

# GOOD TIDINGS FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

## OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC

9 am Adult Sunday School

10:00am Worship Service ~ 10:15am Children's Church

11:15am Children, Teen, and Adult Sunday School



**Johns River Valley Camp:** It is time to sign up! Please see Kirsten Creely for information and questions. 635-8661 mobile. Kirsten is coordinating all youth that are going and pamphlets are available. Oakland will be offering partial financial assistance.

You can visit JRVC website at [www.jrvc.org](http://www.jrvc.org). This is a UCC camp which has been very popular with our youth here at Oakland for years.

A representative from the camp will be here March 15th at our Sunday Worship



### Community Easter Egg Hunt

Oakland Christian Church

Saturday, April 11

10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Rain or Shine

Drop off Candy donations by Friday 5pm - we will be stuffing Easter Eggs that evening.



Vacation Bible School  
August 3rd - 7th 5 pm - 8:15 pm

**WE NEED LEADER COMMITMENT ASAP**

Leaders should attend a workshop on  
Thursday, March 26, from 6 pm to 8:30 pm.

- ◆ Workshop at Epiphany Lutheran, Richmond, VA
- ◆ Workshop details 5 sessions that occur the week of VBS
- ◆ Eight Leaders needed
- ◆ Email Kimmy Curliss by March 20 if you can please help
- ◆ Kimmy will leave around 3 pm - taking the Church Bus to go as a group or you can drive separately.

Email Kimmy: [ktcurliss@gmail.com](mailto:ktcurliss@gmail.com) or sign up on the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board by the steps in our Fellowship Hall. Kimmy will contact you.

### Easter Pies

Calling all mixers, bakers, folders, zesters and helpers for any other tasks at hand. **WE NEED YOU!**

Making making begins Thursday, April 2nd. The baking schedule/sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up as we need LOTS of help!

A good time is promised as you fellowship with one another.

*Please sell pies to all you know!*

Questions: Call Pam (635-8125)

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT OAKLAND

- ◆ APRIL 5 PALM SUNDAY
- ◆ APRIL 12 EASTER SUNDAY

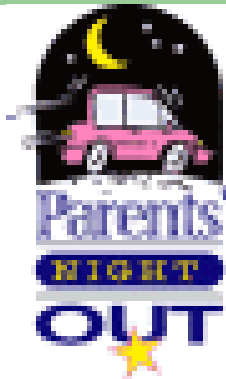
### COMMUNAL WORSHIP SERVICES

- ◆ APRIL 9 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM  
AT OAKLAND CHRISTIAN
- ◆ APRIL 10 GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM  
AT WESLEY CHAPEL
- ◆ APRIL 12 EASTER SUNRISE 6:30 AM  
AT ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL



Kasie Wilson	1	Frank Daniels	19
Max Koser	2	Roger Gunter	19
Steve Wilson	3	Kiera Osborne	19
Zoie Wise	6	Leigha Arcand	22
Joe Barnes	9	Samantha Fly	23
Brenda Hodgson	9	Darden Langston	27
Ann Johnson	11	Marie Marr	27
Nick Sarick	13	Robert Smith	27
Roger Burton	15	Lynn Barrett	27
John Mitchell	18	Nolan Bryan	28
		Dana Mitchell	29

If we missed posting your Birthday or have the date incorrect, please call the office and let Connie know.. 255-4353



### PARENTS NIGHT OUT!!

BOCE is Hosting -- Child Care

Friday, March 27 5:00-8:00 pm

In the Fellowship Hall

Sign-up Sheet on BOCE Board in FH

Contact Dana Mitchell with questions or if you can help.



### TAX STRATEGIES FOR 2020!

Join us for a light meal and an informative

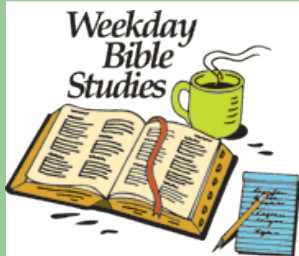
Free Tax Planning Seminar

Sunday, March 22, 2020 6:00pm

What to do NOW to maximize your tax planning for 2020

Presented by: Oakland's Stewardship Committee

Speaker: Kyle Arcand



### Wednesday Bible Study

Please join us in the Godwin Room whether you are a biblical scholar or just curious about the greatest book ever written, come out for some fellowship and dialogue as we discuss the Gospel.

We meet every Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Godwin Room for an hour. All are welcomed!



Beloved,

The Rev. Rick Warren is a controversial figure in some religious circles. He is the Pastor of Saddleback Church (Orange County, CA). Saddleback Church has four campuses, twenty-eight services a week and 83,000 people who worship at those services. Some of you may be familiar with Rev. Warren as the author of The Purpose Driven Life.

He is not always on the same theological wavelength with a lot of UCC pastors, and I beg to differ with him on more than one occasion with respect to his theology. But whether you like him or dislike him, you have to give him credit for his views about the calling of God's church in the world. I can honestly say that I wholeheartedly agree the Rev. Warren's understanding of mission as reaching out, serving the poor and the need for "the rich" to share their blessings.

Through his and his wife's trips to Africa and their commitment to assist AIDS orphans and to battle the AIDS crisis, Rick Warren came to a new understanding of what God was calling him to do. In his own words:

*"I felt like the blinders came off. I've got three advanced degrees. I went to two seminaries and a Bible school. How did I miss the 2,000 verses in the Bible where it talks about the poor?"*

In spite of our theological differences we can agree that the Bible does indeed talk about the poor and our responsibility to the poor of our world.

We are now in the season of Lent. Part of our UCC Lenten emphasis is to encourage an offering for *One Great Hour of Sharing* (OGHS). This offering will be collected at our worship service on Sunday, March 22nd. It is a part of our *Five for Five* offering, and the one that is supported most strongly within UCC churches. OGHS reaches out to the poor throughout the world through the work of Wider Church Ministries and our ecumenical partners and ecumenical agencies.

In the midst of our uncertain economy and anxiety over the Corona virus we must always remember that we still live in the midst of great riches and good health care when compared with the wider world. I implore you to prayerfully give from your heart this year.

Grace, peace and love,  
Pastor Mary Anne

**PASTOR MARY ANNE'S  
SUNDAY SERMONS**

Sermons are also on the church's website at [www.oaklanducc.org](http://www.oaklanducc.org)



Mary Anne represented Oakland at the UCC's 2020 Southern Conference African-American Convocation in Virginia Beach on February 27th thru February 29. A 3 day event designed to grow, learn and be empowered by the Holy Spirit.





## Music Corner

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

After the big sounds of Mardi Gras Sunday with the Olde James River Jazz Band, we have settled into the more reflective music of lent. I want to express a big thank you to a few of our choir members as they are helping to offer some special music during worship. Thank you to Peggy Muse for playing a piano/organ duet with me, and to Jean Keeling who shared a beautiful rendition of, "It is Well With My Soul" during worship recently. There is so much wonderful talent here at Oakland with people willing to share and enrich our worship!

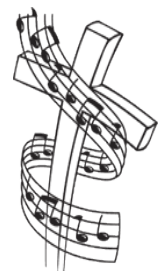
Additional special music will be offered by a women's quartet on Sunday, March 15th, as well as the Handbell Choir playing in worship on Sunday, March 29th. If you know of anyone willing to offer special music during the year at Oakland, please speak to me. I would love to continue enriching our worship with beautiful music.

There will not be an Easter Cantata this year! Wait! What?? You read it correctly.....there will not be an Easter Cantata this year. Because of the Chancel Choir's performance in May, we will be learning a brand new Cantata focusing on the period between Easter and Pentecost. The Chancel Choir will be presenting, "Once Upon a Morning" by Pepper Choplin on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st. This will be an exciting time as the choir begins preparing music for our Lincoln Center performance.

The choir cannot thank the congregation enough for their support as we have committed to this performance at Lincoln Center in NYC on May 25th. Any additional donations are gladly accepted which will reduce the amount that each choir member will have to pay for travel and hotel. We are down to about the last \$10,000. Please mark any donation checks with a "CHOIR - NYC" in the memo.

May lent continue to be a time of great reflection on what has been and what is to come with our relationship with Jesus. My hope is that the music at Oakland will help you along your journey.

Musically Yours,  
~Paul



Individual tickets for this concert are on sale to the general public at  
<http://www.lincolncenter.org/>





## JEWELS

### Third Tuesday of every month 7pm

### Sisters in Christ - All Ages

We are a group of Oakland's Christian Women who seek to enrich our lives through strong spiritual and personal growth in a small group setting. It is a perfect opportunity to get to know each other. Everlasting bonds are formed at these monthly gatherings. Please join us!



### Next Jewels Gathering

March 17 - 7:00 pm  
Hosted by Mary Jane Naismith  
4949 Exeter Drive  
Devotions - Ginny Fly

Jewels has a Facebook page - Jewels of Oakland UCC -

Click the button that says "join" and we will accept your request.

Joining Facebook is not a requirement to come to Jewels - please come to our next gathering and let us get to know each other better.



~~ Men's Fellowship Group ~~  
Third Tuesday of every month 7pm

All Are Welcome

March 17 - 7:00 pm  
Anna's Ristorante Italiano  
15 E. Windsor Blvd.  
Windsor, VA

If you have any questions please contact:  
Roger Burton 757-373-2817 or 757-373-4080

## Sunday Children's Church!

Begins right after the Children's Message  
We would love for you to help  
We have the lesson plan  
We have the children  
We need the volunteers

We rotate Sundays teaching  
If you are interested - Please contact  
Lisa Trombley - Chair of BoCE  
Or Pastor Mary Anne  
Sign-up Sheet  
on BOCE  
Bulletin Board



Kimmy Curliss  
Nursery Attendant

## Youth Group Outing Bowling in Chesapeake



# New Building Progress



Landscaping done



Ceilings are in and we are working on laying the flooring



Hospitality Committee just couldn't resist checking out the new kitchen progress





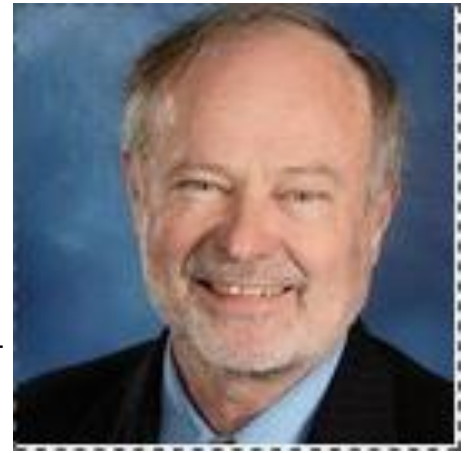
## PRAYERS OF Thanks

When the wheels get stuck and won't turn let Paul Saunders know and he will have a solution. Thanks Paul for fixing the bucket! He took 2 broken ones and made one really good one!

Paul grew up in this church and at the tender age of 10 became a member through confirmation on April 22, 1962.

He knows just about everything there is to know about the building, the property, the policies, the people and the community. I shall leave it at this because it would basically take a novel to write about all the things he does for his church.

He moves along silently and swiftly with a big heart and a kind soul.



## Spring has Sprung at Oakland



**Save the Date**  
**April 4th 8 am to 12 pm**  
**Spring Clean Up**

**Some jobs on the list: Window Cleaning - Inside and Out**  
**Touch up Painting - Inside and Out**

**We will spruce up areas of the church in preparation for the New Building dedication that is tentatively schedule for May 17th.**



# March 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 Communion 9am Confirmation 9am SundaySchool 10am Worship 11am Qtrly Conf.	2 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Girl Scouts (MLB -G2)	3 7 pm Lenten Bible Study at Wesley Chapel  6:30 CubScts (G)	4 10am BbleStdy G Noon Community Lent @ -Oak Grove Baptist	5 5pm Yoga (F)	6 Office Closed	7
8 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 SundaySchool  11am 1st Deacon Lunch	9 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Girl Scouts (MLB -G2)	10 1pm GirlScts (G) 6pm BeeKeepers F 7pm Lenten Bible Study at Wesley Chapel	11 10am BbleStdy G Noon Community Lent Service @Magnolia Meth 6pm BSA-OA (G) 7:30pm BSA (F)	12 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	13 Office Closed  2pm Long Range Task Force (G)	14 11am - 1pm CubScouts Cerenibt - Sanctuary & Godwin for Reception
15 9am Confirmation 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 SundaySchool  11am 2nd Deacon Lunch	16 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Girl Scouts (MLB -G2)	17 10 EVA (F) 7pm Jewels @ Mary Jane Naismith 4949 Exeter Dr.. Men's Fellowship Anna's Ristorante 15. E. Windsor Blvd 6:30 Cub Scts (F) 7pm Lenten Bible Study @Oakland-G	18 10am BbleStdy G Noon-Community Lent Service @ Tabernacle Baptist - <b>Mary Anne Preaching &amp; Oakland Hosting Lunch there.</b>	19 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	20 Office Closed  2pm Long Range Task Force (G)	21
22 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 SundaySchool 11 am 3rd Deacon Lunch 6pm Tax Seminar	23 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Girl Scouts (MLB -G2)	24 6:30 CubScts (F)  7pm Lenten Bible Study @Oakland-G	25 10am BbleStdy G Noon-Community Lent Service @ Main St. Meth. 6 pm Council (G)	26 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir 3pm VBS Leadership Mtg Richmond	27 2pm Long Range Task Force (G)  5-8pm Parents Night Out (F)	28
29 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15SundaySchool  11:15 Bldg & Grnds Meeting (G2)	30 5pm Yoga (F)  6:30 Girl Scouts (MLB -G2)	31 6:30 CubScts (G)  7pm Lenten Bible Study @ Wesley Chapel		Key: K-Kitchen F Fellowship G Godwin G2 Godwin 2nd floor	Office Hours 9am - 3pm Mon - Thur	8am - 3pm Every Tue, Thur, and Sat Chuckatuck Bicyclers use the parking lot

**JOIN US AT OAKLAND**  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM**  
**CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10AM**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9AM ADULT**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15 CHILD, TEEN, ADULT,**

**BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY 10AM**  
**YOGA - EVERY MONDAY & THURSDAY 5PM**

**HOLY WEEK**

- ◆ **APRIL 5 PALM SUNDAY 10 AM**
- ◆ **APRIL 12 EASTER SUNDAY 10 AM**

**COMMUNAL WORSHIP SERVICES**

- ◆ **APRIL 9 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7 PM**  
**AT OAKLAND CHRISTIAN**
- ◆ **APRIL 10 GOOD FRIDAY 7 PM**  
**AT WESLEY CHAPEL**
- ◆ **APRIL 12 EASTER SUNRISE 6:30 AM**

# 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**

**MARCH 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)