

Oak Leaves

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

September 2009



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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESKTOP—September 2009

Dear Friends,

I am inviting you to reCONNECT at Oakton United Methodist Church this fall. I encourage you to reCONNECT to your church, your fellow congregants, your community and most of all to your God. During our worship, Sunday School, Confirmation for the youth, and other group events you will be invited to *ACT*. It's an invitation to make a disciplined change in ordinary patterns of your life that will open the way for you to experience new connections in your life. You can take action in three specific ways.

1. Connect to scripture.

On the final page of his Gospel, Luke tells us that the Risen Christ "opened their minds to understand the scriptures" (Luke 24:45-46). Our connection to Christ is inescapably connected to the words of Scripture. You will be given a workbook that is designed as a daily guide for personal study and reflection. I invite you to act by making time in your schedule each day to connect with the words of Scripture.

2. Connect in worship.

The last time we see the disciples in Luke's Gospel, they are in worship. "They worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God" (Luke 24:52-53). This experience is centered around life together in the worshiping congregation. I invite you to act by making your own commitment to be in worship in the congregation.

3. Connect with others.

Luke's account of the early church in the Book of Acts will serve as the biblical guide to this experience. Acts opens with Jesus ordering the disciples to spend the next fifty days together in prayerful anticipation of the promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4). And they did! Luke records, "All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer" (Acts 1:14).

Like those first disciples, we experience our connection with Christ in our connection with other disciples. I invite you to act by being a part of a small group with whom you can share your experience along the way. Jesus' last promise to his disciples was that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them and that by that power, they would be his witnesses throughout the world (Acts 1:8). Talk about being connected! That's exactly the kind of connection we expect to find as we share these 50 days together in September and October.

As we prepare for this special time in our life together, let John Wesley's Covenant Prayer be ours as well:

"I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy
Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine.

So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen."

Looking forward to reCONNECTing,
Pastor Don

RECONNECT AT OAKTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

reCONNECT will begin on Sunday September 20, 2009, at Oakton United Methodist and conclude with a Celebration Sunday on October 25. The basic study and worship schedule for the fall program follows.

September 13 – 19	Individuals/households begin reading the daily readings in Week 1 of the workbook. Sunday School and small groups hold their first meeting.
Sunday September 20	LONGING FOR CONNECTION
September 20 – 26	Individuals/households and groups are reading Week 2: Prayers.
Sunday, September 27	PRAYERS: MY CONNECTION WITH GOD’S POWER
September 27 – October 3	Individuals/households and groups are reading Week 3: Presence
Sunday, October 4	PRESENCE: MY CONNECTION WITH GOD’S PEOPLE
October 4 – 10	Individuals/households and groups are reading Week 4: Gifts
Sunday, October 11	GIFTS: MY CONNECTION TO GOD’S GENEROSITY
October 11-17	Individuals/households and groups are reading Week 5: Service
Sunday, October 18	SERVICE: MY CONNECTION TO GOD’S TRANSFORMATION
October 18 – 24	MINISTRY FAIR BEFORE AND AFTER SERVICES, 3rd Sunday Fellowship
Sunday, October 25	Individuals/households and groups are reading Week 6: Commitment—Making the Connections
	CELEBRATION: REJOICING IN THE CONNECTION
	CHILDREN’S “BAKEOFF” AFTER 10.55 SERVICE

Come Study the World's All Time Best Selling Book!

No we're not talking about Oprah's Book of the Month Club. The BIBLE is the all time best selling book! The Evangelism Committee is encouraging the study of the Bible outside of the narrow windows of time available on Sunday mornings.

2 Timothy 2:15 – Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

As an initial offering, Kimiko and Phil Hannum are prepared to open their home one night each week on a Tuesday through Friday. Bible study would begin at 8:00PM for up to 18 attendees to study a book from the Bible.

Snacks will be provided for the initial meeting by the Hannum's and a sign-up list will rotate the duty from that second week in September on.

If anyone prefers the group to meet at their home or at the church, please let us know.

Details will be available when you call. If we're not there to answer, please leave your name and number and we'll call you back.

Join us starting in September.

Kimiko and Phil Hannum 703-378-8507 or unmerited@msn.com



OAKTON FALL CELEBRATION re-CONNECT WITH FRIENDS! Sunday, September 13th



**COME DRESSED IN CASUAL ATTIRE AND ENJOY THE DAY
AT OAKTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH & PRESCHOOL!**

8:30 am—Casual worship and Communion in the Chapel

9:45 am—Sunday School Kickoff

*Learn about exciting new learning experiences being offered for all ages

10:55 am—Holy Humor Service in the Sanctuary

*Hear funny stories and joyful, uplifting music

*Listen to Pastor Don talk about "The Art of Loafing"

12:15 pm—Outdoor Cookout

*Grilled hotdogs and all the fixin's

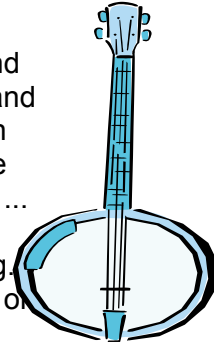
*Ice Cream of assorted flavors

*Games and fun for the children and young at heart

*Prizes and gifts!

Bluegrass Ministry - September 15, 2009

OUMC United Methodist Men invite everyone for fellowship and a fun filled evening to sing along with your favorite bluegrass and gospel songs on Tuesday, September 15, from 7pm to 9pm 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!!! Warren Underwood will lead the entertainment and everyone is welcome to play and sing along. Please mark your calendar for future Bluegrass entertainment on the following dates: 10/20 and 11/17.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

How Job Teaches Us



It may seem as if these are the times of Job - strangely developing illnesses, economic onslaughts, uncertainty, and losses. Job may best be remembered as a man who lost everything. He had a lot to lose. Job had considerable wealth (Job 2:3), a family (1:4, 2:9) and friends (2:11, 12:4). He was a righteous man (1:8), one who valued his relationship with God and peace (3:26). The story of Job is about his reversals and triumphs, about his friends, and about the character of God and Satan.

Job's losses came because of God's permission to Satan (Job 1:12 and 2:6) to afflict Job. When God asked Satan if he had seen His servant Job, Satan challenged God, essentially saying that it's easy to be a good person when everything is going smoothly (1:9-11). God accepts the challenge, but it is a provisional and conditional acquiescence giving Satan boundaries (1:12, 2:6) which he may not cross. In this we are shown the supremacy of God over all, including Satan's wiles.

The trials of Job didn't happen overnight (Job 7:3-4). First his children died violently, and then his health vanished. When his friends heard about his hardships, they met and came and sat with Job for seven days and nights without a word. (Job 2:11-13). Their first gift to Job was their presence, a powerful offering in itself. When the silence is broken, it's by Job speaking out of his pain and disappointment (Job 3). The voices of his friends then alternately seek to problem solve for Job entreating him to recall his successes (Eliphaz - Job 4:3-4), move on (Bildad - Job 8:1), and overall to look to what he (Job) has done wrong and beg for God's forgiveness (Zophar - Job 11). The dialogue between Job and his friends continues, however, the friends do not know God's part in Job's troubles and God has not yet spoken. When God answers Job's questions with questions [questions that Job cannot answer (chapters 38-41), and Job knows it (chapter 42)], Job has a new understanding (42:3) and repents ((42:6). God then opens up a new and more prosperous chapter in Job's life (42:10-16).

The story of Job and his friends teaches us much about friendship. If you are someone who is feeling tested by the circumstances of life, you may want to talk with a Stephen Minister as a friend and presence during this period in your life. Contact Carol Friesen (703-266-2494) or Rev. Don Hawks (703-938-1234) about our Stephen Ministry program. (Submitted by Willi Dalaba, in support of Stephen Ministry)

Young Adult Activities

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

September Monthly Potluck will be on Sat. 19th at Dannye & Jim Ivey's home, 10405 Stone Ridge Lane Vienna, VA 22181. Please bring a dish to share. Don't forget your Loose Change for the Pennies for Change jar! Feel free to bring a friend, or two, the more the merrier! Childcare in-house so please be kind and RSVP to djkb4@aol.com or 703-281-3013 if you're bringing children, so we can be sure to have sufficient helpers on hand.

October Potluck on Sat. the 3rd at the Home of Scott and Sonya Saylor
13471 Stream Valley Drive Chantilly, VA 20151 703 378-8662

We still need to line up November and December hosts, so please consider.

The Oakton United Methodist Young Adult group (OUM-YA) welcomes any person attending church services who is in their 20s - 50s. Childcare is usually available on site at the Potluck dinners.

Joining us or hosting is very simple, please contact Lisa Lanser (usually in the red choir robe) or Wayne Malick (usually in balcony running sound or otherwise running around) either at church or lisalanser@yahoo.com if you are interested. If you're not sure who either of us are, I think most of the members could point us out to you. We'd love to meet you.

OUMC UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

will be restarting their meetings in September

Fellowship will begin meeting on the **second** Saturday of each month (beginning Sept. 12, 2009) in the small social hall at 8:30 am. Bring your own breakfast.

Susanna Circle meets the second Tuesday of each month (beginning Sept. 8, 2009) in the small social hall at 12:00 noon for pot luck lunch.

Each meeting has a combination of social, nurturing, and spiritual activity. We welcome and encourage all women of the church to join us.

A Trip to Winterthur Museum and Country Estate

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is currently taking reservations for a bus trip, in partnership with the Vienna Community Center, to lovely Winterthur Museum and Country Estate. The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd, from 7:30AM - 5:30PM. Fee includes transportation, lunch, tips, tour tickets, orientation film, and self-guided gallery tour time.

Fee: \$90 Enrollment through the Shepherd's Center is for Non-Town of Vienna residents only. We are offering the Vienna resident fee instead of the non-resident fee of \$110 (a \$20.00 savings)

Space for this trip is limited, so please don't wait--call the Shepherd's Center office (703-281-0538) to reserve your seat.

Family Ministry's Fund Raiser

We are selling Giant and Shoppers Food Warehouse gift cards after the 8:30 am service in the Library and after the 11:00 am service in the narthex. The cards are being sold at face value in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100. All funds raised will go toward church programs and ministries.

To my Oakton United Methodist Church Family

There are no words to express my gratitude for all you've done. I was overwhelmed with all the cards, notes, phone calls, visits and flowers during Jim's recent illness and passing. My thank you seems so small compared to all you've done but it comes from my heart. Special thanks to Rev. Hawks, the musicians, the UMW and the choir, and all who helped with the luncheon after the memorial service. God bless you all.

Trudy Rupp

Smile and Say Cheese

It's time again to update our photo directory. This year, we will be trying a somewhat different approach. Rather than using a commercial photographer, we are going to take the photos ourselves and merge them with the church's contact information to create our own directory! Color copies will be assembled and distributed before the end of the year.

Since there will be a financial investment in printing the directories, business sponsorships will be requested. Church members wishing to advertise their business may do so by purchasing advertising space in the back of the directory. Specific information regarding cost, submission requirements, and timing will be made available shortly.

Starting in September, our own "staff" of photographers will be available at various church events to snap your picture. If you prefer, you can submit a digital photo of your own. Individual or family photos, formal or casual, will be accepted. You can even send us one of your favorites from your summer vacation!

THANK YOU !!

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, get well wishes, flowers, and especially prayers during my recent wrist surgery and recovery. It's hard to thank each and everyone individually, I feel so blessed to have a church family that truly cares for one another.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness and concern. Please continue to keep me in your prayers.

Betty Harwick

OUMC UMW FALL BAZAAR

Saturday, October 3, 2009

This annual event draws a wide range of talented crafters and quality vendors. Their products are beautiful and reasonably priced. We hope to also have representatives with crafts from CRC and the Red Bird Mission. Please mark your calendars and start your seasonal shopping at this OUMC UMW fund

Prayer Shawl Ministry

For those of us who like to crochet or knit, nothing is so calming and fulfilling as to see a Prayer Shawl begin to grow. Our minds relax and we converse with God concerning the recipient of the shawl when it is finished. Those prayers become as much a part of the shawl as the yarn itself.

We are so grateful for your donations of yarn and money gifts which help to further our ministry. Since June 2008, 16 prayer shawls, 3 lap robes, and 7 baby blankets have been presented as gifts of hope, comfort, peace, and love.

To know that you've provided someone with a tangible gift of love and comfort, and the assurance of God's love gives one a sense of peace that cannot be explained. God is blessing this mission.

Kay Blocher
Chairperson
703-938-0387

Nursery Coordinator Needed

We are in need of a nursery volunteer coordinator. This individual has responsibility for coordinating the volunteers who work in the nursery. Please call Sharon LaRoche at 703-591-0245 or email at sharonlaroche@aol.com.



Sunday School 2009-2010

The Sunday School survey said (you prefer):

Bible study

- More variety in adult Sunday School
- Variety of relevant Christian topics
- Lots of discussion and participation
- Shorter course lengths – 8 weeks
- An “other than Sunday” Bible study
- Child care for infants – Sunday mornings
- “Let me help” - for a day or a week at a time

Sunday School Starts September 20

For Adults

- Weeknight small group Bible class – in homes
- Two adult Bible study classes – Sunday mornings
- Christian adult electives class – Sunday morning
- Launching a class for ages 20-30
- Class lengths of 6-8 weeks
- Variety of instructors – teacher teams
- Sunday School Child Care 9:30-10:30

For Children and Youth

- Confirmation Class – Sept-Dec
- Classes: Preschool; Grades K-1; 2-3; 4-5
- Middle School – Grades 6-7-8
- High School – Grades 9-12

Help Wanted

Exciting Sunday School support opportunities available!

Christian training and education – for all ages

No experience, no skills needed

- **On-the-job training provided**

Flexible hours – work as much or as little as you want

- **Work at home options**

Positions provide a complete Christian benefits package

Immediate placement in these positions

- Nursery attendants
- Teachers for children, youth, and adults
- Sunday School administration
- Curriculum review and purchasing
- Arts and crafts supply
- School support
- Program coordinators
- Food service

**These are Equal opportunity positions. Employment guaranteed.
No applicants will be refused.**

***Call or write now for more information: Bruce Long, 703-988-0593,
bblong@cox.net***

September Birthdays at OUMC

September	1	Carrie McDonald
	1	Paul Rice
	2	Stuart Bladich
	4	Charlotte Belcher
	5	Hylton Lawler
	5	James Waters
	8	Esther Thomas
	8	Blake Waters
	8	Lucas Waters
	10	Bruce Rhinehart
	10	Logan Sawyer
	10	Hank Walton
	11	Sammye Justice
	16	Megan Korn
	17	Kevin Ivey
	20	Floyd Moon
	21	James Nagle
	21	Warren Underwood
	22	Matthew Schuette
	22	Edvin Tobar
	23	Taylor Smith
	24	Daryl Hutchinson
	25	Beth Hannum
	25	Alvin Kitchen
	25	Robyn Reiners
	29	Sharon Nelson
	30	John Dearing
	30	Robyn Smith



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

What's Going On at the Shepherd's Center!

Lunch N' Life - Monday, September 14th

When: Monday, September 14th, 12 - 2PM

Where: Emmanuel Lutheran Church
2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna

Program: Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna invites you to join friends and neighbors for a delicious lunch and entertainment. Following lunch, enjoy the music of "Black Coffee", a popular local band performing your favorite great jazz standards--selections by Ellington, Rodgers & Hart, and Jerome Kern to name a few! Call the Shepherd's Center office to make your reservation for this fun afternoon of good food, fellowship, and music!

Lunch: \$10/person, prepayment required by September 7th

RSVP: For reservations, call 703-281-0538 or e-mail office@scov.org

Fall Adventures in Learning to Begin! – Register on Thursday, September 17th

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna will hold an Open House Ice Cream Social and Registration for its Fall Session of Adventures in Learning on September 17, 2009, at the Universalist-Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, from 10:00 AM to noon. Fall classes will be held Thursdays, beginning September 24 through November 12, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A \$40 registration fee covers all classes for the eight weeks. Classes will include a Health Series, National Affairs and World Affairs, a Potpourri, and Creative Writing. Bridge and T'ai Chi classes will continue. For further information call the Shepherd's Center office at 703-281-0538 or e-mail office@scov.org.

“Fun and Familiar Favorites...” – Sunday, October 4th

An afternoon concert of stories, humor and great music with Marty Henne

Sunday, October 4th at 3 p.m. in the Vienna Baptist Church

Located at 541 Marshall Road SW, Vienna, VA

Tickets: \$15/person. Call 703-281-0538.

Annual Caregiver's Treat - Wednesday, October 21st

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna hosts its annual Caregiver's Treat on Oct. 21st, from 9:30AM to 1:30PM at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, in Vienna. This popular free event is designed to give adult caregivers a day of relaxation and respite with fun activities, entertainment, a speaker, and lunch all provided. Daycare and free entertainment is available for care-receivers. For more information or to sign up, contact Jack Tarr or Marianne Hanton at the Shepherd's Center office at 703-281-0538.

News from the Lord's Book Nook

The Kirkpatrick family has made a generous donation to the library of many of Bill's books. Some of these include:

The Buck Stops Here – Legal and ethical responsibilities for United Methodist organizations, *Called to be a Layman* – How God can use you where you are, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, *Children's Ministries*, *The Life We Claim*– The Apostle's Creed For Preaching, Teaching, and Worship, and *Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts*.

We now have book plates that can be printed and placed in books donated to the library. They say "Given By ...", "Given in Honor of ...", "Given in Memory of ...", or any combination of these. Please let us know when making a donation if you would like a bookplate and if so which one. We can also provide receipts for the value of the donation.

Pastor Don has acquired for the Church a wonderful, new, five volume set of the *New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. These have been placed in the reference section of the library which means they are to be used at the Church.

Oakton UMC Library will host the October meeting of DC/MD/VA chapter of the National Church Library Association on October 17th. We have been active in this chapter since

Arlington District News

District Annual Conference/Picnic Lake Fairfax Park – September 26th

A day of fun, games, music, and worship. The morning begins with the annual district conference which is both a meeting of essential district business and a celebration of the many ministries & mission events that occur within our 54 Arlington district churches. These events occur between 9:30AM and 3:30PM. Bring your family and friends to this free fun event. Contact Tim Craig, Mt. Olivet UMC, with questions: 703-527-3934. (rain location Herndon UMC 701 Bennett St., Herndon)

Bi-District Lay Speaking Ministry Training for Beginner and Advanced Lay Speakers

October 9 & 10 Herndon UMC

Articles for the Oak Leaves

If you wish to send an article for inclusion in the next monthly Oak Leaves, please forward it to oakleaves@oaktonumc.org by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

