

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, LARRY (LJ) & JENNIFER TAYLOR!**



LJ and Jennifer Taylor have been married for almost 7 years, but have been friends for twice that long. The Taylor family moved from Massachusetts to Orange in 2012 and immediately became involved in the community.

LJ grew up in New Bedford, MA and graduated from the University of Virginia. He is a sales manager for Equal Exchange—a fair trade company that sells coffee, tea, chocolate, and various other organic foods/oils and deals directly with the small farmers who grow their products. LJ loves music, reading, and is a huge Red Sox fan. When he is not coaching youth football or basketball (including two teams in this Upward basketball season), LJ is working behind the scenes to help keep those programs running smoothly.

Jennifer grew up in Eastern NC. After years of working in healthcare, she is now living her dream as a professional photographer and stay-at-home mom to 19 month old Morgan. Jennifer is on the leadership team for the MOPS group here at

OBC and involved behind the scenes in several of the activities their kids are involved in. She is an avid runner who also loves music, Red Sox baseball, and being outside.

Jacob Woodson is 18 and is currently attending a local college with the intention of majoring in Computer Engineering. When he's not in school, he can be found working at Wise Guys. In his spare time, Jacob has taught himself to play the guitar, ukulele, and cajon drum. He also enjoys running, movies, and listening to music.

Adam Dorsey is 12 and goes to middle school here in Orange. He plays football, basketball, runs track, and has been on the same Destination Imagination team for the last few years. Adam loves spending time outdoors and playing video games with his friends.

Grace is 5 and in kindergarten. She is currently in her first season of Upward Basketball and loves it. Grace loves spending time with her family and enjoys putting on dancing/singing performances for them. She also loves reading and spending time with her friends.

The Taylor family is looking forward to becoming more involved at OBC and getting to know more of their new church family.

**WELCOME MARTHA MIKULA, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC!**



We are excited to introduce our new Director of Music, Martha Mikula. Martha has decades of experience in churches, and most recently comes to us from Madison, VA. She has been the Artistic Director of the Madison Choral Society, and was the Founding Director of the Bel Canto Vocal Ensemble. We have grown to know her over the years as she has played organ for our Singing Christmas Tree and other services. Martha brings a wealth of knowledge, skills, and experience to OBC, and will play a vital role in our staff. We are grateful to God for leading Martha to us, and we look forward to continuing our excellence in music through her leadership. Martha was planning on beginning on March 1, but due to pneumonia her arrival will be delayed by a week or so.

We will have a reception to welcome her on Sunday, April 2 after worship. Please plan to worship with us and celebrate Martha's arrival at the reception.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thur., MARCH 2:** Ruth Kersey Circle will meet at Dogwood Village at noon. Bring a sandwich.

**Sat., MARCH 4:** All State Choir, Richmond's First Baptist Church, Richmond, VA.

**Mon., MARCH 6:** Valerie Payne circle will meet at church at 11 AM. Bring a sandwich.

**Tues., MARCH 7:** WMU Executive meeting and dinner in the Pine Room at 5:30 PM.

**Sat., MARCH 11:** Upward Basketball closing ceremony at PHMS.

**Sun., MARCH 12:** WMU Semi-Annual meeting following worship service. Luncheon will be for WMU only. Kay Culpeper circle will meet after the WMU meeting.

**Tues., MARCH 14:** 6:45 PM Finance Committee. 7:30 Missions Committee.

**Sun., MARCH 19:** Business meeting following morning worship.

**Sun., MARCH 26:** WMU Make and Bake following morning worship.

**Tues., MARCH 28:** 7 PM Deacons meeting.

The 20th of each month is the deadline for items to be submitted for the newsletter.

## Children's Mission Consultant to Speak at WMU Meeting

Rhonda Marstin, Children's Mission Consultant for WMUV, will be the featured speaker at the OBC WMU meeting on March 12. Rhonda has a heart for children's missions and is widely respected as a consultant and speaker.

The meeting will immediately follow the worship service and a light luncheon in the Pine Room will be served for the WMU and anyone interested in hearing Rhonda speak. Don't miss this opportunity!

## WMU HAPPENINGS: MAKE AND BAKE AUCTION Sun., March 26

The WMU ladies will have their annual Make and Bake Auction on Sun., March 26 following morning worship. There will be a potato bar luncheon with a love offering being collected.

The WMU is asking for donated items of baked goods and/or homemade items to be auctioned for the purpose of supporting upcoming camps for our youth.

## HAPPY AGERS

All are welcome to join the Happy Agers. Call Cornelia Craun, 672-4705, or Doris Shumake, 672-4139, if you wish to attend any of the events or have questions.

Food Lion/Wells Fargo is the meeting place for all outings.

March:

Tues., March 21, 11 AM meet to leave for lunch at Michie Tavern and a tour of the tavern. Total cost is \$26.00. Payable to Doris or Cornelia by March 19.

44 Happy Agers enjoyed the Million Dollar Quartet last month at Riverside Dinner Theater.

Think about joining us in any or all our outings. It is great fun.

## DEACONS FOR MARCH

Tom Reynolds  
Crit Bartley  
Larry Lloyd  
Rea Cooper  
Patricia Salyers

Samantha Reynolds  
Dorothy Cluff  
Cornelia Craun  
Barry Jacobs

## COUNTERS

Judean Hines, Debbie Wiegel, Meador Horne

## NURSERY HELPERS - MARCH

5 Kim Bartley, Heather Feldman  
12 Patricia Salyers, Ashley/Whit Jacobs  
19 Dave/Meg Camp  
26 Sarah/Raphael Sydnor, Karen Jarrell

## EASTER EGG DROP

Due to the construction on our Rt. 15 North property and other unforeseen circumstances, the committee has decided to cancel the Easter Egg Drop this year and resume in 2018.

## LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten Services will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 12:15 PM, at Orange Presbyterian Church.

Light lunch will follow. Offering will be collected for the Christian Emergency Council.

## PRAYER LIST

### Illness within church family:

Alice Lumsden  
Catherine Morris  
Glynn & Betty Coleman  
Arlene Byram  
Patricia Coleman  
Karen Clore  
Erline Arthur  
Charlene Schweikert  
Betty Duffer  
Alice Jacobs  
Mary Strickland  
Bobby Seal  
Connie Sardina  
Bart Daniel  
Spurgle Herndon  
Phyllis Saintclair  
Tammi Waters  
Karen Wheeler  
Zeke Tomlinson

### Illness of friends & family:

Sandy Jones Garrison  
Beth Cluff  
Palmer Waugh  
Don & Marcelline Waugh  
Doris Haney  
Skeeter Lutz  
Susan Birdsong  
Geneva Compton  
Joe Austin  
Linda Frankenberg  
Em Komiskey  
Andrea Shell  
Willie Morris  
Susan Pippin  
Shirley Painter  
Gary Kendrick  
Linda Jenkins  
Edie Barden Growden  
Nancy Williams  
Rachel Saxton  
Brenda Deel  
Charles Clatterbuck

### CBF Field Personnel:

Cindy & Eddy Ruble  
Greg & Sue Smith

### Other:

Samantha Clarke

## STEWARDSHIP - JANUARY

### Unified Budget:

Receipts	\$ 27,064.66
Paid Expenses	\$ 23,283.28
Unpaid Expenses	\$ 0
Unpaid Mission Partners for 2016	\$ 18,101.11

After a time of national disaster, King David was preparing to worship God by offering a sacrifice. Araunah, the Jebusite, offered to give David what he needed for the sacrifice. David replied: *"No, but I will surely buy it from you; for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God; which cost me nothing"* (2Sam. 24:24).

An offering to the Lord which costs nothing in effort or adjustment in lifestyle is not a sacrificial gift. Significant giving is cheerful, but also costly.

We should ask: Is our giving significant and sacrificial? Is it worthy and worshipful?

The Worshipgiver, Talmage Williams

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the wonderful ways in which you have all helped this pastoral transition to go so smoothly. The installation service was powerful and I felt the Spirit moving in this service which was a significant time for me and for us all. Thank you for your cards, words of blessing, and your gestures of love that have given me encouragement and confidence that God is leading the way for us to go forward as a congregation. I consider it a great privilege to serve you all as your pastor!

With love and gratitude,  
Alan Miller

## THANK YOU

We truly appreciate everything you did for our family for Christmas! Truly a blessing! The meal was lovely and you all made Christmas wonderful. My children and I cannot thank you all enough for that! Thank you so much. May God bless you all.

From a local family

Thank you very much for your donation of items for the Orange Department of Social Services Christmas program. Your donations helped provide items for hundreds of children in the county. It is wonderful when our community is able to work together to benefit those less fortunate than ourselves.

Vicky Tidman,  
Orange Department of Social Services

### THANK YOU

Thank you for your gifts to LUCHA Ministries during 2016. We consider each person or organization that contributes - whether through a financial donation, through your time as a volunteer, or from afar with your prayers - a vital part of our ministry. Thank you for your support.

Sue Smith, Executive Director,  
LUCHA Ministries, Inc.

### SHOPPING FROM AMAZON!!

Place your order through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select Orange Baptist Church as your charitable organization and the church will receive .5% of each order to our general fund from the Smile Foundation.

### ENCOURAGER CHURCH PARTNER GREG & SUE SMITH



A while back, the big news in immigration was the influx of Central American Minors, young people coming to the US and requesting asylum, fleeing gangs and violence.

The director of a local school in El Salvador gives us a glimpse into the other side of the story. In 2016, the school saw approximately 3-5 students per class leave school, headed to an unknown but safer life in the US. "Our school tries to be a safe haven, an escape for the kids from the violence of their neighborhoods, but they have to go home each day. It's not enough," said the director. It's a beautiful school where the students have created planters from recycled soda bottles, filled with beautiful flowers. Before the first day of school, the older students purchased paint and painted the entire school in royal blue and white. It's a bright, cheery place where they grow vegetables, have access to computers, and learn to make pizza and decorate cakes in addition to their regular classes.

The decisions to leave for the United States are often made quickly. A gang will threaten a student and/or his family, and there is little time to plan. They must leave home immediately or face consequences, often death. These kids arrive in the US and speak little English, and have had to begin a new life overnight. They're often living with relatives they hardly know, or renting a room from friends. Many are balancing work and school for survival.

This week, I heard the story of a teen in the US who lost his asylum case and will be ordered to return to his home country. One official who works with "returnees" in El Salvador said, "I don't know how the gangs know that these kids are returned, but they do. Many are targeted--and dead--within 24 hours of arriving back home."

For many of us, immigration has become simply a political issue. We fail to see the faces or know the names of those affected. To me, the issue affects Carole, David, Melisa, Enrique, Josue....

The next time you read or hear something about the "problem" of immigration, take a moment to think about the immigrants you know, and put a name and face to "the issue." Ask yourself, how might this affect \_\_\_? It may change your perspective.

Sue Smith, CBF Field Personnel  
LUCHA Ministries, Inc.

Individuals can give above and beyond the Offering for Global Missions (OGM) to cover the ministry expenses of the Smiths and Rubles. The OGM keeps the Smiths and Rubles in their locations of ministry by supporting their salaries, medical insurance, and other living expenses. The OGM does not cover the expenses related to their ministries. Field Personnel must raise those funds.

1. Individuals can call 800-352-8741 and designate a contribution amount in the Smiths' or Rubles' names.
2. Individuals can go online and contribute. For the Smiths, web address is [www.cbf.net/smith-give](http://www.cbf.net/smith-give). For the Rubles, web address is [www.cbf.net/ruble-give](http://www.cbf.net/ruble-give).
3. Individuals can mail a contribution to: Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, P. O. Box 102972, Atlanta, GA 30368-2972.

