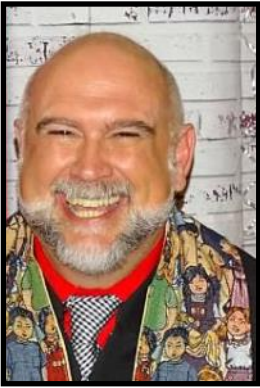


# November

## GOOD TIDINGS NEWSLETTER OAKLAND CHRISTIAN UCC



1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

Hello Church! Whew!

What a time to be at Oakland Christian UCC. As I said recently, I am so very proud of our past here, and I also see great potential for our future building up God's kin-dom. Yet, we cannot lose the reality of the moment we are in.

In a world craving love, community, compassion, and charity. In a time in which so many are suffocating from isolation and stress. Together with God, Oakland Christian UCC is providing a wellspring of love and a shelter of sanctuary. One can come here to rest, to connect, to work, to fellowship, and most importantly.....BE LOVED.

From our Fall Fest, to Spiritual Formation groups, to music programs, Friday Friends, to mission projects, and on and on. We are the hands and feet of God in our part of the world, and that is giving the large body of Christ the ability to move throughout the world in ways we may never fully realize.

I.Give.Thanks.

Yes, I wrote that the way I intended.

I give thanks for each of you. Your beautiful faces on a Sunday morning, your busy hands that take the time to fold themselves in prayer, as well as working ingredients in recipes, and mulch into a playground. Your hearts. Your big, bold, and joyful hearts.

November is a month of gratitude. So while I encourage you to also increase the practice of gratitude in your lives, please know that I am so very grateful that God has called us all to be together in this time and place. We were made for such a time as this.

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Stump



*Save the date December 17th - Christmas Cantata!*

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;  
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

As a child growing up in a New England Congregational church in a farming community, this hymn was sung every year around the time of Thanksgiving. The connection to the seasons and the harvest was very strong in rural Hadley, MA. Henry Alford wrote the words to this harvest hymn in 1844 in rural England when the life of the village during the winter depended upon the bounty of the harvest.

During the time of harvest it is a natural time to Give God all the glory and thanks for all that has been given to us. I continue to be so appreciative and thankful for all the amazing people who give of their time and talent for the music ministry here at Oakland. To those of you who ring bells, sing in the choir, bake goods for receptions after performances and to those of you who continue to support and encourage the music, I say, THANK YOU!!

“To God be the Glory, great things He has done!”

~Paul Putnam  
Minister of Music

For the calendar:

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> -11:00AM** – Christmas Cantata

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> – 4:00PM** – Christmas Program for the community featuring Handbells and Chancel Choir with a reprise performance of, “Appalachian Winter”. FREE

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – 9:00PM** – Danielle Caldwell, Harpist will be providing special harp music for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

**Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> – 4:00PM** – Christmas Cantata performance at Lake Prince Woods

**Paul Putnam - Minister of Music**

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS



- Nov 5 Worship (11am) Adult Sunday Schools (10am)  
Stories and Cereal (10am) CLC
- Nov 5 Church Conference - Immediately following worship
- Nov 7 Loaves & Fishes Meeting - Fellowship Hall (10am)
- Nov 12 Worship (11am) Adult Sunday Schools (10am)  
Acoylte Training immediately following worship - Pizza lunch
- Nov 14 Jewels - Hosted by Julie Hase & Leslie Peterfeso @ Julie's home (6pm)  
4401 Winona Trail
- Nov 14 Men's Fellowship - George's Steak House, 1260 Holland Rd (6pm)
- Nov 16 Prison Angel Tree Group - CLC (3pm)
- Nov 18 Great Suffolk Cleanup - meet at church - See Rob Rhodes to sign up
- Nov 19 Worship (11am) Adult Sunday Schools (10am)
- Nov 22 Council Meeting - Little Kitchen (pm)
- Nov 23 Office Closed
- Nov 26 Worship (11am) Adult Sunday Schools (10am)



## NOVEMBER Birthdays

Sharon Creekmore	4	Emilee Pantelides	16
Susie Eaton	4	Kimberly Gup	16
Trudy Norfleet	4	Lou Haddad	16
Colen Hodgson	5	Mike Phillips	16
Jenni Langston	5	Iola Saunders	19
Julie Hase	5	Rick Vroman	19
Judy Gardner	6	Julie Johnson	20
Carole Matt	8	Susan Bunch	20
Parker Howell	12	Julia Doyle	21
Mary Williams	13	Penny Hathaway	22
Mike Mohr	13	Haydn Phillips	27
David Marr	14		



## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

November 14 @ 6:00 pm

George's Steak House  
1260 Holland Road

*Please join us!*

Questions: Roger Burton

757-373-2817 or 757-373-4080



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP JEWELS

October 14th @ 6:00 pm

Hosted by: Julie Hase and Leslie Peterfeso  
Location: Julie's home  
4401 Winona Trail

*Please join us!*

## Oakland Kids

Grades PK-6

Join us in November for  
Friday Friends  
Date to be announced





## Prison Fellowship Angel Tree for Christmas

The Prison Angel Christmas tree is up and running. Gifts will be purchased in the upcoming weeks. We have the names of 10 local children and the messages to include from their parents. In this ministry, we will be purchasing gifts for 10 local children whose parents are currently incarcerated. Additionally, we will deliver them to their homes on behalf of the parent who is enrolled in the program. Our committee all agreed that the messages were heart rendering, which makes us all the more committed to working on this outreach.

You can support this ministry to these 10 children by making a monetary donation. Simply write "Prison Fellowship" in the memo of a check, or you can designate it through online giving on Realm. The online giving fund is Prison Fellowship Angel Tree and the Oakland QR code will take you directly to Oakland giving where you can scroll down to Prison Fellowship and designate to this ministry fund.

Please consider making a financial contribution. We expect to spend about \$50 per child. Thanks, and remember to count your blessings every single day!

Here's a note that will be with the gifts for one of the children we are supporting:

*"Merry Christmas to my sweet girl. I love you so much, and miss you always. Thinking of you every second of every day. Love always, Mommy"*



**We invite you to support Oakland's many ministries.**

**Support Oakland Christian UCC by using this QR Code.**

### A Note from the Office:

Our building, and the grounds, are used more and more frequently. On a recent weekday, prior to 3pm, 6 different groups were here, This is great! However, it does require some fancy juggling at times. Please be sure to let the office know when you have meetings, or other activities, happening.



## Stewardship



“Oh, no! It’s that time of year again... They’re always asking for money!”

Is that your first thought when you hear about the Stewardship Campaign?

Let’s change our thought process. God has given so much to each of us.

Let’s remember all that He has done for us, and be grateful.

So grateful, in fact, that we want to give back to Him, in appreciation!

He has given LIFE to each of us! He gives us each His LOVE!

Beyond that, all that we have and all that we are - are His gifts to us.

He even gave His Son to die for us, that we may one day be with Him in Heaven.

So how can we thank Him enough, for all He has given us?

Let us each give *joyfully* of our Time, our Talents, and our Treasures!



***Our 2024 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN THEME:***

***Because of You, our church changes lives***

This year Oakland’s Stewardship Campaign will include the following:

Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>: Jason’s Stewardship Sermon, Ginny Fly’s Children’s Message, & Choir Anthem

Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>: Stewardship packets with Pastor’s letter, Time& Talent brochure, and

Commitment Card mailed to all church members

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: Oakland’s Legacy Program, Parker Howell

Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>: “Where Our Money Goes” and “Survey of Financial Seminars”

Commitment Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>: Celebration of Presentation of our Pledge Cards and

Time & Talent Brochures

As always, your Stewardship Committee wants to say a big THANK YOU for your financial generosity and also for the abundant giving of your time and of your many talents so far during this year!

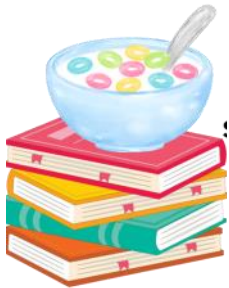
Your Stewardship Committee



Sunday November 12

All current acolytes and those that want to be, please plan on staying after church. We want to show how much we appreciate you!

*Pastor Stump and Susie Eaton*



### SUNDAY MORNING CEREAL & STORIES

Sunday, November 5 @ 10am

Join us for story time and enjoy your favorites from our cereal bar.

All Youth Welcome!

# Fall Fest

Thank YOU

There is no way to properly thank all of you for your gifts of time and talent that were simply poured into Fall Fest. Every work day was full of helping hands and cheerful hearts. The fellowship was amazing. The day itself was also blessed with so many volunteers, including Boy Scouts and students from Nansemond River High School. We do not have a final tally yet, but we deem Fall Fest 2023 a huge success that could not have been possible without our Oakland Family. A heartfelt thanks is offered to each and all! Consider yourself hugged, loved and appreciated!

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The Silent Auction Committee would like thank the wonderful people of Oakland Christian Church who contributed items to the Silent Auction. Each item, big or small, helped to make the Silent Auction a huge success. Thank you for your generous support.

# Fall Fest Pictures!









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**

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

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

