

GOOD TIDINGS SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC

"Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

9 am Adult Sunday School

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

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



CHURCH PICNIC - Rain or Shine

Sunday, September 15 at Mary and Lou Haddad's

4950 Exeter Dr. Suffolk, VA

Sign up Sheet in the Fellowship Hall

Bring: A side dish or desert to share

Bring: Your lawn chair

Church Provides: Hot Dogs, Burgers, Drinks, Utensils

Big yard, plenty of shade, walking trails, outdoor games, pool with life guard, music, plenty of parking, let's eat, play, and mingle.

The church bus is available to take Lake Prince Woods members to take the picnic and back home.



CALLING CANDY MAKERS! FALL FEST CANDY MAKING

Candy making begins on Tuesday, September 17th at 8:00 am
and every Tuesday through October 22nd.

Contact Carole Matt or the office if you have any questions.

Sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

There is so much good fellowship going on during the candy making process. Life long friendships are made here not just candy.



FALL FEST 25th Annual

Saturday, November 2, 2018 - 9am to 2 pm



Oakland is full of activity as we hold our annual Fall Fest. Please begin thinking about how you plan to lend a helping hand. There are sign up sheets for many jobs! Candy making, pimento cheese, Brunswick stew, chicken salad, pies, weighing sausage and cheese, chopping veggies, making ham biscuits, serving lunch, setting up and taking down tables. A sign-up sheet for Brunswick Stew ingredients will be posted as well.

The week before Fall Fest becomes a flurry of fun and activity as we all pull together to raise funds for local missions.

We need you! Save the date!

Tell your family and friends!

September Birthdays!



Lucas Bond	2	Elenor Muche	19
Buddy Creekmore	3	Zane Wise	19
		Carl Lancaster	19
Ginny Fly	4	Mary Haddad	21
Paul Saunders	5	Dorothy Kennedy	21
Emma Shearin	5	Kim Waller	21
Chandler Lilley	5	Judith Cobb	22
Debbie Blanks	6	Cleve Johnson	23
Diana-Marie Haddad	8	Ashley Blanks	23
Harry Shirley	9	Kyle Blanks	27
John Matt	12	Dana Karstensen-	
Tom Phillips	12	Bryan	27
Janice Roberts	15	Katelyn Herek	27
Wayne Bainbridge	17	Matt Harrell	28
Allen Trombley	17	Jean Keeling	28
Leroy Howell	18	Ronnie Kelly	28
Linnie Jordan	19	Caroline Blanks	29
		Robert Gillette	30

If we missed posting your birthday or have the date incorrect, please let the office know. 255-4353



Happy 101st Birthday Judith!
Wishing you a day that is as
special as you are in every way.

You can send birthday cards to Judith at
Lake Prince
100 Anna Goode Way Apt. 535A
Suffolk, VA, 23434



Congratulations to Alex Shearin
Alex achieved the rank of Eagle Scout
and his Eagle Court of Honor was
held at Oakland Christian on
August 18th!

If you see him on Sunday, please
congratulate him!





Rev. Ed Lilley
Former Director of Christian
Education

Rev. Ed Lilley left Oakland on good terms at the end of August. We would like to thank Ed for all his contributions. When Ed first came to Oakland in January of 2017, Pastor Greg Ryan was on medical leave and Pastor Wayne Gardner was our interim minister. With Pastor Ryan's extended illness, Ed was asked to help Wayne with the visiting and many needed pastoral responsibilities in addition to his youth ministry. We are grateful for Ed's contributions to Oakland and the community.

On Ed's last Sunday with us we had fellowship after worship and The BoCE presented Ed with a memory book filled with pictures of his time here. Wherever you are on life's journey you are always welcome here!



**Children's Youth Christmas Pageant
Celebrating the Birth of Our Savior
Sunday, December 8**

It would be grand if we could have our children, grandchildren, neighbors (all are welcome) to take part. The costumes are provided and only 2 practices needed.

We need you to sign up as soon as possible to ensure we have enough participation to move forward with the pageant. Sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Fellowship Hall and flyers with more details. Questions: Contact Carole Matt 757-809-0075 Home or 421-855-2944 Mobile



Thanks to all who brought in school supplies!

Special kudos to Jean Keeling for delivering the goods to Mack Benn and Oakland Elementary.

Jean, a retired public school teacher devotes much of her spare time to her community and to us!

Jean sings in the choir and participates in many of Oakland's activities and has served on lots of committees. Thank you Jean!



“Adopt a Grandparent” New program at Oakland

Event kick-off will be after church in the Fellowship Hall
September 8th (Grandparents Day)

Please sign up this Sunday in the Fellowship Hall after church. Children and “grandparents” can sign up to participate at the event kick off on September 8th. We will enjoy some refreshments, and each child (you do not have to be a young child to participate!) will be given their new “adopted” Grandparent’s name. There will be a short, fun activity and some time for fellowship. (you do not have to be a grandparent to participate)

What is Adopt a Grandparent?

Pairing members of our church with our youth to build relationships with our members and the youth of your church by sharing faith, fellowship, and making memories.

What is involved?

Attend 1 event a year that is specifically for Adopt a Grandparent. It will be held at the church usually around Grandparents day in September. Encourage each other/attend church events together if possible, such as the church picnic, Family Fun Night, and Christmas party.

Independent interactions such as phone calls, mail, sitting together in church, visits, etc....

Please think about joining this new activity. We think it will be a great asset to our church by bridging the gap between our members and our youth and it will be fun and rewarding!!! It only takes one moment or something small to make someone feel special and loved!

Contact is Kirsten Creely for any questions 757-635-8661.

See you at Adopt a Grandparent event on September 8th!

Jesus called for them and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”

Luke 18:16

BoCE

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,

A friend recently sent me an email with an attachment that directed me to Lew Feldstein, President of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. I was intrigued because it promised that I would be able to enjoy a fuller life, and it didn't require that I ban any foods from my diet or become a slave to rigorous exercise. Mr. Feldstein kept using the term "social capital" to refer to the bonds that tie a community together – bonds that make communities safer, schools better and people healthier. According to his extensive research, "communities with higher 'social capital' have higher educational achievement, better performing governments, faster economic growth, and less crime and violence. People living in those communities are happier, healthier, and have longer life expectancy." It sounds pretty good doesn't it? But how in the world do we go about raising the "social capital" of our community and our church?

It turns out that the answer is pretty straightforward. Here are a number of suggestions:

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|---|--|
| Turn off your TV and talk to your family | Sing out loud |
| Leave your house and talk to your neighbors | Become a blood, organ or marrow donor |
| Go for a walk with a neighbor | Talk to your mail carrier |
| Look up when you are walking | Join a book club |
| Sit on your front step and greet people | Attend a town meeting |
| Plant flowers and garden together | Help carry something heavy |
| Attend community fairs | Fix it even if you didn't break it |
| Ask friends to join you for a bike ride | Audition for community theater |
| Use your local library | Volunteer your time anywhere |
| Buy from local merchants | Say something nice about others |
| Share what you have | Enroll in a class just for the fun of it |
| Visit a nursing home | Join a community improvement team |
| Walk a dog at the humane society | Give to your local food bank |
| Host a pot luck dinner | Create your own list |
| Support your schools | Create a list with your friends and family |
| Read stories out loud | Meet new people |
| Pick up litter | Read the Bible and come to church |

The "social capital" of this church is extraordinarily high as many of you already do a number of those. Let's all pick a few of these suggestions and try to follow them on a regular basis. Let's see if we feel healthier and happier. It's a safe bet to say that by doing so we sure won't feel worse!

Grace, peace and love,
Pastor Mary Anne

A printed copy of the Sunday sermon is available on Sunday morning to take home with you. Just ask one of the ushers.

**PASTOR MARY ANNE'S
 SUNDAY SERMONS**

Sermons are also on the church's website at www.oaklanducc.org



Music Corner

Paul Putnam - Music Director

I love September! As a Chorus Teacher and Church musician, September really feels like a time of new beginnings as opposed to January. July and August offer us a chance to renew and rejuvenate in preparation for new things to happen in September. Here at Oakland it is a great time to recommit to the music program and offer your musical gifts to God and the community we call Oakland Christian UCC.

For those of you who are hand bell ringers, we will have our first rehearsal for the new season on Thursday, September 8th @ 6:30PM. We meet upstairs at the back of fellowship hall. We are very fortunate to have a 4 octave set of handbells and a group of willing ringers to make beautiful music with them.

Our Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals for the new season on Thursday, September 8th @ 7:30PM. If you have a desire to sing with a group of people who love to share their music with the Lord and congregation, this is the place for you. We will have an active year as 21 of us will be performing at Lincoln Center, NY next May with a choir of 200 and a large orchestra. What a thrill and opportunity it will be!

Some dates to keep in mind:

Sunday, October 20th – Music Appreciation Sunday featuring the handbell choir & Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 27th @ 4:00PM – Songs of Hope and Inspiration featuring the Oakland Choir and special guests

Sunday, December 15th – Oakland's Christmas Cantata presented during 10:00AM Worship

We are looking forward to an amazing musical year at Oakland!!

Musically yours,
~Paul



Calling all Acolytes!

If you are a current acolyte or want to be an acolyte, please go to the kitchen, Sunday, September 22 right after worship service and Susie Eaton will be reviewing the duties of an acolyte and getting you to fill in the sign up sheet for the Sundays you will be an acolyte. If you are age 7 or up, plan to join us! Adults included!

An Acolyte helps in Worship by lighting the Altar candles and extinguishing the candles at the end of the service. They hand out the offering plates to ushers. It is a very important job in the life of our church!



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!

September 17 - 7:00 pm
Sharon Winslow - Hosting
4554 Godwin Blvd.
Devotion - Ginny Fly



Jewels has a Facebook page - JEWELS of Oakland UCC
click the button that says "Join" and someone from the group will accept your request.



~~ Men's Fellowship Group ~~
Third Tuesday of every month 7pm
All Are Welcome - Just Show Up!

August 20 - 7:00 pm
Amici's
157 E. Washington St.

Questions: Contact Roger Burton
757-373-2817 or
757-373-4080



Your Fall Fest Silent Auction committee invites you to:

- ◆ Donate a special item or a special service
- ◆ Ask a favorite business or restaurant for a gift certificate
- ◆ Join our committee and learn how much fun we have

Just Contact: Ella Mae Winslow (255-4246) or
Mary Jane Naismith (641-3686)

When we hear the word “stewardship”, we tend to think “money”. That is part of it, certainly; and we thank each of you for giving so generously to the new building fund, in addition to covering Oakland’s expenses. We are grateful that we are ahead of budget this year, and won’t have to cut anything to make ends meet. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

However, stewardship is much more than just money. *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.* 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

Each of us has been given gifts and talents, and there are many ways to serve, frequently behind the scenes. Our congregation is a group of loving, giving individuals. You see those in choir who make a joyful noise to the Lord each week. You may notice those who leave each Sunday to lead children’s church. Perhaps you partake of the refreshments, without thinking about who is providing them. But you may not realize how many Oakland people:

visit the shut-ins
take care of the church building and grounds
work in the kitchen for many special occasions
serve on various committees
and so much more.

These are just a few ways in which our God-given gifts are being used to serve others, and to be good stewards. What can YOU do?

Look around you, and you will see how very blessed you are. Let’s thank God by using our gifts to glorify His name!

Your Stewardship Committee

Congratulations go to Samantha Fly and Susie Eaton winners of August "Find a Taco!"



Have you ever tried to find a hidden picture? This issue of the Tidings Newsletter for September has a taco hidden somewhere in it. The first and 20th person to let me know they found the taco will win a prize. You can email me at office@oaklanducc.com - call 255-4353 - or text 617-9256

Good luck and I hope you enjoy Oakland’s Newsletter.

Connie Edwards

September 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2 Closed	3	4 10am BbleStdy G 7am BSA (F)	5	6 Office closed	7
8 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 Sunday School	9 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 Girl Scouts (G)	10 1-3 Girl Scouts (F,K,G) 6pm Beekeepers (F, K) 6:30pm Cub Scouts (G)	11 10am BbleStdy G 6pm BSA (G) 7pm BSA (F)	12 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 BOCE (G) 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	13 Office closed	14
15 9am Deacons Mtg (G2) 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Church Picnic after worship	16 5pm Yoga (F) 6pm Stewardship (G) 6:30 Girl Scouts (G2)	17 8am Candy Making Begins 6:30pm Cubs -G 7pm Jewels @ Sharon Winslow's 7 Men's Flwshp @ Amici's	18 10am BbleStdy G 7pm Discussion Meeting For Constitution Changes (S)	19 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	20 Office closed	21
22 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 Sunday School 11:15 Bldg & Grounds (G2)	23 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 Girl Scouts (G)	24 1-3 Girl Scouts (F,K,G) 6:30 Cubs (G)	25 10am BbleStdy G 6pm Council	26 5pm Yoga (F) 6:30 Bells 7:30 Choir	27 Office closed	28 Fellowship Hall Reserved - Private party
29 9am Sunday School 10am Worship 11:15 Sunday School	30 5pm Yoga (F) 6pm Bkprs (G2) 6:30 6:30 Girl Scouts (G)			Office Hours 9am - 3pm Mon - Thur 255-4353	8am - 3pm Every Tue, Thur, and Sat Chuckatuck Bicyclers use the parking lot	Key: K-Kitchen F Fellowship G Godwin G2 Godwin 2nd floor

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

PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE FOR DETAILS!
757-255-4353

we believe

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

September 2019

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor: Rev. Mary Anne Biggs
Director of Music: Paul E. Putnam
Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Connie Edwards
Financial Secretary - Janice Roberts
Nursery Attendant: Samantha Fly

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

Email: Office@OaklandUCC.com



Website:
www.OaklandUCC.org