

# GOOD TIDINGS AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC



**The Church Office remains open - please call if you need anything**



Beloved,

In early March of this year our Council established a Strategic Planning Committee to project the needs and goals of our church for the coming years. It was a privilege to be a part of this group that was chaired so skillfully by Mary Haddad. The other hardworking members of the committee included Doug Naismith, Richard Vroman, Leroy Howell and CF Jordan, each contributed their unique gifts to the effort. We wish to thank each of you who shared your valuable thoughts to the survey we submitted. Your excellent suggestions were incorporated in our final summary. We met weekly to accomplish this task, both by Zoom and in person (when it was considered safe to do so). At the end of each meeting we were treated to “words of wisdom” from CF who presented a little-known fact to us each week. At our final meeting he shared the following with us, and it is just too good not to pass on to you:

### *Take a Little Advice from an Old Farmer*

- > *Your fences need to be horse high, pig tight and bull strong.*
- > *Keep skunks and bankers at a distance.*
- > *Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.*
- > *A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.*
- > *Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.*
- > *Meanness just doesn't happen overnight.*
- > *Forgive your enemies, it messes with their heads.*
- > *Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.*
- > *It doesn't take a very big person to carry a grudge.*
- > *You cannot unsay a cruel word.*
- > *Every path has a few puddles.*
- > *When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.*
- > *The best sermons are lived, not preached. (I love that one!)*
- > *Most of the stuff people worry about isn't going to happen anyway.*
- > *Don't judge folks by their relatives.*
- > *Remember that silence is often the best answer.*
- > *Live a good and honorable life; when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.*
- > *Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't bothering you none.*
- > *Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.*
- > *When you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging.*
- > *Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.*
- > *The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever deal with, watches you from the mirror every morning.*
- > *Always drink upstream from the herd.*
- > *Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.*
- > *Lettin' the cat out of the bag is a lot easier than gettin' it back in.*
- > *If you think you are a person of some influence, try ordering someone else's dog around.*
- > *Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly ... leave the rest to God.*

Grace, peace and love,

*Pastor Mary Anne*



## Music Corner

**Paul Putnam - Minister of Music**  
[peputnam@yahoo.com](mailto:peputnam@yahoo.com)

Is your faith on FIRE? With the temperatures rising and us humans spending more time indoors let us be grateful for air conditioning!! While we are sitting in our air-conditioned homes, let us all take a few moments each day and pray for our world, our country, and our loved ones. While it might seem like everything and everyone is going crazy in the world around us, I am reminded of the phrase, “Keep Calm and Carry On”. Let us each pray and let Jesus’ love shine through each of us.

During the service last week, I sang a newer hymn in our Chalice Hymnal, “How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely” which paints a beautiful picture. Let me share some text with you.

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;  
My soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.  
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;  
And so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

This hymn paints a beautiful image of finding our home in Jesus Christ our Lord. Here at Oakland UCC, we hope to provide a spiritual home for our Christian family for all those who believe, and want to be part of the body of Christ. The word and music are central to our worship experience and the fellowship of the Oakland family gives us a true sense of belonging in this faith community.

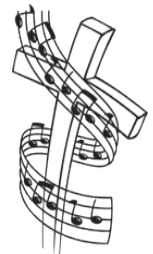
During this time, may we continue in prayer to “Keep Calm and Carry On” with our daily lives.

In Christ’s Love and Music,  
~Paul

Look up Oakland Christian UCC on Facebook

Visit our website: [oaklanducc.org](http://oaklanducc.org)

Visit our YouTube Channel by entering the following: All live stream videos can be found here  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbwCEC9\\_TTwOUjb3bCYqcw?iew\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbwCEC9_TTwOUjb3bCYqcw?iew_as=subscriber)





Jonathan Putnam	1	Clare Mitchell	17
Barbara Bainbridge	4	Sandy Butler	20
Kathy Bounds	5	Faye Daniels	20
Chris Hathaway	5	Mary Anne Biggs	20
Suzanne Langston	7	Cheri Babler	21
Jim Keeling	8	Frank Spady	23
Sharon Burton	10	Larry Bounds	23
Bill Felton	10	Betty Rhodes	23
Diane Saunders	10	Sandy Barton	25
June Felton	11	Larry Riddick	28
Connie Burgess	13	Chanel Eaton	30
Corey Blanchette	13		



### Be included in the new Oakland Christian Church directory

Photography dates:

Thursday, September 10, 2 pm - 9 pm

Friday, September 11, 2 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, September 12, 10 am - 5 pm

Call the office 255-4353 and we will get your photo session booked. Pets allowed.

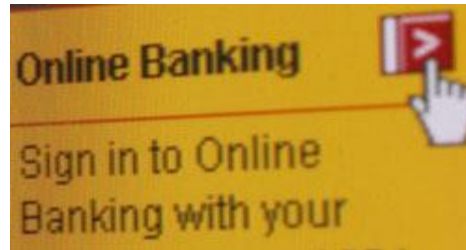
You will receive one Free 8 x 10 and a printed church directory

Visit [www.churchdirectories.lifetouch.com/gettingready](http://www.churchdirectories.lifetouch.com/gettingready) for more information and tips for your session.

Enhanced cleaning protocols are being done during your photography event: Lifetouch employees are required to complete a comprehensive safety training on cleaning protocols, Photographers will wear cloth masks during the entire photography session.

**Lifetouch.**

## Oakland's Online Giving Options



**AS WE NOW HAVE A NEW WAY OF LIVING...  
PERHAPS IT'S TIME TO LEARN *ONLINE GIVING!***

During these unprecedented times,  
with many of our members still staying safely at home,  
we've noticed increased interest in online giving.

But there's still a lot of uncertainty about how to do this. Well, we're here to help!

There are two online options:

**Oakland's web-based Realm  
or  
your personal bank's Online Banking option.**

Both are easy to set up, and both offer a recurring giving option –  
weekly, monthly, or as desired. Set it up once, and forget it.  
You'll have peace of mind, knowing you'll never forget your offering!  
(And if you don't love it, it's just as easy to change or undo..)

We are preparing YouTube videos, providing step-by-step directions  
on how to use on-line giving through either Realm or your Online Banking.

**Watch for this in your email in the next few days.**

Don't get emails? Please call Connie in the office.

***Your Stewardship Committee***

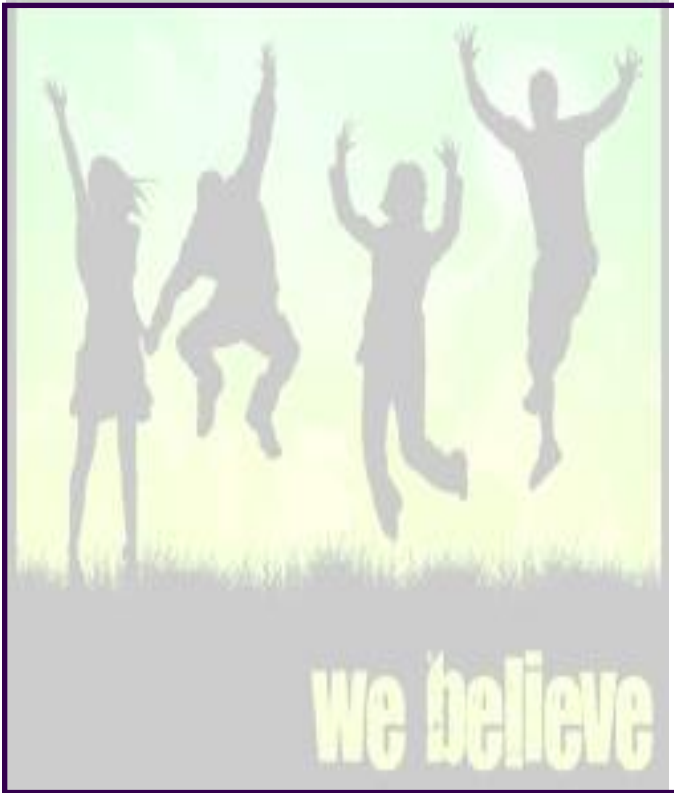
***Join the growing group of Oakland's Online Givers!!***



## **Our Sunday Worship during COVID-19 Pandemic**



Worship is held @ 10 am in Community Life Center where we can distance and remain safe.



## We Welcome You

If you believe that God is calling you to be a member of this congregation, please let us know with a call to our church office. We can help you join by baptism or profession of faith, as a transfer, or by reinstatement.

*It would be wonderful to have you in our Church Family!*

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

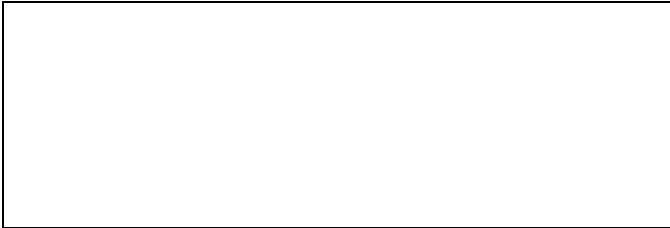
*To share* God's love with all people,  
*To serve* the Lord with humility and kindness,  
*To grow* with the Lord in wisdom and strength.

**Oakland Christian United Church of Christ**  
**P. O. Box 2008**  
**Suffolk, VA 23432**

**AUGUST 2020**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Pastor:** Rev. Mary Anne Biggs  
**Minister of Music:** Paul E. Putnam  
**Secretary & Newsletter Editor:** Connie Edwards  
**Financial Secretary:** Janice Roberts  
**Nursery Attendant:** Kimmy Curliss



**Telephone:** (757) 255-4353  
**Office Hours:** 9 AM to 3 PM Monday - Thursday

**Email:** [Office@OaklandUCC.com](mailto:Office@OaklandUCC.com)



**Website:**  
[www.OaklandUCC.org](http://www.OaklandUCC.org)