

# Weekly Oakletter

Oaklette United Methodist Church

February 23 2025



Oaklette UMC will meet in person and on Facebook  
Live at 11:00 am on Sunday,  
February 23, 2025. Rev. Ned Alderman will present  
the message "Imagine God." The Scripture is Luke  
6:17-26 [NRSV].



Eric Nathan – February 28  
Cynthia West – February 28



Please remember the Blessing Box  
when you are out shopping! Canned meat is  
needed so that will be our focus for the month  
of February. Please bring canned meat or  
fish products and place in the bin in the  
narthex.



ATTENTION ALL WOMEN OF CHURCH

The United Women in Faith will meet March  
15, 2025 at 11:00 am at the church and the  
guest speaker will be Lance Shaver.  
Following the meeting we will have lunch at  
Uno's.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Tyrone Armstrong</i>   | <i>Earl Jenkins (Ericka's dad)</i>   |
| <i>Hannah and Bob Bailey</i>  | <i>Pat Johnson</i>   |
| <i>Barlow Family</i>  | <i>Brian Lincoln (friend of</i><br><i>Ethel Hickman)</i>                   |
| <i>Joyce Bell</i>   | <i>Loving Neighbors</i>  |
| <i>Tanya &amp; Steve Benton</i>                                     | <i>Mission Camp</i>  |
| <i>Kendall Brodie</i>   | <i>Rose Marie Madu</i>   |
| <i>(friend of Mrs. Hickman's</i><br><i>grandson with cancer)</i>    | <i>Wayne Magner</i>  |
| <i>Claudia Calhoun (friend of</i><br><i>Sonia)</i>                  | <i>Dennis Marks (Debbie's</i><br><i>brother)</i>                           |
| <i>Megan Carroll</i>  | <i>Terry Martin</i>  |
| <i>Judy Carter</i>  | <i>Kristie Masters (friend of</i><br><i>Ethel Hickman)</i>                 |
| <i>Cherry &amp; Sebastian</i>                                       | <i>Walter Nebrotskie</i>   |
| <i>Chesapeake Police Dept.</i>                                      | <i>Pat Newbern</i>   |
| <i>CNRMA ROC</i>  | <i>AJ. Panis Ethel's</i><br><i>friend's son)</i>                           |
| <i>Coastal VA District &amp;</i><br><i>DS Givens</i>                | <i>Dana Quinn</i>  |
| <i>Sandy Carraway</i>   | <i>Hosea Smith (friend of</i><br><i>Monica)</i>                            |
| <i>Kent Carter</i>  | <i>Loretta Smith (Amy's</i><br><i>son's girlfriend's</i><br><i>mother)</i> |
| <i>Len Carter</i>   | <i>The League of Advocates</i>   |
| <i>Alex Denton</i>  | <i>Edward Thomas</i>   |
| <i>Mary Lou Dory</i>  | <i>Virginia Conference &amp;</i><br><i>Bishop Sue</i>                      |
| <i>Jay Eckert (Ethel's nephew)</i>                                  | <i>Mildred Walling</i>   |
| <i>ForKids</i>  | <i>Truman Weekly (Paige's</i><br><i>Father)</i>                            |
| <i>Freekind Virginia</i>  | <i>Wesley ODU</i>  |
| <i>Patricia Guthrie (Mildred</i><br><i>Walling's sister-in-law)</i> | <i>Betty Whitehurst</i>  |
| <i>Karon Hardy (Monica's</i><br><i>Neighbor)</i>                    | <i>Monica Whitehurst</i>   |
| <i>Doris Wolfe Harlan</i>   | <i>Phyllis Buchanan Wolfe</i>  |
| <i>(Phyllis B. Wolf, mother-in-</i><br><i>law)</i>                  | <i>Tommy Womack</i>  |
| <i>Ethel Hickman</i>  | <i>Our Pastor</i>  |
| <i>Hope Hodges &amp; Debbie</i>                                     |  |
| <i>Home School Out of Box</i>                                       |  |
| <i>Amber Jenkins</i>  |  |

### Nursing Home & Long-Term Care Residents

*Billy East*  
Our Homebound  
*Virginia Hair*

God plants us like trees beside streams of  
living water, provided by Jesus himself  
(Psalm 1:3; John 4:14). All who are thirsty,  
come and drink!

Calendar

Sunday, February 23, 2025

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in Person & Facebook  
(Nursery: Lisa & Brooks Ryno)

Monday, February 24

- 10:00-12:00 pm Food Pantry  
(Paige Weifert & Joanne Rooks)
- 7:00 pm HRM Band

Tuesday, February 25

- 5:00-9:00 pm Chesapeake Master Gardeners

Wednesday, February 26

- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 27

- 8:30 am-3:00 pm HSOTB

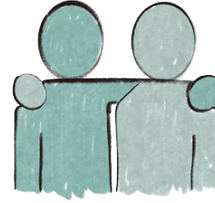
- 10:00 am Bible Study

Friday, February 28

Saturday, March 1

Sunday, March 2

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in person & Facebook
- 12:00 pm Staff Support Meeting



In *Bread for the Journey*, theologian Henri J.M. Nouwen calls consolation — from “to be with” (con-) “the lonely one” (solus) — “one of the most important ways to care.” He writes, “Life is so full of pain, sadness and loneliness that we often wonder what we can do to alleviate the immense suffering we see.”

Although consoling doesn’t necessarily remove someone’s pain, Nouwen notes that it serves a deeper purpose: To console means “to be there and say, ‘You are not alone, I am with you. Together we can carry the burden. Don’t be afraid. I am here.’ That is consolation. We all need to give it as well as to receive it.”



I asked Teddy why he was crying. We were sitting in my living room, making plans for Teddy’s upcoming concert at Cheriton United Methodist Church. Teddy was an evangelist as well as a musician and I was happy that Cheriton was hosting a concert to support his ministry.

Teddy told me that he was crying because that was the first time he’d ever entered a white person’s home through the front door. I was stunned. This was somewhere between 2001 and 2004 since I arrived at Cheriton in 2000 and this was not during my first year there. Many years later, in 2020, I read in a book called *When the Church Bell Rang Racist* that desegregation reforms weren’t embraced by the United Methodist Church as a whole until 1972.

I’m shocked, as I was that day with Teddy, by the racism and discrimination that too many friends experience. As African-American History Month closes, I pray that we make events like these things of the past.

Thanks,

Ned