

Oak Leaves

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

October 2011



2951 Chain Bridge Road Oakton, VA 22124
703-938-1234
WWW.OAKTONUMC.ORG

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK – October 2011

Luke 10:17-20 reads: The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Satan falls like lightening from heaven whenever you serve another with a heart of love, forgive someone who has wronged you, take pains to put another's needs in front of your own, follow a prompting to lean into God's marvelous adventure of faithful living. On Sunday, October 2nd, you had the opportunity to cause several strikes of lightning by putting your faith in action—by being the church. Names written in heaven. You are registered as one of God's own. Jesus said the real reason to celebrate is that we're on God's team.

The Gospel writers record the variety of emotions displayed by Jesus in the scriptures, as Jesus experienced and displayed genuine emotions, anger, sadness, laughter. Here we find Jesus overwhelmed with deep feelings of joy. There are some contemporary drawings and paintings of Jesus laughing. If you had to find a place in scripture to place those pictures, you could put it here.

You took a chance to put your faith into action, to strike a blow against evil, hatred and fear, and to be a living witness to the continuing work and love of Jesus. It was one act. Now make it a habit. Walk step-by-step to create a path. Turn this moment into a stepping stone to other acts of faithfulness in your journey.

Pastor Don



Setting the Course: A Call to Action for the United Methodist Church

The Arlington District is sponsoring three presentations of the same event, "**Setting the Course: A Call to Action for the United Methodist Church**," by the Rev. Marc Brown, VA Conference Director of Congregational Ministries, with opening remarks by the Rev. Tom Berlin of Floris UMC. The events are **for clergy and laity** together.

As you know, the Council of Bishops has issued a "Call to Action" for the United Methodist Church and the "Vital Congregations" project. Crucial and helpful data from over 30,000 churches nationwide has been gathered and resulting goals have been set through the Council's work. "Setting the Course" is being offered, at three different times for your convenience, as an opportunity for you and your churches to learn more about the "Vital Congregations" project and how it can best help your churches to thrive in discipleship.

The event will take place from **7-8:30 PM on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at Clarendon UMC**, from **9:30-Noon on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at Vale UMC**, and from **7 - 8:30 PM on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at Oakton UMC.**

Please invite especially the leaders of your churches to attend one of the events. Thank you for getting this word out!

Peace and grace,

Betsy G. Caudill

Program Coordinator, Arlington District

The United Methodist Church



Participants Needed for the CROP Walk on November 13

Vienna Presbyterian called the church office wanting to know if Oakton church would like to join with other churches in the Vienna/Oakton area and participate in the CROP walk on November 13. As reported on the web site www.viennacropwalk.org, this is a walk to help stop hunger. For the 7th year Vienna's faithful and caring walkers will pound the pavement together at the annual CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk sponsored by Church World Service. You can get more information about the CROP walk on the web site. Then, please give Sue Hamblin a call at Vienna Presbyterian. Her number is 703-938-9050.

Music News

From the Music Director

Things are going well in the Music Department. We have had a great start to the season! We have a new member in the Sanctuary Choir, the Carillon Ringers, and the Praise Band. We continue to worship God through our God given talents and are always pleased when someone comes to help us out. It is especially wonderful when we see the new person getting as much out of it as we are having them join us. It is just like expanding your family. It is a very joyful moment. We hope to have many more join! As always, there are no requirements for any of the groups. We would love for you to join us any time that you could. Here is a list of the groups and when they meet:

	<u>Age or Level</u>	<u>Sings or Plays</u>	<u>Rehearsal</u>
Sanctuary Choir -	after High School	every Sunday	every Thursday at 7:30 pm
Chapel Choir -	6 yrs old to 6 th grade	once a month	every Sunday at 9:45 am
Praise Band -	Youth	once a month	every Sunday at 2:30 pm
Carillon Ringers -	advanced players	once a month	every Sunday at 12:15 pm
Alleluia Ringers -	beginning players	once a month	every Sunday at 1:30 pm

Peace and Blessings,
David Helveston



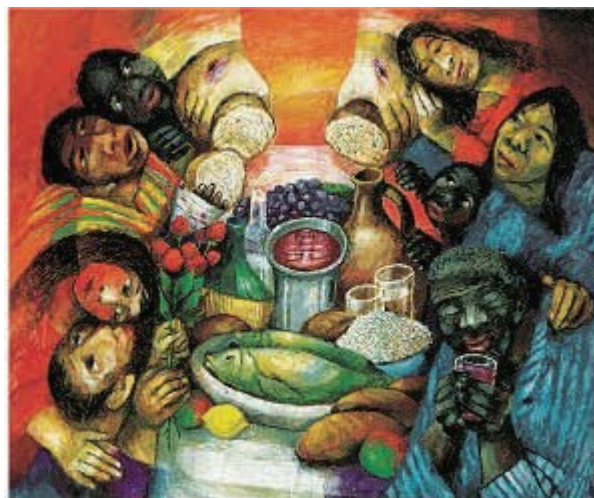
**Arlington District United Methodist Women
Advent Event
Saturday November 19th, 2011
9:00AM**

The theme of the Advent event will be 'Radical Hospitality'.

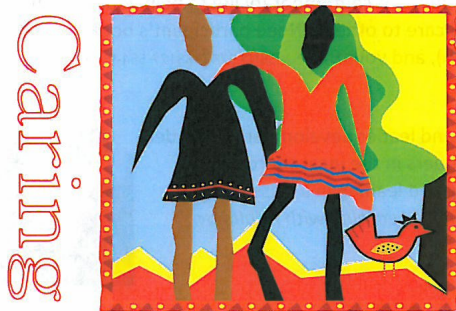
We will be examining practices that force people away from their rightful place at God's banquet table, and committing to be stewards of the earth.

All women of the United Methodist Church are welcome and invited to attend, whether or not a member of a local unit.

Oakton UMC
2951 Chain Bridge Road
Oakton, VA 22124



Lay Speaking Training Event October 21 & 22, 2011



Fri., Oct. 21, 6:30PM - 10 PM *and*
Sat., Oct. 22, 8 AM - 5 PM

LOCATION:

Herndon UMC
701 Bennett St, Herndon, VA
(Across from Herndon High School)

Lay Speaking Courses being offered:

- Basic Course (max 15)
- From your Hearts to Theirs: Delivering an Effective Sermon
- Lay Pastoral Care Giving
- Lay Speakers Teach Adults
- Scripture and Book of Discipline-(max 15)

COST: (includes lunch on Saturday)

\$25 for basic course

\$30 for advanced courses

\$45 for course on Book of Discipline

REGISTRATION: on line (www.novaumc.org) -or- detach and mail in the form at the bottom on this flyer.

BOOKS NEEDED: the cost of your course books is extra. See reverse for more information on titles needed.

Questions?

Contact Vicki Poindexter, Director, Lay Speaking Ministries, at vap328@aol.com

LAY SPEAKING TRAINING - REGISTRATION FORM

MAIL TO: LAY SPEAKING TRAINING, UMC IN NOVA, 5001 ECHOES AVE., ALEXANDRIA, VA 22311. CHECKS PAYABLE TO UM JOINT ACCOUNT.

Name: _____ Church: _____ UMC

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

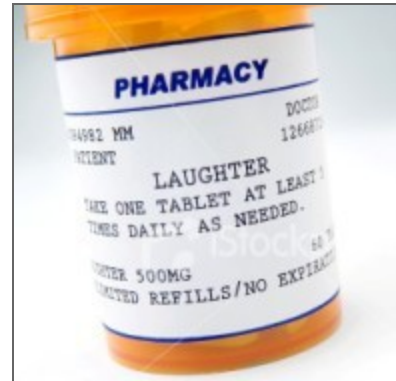
I will attend the Lay Speaking Training (select one):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Course (\$25) | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Lay Speaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From Your heart to Theirs: Delivering and Effective Sermon | <input type="checkbox"/> Taking Course-not for certification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Pastoral Care Giving | <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Course -to be certified |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Speakers Teach Adults | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Speakers and the Book of Discipline (\$45 due to the course book cost—book will be mailed to you.) | |

Register by October 15, 2011 to ensure supplies. All are welcome - you can take the class and not be a Lay Speaker.

Upcoming Benefit Event for the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna proudly presents Jeanne Robertson in a benefit presentation of "Laughter is the Best Medicine" at Vienna Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 23rd at 3:00 pm. Ms. Robertson is a nationally known humorist that has entertained everywhere from Las Vega to the White House. She can be heard daily on the Sirius/XM family comedy channel. Tickets are \$20.00 pre-performance or \$25.00 at the door. For tickets and additional information please call the Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0538 or office@scov.org.



FEED A CHILD Campaign

The story isn't simple but a simple act of kindness can help. Have you ever wondered when your next meal will be? Or have you ever been so hungry you couldn't think straight? One in three children under the age of five are malnourished in Sierra Leone. The FEED A CHILD campaign is an opportunity to feed the Sierra Leonean children and make a difference in their lives. Children who are malnourished suffer greatly and are at greater risk for disease and infection. The FEED A CHILD campaign supports the children at the Child Rescue Centre and the nutrition programs at Mercy Hospital in Bo, Sierra Leone. You can make a difference by helping the children of Bo, Sierra Leone grow up healthy and strong. Contribute to the *FEED A CHILD* campaign that provides children with life-saving sustenance which makes learning easier and builds the foundation for stronger, more successful young adults. Donate to the FEED A CHILD campaign so the children of Sierra Leone can eat and become strong and healthy for their country.

To buy a pair of sunglasses (\$5) or a t-shirt (\$15) to support the campaign, contact Paul Ellis at 703-476-1127.



And Where Exactly Does All That Money Go?



Part 4 of a Series on How Our Apportionment Helps Ministry Happen Around the World and Across Virginia

(This article originally written by Pastor David Hindman of the Duncan Memorial UM Church in Ashland with changes added by your Oak Leaves editors.)

We are a connectional church, which means we can do much more together as United Methodists than any one congregation can do on its own. Here are two crucially important ways we at Oakton help strengthen and spread the ministry of The UMC here in Virginia:

Church Extension and Development supports the development of new United Methodist faith communities in growing population areas not currently served by a United Methodist congregation and resources for congregations who are expanding facilities for new ministries. Virginia is one of the fastest growing states in the Union and this fund provides critically needed funds to reach out to new communities across the Commonwealth.

Equitable Compensation Fund provides strategic supplemental salary support for pastoral leadership for congregations that have potential for growth and development but need some additional financial assistance from the Virginia Conference to have the needed trained ministerial leadership to realize that potential. Congregations receiving assistance from ECF provide a base salary which is then supplemented by additional funds provided from this source.

Apportionments – the fair share of our partnership in ministry with other United Methodists.

October Birthdays at OUMC

October	3	Christian Herr	16	Judy Estus
	3	Andrew Deegan	17	Vilma Haynes
	3	Grace Breeden	18	Marge Javins
	4	Victor Kerr	18	Ruth Ebert
	5	Robert Morrow	18	Katherine Archer
	6	Greg Perrier	19	Joan Korn
	7	Marty Fertal	23	Heather Fraser
	8	Don Hawks	24	Taylor Mansfield
	8	Emma Wise	25	Tori Terrill
	9	Mark Fahner	25	Jillie Terrill
	10	Claire McDonald	26	Cecil Porter
	11	Edwin Fults	26	Graham Goodwin
	11	Mack Cutchin	28	Joshua Wise
	12	Amanda Vitko	29	Dorothy Dolan
	13	Randi Siron	29	Tom Murley
	13	Doris Doughten	29	Phil Hannum
	13	Steve Honda	29	Turner Applegate
	13	Donnie Fraser	30	Leslie Jo Waters
	14	Cami Barrientos	30	Jim Bladich
	15	John Plummer		
	15	Jim Ivey		
	15	Dallas Fields		

If we missed your special day, please call the Church Office at 703-938-1234 or email oumc@oaktonumc.org and let us know.



Do you participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)?

Please consider selecting these United Methodist sponsored organizations serving Northern Virginia:

- ESLIM (English as a Second Language and Immigrant Ministries) # 60490
- HCW (Helping Children Worldwide) #44370
- JUST NEIGHBORS (Immigrant Legal Services and Support) #98417
- UNITED COLLEGE MINISTRIES IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA – UCMNV (Campus Ministry at George Mason University) #73218
- WESLEY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, INC. (Affordable Housing development and Homelessness Awareness) #60939

BLUEGRASS MINISTRY



OUMC United Methodist Men invite everyone for fellowship and a fun filled evening on Tuesday, October 18th from 7:00 PM to 9:00PM to sing along with your favorite bluegrass and gospel songs in the Chapel. Family Ministries will host light refreshments at the break. Please grab your fiddle, banjo, dobro, neighbor, cousin . . . whatever and join the fun!!!

Oakton Christian PreSchool

Oakton Christian Preschool began the school year with our largest enrollment! We spent the first few weeks of school learning about our new friends and settling into our classroom routines. Fall brings OCP changing weather, changing leaves and yummy taste-tests with apples! We look forward to our Halloween Parties at the end of October and seeing the wonderful costumes.



Hope for Africa Children's Choir

The Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Ministry of the United Methodist Church was initiated to address the challenges facing the East Africa Annual conference. For those of us who may not be aware about the East Africa Episcopal Area, it is comprised of the 5 sovereign states of Uganda, Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda and Burundi. It covers a total land area of about 2.85 million square kilometers, with a total population of 116,117,987.

For more than two decades these countries have not enjoyed stability and peace. Uganda has had civil wars for over twenty years and about a quarter of the population has lived in restricted camps. There is a whole generation that has had their entire life in internally displaced people's camps. In the case of Rwanda the country is yet to fully recover from the impact of the 1994 genocide. For Burundi, it has had numerous coups and civil wars. Equally Sudan has been subjected to more than fifty (50) years of civil war in the South and Darfur is just recovering from the SPLA/M rebellion. This part of the country has no infrastructure worth talking about. Of late Kenya, which has been relatively peaceful, has had political and social unrest due to the post election crisis.

Worse still the region has been hit by diseases such as the HIV/AIDS epidemic, malaria, and of recent Ebola. These diseases have left millions dead resulting into growing numbers of orphans and widows. Thus a number of households are in the hands of either the aged or children. All these events have greatly impacted on the social, political and economic prosperity of these countries.

The orphans and vulnerable children's ministry intervention is aimed at addressing the challenges the parentless children in the conference are faced with.

All Inclusive Centers have been set up to provide a holistic environment to the orphans and the vulnerable children. These centers operate schools (Pre-primary, Primary and High school), dwellings, and other facilities that go with it such as a water sources, toilets, and health facilities.

Enrollment of children to these centers is through the United Methodist Church structures and local leadership. The centers admit children of all ages, but preferably those aged 2 to 12 years.

At least one such centre shall be established in each of the five countries that make up the East Africa Annual Conference. The centre in Uganda is where the children come from who perform in the high energy Hope for Africa Children's Choir. The scheduled October performances in our area are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Church</u>
10/19	6:30 pm	Annandale UMC
10/22	7:30 pm	Grace UMC, Manassas
10/23	8:30 am, 10 am, 11:15 am	Prince of Peace UMC, Manassas

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