

FUN FACTS

The oldest viable seed to have grown into a plant was a date palm seed estimated to be 2,000 years old—making it the only surviving seed around when Jesus was here.

Planting an apple seed from a particular apple will not produce a tree of that same variety. Each apple seed produces offspring that are individuals, quite unlike their parent. Human families often share that same tendency!

The biggest seed belongs to the coco de mer palm. Their fruit usually contain just one seed, which can weigh almost 42 pounds!

Originally the word "seedy" described something "fruitful" or "abundant," but by the mid-18th century it had become a term meaning shabby, as in "this plant has gone to seed." However, we think our "Seedy Characters" are not shabby at all, but evidence of God's fruitfulness and abundant love!

On Sunday,
November 18,
we will gather
to worship at ONE
service at 10 am.

Join us after worship
as our guest at the
**HARVEST MEAL
CELEBRATION**
in the MAC.

*Kids & Faith class will meet at
9 am; childcare will be provided.*



SEEDS OF FAITH

A CATALOG OF STEWARDSHIP

OF ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



ORCHARD SEEDS



JUST ADD FAITH

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HARVEST TIME

l g n w p u m p k i n b e o p
s r l r o s o t a m o t o s t
c a r r o t p p p r a a q a i
u p e o a c p r s e p u k h u
c e w t m l a e h e a u d w o
t s o r e s e w b s p s s n i
o e l s c d r a h c r o a o e
s n f p y s h t l c i t s m b
t d i r b y h e o m c u d e n
t i l o c c o r b r o r a l e
o l u u n r n m a o t n s a i
o t a t o p t e e w s i d n o
e p c s e e d l i n g p e s r
o h e i r l o o m r a b e p o
n e s a p l i n g r m t s l o

acorn	almonds	apples
apricots	beans	broccoli
carrot	cauliflower	corn
grapes	heirloom	hybrid
lemon	oak	onion
orchard	peas	potatoes
pumpkin	rose	sapling
seedling	seeds	seedy
sprouts	squash	sweet potato
tomato	turnip	watermelon
wheat		

SEEDY SCRIPTURE

ZMS JSSB FPPE VNTF FSEE, ZMS
YPIS FPPE HPSEB PZJ ANDPZ,
ZMS VNTDIB FPPE GNTBDXS PZJ
XNTGJ, KIB ZMS MSKYSIJ FPPE
BNTG ZMSPN BSF. P FPPE VPYS
KEE ZMSJS ZMPIVJ KJ KI
PIMSNPZKIXS ZT ZMS NSOIKIZ
TA ZMPJ GSTGES.

USXMKNPKM 8:12

Hint: X = C

Z GDMKERU ENR ORRU,
MGTDOTO FMERVURU ZE, LYE ITU
NMO LRRK WMXZKI ZE IVTF.

1 QTVZKENZMKO 3:6

Hint: W = M

Kids Garden

Which seed grows
to be which plant?



SEEDS OF FAITH

A CATALOG OF STEWARDSHIP

Orchard United Methodist Church 30450 Farmington Road Farmington Hills, MI 48334



2012
STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN



FROM SEEDS TO ORCHARD

Every orchard – even the most lush and fruitful grove – begins with a humble seed. Something tiny with amazing potential. It is said that anyone can count the seeds in an apple, but only God knows how many apples will come from the seed! We may be able to take attendance and figure out how many trees are in our Orchard. We may even be able to count our good deeds and see how many we’ve done. But only God knows what will come from the seeds that we have planted.

In our Orchard, we sow seeds every day that touch the lives of people, known and unknown. We seek to connect people to God through worship and Christian Education. We seek to connect people to each other through fellowship groups. And we seek to connect people to the best parts of themselves as we strive to be a church of disciples following in the footsteps of Christ.

This year as our **SEEDS OF FAITH** stewardship campaign continues, take some time to give thanks for the seeds that generated the Orchard we have, and consider what seeds we will plant for the Orchard of tomorrow!



Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain ‘move from here to there,’ and it will move.

Nothing will be impossible for you.

Matthew 17:19-21

**HAVE YOU SEEN THESE
SEEDY CHARACTERS
AROUND ORCHARD?**

SEEDY CHARACTERS

They’re just a few of the many who are hard at work sowing and tending the seeds of ministry that happen here!



FLO NAUMAN—This seedy character may be the size of a mustard seed, but she has deep roots here at Orchard. Did you know she is the first of three generations of Orchard members raising their families here? Flo came to Orchard in 1959 and has been activity involved ever since. And, by the way, she makes a mean pie!

THOM PARKER—This seedy character has been known to don a chipmunk costume and entertain the children at VBS! He also sings in the choir, works for Rebuilding Together, serves on Staff Parish Committee, and provides career counseling in his spare time!



KYLE & SAM HEFFELBOWER—This seedy pair may be some of the newest sprouts in the Orchard, but they have wasted no time in getting involved! Together, they are active members of Soul Connection—our young adults ministry. In addition, Sam sings with Rejoice! at the early service, and Kyle is on the youth leadership team. Both are high school teachers in innovative teaching programs in our community.

JANICE MITCHELL—Orchards take lots of tending, and no one does it better than Janice! This seedy character is high energy! She’s a Chancel Ringer and a Sunday School teacher, a dedicated house captain each year for Rebuilding Together, and if you ever want to know where to find *anything* at Orchard, she’s the one who knows where it is! Perhaps that’s because she comes like a good fairy in the night to keep our storage areas clean and organized and free from dust-gathering relics!



LAUREN & ALLISON MANN—Sometimes seeds come in pairs, like twins Lauren and Allison Mann! These saplings serve as VBS volunteers, provide child care for Soul Connection, serve as acolytes, and are actively involved in all the areas of youth ministry including Faith Players and Fusion. Last year they went on their first mission trip to Arkansas. They prove that age is no deterrent to sowing seeds!



Little Sprouts
growing with God

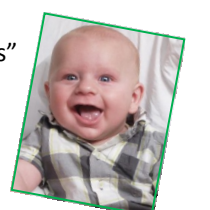
Our newest Little Sprouts being nurtured with tender loving care in the fertile soil of our Orchard.



Logan Maguire



Mackenzie Snyder



Linus "Gus" Updyke

SOWING SEEDS

Your tithes and offerings go to support the ministries and programs that build faith and transform lives...

Children & Youth Ministries

Sunday School, Kids Own Worship, Vacation Bible School, SonLight Children's Choir, BLAST, Club 56, Confirmation, JAM, Fusion, Faith Players, and Fusion Mission Team. All of these are ministries that sprout a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ, making faith their own, and putting it into practice through service to others.

Worship

Sound and lights and video, Chancel Choir and Rejoice!, special services and regular Sundays. Helping people to encounter God through vibrant worship is one of the most significant things we do!

Adult Classes & Programs

Five different Christian education classes, two mid-week Bible studies, exercise classes, fellowship groups, and even a knit and crochet ministry! We are always looking for ways to promote spiritual growth and discernment.

Outreach

Orchard believes in service as an expression of love for God and neighbor, and so serving others is a part of our ministries at all age levels. In connecting to our community, we make our building available for groups such as MOPS, AA, basketball, grief support, student ACT prep, and many others.

Apportionments

This is the part of our pledge that supports our connectional ministry with the greater United Methodist Church. It is the vehicle through which we extend service and discipleship to neighbors known and unknown throughout the world.

A Beautiful Campus

Lights, heat, water, grass cutting, and snow removal. Keeping the plumbing working and the roof from leaking. Painting the walls and keeping the carpets clean. Maintaining computers and office equipment that facilitate the work getting done! All of these mundane expenses are important to the life of our church and make a statement that we value what God has given us and are tending it well.

Staff

Our dedicated staff works hard to serve the needs of members, neighbors, and newcomers alike. Behind the scenes are some very industrious people who love God and are committed to making sure ministry happens here!

Your gifts also support the ongoing life and work of Orchard and the greater United Methodist Church

TENDING THE ORCHARD



HEIRLOOM SEEDS

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses,
let us throw off everything that hinders...
and let us run with perseverance the race set before us.
Hebrews 12:1*

Imagine Orchard as... well, an old orchard. No church. No parking lot filled with the cars of people who have come seeking connection to God, each other, and the best parts of themselves. No people receiving the support and consolation of AA. No people gathered to study the words of scripture. No building to house the gathering of children and youth seeking to grow in to their own faith. No building to shelter a group of homeless people seeking new life. *Imagine if no one had ever planted the heirloom seeds from which this Orchard grew!*

Sometimes we take church for granted. It's the place that summons us to get up on a Sunday morning when we'd rather experience that precious extra hour of sleep. It's always there. It doesn't require anything of us. But an orchard left untended simply ages and falls into disrepair. An orchard lovingly tended and infused with new plantings will grow and produce bountiful harvests.



Our Orchard is a thriving variety of heirlooms and hybrids! The strength of our heritage comes from people who sowed seeds of faith years ago when they began meeting in 1946 to form a new faith community. And our diversity comes from the vast community of people who have come to join us in worship!

What have you inherited from Orchard? What would you like to pass on to future generations?

How will your legacy be an heirloom to others? Envision Orchard tomorrow and in the years to come. And then sow your seeds... and **JUST ADD FAITH!**

HEIRLOOM OR HYBRID?

In antique stores, we're drawn to pieces that warm our imaginations, giving us a sense of the history that clings to them and the hands that held and shaped them.

HEIRLOOM SEEDS are those with that sense of history, telling us of the hands and lives that so carefully and lovingly sowed and cared for them, cultivating the characteristics of the parent plant.

HYBRID SEEDS bring with them a strength of variety and an ability to grow readily with vigor.

HEIRLOOM or HYBRID? There's room in our orchard for both!

Your heart is full of fertile seeds, waiting to sprout.

Morihei Ueshiba

SEEDS OF A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

There is a certain truth when it comes to sowing and harvesting: If you want a bountiful harvest, you have to sow generously. Farmers plant their seeds, tend their crops, and trust that there will be adequate measures of rain and sunshine. Our Orchard is blooming and growing because people like you have generously sown seeds of ministry, and tended them with love and commitment. The prophet Isaiah told the people of Israel, *"He will also send you rain for the seed you sow in the ground, and the food that comes from the land will be rich and plentiful."*

As another season of planting comes around, we must make decisions about how we are to sow seeds of ministry. We put our trust in God to bless our work and to make it grow and thrive so that the harvest will be plentiful. And we must acknowledge that not all of the harvest will be made known to us. Lives may be touched because our apportionment dollars help fund UMCOR which is a first responder in disasters such

as Hurricane Sandy. Lives may be lifted because our building provides shelter to people who have none when we host South Oakland Shelter. Several of our youth graduates have made choices about their future role in the world because Orchard taught them to be disciples of Jesus Christ

for the transformation of the world. We may not personally witness the bounty of the harvest, but we may be sure that God will use what we bring for good!

The work of sowing generously will never be done. Next year will bring a new season and new challenges to contemplate. But today, consider God's promises to do great things with the gifts that you bring.

Give thanks for the ministries at work here at Orchard equipping people to be disciples out in the world!

SOW GENEROUSLY...

... AND JUST ADD FAITH!

ACQUIRING SEEDS OF FAITH

As Orchard moves through its *Seeds of Faith* Stewardship Campaign, eleven 8th graders are beginning their quest to become confirmed members of Orchard. What does it take to become a new member of Orchard? A commitment to growing and cultivating faith for a lifetime. Over the next seven months, our confirmands will be undertaking a personal journey of study and discernment preparing to come before the congregation in the spring to make a public profession of faith. At that time, we will proudly and lovingly receive them into membership at Orchard and into the greater United Methodist Church.

If you have an interest in learning for yourself the kinds of things our confirmands will be studying, please contact Rev. Suzanne or Rev. Carol. At present we are making plans to lead some classes for adults in our church who may be new to faith, or who have come to us from other denominations or faith traditions.