

September

## GOOD TIDINGS NEWSLETTER OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC



John 4: 37

Hello Church!

Well, that was a pretty busy Summer! While I need some rest, and you should make sure you get enough also, I am so glad you all have the energy to make sure we are not a church that slows down so much in the Summer it's hard to start up again. Thanks be to God!

We talked this Summer a few times about the ideas of sowing and planting seeds, and now we are headed into the time of year traditionally associated with the harvest. Granted, many of you have been harvesting from your gardens for quite some time.

In thinking about planting and harvesting, I don't want to skip over all that goes on in between. The weeding, pruning, watering, feeding, and so on. This is not only true of our vegetable garden, fields, and orchards, it is also true of our visions, plans, and programming.

Lots of seeds have been planted this year already, and I hope there's more to come. We've even reaped some good harvests already. We've also been wise to not grieve too long when something doesn't produce the fruit we hoped for. Hopefully, we will always remember to give thanks to God not only for abundant harvests, but also for our sowers of seeds, waterers, pruners, and all manner of ways people tend to our ministries.

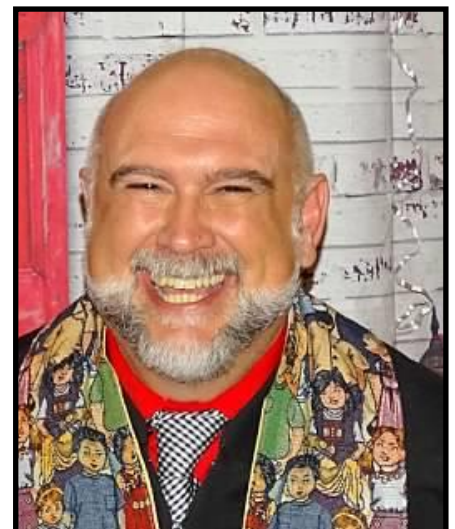
When you see a mission, ministry, event, vision, or plan taking shape at Oakland, and it interests you, please come along side those others involved in the good work. Whatever your skills, resources, or interests, you have a lot to offer in this kin-dom building stuff.

You are needed, and you are loved!

Amen.

--

Rev. Jason Stump





You are welcome to join us this fall for:

**Adult Handbell Choir** – meets on Thursdays at 6:30PM

**Adult Chancel Choir** – meets on Thursdays at 7:30PM

*Rehearsals begin on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>*

Questions? Feel free to contact Paul Putnam or any choir member!!

[peputnam@yahoo.com](mailto:peputnam@yahoo.com) or 757-285-0431

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.”

*~from Psalm 100*



Paul Putnam - Minister of Music

**CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

- Sept 3    Worship (11am) Adult Sunday School (10am)
- Sept 4    Office Closed - Labor Day
- Sept 5    Loaves & Fishes - Fellowship Hall (10am)
- Sept 6    Building and Grounds - CLC (6:30pm)
- Sept 10    Worship (11am)    Adult Sunday School (10am)
- Sept 12    BOCE/Activities - Little Kitchen (6:30pm)
- Sept 17    Worship (11am)    Adult Sunday School (10am)
- Sept 17    Loaves & Fishes drive thru grocery pickup CLC (11am)
- Sept 18 thru Sept 24 - Pastor Jason will be on vacation.
- Sept 19    Jewels, Hostesses - Linnie Jordan & Debbie Howard CLC (6pm)
- Sept 19    Men's Fellowship - Restaurant to be announced.
- Sept 24    Worship (11am) Adult Sunday School (10am)    Guest minister
- Sept 26    Deadline for News Articles
- Sept 27    Council Little Kitchen (6pm)

**SAVE THE DATE OCTOBER 28TH FALL FEST!**

 **SEPTEMBER**

**Birthdays**

Lucas Bond	2	Elenor Muche	19
Ginny Fly	4	Zane Wise	19
Paul Saunders	5	Carl Lancaster	19
Emma Shearin	5	Mary Haddad	21
John Mellon	5	Kim Waller	21
Cheryl Rowlands	5	Clark Brennecke	23
Debbie Blanks	6	Kyle Blanks	27
John Matt	12	Matt Harrell	28
Andy Brennecke	16	Jean Keeling	28
Leroy Howell	18	Ronnie Kelly	28
Linnie Jordan	19	Robert Gillette	30



**SAVE THE DATE OCTOBER 28TH FALL FEST!**  
**9 am to 2 pm**

See  
**Carole Matt for candy making**

**Pam Saunders for stew making & pies**

**Denise Spady for a booth**

**Watch for sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall**

Saturday, October 28, will find Oakland full of activity as we hold Fall Fest, our major fund raiser of the year. as we all pull together to raise funds for local missions.

*The fellowship gained while working toward a common goal is not to be missed!*

August 20th we welcomed new members  
Erin Babler and Mike Mohr, Cheryl and Ed Carter



# OUTREACH



Hello Church!

As mentioned in our worship, doing something "right now" is often the best course in making things better for those in need. As stated by Sir Edward Coke in the early 1600s, "just delayed, is justice denied." This is true within other systems, but also true in response to natural disasters. Please know that we are working to find a way to hold a specific fundraiser at Oakland Christian to help UCC Disaster Ministries. However, we also recognize that many want to do something in the meantime as well, especially in light of the devastation of the fires in Hawaii and flooding in Central Vermont. As hurricane season approaches, we can only hope that no other need arises.

This link is an article specific to the devastation in Hawaii. ( I also encourage you to sign up for the UCC newsletter):

<https://www.ucc.org/amid-wildfires-devastation-ucc-makes-appeal-for-hawaii/>

This link provides a way to give directly to UCC Disaster Ministries. You can choose options specifically for Hawaii, USA Disasters, or International Disasters- all worthy causes.

<https://support.ucc.org/disaster-ministries>

Additionally, you place a check in our offering plates. Please make a note in the memo for "UCC Disaster Ministries" or "UCC Disaster Ministries- Hawaii" if you'd like it designated for that.

Please know, any size gift helps. If \$5 now, and \$5 later, is what you can do, it matters and makes a difference. Of course, I would never want to limit generosity, and the cheerful hearts behind any size gift.

Stay tuned for more!

Pastor Stump is reaching out so many ways in our community. He is writing columns for the Suffolk News Herald! Just another way of putting Oakland Christian on the map and spreading the Good News. We will forward via email his articles when they are published and you can watch for them in the Opinion Column.

Follow us on Facebook to watch all the cool video's he posts about our activities here at Oakland Christian UCC and share these with your Facebook Friends.

You do not have to be on Facebook to visit our site. Anyone can go to our website at Oakland Christian Church Suffolk to visit our Facebook page.

[Oakland Christian UCC \(oaklanducc.org\)](http://oaklanducc.org)

Click on the F





CAPS Fundraiser – Annual fundraiser on Sunday, Sept. 17th. Take-out BBQ from Captain Bob’s for \$13/plate. BBQ, fried chicken, slaw, hush puppies, and green beans. Drive-thru only at Westminster Church (3488 Godwin Blvd.), Sunday, Sept. 17, 11am – 2pm.

We have 50 tickets to sell so invite your friends and neighbors to buy a ticket to support CAPS. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

**See Dana Mitchell for tickets.**

If you are able to help with the Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk BBQ on Sept. 17th please call Connie Shubert at 757635-1587.

You can also email her at [cschubert.fundraising@capssuffolk.org](mailto:cschubert.fundraising@capssuffolk.org)

CAPS will need runners, traffic directors, meal packers, set up and cleanup.

### Say Hello to Our New Nursery Attendant!

Hello, I am Rhonda Culpepper. I am currently employed at The College and Career Academy at Pruden as the Early Childhood Education Instructor and Camp Community College as an Early Childhood Education Adjunct Professor.

I currently hold an LPN and have been a nurse since 1984. I graduated from Elizabeth City State University in 2010, University of Phoenix in 2013, and Walden University in 2018. I currently hold an EdS in Early Childhood Development. I have worked with children since 1979.

I am a wife, mother, and a Lambie. I have 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. I also have 4 granddogs, so I can't leave them out. Both of my parents are living and I enjoy spending time with them.

I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior back in 1972. I have taught Sunday School to children, youth and adults.

For fun, hmm, reading, waking up early in the morning to listen to the birds, listening to music, fishing, gardening, and crafting--

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Rhonda has given the nursery a fresh new look.  
Stop by this Sunday and say hello!





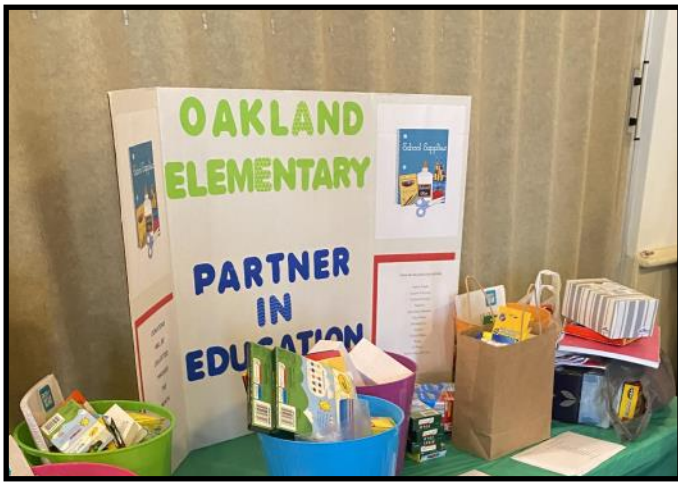
**Back to School Worship held August 27th!**  
Worship service with prayers and celebration for returning back to school . Go and learn, love others, and be blessed!



Blessing of the Backpacks

Followed by a celebration  
with Ice Cream floats  
for all!





Thanks to everyone that contributed to our school supply drive for Oakland Elementary!

Thanks to Denise, Cheri and Jason for making the delivery to the school!



*Thank you*







**Men's Fellowship**  
September 19th @ 6:00 pm  
Ruby Tuesdays  
2757 Godwin Blvd  
*Please join us!*

*Questions:*

*Roger Burton 757-373-2817 or 757-373-4080*



**JEWELS**  
**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**  
September 19th @ 6:00 pm

We will gather in the CLC  
Hosted by: Linnie Jordan and Debra Howard

*All are welcome*  
*Please join us!*

Ask about opportunities to join our Friday Friends!  
Once a month on a Friday evening our youth meet.  
In August we had a lock in - yes! All night!  
Thanks Connie and Jesse Burgess for all you do with  
this program. .

**Oakland**  
**Kids**



JOIN US ON LIFE'S  
JOURNEY

OUR ROOTS ARE  
PLANTED FIRMLY  
ON FAITH, HOPE,  
AND LOVE

Est. 1872

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 2023**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Pastor:** Rev. Jason Stump  
**Minister of Music:** Paul E. Putnam  
**Secretary & Newsletter Editor:** Connie Edwards  
**Financial Secretary:** Kelly Schaubach  
**Nursery Attendant:** Rhonda Culpepper

**Telephone:** (757) 255-4353  
**Office Hours:** 10 AM to 3 PM Monday - Thursday

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

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

