

OAK RIDGE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Welcome. Grow. Love.



1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

A SERVICE OF CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

GATHERING

Welcome! Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of Christ in this service. Please sign the "Connection" pads located at the end of each pew so we can get an accurate record of attendance. If you are a first time guest, we are so grateful to have you with us. Please stop by the Welcome and Information Desk in the entrance to the Sanctuary so we can give you a Welcome Gift Bag.

WELCOME

Pastor Christi

* EXCHANGING THE PEACE

Pastor Christi

* OPENING HYMN

No. 196 (UMH)

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Charlie & Ann Bowman (8:15)

The Heltsley Family (11:15)

Reader: Let us pray together:

All: God our caring Father, you who gave your beloved Son to ransom all people, guide us through this season with, quiet, glad anticipation. Help us to pay attention to the poor and needy, and to the lonely among us. Give us a spirit of waiting, and hearts brimming with thanks. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Andy

WE CALL UPON GOD IN PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Christi

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERING & MINISTRY CELEBRATION & OPPORTUNITIES

OFFERTORY

- * DOXOLOGY (sung to “What Child is This”)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud
the babe, the son of Mary.**

- * PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Christi

HEARING THE WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC “*See Amid the Winter’s Snow*” (8:15)
Chancel Choir

“*Christmas Offering*” (11:15)
Regina Englishman and Kenny Phillips

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1: 39-41 (NIV)

³⁹At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰where she entered Zechariah’s home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Andy

WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LIGHT

- * CLOSING HYMN No. 203 vs. 1, 2, 4 (UMH)

“*Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*”

- * EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

- * BENEDICTION

- * POSTLUDE

* The congregation is asked to stand.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the 47th wedding anniversary on November 28 of Ed & Nancy Saxman.

Sermon Notes

“This week will be different because my take home from Sunday is...”

Announcements

Fellowship Time - You are invited to our fellowship time that is held between worship services. This is a time to visit with friends and meet new ones! We'll have the coffee pot on and some breakfast goodies available in the Café from 8:30 – 8:55 and from 10:00 – 10:30. We will also have coffee in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 8:15 worship service. Wherever you head for fellowship time, we welcome you and encourage you to come!

Men's Ministry - The Men's group will meet on Monday, December 4, 6:30-8:00pm, at the home of Jay Golding. It's a tuneup for the soul, led this time by Ken Chester, a friend of Jay's. It's all about men talking about issues that each of us face and finding out we have a Master Mechanic 24/7 for every detail. Join us and bring a friend. Doors open at 6:30 for pizza and some garage time. The address is 7827 Athens Rd, Stokesdale. Join us for fun and fellowship!

Music of the Season - Come to the Fellowship Hall after the 8:15 worship service to enjoy the music of David Layton, fellowship and coffee each Sunday during Advent.

Gingerbread Houses - The family ministries event for December is on Saturday, December 9, 5:30 - 7:30pm, in the Family Life Center. All are invited! Wear your pajamas and enjoy some hot chocolate while you build your house! There might even be a visit from a special guest! RSVP to Erin Betlej at erin.betlej@oakridgeumc.org.

Mission of the Month: Africa University - For the past 12 years we have been sponsoring a student at Africa University. Our present student is Levy Tshota Kayembe. Levy is an orphan due to past civil war in DR Congo when his parents fled and he was left behind. He is 23 years old, a Christian, and a member of Nazareth UMC. Levy plans to work with Child Action Initiative in Kasungami after receiving his degree in sociology. Tuition, room, board and travel expenses are \$6400.00 for one year. A collection will be taken for Africa University next Sunday as our December Mission of the Month.

The Ridge - Tonight, the youth will meet at the church at 6:00pm for sort night at the Christmas Store. Please bring a large or x-large gift bag.

Youth Candle Fundraiser - The youth are selling candles during the month of December. Buy some for yourself or give them away!

Cost: 4oz | \$10/each; 8oz | \$15/each

Scents available are:

- Appalachian Maple Bourbon
- Coffeehouse
- Christmas Orange

To purchase, email Erin Betlej at erin.betlej@oakridgeumc.org.

Club 45 Celebrates Christmas! On Sunday, December 17, we are having a Christmas Party - complete with an Ugly Sweater Competition! We will meet in the gym from 4:00-5:30pm! Bring a \$5-10 wrapped gift to swap (please no gift cards). We will decorate cookies, play Christmas games, swap gifts, make a gift for our new Children's and Families person, & make scarves for our backpack kids. Parents, we are asking for your help to ensure that there are enough adults each time we meet. We want at least 2 non-related adults each time. Please sign up to be ministry leaders by contacting Erin Betlej at erin.betlej@oakridgeumc.org. Club 45 is for 4th and 5th graders.

Christmas Poinsettias - Each year at Christmas, we enhance the beauty of our worship areas with poinsettias. You may place a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. The poinsettias are \$13.00 each. They are yours to take at any time after the Christmas Eve services. Please contact Pam Jordan at pam.jordan@oakridgeumc.org to order yours today! The deadline for placing orders is Sunday, December 10.

Greensboro Urban Ministries Honor Card - This is the 30th anniversary of the Honor Card which has been created by local Greensboro artist, William Mangum. The Honor Card program is an annual campaign to raise awareness and funds to meet the needs of the homeless in Greensboro and throughout North Carolina. In addition to using the cards for special holiday greetings for family and friends, many people frame them to hang in their homes or give as gifts. The Honor Cards may be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5.00 today and Sunday, December 10 in the lobbies after Sunday services, or you may obtain them by contacting Donna Cleveland, 336-643-0715.

2017 Hannah's Haven Honor Cards - Honor cards are now available by contacting Jane Hahn at 336-617-3072. Artist, Jeanine Goodes designed this year's card, "Mother and Child". The minimum donation is \$5 per card.

Christmas Trees & Wreaths - The Christmas tree lot operated by Boy Scout Troop 139, sponsored by ORUMC, is now open! Also, the American Heritage Girls are selling wreaths at the lot. All trees and wreaths are beautiful, fragrant Fraser firs from the mountains of NC. The Christmas tree lot is located next to the Shell station on Hwy 68 in Oak Ridge and is open weekends from 9:00am to 9:00pm and weekdays from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Guatemala Mission Trip 2018 - It was truly a blessing to serve with two wonderful teams of people with hearts to serve and committed to completing the task this past October. The teams were large with 25 on each and we served a record 400 Guatemalan families. Many lives were touched and will be forever changed. In 2018, Pastor Andy is looking forward to serving on a team and has already committed to the team scheduled for October 27 - November 3, 2018. Many in our church will want to serve with Andy. You have an opportunity now to reserve a spot on that team before active recruiting begins around the middle of January. Contact Max Kern or download & submit your application to reserve a spot. Go to www.oakridgeumc.org and look under the Ministries/Servant Outreach/Changing Lives in Guatemala section for more information or contact Max Kern at hmaxkern@gmail.com.

New Stephen Minister Training - Our caring ministry at ORUMC will be expanding soon, as we are set to begin Stephen Minister training in January. The skills our Stephen Ministers learn and practice prepare them to provide a very high level of Christian care giving. There is 50 hours of training that is broken into sessions. We usually meet in the evenings at the church. The impact of Stephen Ministry on our congregation and community has been tremendous. If you are interested in signing up for the classes beginning in January, please contact Pastor Christi Taylor at christi.taylor@oakridgeumc.org.

Food Collection for Local Ministries For December

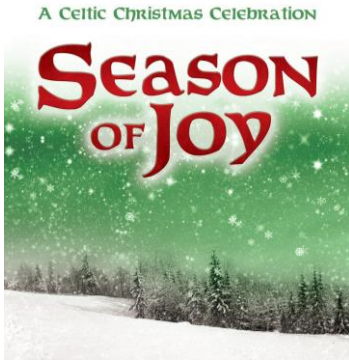
Good Samaritan Pantry:

Macaroni & cheese
Canned green beans

Backpack Ministry:

Spaghetti noodles (1 lb box)
Spaghetti sauce (28 oz can)

Please place donations in the Donation Center located near the church office. Thank you for your support.



Christmas Cantata

December 17
8:15 & 11:15am
In the Sanctuary

Christmas Program

December 17
9:00am
Family Life Center



Sunday, December 24 Worship Services

11:15am One combined morning worship service

Christmas Eve Services

3:00pm Children & Family Worship in the Family Life Center

5:00pm Crosswalk Contemporary Worship in the Family Life Center

7:00pm Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services at 3:00, 5:00 and 7:00pm are candlelight services with Holy Communion.

What is a Chrismon Tree?

The evergreen tree (Chrismon Tree) symbolizes eternal life and provides a background for the lights with gold and white Chrismon designs. The lights proclaim Jesus is the light of the world, and the Chrismon ornaments declare His name, life, and saving acts. The beads are white, representing the purity and holiness of Christ, and gold, representing His majesty and glory.

Today begins the season of advent. Each year, we put a Chrismon tree in the Sanctuary at the beginning of this holy season. The combination of the words Christ and monogram form the word Chrismon. Chrismons are more than monograms; they tell about the life, ministry, activities, nature, and teaching of Jesus Christ.

Take a closer look at the Chrismon tree and you will see Chrismons that symbolize Christ the King, the Lamb of God, the Resurrection, the Trinity, Baptism, angels heralding the coming of Christ, Holy Communion, a wide variety of crosses and more. See if you can identify the symbolism behind each Chrismon.

Chrismons started back in the early 1970's at Oak Ridge UMC. Many church members have been involved for years, sharing their talents and time, making Chrismons that celebrate this special time of year, Christmas and Jesus Christ. Currently we have a group, the Chrismon Ministry, making Chrismon. They meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 7:00-9:00 pm in room D212. For more information on the Chrismon Ministry, please contact Pam Jordan at pam.jordan@oakridgeumc.org.



The Alpha & Omega



Star of Bethlehem



Basin & Towel

Connect at ORUMC!

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

- 8:15 & 11:15 Worship services, held in the Sanctuary, that use a variety of hymns, songs and readings to support the weekly message.
- 9:00 (Crosswalk) - A service held in the Family Life Center where the weekly message is supported by worship bands that lead with vibrant Christian music.

Nursery Schedule, Room B109

- 8:15, 9:00 & 11:15am Worship services, 4 years and younger
10:00am Discipleship Hour, infants & toddlers only

Sunday Morning Discipleship Hour

- 10:00 Discipleship Hour with a place for all ages to grow in their knowledge of God, apply His Word and become imitators of Christ.

For information about our ministries, contact:

Music Ministry, Kenny Phillips, Dir. of Music & Worship Arts,
kenny.phillips@oakridgeumc.org, 336-643-4690 ext. 223

Youth Ministry, Erin Betlej, Dir. of Youth & Young Adult Ministries,
erin.betlej@oakridgeumc.org, 336-643-4690 ext. 204

Church Communications

If you would like to receive our weekly email newsletter and/or prayer notifications, please contact Pam Jordan at pam.jordan@oakridgeumc.org.

Coffee With the Pastors



Have you been attending Oak Ridge UMC and have questions about the church? Coffee with the Pastors is for you! Our senior pastor, Andy Lambert, and associate pastor, Christi Taylor, would love to answer your questions!

They are ready and eager to share who we are, what we do and how to join as well as any other questions you may have! We invite you to discover more about Oak Ridge, where you fit in and possible next steps with us, Sunday, December 10, 10:00-10:45 am, in the senior pastor's office. Contact Director of Welcome and Witness, Teresa Geiger, teresa.geiger@oakridgeumc.org, for more information and to RSVP.

Weekly Adult Recreational Opportunities

Zumba: Monday, 9:05am (FLC); Thursday, 9:05am (FLC)

Line Dancing: no classes until January 2018

Yoga: Monday, 7:00pm (Café); Wednesday, 9:00am (F219);
Thursday, 7:00pm (Fellowship Hall)

For more calendar information, please visit the church website at www.oakridgeumc.org.

Opportunities for Service

December 3

December 10

8:15am Worship

Acolyte	Grace Andronica	Conrad Little
Ushers	Bev & Sydney Wentz	The Simpsons
Children's Sermon	Pastor Andy	na
Door Greeter	Carolyn Brown	Mary Causey
A/V	Edward Jordan	David & Elaine Jones

11:15am Worship

Acolytes	Emily & Lilly Taylor	Madison Wiener
Ushers	Englishman, Mueller	Englishman, Mueller
Children's Sermon	Pastor Andy	na
Door Greeters	Andrew & Sally Wiener	Carolyn Richardson
Guest Station	Jim & Peggy Hill	Dru Long
Sound Technician	Todd Ring	Jeff Hallman
ProPresenter	Ben Ring	Victoria Hallman
Cameras	Tim Florence	Jackson Hallman
Financial Workers	T. Ring, V. Gardner	Williams, Hogan

Our Presence:

Vital Signs Sunday, 11/26/17

8:15 Sanctuary Worship	84
9:00 Contemporary Worship	217
11:15 Sanctuary Worship	153
Total	454

Our Gifts:

Sunday, 11/26/17

Weekly Amount Needed:	\$ 18,921
Weekly Amount Received:	\$ 17,794
Year-to-date Amount Needed:	\$ 1,076,061
Year-to-date Amount Received:	\$ 1,054,014 (98%)

Current Prayers and Praises

Prayer needs

Harriet Buter and family at the passing of her grandmother, Ruby Cozart Smiley Funderburk, undergoing treatments

Richard Reddeck, hospitalized with congestive heart failure, father of
Jill Shelton

Luther Fields, cancer, brother of Bonnie Miller

Dana Hanlon, recovering from surgery

Belinda Jester & family in the loss of husband, Doug Jester, friends of Kathy Kochel, Alice Calhoun & Rene Parrish

Praises

This holy season of Advent - a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ!

A Prayer for the First Week of Advent:

Loving God,

I sense that all is your creation

and everything, and all of us,

are being drawn back toward your loving heart.

Help me to be a person of peace,

To speak about it in an uneasy world,

And to live it among the people

you have put into my life every day.

Light in me a desire to prepare for your coming

to stand in the darkness, waiting, eager and filled with joy.

Thank you for praying faithfully for the prayer requests. If you have a prayer request or a praise, please fill out a prayer card found in the pew pockets and place it in the offering plate or contact Pam Jordan at pam.jordan@oakridgeumc.org or 336-643-4690. They will remain on this list during the month they are received. If you would like your loved one to be included in the prayer list for the following month or placed on the long term list, please contact Pam Jordan at the church office.

ORUMC Africa University Scholarship Fund 2017

This is the 12th year for the ORUMC Africa University Scholarship Fund (ORUMCAUSF) begun Christmas Eve, 2005. We had gone to Old Mutare Mission, Zimbabwe on a medical and drinking water mission and stayed at Africa University where we learned the majority of students depended on scholarships to attend A.U. When we returned home, we met with our then pastor, Rev. Dr. John Franklin Howard, who sanctioned the ORUMC Africa University Scholarship Fund.

Our present student, Levy Tshota Kayembe, is the seventh student this congregation is supporting. Levy is an orphan due to past civil war in DR Congo when his parents fled and he was left behind. Levy eventually made his way to Kasungami, DRC where he was taken in by Child Action Initiative (CAI) founded in 2006 by Isaiah Njambu Chot, a 2006 graduate of A.U. to educate orphans. A family was found for him to live with and he was enrolled in the CAI education program. Levy graduated from secondary school and is enrolled in A.U. He is 23 years old, a Christian, and a member of Nazareth UMC. Levy plans to return to Kasungami after receiving his degree in sociology and assist Isaiah with Child Action Initiative.

Tuition, room, board and travel expenses are \$6400.00 for one year.

As we look forward to the birth of Jesus let us give thanks for our many blessings and open our hearts to give the gift of a future to Levy.

The essence of living is giving.

Blessings,

Bev & Ed Wentz

Founders & Co-chair for ORUMC Africa University Scholarship Fund



Senior Pastor: Rev. Andy Lambert
Associate Pastor: Rev. Christi Taylor
2424 Oak Ridge Road, Oak Ridge, NC 27310
Church: (336) 643-4690
Church Office Hours: M-Th, 8:00am – 5:00pm,
Friday 8:00am - 2:00pm
www.oakridgeumc.org