that we carry and makes worry less heavy.

If you need help, contact pastor or Bruce Person Stephens, Ministry coordinator.

*"Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

*Matthew 11:28*

Worry Less....Pray More  
Nancy Duracka



We will be celebrating our 2023 graduates the weekend of June 3 & 4 during the services.

### ***Endowment Committee:***

Hi everyone from your Endowment Committee. We met on Tuesday, May 9th for our regular scheduled meeting & all members were there.

We had received 3 grant requests from the following organizations & I'm happy to report all were unanimously approved - HHH Ranch in Manhattan, IL. The Bridge Teen Center in Orland Park, IL, and Together We Cope in Tinley Park, IL. I was able to meet with Priscilla Steinmetz from The Bridge to personally deliver the check & was given a tour of their facility. What an amazing organization. Priscilla also mentioned that Pastor Caleb has been very supportive of their organization by giving of his time to some of their activities & sharing his caring personality & knowledge with the youth who come to their functions.

Christine Beechler from HHH Ranch & I are working on a date for me to deliver her grant check. I'm really looking forward to learning more about that wonderful organization too!

We talked about Faith's 23rd annual "Tee Up for Youth" & how we as the Endowment Committee will be contributing towards their fundraising goals & Pastor Caleb's Luncheon on June 4th. With all business being completed, our next meeting is scheduled for July 11th.

Happy Summer,  
Paula Morrone, Chair of Endowment



# Faith Matters June 2023



**Veterans Voices:** Join a group of veterans of the armed forces of the United States. We support each other & the greater community of veterans in the area and the U.S.A. Check out the Veterans Voices Website: [www.veterans-voices.org](http://www.veterans-voices.org) . May we never forget their service to our country.

**General Membership Meeting:** This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, 6/1, 7 PM, at the Orland Park Veterans Building, 15045 S. West Ave., Orland Park. Our guest presenter will be Paul Waters, Master Sergeant, USAF (Retired). He will present his story, including his special activities in Vietnam. Pizza and drinks will be provided. Guests are welcome.

**Honor Flag:** We raise the honor flag in honor of a deceased veteran. Registration forms can be found outside Room 4. Contact Dale Carver at (762) 218-7657 or [veteransvoicesop@gmail.com](mailto:veteransvoicesop@gmail.com) for more information.

Questions? Contact Gary Lang @ 708-638-5213.

*God Bless America*



**Men of Faith United Methodist Men** activities for June 2023, and beyond!

**Men of Faith Sunrise Breakfast:** The Sunrise Breakfast will be on Sunday, 6/11, at 7:30 AM. Breakfast will be provided. We will eat breakfast, review upcoming events, and Dale Carver will present a short devotional.

**Lake South District UMM 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet:** Saturday, 6/10, noon-4 PM, Ramada Inn Dynasty Room, 4141 Calumet, Hammond, IN. This is a banquet lunch and awards ceremony. Jim Simmons is one of the four persons to be recognized for 2023. Additionally, the district will be saying goodbye to Pastor Caleb at this event. Tickets are \$40 per person. Contact Dale Carver for tickets or more information. Deadline for reservations is 6/4.

**Promise Keepers Breakfast:** Wednesday, 6/21, 8:30 AM at Stacks Restaurant. Stacks is located at the corner of Harlem Avenue and 183rd Street. Jim Simmons will lead the meeting.

**Lake South District UMM Wednesday Night Bible Study:** The Bible Study group is going on summer hiatus starting 6/1. Announcements about the fall start-up date will be published toward the end of the summer.

**Northern Illinois Conference Spiritual Congress:** 9/15-9/17, Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

Questions? Contact Dale Carver @ 762-218-7657 or [aonemanshow@comcast.net](mailto:aonemanshow@comcast.net)

## Worlds of DC/Marvel

Looking forward to meeting everyone interested in comics and related subjects at our first meeting on June 13th from 7-8 PM. We will share our personal preferences for DC or Marvel comics. We'll talk about building our own personal collections. If you have any special comics you'd like to share with the group, please bring it/ them with you to the meeting.

Question, please call or text Dave at 708.439.4250 or Steve at 708.915.9878.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"You're better than just a father. You're a DADDY!"  
from JoyfulNoiseletter.com  
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**Pastoral Emergency Fund**

**Objective:** Provide monetary assistance to our neighbors in need.



**Background:** Faith currently has a designated fund that provides bill assistance and gift cards to our neighbors who express need. By donating to the Pastoral Emergency Fund, your resources will be used by Faith's pastor to assist with bill payments and gift card assistance.

**How to help:** You can donate to the Pastoral Emergency Fund by mailing a check to Faith United Methodist Church, 15101 S. 80<sup>th</sup> Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462. Please make checks payable to Faith United Methodist Church. In the memo line of the check write Pastoral Emergency Fund for your donation to be used towards bill assistance. Or, in the memo line of the check write Pastoral Emergency Fund - Gift Cards if you would like for your donation to be used to purchase gift cards for assistance.

You will be credited on your giving statements for donations to the Pastor Emergency Fund.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Caleb at [pastorcaleb@faithumcop.org](mailto:pastorcaleb@faithumcop.org) or 815-474-3136 (cell).

**THANKFUL THURSDAY**

Will be taking a break for the summer.  
Watch for information about our picnic in September.  
Enjoy your summer!

If you have any questions about the Thankful Thursday group, contact:  
Dorothy Wertzbauger  
at  
708-370-7504





**Tee Up for Youth - Save the Date:**

On Sunday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup> we are planning a day of golf & fun to benefit our children & youth ministries! We are having a more family friendly event. There will be a **mini golf outing** at Tinley Junction Mini Golf, located at 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 170<sup>th</sup> Place, in Grove Park, Tinley Park. There also will be sign-ups for 9 holes of golf at White Mountain, 179<sup>th</sup> & LaGrange, Tinley Park (note: change of venue) for those that would rather do that. Then we will meet back at the church at 4 PM where you can view & bid on the Silent Auction items, and there will be a pizza dinner at 5 PM. Full day of FUN!! We will start selling tickets on July 8/9.

**Mark your calendars! You don't want to miss this event!**



**UPCOMING  
FELLOWSHIP & SINGLES  
EVENTS**

Thursday, June 22 @  
11:30 AM  
**Letty Mae's Tea Room in  
Morris (no individual  
checks)** (sign up outside  
Room 4, CARPOOL)



Sunday, July 16 @ 1 PM  
**Lunch at the Melting Pot  
in Downers Grove**  
sign up outside Room 4,  
CARPOOL. Cost about \$104 per 2.



*To my family at FAITH,  
Thank you for all the  
cards and prayers for my  
continuing recovery from  
knee surgery.*

*It is very much  
appreciated.*

*Sincerely, Ed Kawczynski*



*Thank you*

WE APPRECIATE YOU, PASTOR

We thank God every time we think about you. And we pray for you with joy because of your partnership with us in the gospel.  
Philippians 1: 3-4

*Dear Faith Family,*

*Thank you very much for all the ways  
you've supported, encouraged, & cheered me!  
Your continuing prayers are appreciated greatly!  
You are amazing!*

*God loves you & so do I,*

*Jill Damrow*

**THANK YOU!**

**Pastor Caleb's Keepsake book**

Help send Caleb off with a book of memories and messages from all of us.

Cards can be submitted or blank notecards will be available outside Room 4, to write a personal message to Pastor Caleb.

Deadline for submissions is June 11.

Questions? Contact: Sandy Ward  
(sandy60462@yahoo.com or  
708-349-7490).



Faith Matters  
June 2023



Mark your calendars. Our next Blood drive will be July 23 from 9 AM - 1 PM.

Thank you,  
Debbi Sumner



**Tai Chi:**  
Meetings at the church on Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 AM.  
Call Bill Grizzle for more information.  
708-636-5330.

**“Witness to Fitness”**  
meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday, at 9:00 AM for exercise, fellowship and walking class. Call Darryl Wertheim with questions 708-781-9696. God Bless !!



If you're still wondering what our RaiseRight program is all about, please stop

by our table in the church lobby between services on Sundays. I would be happy to explain how buying gift cards helps fund our adult and youth mission trips. A list of all the cards we offer can be picked up at the table. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Blessings,  
Genie Lang



*Faith United Methodist Church is a church family dedicated to bringing people to Jesus Christ through worship, education, mission, and fellowship.*



While we have received many, we are still missing a lot of information sheets from our Faith families. Please make sure if you have not filled out a form with yours and your family's information, please do so asap. There are forms at the Welcome Center. We can also send you a form if necessary.

By now, if you have signed up for the new directory, you should have received an email with directions on confirming your email. If you did not receive an email from MICHELLE BABICS, please contact Michelle so she can research the problem.

If you have confirmed your email but don't know what to do next, reach out to Michelle Babics, Linda Bitzer or Beth Kawczynski.

If necessary, we will make some time before and after services to help create the logins. Watch the bulletin for updates. If you have any questions, contact Michelle Babics at [michelle@faithumcp.org](mailto:michelle@faithumcp.org).







### Weekly E-Notes

Weekly e-notes continue. These are short news blasts (different from our monthly newsletters) that Pastor Caleb sends out each week. Each note contains a short devotion and a reminder of "news" for the upcoming week. The goal of the weekly e-notes is simple: to improve communication within our church family. If you'd like to subscribe to this mailing list, go to our church website ([www.faithumcop.org](http://www.faithumcop.org)) and sign up.

### Nursery Help Needed



We are in need of a team of volunteers to help occasionally when one of our attendants is ill or on vacation. We want to ensure that our nursery is able to offer an excellent, inviting, and safe environment for our youngest children. Volunteers need to have attended a Safe Sanctuary class within the past 3 years. If you are willing to assist occasionally with this important job for Sunday services or have questions, please contact Kathy Broadhurst at (708) 535-3591.

### Check out our website: [www.faithumcop.org](http://www.faithumcop.org).

Attn: All committee chairs should review their web page information to ensure accuracy of information. Provide updates to Michelle Babics ([Michelle@faithumcop.org](mailto:Michelle@faithumcop.org)).

### Strategic Goals

Bless Children & Youth  
Deepen Discipleship  
Broaden Missional Impact

### Deadlines

Please forward all articles/information/photos for the monthly newsletter and for the Sunday bulletin to: [faith@faithumcop.org](mailto:faith@faithumcop.org). The deadline for all newsletter articles is noon **the 15th of each month**; the deadline for the bulletin information is **Wednesday at noon**. Be certain to indicate if the news is for the bulletin and/or the newsletter.

### Faith United Methodist Church

15101 South 80th Avenue  
Orland Park, IL 60462  
708.444.8560

E-mail: [faith@faithumcop.org](mailto:faith@faithumcop.org)

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Saturday Service: Blended - 4 PM  
Sunday Services: Traditional - 9:00 AM  
Contemporary - 11:00 AM  
Nursery - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Church Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM — 3:00 PM  
Friday 8:30 AM—12:00 PM

Caleb Hong: Pastor  
Beth Ridderhoff, Director of Music  
Jamie Meehan, Director of Family Ministries  
Jim Sandberg: Director of Congregational Care  
Sally Puzon: Office Manager  
Sandy Ward: Program Coordinator  
Michelle Babics: Director of AV Ministries  
Rolf Moan: Choir Director  
Don Lowry: Custodian

Please submit newsletter articles by the 15th of each month. Articles can be e-mailed, or submitted in MS WORD format.

### Text Messaging Sign Up



We are using a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that will help us share important **updates and reminders**. If you are interested in being added to this means of communication via text, please text to 81010 in "To" line & [@faithum](mailto:@faithum) in message line. All personal information is kept private. You can opt-out of messages at any time by replying "unsubscribe [@faithum](mailto:@faithum)". There is no charge for using this service if you have an unlimited text plan. If you have a specific text plan, each received message will be 1 text.

# Faith Matters June 2023

## **Please keep our homebound in your thoughts and prayers:**

Nancy Jeutter, Garnet Suhs, Mario Vergara, Doreen Wardell

## **Please lift up in your prayers:**

For neighbors in Chicago & around the world impacted by gun violence

For people of Ukraine and all parts of the world torn apart by war

For healthcare workers, first responders, police officers, & fire fighters

For all who struggle with sadness and depression

## **For Health & Healing:**

Al Januszewski

Alice Mossman prayers for friend Sue

Amanda Steenvoorden

Barbara Kellogg

Bob Connolly

Bob Fulton

Carol Kreuz

Chris Minetti prayers for self & boyfriend Joe

Chuck Kreuz

Darryl Wertheim prayers for sister, Christine

Debi Sumner prayers for friend, Chris

Diane Barnett

Dolores Genis

Don Edgren

Doris Fenton

Ed Kawczynski

Harold Deneka

Herb & Carmen Mohn

Jackie Konidaris prayers for grandson Tony's grandfather

Kevin Palmer for father & mother, Larry and Maureen

Lee McCasland

Marla Smith prayers for friend Jan

Marla Smith prayers for sisters Pam, April & brother Dan

Marlene Harley

Maury Junod

Meriellen Anderson

Ron Drechsel

Ron Taylor prayers for cousin, Jana

Sally Puzon prayers for friend Joe Rossi

Terry & Steve Velten for friends who lost their daughter

Theresa Philosophos & Genie Lang prayers for brother's girlfriend Emily

Theresa Philosophos prayers for grandson, Anthony

Tom Sjo

Vanessa Leon

Vicki Brudnicki prayers for husband Greg

Wendy Koch



## **Joys:**

Linda Wright & Don Edgren's 40th wedding anniversary

Thankful for repairs on Main entrance overhang

# June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>4</b> Worship 9 & 11 AM Disciple 1 10:15 AM Graduation Sunday Caleb's Celebration 12:30 PM OA 2 PM 	<b>5</b> Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM	<b>6</b> AA 6:30 PM 	<b>7</b> CODA 10 AM Upper Room 10 AM Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM	<b>1</b> WW 9:30 AM WW 6 PM AI Anon 8 PM RISE 7 PM	<b>2</b> WW 8 AM WW 10:30 AM	<b>3</b> OA 8:30 AM WW 7, 8:30, & 10 AM Worship 4 PM
<b>11</b> Worship 9 & 11 AM Disciple 1 10:15 AM OA 2 PM Safe Sanctuary 3:30 PM Ruth Circle 5 PM (Dancing Marlin)	<b>12</b> Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM Church Council 7 PM	<b>13</b> AA 6:30 PM World of DC/Marvel 7 PM	<b>14</b> CODA 10 AM Upper Room 10 AM Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM  Flag Day	<b>15</b> WW 9:30 AM WW 6 PM Rise 7 PM Finance 7 PM Zoom AI Anon 8 PM	<b>16</b> WW 8 AM WW 10:30 AM	<b>17</b> OA 8:30 AM WW 7, 8:30, & 10 AM McCord Wedding 1:30 PM Worship 4 PM
<b>18</b> Worship 9 & 11 AM OA 2 PM 	<b>19</b> Worship 10 AM Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM Juneteenth 	<b>20</b> AA 6:30 PM	<b>21</b> CODA 10 AM Upper Room 10 AM Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM 	<b>22</b> WW 9:30 AM WW 6 PM Rise 7 PM AI Anon 8 PM	<b>23</b> WW 8 AM WW 10:30 AM	<b>24</b> OA 8:30 AM WW 7, 8:30, & 10 AM Worship 4 PM
<b>25</b> Worship 9 & 11 AM OA 2 PM 	<b>26</b> Tai Chi 10:30 AM SA 7 PM	<b>27</b> AA 6:30 PM	<b>28</b> CODA 10 AM Upper Room 10 AM Tai Chi 10:30 AM Mary's Circle 11 AM SA 7 PM	<b>29</b> Rise 7 PM AI Anon 8 PM	<b>30</b>	 <b>Note: Walking Club</b> Witness to Fitness meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9-10 AM

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Key:**  
 AI-Anon - Alcoholics  
 Anonymous Group for Families  
 ALS - Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis  
 CODA - CoDependents Anonymous  
 O'Green - Financial  
 SA - Sexaholics Anonymous  
 S-Anon - Sexaholics Anonymous Group for Families



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15101 S. 80th Avenue  
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708.444.8560 faith@faithumcop.org  
website: www.faithumcop.org

Address Service Requested

### Time Sensitive Material



**JUNE 2023**

### Special Upcoming Events

- June 4 Caleb's Celebration 12:30 PM
- June 8 Trustees 7 PM
- June 11 Safe Sanctuary 3:30 PM  
Ruth Circle 5 PM
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 15 Finance 7 PM - Zoom
- June 18 Father's Day
- June 19 Juneteenth
- June 21 Summer begins
- June 26 through June 30:  
Vacation Bible School
- June 28 Mary Circle 11:30 AM

*Be sure to check bulletin for any changes and/or additions to the events listed here.*

## Periodical Mail

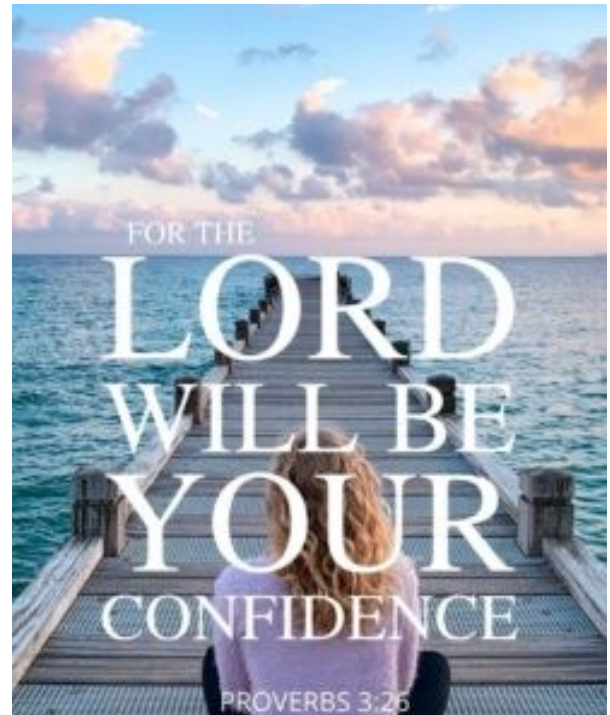
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**If you don't want this, write "refused" and return (we'll pay postage).**

( Label )

**JUNE**



Please check with the office or the committee chair for exact times and locations. See our website for other, regularly scheduled events & meetings.