

# Oak Leaves

*Newsletter of Oakton United Methodist Church  
"The Friendly Church on the Corner"*

**August 2010**



2951 Chain Bridge Road Oakton, VA 22124  
703-938-1234  
[WWW.OAKTONUMC.ORG](http://WWW.OAKTONUMC.ORG)

### **From the Pastor's Desktop---August, 2010**

Dear Friends,

I want to share some thoughts with prayerful responses for you to ponder in the midst of the summer days:

Gossip betrays trust. The harm done is often irreparable. Lord, may I never be responsible for hurting anyone through my conversations.

Accept God's help and transform today into a peaceful and joyful day. **Lord, when I am anxious and troubled I will turn my attention to You.** Make today the best day of your life. **Lord, I have been greatly blessed not only by what I have, but by those burdens that I have been spared.** Pray often. It is the single most important habit of the day. Lord, I will speak to You often throughout my day and be open to Your blessings.

We are accountable not only for what we do, but for what we do not do. **Lord, I will not let my talents wither away because I am lazy or fearful.** No one can go back and make a brand new start. Anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but God did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way. Disappointments are like road bumps, they slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the bumps too long. Move on!

When you feel down because you didn't get what you want, just sit tight and be happy, because God has thought of something better to give you. When something happens to you, good or bad, consider what it means. There's a purpose to life's events, to teach you how to laugh more or not to cry too hard.

Never abandon an old friend. You will never find one who can take their place. Friendship is like wine, it gets better as it grows older.

In closing here is a parable to ponder: A young man was at the end of his rope, seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer. "Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief and said, "Thank you Lord," and he did as he was told. Upon entering the other room, he saw many crosses; some so large the tops were not visible. Then, he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

The Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."

When life's problems seem overwhelming, it helps to look around and see what other people are coping with. You may consider yourself far more fortunate than you imagined.

During these summer months, I pray that God will bless your every day in every great way,

*Pastor Don*

## **YOUTH DIRECTOR**

Oakton UMC is seeking a part-time youth director. This is an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic person with interest and experience working with and growing Christian-based programs for youth in grades 7 through 12. The qualified candidate will be able to help the congregation plan, prepare and coordinate youth programs. The person will be responsible for developing special programs for youth, including retreats, recreation activities, service activities, educational opportunities, camps, etc. Active participation in all youth activities and church worship is required. Please submit resume with cover letter and professional references to [oumc@oaktonumc.org](mailto:oumc@oaktonumc.org).

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS NEEDED for the 2010-2011 Season**

The Sunday School team is actively looking for a new team of coordinators to begin serving in September 2010. Lois Hidalgo and Bruce Long will be looking for other opportunities to serve, and both have indicated that they will not be available for the 2010-2011 academic year.

The Sunday School leader/coordinator position has been most effectively filled when at least two people share the responsibilities. Most of the work involves coordinating teacher availability. All of our current teachers have committed to return for the fall classes.

If you are looking for an opportunity to serve, this is a great place to work with a team of dedicated teachers, and to watch our members of all ages explore and grow in their faith. For more information, please call either Bruce Long, Lois Hidalgo, or the church office.

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### **Help Needed: High Seas VBS Meals August 16 - 20**

Each evening Vacation Bible School begins with a light supper served in our large hall. We are blessed each year by the wonderful help we receive from the groups and individuals who volunteer to donate and prepare meals. Suggestions include pizza, lasagna, tacos, chicken tenders and sub sandwiches. Donations of peanut butter or cheese sandwiches, veggie/dip trays, chips, apple and other fruit slices, individual fruit cups, cookies and other desserts are very welcome. We typically feed 50 – 60 children each night, plus about 20 helpers, for a total of around 75 – 85 people.

Many thanks to the United Methodist Men and the United Methodist Women, who have already volunteered to prepare a meal.

If you are able to help with food, please contact Betty Harwick at 703-938-1786 or [bandbharwick@verizon.net](mailto:bandbharwick@verizon.net)

## **"Young Adults"**

Sat. August 28th we'll be at the home of Aleta & Sam Rauch from 7-10PM for a "Redneck" Pool Hoe-Down (Aleta's words) at 2734 Clarkes Landing Drive, Oakton, VA 22124. Be kind and RSVP to arcordie@yahoo.com or 703-620-0346, if you are bringing children, to ensure we have enough childcare providers on hand. The pool will be open if anyone wants a night swim, just need suit and towel.

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September 18, 2010 at 6:30PM will be another Pool Party - held at the temporary home of Rex & Maryanne Turner (while they have their home built) at 8900 Old Courthouse Road in Vienna. Be kind and RSVP to mturner12@verizon.net, if you are bringing children, to ensure we have enough childcare providers on hand.

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October 2010 (exact date to be determined) will be held at the home of Cheng Tang & Katherine Archer at 11911 St. Helena Dr., Oakton, VA 22124. Be kind and RSVP to 703-716-7363 if you are bringing children in need of childcare.

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NOTE to All YA Members: You can view the calendar, photos or the contact file anytime by going to Yahoo groups or through <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OUMCYoungAdults>

If you have church event photos and you'd like to share, you're welcome to share them on the site. ONLY our members can access them.

Remember while most Young Adults are 20s age range....OUMC's is special and our members are anyone from 20's - 50's & We'd love to have you join us! The monthly Potluck gathering, rotates to different members' homes each month, usually with a month off in the winter & a month off in the summer.

Coming means bringing some kind of dish to share and your loose change for Pennies for Change offering (when the jar is remembered that is). Childcare is usually available on site & the kids usually have a fun time too.

We will need hosts going forward, so please be thinking about whether you'd be able to host a future gathering...You pick the date that month that works best for you then just let Lisa Lanser or Wayne Malick know so we can mark the YA calendar (lisalanser@yahoo.com)! Hosting is as easy as opening the door and providing the utensils & drinks.

## **Thank You from the Stenger Family**

We thank all those who sent sympathy cards to my family and me upon the passing of Paul. We appreciate their thoughts and prayers on his behalf. Thank you all. ~ Barbara Stenger and son Douglas and Family

## Mark Your Calendars!



On Sunday, November 14, in honor and support of our military, Family Ministries will host a potluck lunch directly after the 10:55 a.m. service.

We are 'enlisting' your help early! Please search your closets for any and all military memorabilia through the ages (e.g., uniforms, parts of uniforms, camp equipment, mess kits, old posters) for use in our display of memorabilia from all branches of our military. Also, we're looking for photographs—old and new—of loved ones in their uniforms. Be sure to put your name and contact information on anything that you loan to us so that it may be returned to you.

We thank you in advance for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact Wanda Kirkpatrick at 703-591-3437.



## SCHOOL BACKPACKS FOR RISING HOPE UM MISSION CHURCH:

Now that school is out, do you have gently used or never used school backpacks taking up closet space in your home? The children of Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church can use these backpacks. This church serves the least, lost, lonely, and left-out community along the Route 1 corridor in Alexandria, VA. In 2009, Rising Hope provided school bags and school supplies for some 240 children. Thank you OUMC, for providing 54 of those school bags.

Both empty backpacks and separate packages of school supplies (for any age) are needed.

**Please bring your items to OUMC between July 15<sup>th</sup> and Aug 15<sup>th</sup>.** They will be stored and then delivered to Rising Hope the week before school starts. Helen Albanese (703 242-1356) and Jean Hardison (703 255-6442) may be contacted for questions.



## August Birthdays at OUMC

August 3 Nancy Cutchin  
4 Shannon Wise  
5 Kay Blocher  
5 Jason Fahner  
5 Trevor Perrier  
6 Jill Ririe  
6 Pete Stout  
9 Melissa Fahner  
10 Betty McCormick  
10 Charlotte Wineland  
11 Kelsey Budd  
12 Phil McCormick  
13 Dannye Ivey  
13 Casey Deege  
16 Casey Brewer  
17 Jan Smith  
21 Lois Hidalgo  
22 Stan Ellis  
22 Mark Allen  
23 Ethan Empfield



24 Angie Empfield  
24 Betty Harwick  
25 Frances Ellis  
25 Evan Turner  
26 Carol Friesen  
27 Tom Fromme  
27 Bill Korn  
28 Bob Harwick  
28 Sue King  
29 Christine LaRoche  
30 Wayne Malick  
30 Kaitlyn Waldbaum

If we missed your special day, please call the Church Office at 703-938-1234 or email [oumc@oaktonumc.org](mailto:oumc@oaktonumc.org) and let us know your special date!

## Bluegrass Ministry

The United Methodist Men invite everyone for fellowship and a fun filled evening singing bluegrass and gospel songs on Tuesday, August 17th, from 7pm to 9pm in the Chapel. Light refreshments will be served at intermission. Grab your fiddle, banjo, guitar, dobro and a neighbor and join in the fun. The admission is free and the event is open to the congregation and the Oakton community. Warren Underwood and Andy Margolis will be leading the program. See you there!

And please mark your calendar for future Bluegrass Ministry programs on the following dates: 9/21, and 10/19.

## Grace Notes- August 2010

HELP WANTED: Are you a whiz at Excel? Do you need to earn a few extra dollars over the summer? An anonymous donor has agreed to sponsor a short-term music library aid position to help with updating our music database. Duties would include organizing and labeling music files, data entry, and the assimilation of all Oakton UMC music into one excel database. We are looking for someone who could perform this task *efficiently* and effectively during the month of August. Please contact Shannon Wise at [wise1s@verizon.net](mailto:wise1s@verizon.net) if interested. Experience with Excel and strong organization skills required.

YOUTH HANDBELL RINGER NEEDED: The Alleluia Ringers youth handbell group is in need of one additional ringer to complete their ensemble. If you are in 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade, want to have fun with other youth in our church, and are interested in learning how to ring handbells, then COME JOIN US!! Please contact Shannon Wise at [wise1s@verizon.net](mailto:wise1s@verizon.net) or by phone at (703) 354-2438.

### LOOKING AHEAD...

|                      |            |                                    |
|----------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Thursday, August 26  | 7:30 p.m.  | Sanctuary Choir rehearsals resume  |
| Sunday, September 12 | 9:00 a.m.  | Chapel Choir rehearsals resume     |
|                      | 10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary Choir rehearsals resume  |
|                      | 12:15 p.m. | Carillon Ringers rehearsals resume |
|                      | 1:30 p.m.  | Alleluia Ringers rehearsals resume |
|                      | Time TBA   | Glory Sound rehearsals resume      |

Blessings and best wishes for a wonderful rest of the summer!

In Christ,  
Shannon

## Articles for the Oak Leaves

If you wish to send an article for inclusion in the Oak Leaves, please forward it to [oakleaves@oaktonumc.org](mailto:oakleaves@oaktonumc.org) by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

