

Begin, Belong, Become

OAK RIDGE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Welcome. Grow. Love.



2ND 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 register pads located at the end of each pew so we can get an accurate record of attendance. If you are a first time visitor, we are so grateful to have you with us. Please stop by the Guest Station near the entrance to the Sanctuary so we can give you a Welcome Packet.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
Ridge Ringers with Lillian Wiener

OUR ADORATION OF GOD

- * OPENING HYMN No. 220 vs. 1, 2, 4 (UMH)
“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE & READING

Gary & Myra Blackburn

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

WE CALL UPON GOD IN PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

AFRICA UNIVERSITY UPDATE Bev Wentz/Rev. Regina H. Moore

- * THE 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

- * EXCHANGING THE PEACE

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1: 46-56 (NIV)

⁴⁶And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors.” ⁵⁶Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

THE MESSAGE

Pastor Christi

SENDING FORTH

Worship has ended; let the service begin!

- * CLOSING HYMN No. 218 vs. 1, 2, 4 (UMH)
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”
- * EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES
- * BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Please greet those around you in a spirit of Christ-like hospitality.

* The congregation is asked to stand.

The altar flowers are given by Lynda Williams to the glory of God and in honor of the birthdays of her grandsons, Austin Williams and Grant DeVaney.



Sermon Notes

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

<p>Announcements</p>

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!

Mission of the Month: Africa University - Today, our special guest speaker for Africa University is Regina Henderson Moore. Reverend Regina, as she is affectionately called, is an ordained elder in full connection with the NC Conference of The United Methodist Church. Having travelled over 20 countries preaching, teaching, and serving on the mission field, she has served in the local church, Duke University Chapel, and with the church's global ministries headquarters in New York City. She currently resides in the Columbia (SC) Metro area where she leads churches and other faith-based organizations in administrative and strategic ministries with The Riverside Group volunteers for social justice issues.

For the past 12 years we have been sponsoring students 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 today as our December Mission of the Month.

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.

Blood Drive - Our next Blood Drive is on Monday, December 11, from 2:30-7:00pm. In this season of giving, please give the gift of life. All blood types are needed. Appointments are recommended and can be set up on our website under the News/Upcoming Events heading. Items for the canteen are also needed. If you cannot donate blood, consider bringing in some goodies for the canteen.

Coffee with the Pastor - Have you been attending Oak Ridge UMC and have questions about the church? Our senior pastor, Andy Lambert, would love to answer your questions! He is 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, today, 10:00-10:45 am, in the senior pastor's office.

Hats & Gloves for Children - The Backpack Ministry has an immediate need for hats and gloves for 4th and 5th grade boys and girls. Please place donations in the Backpack Ministry bin in the donation center located near the church office.

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. 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 today!

The Ridge - Tonight, the youth will meet at the church at 6:00pm for a Christmas party and ugly sweater competition. Bring a \$5-10 wrapped gift to swap. No gift cards please.

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.

Greensboro Urban Ministries Honor Card - Today is the last chance to get Honor Cards for GUM. The Honor Cards may be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5.00 today in the lobbies after Sunday services. 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.

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.

Need a Bible? - Bibles are available in the lobbies free for the taking. Please, if you do not have a Bible, you are encouraged to take one. It is God's life-changing love letter to you and to the entire world.

Inclement Weather Policy - Winter is here and with it the threat of bad weather. Please make note of our inclement weather policy. We will do our best to make a decision regarding worship services as early as possible. These are your options to obtain closing or delayed opening information.

1. Check the church website.
2. Check cancellation on either WFMY Ch. 2 or WGHP Fox Ch. 8.

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.

The Chrismon Tree

In last week's bulletin, you read about the history and symbolism of the Chrismon Tree. Here are a few more Chrismons and their symbolism. Can you find them on the tree?



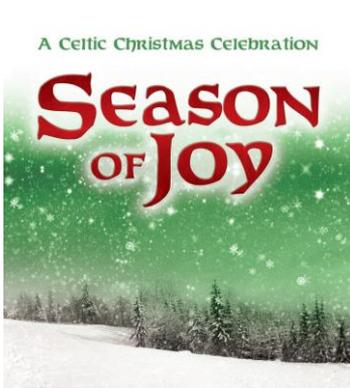
Cross of Mary



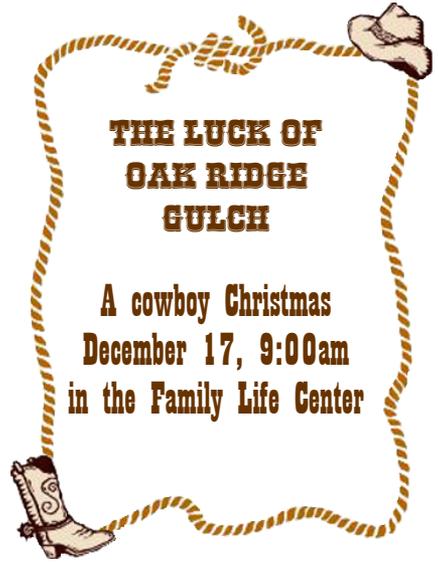
IXOYC (Fish)
Symbol of Christianity
used in 1st Century



Shield of the
Apostle Peter
Keys to the Kingdom



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



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.

No Discipleship hour classes on Dec. 24 for children and youth.

Adult classes will decide on an individual basis.

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 Pastor



Have you been attending Oak Ridge UMC and have questions about the church? Coffee with the Pastor is for you! Our senior pastor, Andy Lambert, would love to answer your questions! He is 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, today, 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.

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 10

December 17

8:15am Worship

Acolyte	Conrad Little	Amanda Lane
Ushers	Mike & Carole Simpson	C. Rumley, K. Bailey
Children's Sermon	na	na
Door Greeter	Mary Causey	Dan & Jerry Chance
A/V	David & Elaine Jones	Lauren Phillips

11:15am Worship

Acolytes	Madison Wiener	Jane & Julia Little
Ushers	Englishman, Mueller	Englishman
Children's Sermon	na	na
Door Greeters	Carolyn Richardson	Loshia Marsan
Guest Station	Dru Long	M. Florence
Sound Technician	Jeff Hallman	Jeff Linden
ProPresenter	Victoria Hallman	William Linden
Cameras	Jackson Hallman	James Linden
Financial Workers	L. Williams, Hogan	Abrams, Fahnestock

Our Presence:

Vital Signs Sunday, 12/3/17

8:15 Sanctuary Worship	90
9:00 Contemporary Worship	180
11:15 Sanctuary Worship	211
Precious Memories	46
Total	527

Our Gifts:

Sunday, 12/3/17

Weekly Amount Needed:	\$ 27,348
Weekly Amount Received:	\$ 28,679
Year-to-date Amount Needed:	\$ 1,103,409
Year-to-date Amount Received:	\$ 1,082,694 (98%)

Your IRA Required Minimum Distribution – How to Make the Most of It

As the year-end approaches, people 70½ and older are required to take a minimum distribution from their IRA, or be faced with a hefty tax penalty. If you must take a required minimum distribution but don't need the funds and don't want to pay income taxes on it, please consider gifting it to the Church as part of your annual support. To qualify for the tax credit, you must have your retirement plan administrator direct the distribution DIRECTLY to Oak Ridge UMC; it cannot pass through your hands or it will trigger an income taxable event for you. If you have questions about how to execute this gift transaction, please contact Susan Cothern at the United Methodist Foundation of Western North Carolina at (888) 450-1956 ext. 1507 or email her at scothern@umfwnc.org and she will be happy to help you through the process.

Current Prayers and Praises

Prayer needs

Jill Shelton and family at the passing of her father, Richard Reddeck
Harriet Buter and family at the passing of her grandmother, Ruby Cozart
Smiley Funderburk, undergoing treatments
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

AU & ORUMC celebrate 6 graduates and their contributions and a 7th student nearing graduation day as a result of ORUMC's support of this ministry over the past 12 years!
This holy season of Advent - a time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus Christ!

A Prayer for the Second Week of Advent:

*Dear Lord,
Through the darkness, I look for your wisdom.
I want my heart to be open to you.
But sometimes in these days, it seems that
so many things come between us.

Help me to be awake and aware
of the radiance you bring to my life.
Help me to be grateful each day
for the blessings of family and friends.
Let me be a peacemaker
in my own life, and in the world.
Let me pray especially for this difficult world
and those who are so in need of an end to violence.
My heart begs for this as my Advent prayer today.*

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 Njimbu 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