



# Oakland Christian Church

(United Church of Christ)

*"This is the Day which the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"*

The Rev. Mark L. Burns, Pastor

November 2011

Greetings!

The weather has changed, the temperature is getting colder, the leaves hav changed, their colors are now red, orange, and gold. The one thing that has not changed is our Stewardship Commitment to our beloved Oakland.

Our "Treasures" journey draws to a close on Stewardship Sunday, November 20. Over the past weeks we have "Primed the Pump", "Drawn Water", "Jumped in With Both Feet", shared "Pennies in the Fountain" and "Offered a Drink to Others". On November 20, our theme will be "Filling the Bucket to Overflowing" in the spirit of Psalm 23, *"our cup runneth over"*. Each of us is invited to the well of God's living water, and each of us is invited to drink. As the scriptures remind us, *"taste and see how good the Lord is"*. It is God who refreshes and it is God's living water that satisfies.

The weather around us and the leaves upon the trees will change, but that which is constant is God's love and our Stewardship Commitment here at Oakland. With God's spirit we support a wonderful staff and faithful ministries that lift us up and lead us to soar as if upon eagle's wings. Just ponder how your church touches you and your life in real and meaningful ways. Your support and the support of others makes all this possible.

Ours is a loving and generous church family. God's spirit is alive and at work here at Oakland. Dip your cup into God's well and drink.

May God's light continue to shine here at the bend in the road on Godwin Blvd.

Faithfully,

Mark

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# OAKLAND AT A GLANCE - NOVEMBER 2011 "FOR THE 'FRIDGE"

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5th FALL FEST!

All hands are needed for this huge annual event. Candy Making and Pie Baking are still taking place in the kitchen., Sign-up for one of the committees. Baked goods are due by Friday, November 12th.

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH EACH 1 BRING 1 "Bring a Friend Sunday"

Bring a Friend Sunday, November 6th. There will be a prize (free lunch) for the person bringing the most friends to church school and/or worship.

## Sunday, November 13th Cantata Rehearsals Begin!

On Sunday, November 13th, we will begin rehearsals for this year's Christmas Cantata, "Child of Hope" by Mark Hayes. We will meet each Sunday evening from 6:30 - 8:00PM as a focused cantata rehearsal. Although Thursday evening choir rehearsals will be primarily devoted to Sunday Worship Music, we will also devote some time each week to the Cantata, as repetition brings comfort.

"Child of Hope" will be presented on Sunday morning, December 18th @ 10:30AM.

## Friday, November 18th, 5:00-9:00 pm IT'S KIDS NIGHT OUT!

Dinner, a craft, games and a movie. Sponsored by the Board of Christian Education and Messengers of Faith. Cost of \$7.50 per child with a maximum of \$15. Proceeds to support our participation in the National UCC Youth Event. **RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY** by Sunday, November 13th (firm date, please) as space is limited.

## Sunday November 21st, 12:15-3 pm Joyful Noise and Amazing Grace Delivering Thanksgiving Baskets!

Bring some fruit and/or individually wrapped candy (sugar free) to church. We will fill the Thanksgiving fruit bags and take them to shut-ins. This is an annual event not to be missed! The first order of the day for our Joyful Noise will be lunch, which the church will provide. Amazing Grace will be having lunch on the road. We will need at least one parent to help with this event, please. We will be taking the church van, so if you desire to have your child in a car seat, please leave that with us. **If you have not returned a permission slip to leave the church building, we will need one for this meeting.**

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE—7:30 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church on Kings Highway in Chuckatuck will be hosting this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm. The Preacher will be our own Pastor, Mark L. Burns. Share the news and be a part of the community as we "gather together to ask the Lord's blessing."



# November Birthdays

Jamey Pope	November 2
Hale Newman	November 4
Trudy Norfleet	November 4
Sharon Creekmore	November 4
Susie Eaton	November 4
Colen Hodgson	November 5
Blaire Phillips Mason	November 6
Amy Hooker	November 6
Elizabeth Andrews	November 7
Carole Matt	November 8
Alton Butler	November 9
Lisa Creekmore	November 11
Parker Howell	November 12
Diane Williams	November 12
Larry Upton	November 12
Bernice Butler	November 13
Mary Williams	November 13
Jacob Howell	November 15
Lou Haddad	November 16
Jess Williams	November 16
Emilee Eaton	November 16
Kimberly Eaton Gup	November 16
Iola Saunders	November 19
Laura Smith	November 19
David Haddad	November 19
Julie Johnson	November 20
Robert Nelms	November 20
Pam Pope	November 21
Eddie Creekmore IV	November 21
David Naismith	November 22
Penny Hathaway	November 22
Pam Hodgson	November 22
Jordan Howell	November 23
Matt Schulze	November 29
Anne Smith	November 30



## Sunday, November 27 ADVENT WORKSHOP

Bring a crock pot of soup or chili, we will make the dessert! The church will also provide sandwiches and a beverage. Gather round as we make an Advent Wreath and Christ candle for your home. Other surprises also! We are asking for a donation of \$5 if possible, per family to help defray the cost of the wreath and candle materials. ADVANCE RESERVATIONS PREFERRED.

The Angel Tree will be up and filled with tags by Sunday, November 6th, for those children who are looking forward to a special Christmas from the Salvation Army. Please take a tag and return your unwrapped gifts in a gift bag with the tag attached **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 4TH.**



The economy is slow in recovering and everyone continues to tighten their belts, please consider what Christmas would be like for those children who won't have a gift to open. Your generosity has always been wonderful, please continue to pass it forward.

## ALTAR CORNUCOPIA

Please remember to bring in some **fresh fruits** for our beautiful Altar Cornucopia for Thanksgiving Sunday, which falls on November 20th. **All fruits and fresh vegetables should be brought to the church no later than Thursday, November 17th.** Once our Thanksgiving service is over, baskets will be filled and delivered to Oakland's homebound and shut-ins. Thanks so much for your assistance.



## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



The deadline for ordering Poinsettias is **Sunday, December 4th.** (*There will be no late orders taken past the 4th, so please make sure your orders are in.*) Order forms will be in the Sunday Bulletin beginning on Sunday, November 20th. The price is \$10.00 and comes with foil and a pretty bow. All poinsettias are delivered and will decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas Cantata and Christmas Eve services. Flowers can be taken home after the Christmas Eve Services.



# YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

## **NOVEMBER 6**—No evening youth fellowship due to participation in Fall Fest.

- **CHILDREN'S PAGEANT**— Our children in Amazing Grace and Joyful Noise are excited about their Christmas Play to be performed during the 11:00 service on Sunday, December 11th. We hope that all of you will mark that date and support our youth in their venture to entertain you with a brief Play entitled "Little Star".



Practices are:

**Sunday November 6th .....after 11:00 service till 3:00.**

Sunday, November 27.....(Advent Workshop till 4:00) practice will take place during this time.  
December 4th.....for a 1/2 hour after 11:00 service A quick run through with Kirsten, parents can wait.

## **November 13th**

- 12:15—2:15 pm Joyful Noise (making cards and Thanksgiving fruit baskets for shut-ins and residents of Lake Prince). Lunch provided.
- 12:15—2:15 pm Amazing Grace (packing the hygiene kits and continuing the program, "Learning to Use My Bible"). 4th & 5th graders bring your Bibles. Lunch provided.
- 5:30—7:30 pm God's Promise regular program with chimes practice.
- 5:30—7:30 pm Messengers of Faith regular program

## **November 18th**—Lock-in for Messengers of Faith. Time and activities TBA

## **November 20th**—Youth are asked to bring fresh fruit and/or sugar free candy to go into the fruit baskets, please.



- 12:15-3 pm Amazing Grace (delivers fruit baskets to residents of Lake Prince) Lunch provided. Please make sure the church has your child's permission slip.
- Time TBA—God's Promise with chimes (delivering fruit baskets to Oakland UCC's shut-ins in their homes with Rev. Burns) Have you turned in your permission slips yet?

## **November 27th**—ADVENT WORKSHOP

No Youth Fellowships so families may participate in the Advent Workshop.

Children's Pageant Rehearsal (Advent Workshop till 4:00) practice will take place during this time.



