

GOOD TIDINGS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2021

OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM

Website: www.oaklanducc.org

email: office@oaklanducc.com

Phone # 757-255-4353

Psalms 95:1,2,6
O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.



"Come, ye thankful people, come," Is an invitation to gather and remember the blessings of God that are given to us.

We will set aside one day in this month of November to do what we should do each day. Thanksgiving Day for the gathered Church is everyday.

What are the blessings that keep coming to us each day? For me they are waking up each morning in a country that allows me to think and express my thoughts without fear, to have love of spouse, children, family, friends, to have a place to express my religious faith, to have a profession that challenges my skills and intellect, and to have a home in a beautiful place in the world, to have a Savior who loves me beyond my imagination.

When you gather at your Thanksgiving Table this year, reflect on the blessings that come all the time. One thing to thank God for when you are being thankful is to thank God for God and the revelation God has given us of the Godself in a Son. All our Thanksgivings would be hallow if we did not have God revealed to us in Jesus. The heart of our Thanksgivings are first stirred by God in our heart, soul, and life.

Let our Thanksgivings begin and end with God whose invitation is always, "Come, ye thankful people, come".

For Thyself, best gift divine,
To our race so freely given;

For that great, great love of Thine,
Peace on earth and joy in heaven;

Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

In your life and household, may Thanksgiving be every day.

Blessings of Thanksgiving to your gathered table from ours,

Peggy and Eddie

Kids

FRIDAY FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP!
AT
OAKLAND CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Friday, November 19, 2021 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)
Grades K-5

*PLEASE RSVP TO CONNIE BURGESS, AT 757-635-8710
OR jesseandconnieburgess@gmail.com,
BEFORE 9:00 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 17, 2021.*

EVENT COMPONENTS

DINNER: LITTLE CEASAR'S CHEESE AND PEPPERONI PIZZA!

VIDEO TIME

SNACK TIME

CRAFT TIME

PLAY TIME & GAMES

STORY TIME



Advent

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

5

DEC

**CHURCH WIDE CELEBRATION
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
WORSHIP IN THE CLC**

CELEBRATE THE ADVENT SEASON WITH US

**Advent Crafts, Fellowship, Family Fun, 2022
Committee Signups, and refreshments provided by
The Hospitality Committee**

Everybody!





Sharon Creekmore	4	Lou Haddad	16
Susie Eaton	4	Mike Phillips	16
Trudy Norfleet	4	Iola Saunders	19
Colen Hodgson	5	Rick Vroman	19
Judy Gardner	6	Julie Johnson	20
Carole Matt	8	Julia Doyle	21
Parker Howell	12	Marian Campbell	21
Bernice Butler	13	Penny Hathaway	22
Mary Williams	14	Hayden Phillips	27
David Marr	14	Ann Smith	30



Helena Burgess	2	Bill Csisar	12
Rob Rhodes	3	Margaret Tolly	13
Sonoro Curliss	4	Mary Ann Riddick	13
Wanda Roberts	4	Bob Creely	14
Jean Jordan	6	Jack Brennecke	14
Kendall Burgess	7	John Gayle	15
Alaina Smith	7	Sharon Ingold	21
Barbara Nelms	10	Kyle Arcand	30
Evelyn Nix	10		
Ann Hodgson	11		

If your birthday was missed or the date is wrong, please call the office and let Connie know. 255-4353

Fall Fest Fundraiser

2021

Thanks to all who helped in any way, be it big or small, in helping Oakland have a successful 2021 Fall Fest. Countless hours went into every stage - planning, silent auction work, purchasing ingredients, advertising, candy making, crafting, cooking pies and stew, making piment-to cheese and chicken salad, making extra items to sell AFTER the big day, bookkeeping, setting up and taking down and I'm sure the list could go on and on. I know that we made well over \$16,000 but do not have an exact figure to share at this time. Perhaps this iMessage from Cheryl Johnson sums it up:

Please tell everyone involved that my friends I brought with me from Chesapeake thoroughly enjoyed your Fall Fest. Also, please congratulate the cooks for a job well done. My friends have taste tested everything they bought and want recipes.

My response is "always that good country cooking"!

I heard many positive comments on our stunning new Community Life Center and kitchen, our overall organization, and our smiling faces and hospitality.

A special thanks to our secretary, Connie, for all she did for us. She took orders, printed labels and signs and organized our Pre-Orders. It seemed that someone was always calling her name and she was always there to lend her helping hands.

Much love and gratitude to all ~ Fall Fest Committee



ANGEL TREE GIFTS

Please consider picking up a tag from our Angel Tree and shopping for a child this Christmas. Return unwrapped gifts by **Thursday, December 2nd** in a holiday bag with your gift tag attached to the bag.. Any questions call Dana Mitchell 535-6793.



Location

Between
Kroger & Belk

BELL RINGERS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY

Saturday, December 11th
from 10 am to 6pm

One Hour Shifts
Sign up on table
By front door



POINSETTIAS

Help decorate the church for the advent Season! Purchase a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. Call the office or fill out the form found in your Sunday Bulletins. \$11 each and you can take the poinsettia home after December 19th.

Deadline to order Wednesday, December 8

FLOWER & ALTAR COMMITTEE MAKING WREATHS AT KELLY'S GREENHOUSE



Friday, Dec 10 @ 6:00pm. At Kelly's

Come helps us make them! It's a lot of fun!"

Meet us @ Kelly's Friday night. (bring garden gloves)

We decorate the church with these for the Advent Season.

Cedar, pine, and Nandina branches welcomed. Many hands make light work!



There will be a **brief** called Church Conference December 12th immediately following worship to vote on a deacon replacement.. Details below.

Elections from the Church Conference on Nov. 14, 2021

The below slate of nominations were approved at the conference and since Ralph Howell was a deacon and is now accepting the role as Moderator we will need to elect a deacon to replace Ralph's remaining term as deacon. Canidate: Sadie Boyer has been nominated as this deacon.

OUR NEW ELECETED BOARD MEMBERS

Moderator – Ralph Howell

Assistant Moderator – Pam Saunders

Treasurer – John Mitchell

Council at Large – CF Jordan

Board of Deacons – Sandra Butler, Betty Rhodes, Mary Anne Riddick, Rainell Rowell

Board of Trustees – John Gayle, Leory Howell

JEWELS CHRISTMAS DINNER

DECEMBER 14, 2021

At Hollands
100 N. Commerce St.

3 Choices ~30 each	Salmon Beef Chicken	Dec 5	Sign up Deadline	\$20	Gift Swap Grab Bag
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~~ Men's Fellowship Group ~~

Will meet at 6:15 on December 14th



The guys have not decided on a restaurant but it will be posted on the bulletin board in front of Welcome Table
Please Join Them!

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



Oakland's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Friday Night, December 24th @ 7pm





Paul Putnam - Minister of Music

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy Faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Music Corner

Greetings from the Music Corner!

What a wonderful and faithful God we serve! The month of November helps to remind us that we need to be filled with gratitude in all things. Life is better lived if we fill our hearts with love and gratitude for all that God has created and is doing in our lives.

As for the music, I am THRILLED that the Handbell Choir will make its return debut performance on Sunday, November 21st. After almost 2 years, it has been terrific getting back into the swing of ringing. We have so much fun playing bells and are so grateful to have a space on the main level to practice and prepare our music.

Chancel choir continues to practice each week at 7:30PM on Thursdays and share the anthem each Sunday. Any and all are welcome to come and sing! We practice in the Community Life Center so that we may keep a bit more distance while singing for a longer period of time.

It is hard to believe that the season of Advent is right around the corner! In the meantime, enjoy the season of Thanksgiving with friends and family.

In Christ's love and music,
~Paul

Pastoral Search Committee Update

The Search Committee has had a busy month! We officially published our profile at the beginning of October-- a lot of love and time went into the profile so that we are sure our church is as wonderful on paper as it is in person. After submitting our profile to the conference, we began work towards the interview process by identifying church values and goals as well as vetting some potential interview questions. Mid-month we received our first candidate profile; currently, we have received a total of 6 profiles. The search committee will be meeting to review and discuss these candidates next week. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we begin the review of candidates and continue the work towards finding a new settled Pastor for Oakland.

Dani Howell
Chair

Rob Rhodes, Jesse Burgess, Suzanne Langston, Clare Mitchell, Mary Ann Riddick, Carole Matt, and Robert Fly



Fall Fest was a big success and a lot of dedicated people from Oakland Christian Church working tirelessly together. The work was a labor of love, dedication, and perseverance. Together we raised approximately \$16,000. This money is used to go back into helping those in need in our community.

Many local restaurants and businesses contributed greatly to the success of Oakland Christian Church's 2021 Silent Auction by donating either gift certificates or items. In gratitude of their support for us, we encourage you to support these businesses and restaurants listed below.

Restaurants

<u>Suffolk</u>	<u>Northern Suffolk</u>
Cazadore's	Amedeo's
George's Steak House	Decent People Taproom
Linwood's (Owens) BBQ	La Parilla Mexican Grill
Mod Olive	Taste
Olive Garden	<u>Smithfield</u>
Plaid Turnip	Cockeyed Rooster
Ricky & Roy's	Q Daddy's BBQ
Ruby Tuesday	Smfd Station
Sante Fe Grill	
SushiAka	<u>Windsor</u>
	Checker's Restaurant

Businesses

<u>Suffolk</u>	<u>Northern Suffolk</u>
Advance Auto	Blue Hippo
Automotive Specialty	Cedar Point Country Club
Cecilia's Boutique	Great Bottles
Chickfila	Knott's Coffee Shop
Chuckatuck Trading Post	Pro Media Services
Crown of Glory Hair Salon	Velveteen Rabbit
Happy Nails	<u>Smithfield</u>
Johnson's Flowers	American Laser Arts
Lowe's	Bon Vivant Wine
Ann's Hallmark	The Christmas Shop
Luxe Nails	True Value Hardware
Automotive Specialty	
Fish Window Cleaning	<u>Windsor</u>
Mike Duman	Duck's Florist
Mike's Meat Market	True Value Hardware



Free Tax Planning Seminar
 ~ Open to All
Sunday, December 5th 5:00 pm
Community Life Center
Oakland Christian Church

What can I do by the end of December to help save money on my 2021 taxes?

What are the tax changes Congress is currently contemplating and how will they affect me?

Find our these answers and much more

Presented by Oakland's Stewardship Committee

Kyle Arcand, Financial Planner

Enjoy a light meal with us after the presentation.

Holy Grounds

Do you enjoy a cup of coffee and a snack or two before or after church? Well, lots of folks do and the Holy Grounds table is a great way of providing a light snack, welcoming new people to our church, and encouraging fellowship. The table is located along the left side of our Fellowship Hall and we need folks to sign up to provide food and drink items. Some sweets (be they home made or bought), fruit and juice are all that are needed. If course, any light food you prefer to make is welcome. There is a sign up sheet at the table. Coffee grounds are in the kitchen for anyone's use. PLEASE sign up to help! Remember, many hands make light work!

Loaves and Fishes



Oakland has partnered with Healthy Suffolk, Wesley Chapel, Little Bethel, the Chuckatuck Ruritans, Diamond Grove and the Eastern Star to create meal bags which feed 6-8 folks that are distributed the third Thursday of each month. We began in July and our bags are well received and needed. It is a local outreach designed to help the hungry right here in Chuckatuck. Please let us know if you know someone in need. Please making consider a financial contribution via Realm or you may write a check to Oakland UCC and note Loaves and Fishes in the tab. Each meal bag costs about \$15, some more and some less. We assemble 30 bags each month. Questions? Contact Pam Saunders 757-635-8125 or

Oakland Outreach

OUTREACH

There is a tremendous amount of growth in our community and we need to find ways to let our new (and old) neighbors know about our wonderful church. If you would like to join a group of folks whose purpose is to brainstorm ideas and help implement plans, please call Pam Saunders. There is work to be done and we are looking for interested folks to create an Outreach Team!



Children's Message during Worship



Stewardship Skit
Dori, Paul, Mary Anne, Doug, Ginny, Darden

FRIDAY FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP



Costume winners—Cutest—Charlotte Fly—Minnie Mouse
Most Original—Hayden Phillips (Lobster w/high heels)
Scariest—scary unknown



Helena Burgess—what a diva!



Thanks Connie and
Jesse Burgess for
the labor of love.
The kids had a
great time!

— **Halloween Event!**



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

November and December 2021

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Interim Pastor: Rev. Eddie Walker
Minister of Music: Paul E. Putnam
Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Connie Edwards
Financial Secretary: Janice Roberts
Nursery Attendant: Kimberly Curliss

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

Email: Office@OaklandUCC.com



Website:
www.OaklandUCC.org