

Weekly Oakletter

Oaklette United Methodist Church

March 2 2025



Oaklette UMC will meet in person and on Facebook
Live at 11:00 am on Sunday,
March 2, 2025. Rev. Ned Alderman will present the
message "Drive it Out." The Scripture is Luke
9:28-43a [HCSB].



Grayson Basnight – March 2
John Gallop VI – March 2
Linda Gallop – March 3
Judy Litten – March 3
Bob Bailey – March 3
Jessica Weifert – March 4
Charlotte Walton – March 4
Donna Bradley – March 5
Jacob Butler – March 6



Please remember the Blessing Box
when you are out shopping! Fruit will be our
focus for the month of March. It can either
be canned fruit or the small individual
servings, i.e., applesauce, fruit cocktail, etc.



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> <i>Ethel Hickman)</i>
<i>Joyce Bell</i>	<i>Loving Neighbors</i>
<i>Tanya & Steve Benton</i>	<i>Mission Camp</i>
<i>Kendall Brodie</i>	<i>Rose Marie Madu</i>
<i>(friend of Mrs. Hickman's</i> <i>grandson with cancer)</i>	<i>Wayne Magner</i>
<i>Claudia Calhoun (friend of</i> <i>Sonia)</i>	<i>Dennis Marks (Debbie's</i> <i>brother)</i>
<i>Megan Carroll</i>	<i>Terry Martin</i>
<i>Judy Carter</i>	<i>Kristie Masters (friend of</i> <i>Ethel Hickman)</i>
<i>Cherry & 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> <i>friend's son)</i>
<i>Coastal VA District &</i> <i>DS Givens</i>	<i>Dana Quinn</i>
<i>Sandy Carraway</i>	<i>Hosea Smith (friend of</i> <i>Monica)</i>
<i>Kent Carter</i>	<i>Loretta Smith (Amy's</i> <i>son's girlfriend's</i> <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 &</i> <i>Bishop Sue</i>
<i>Jay Eckert (Ethel's nephew)</i>	<i>Mildred Walling</i>
<i>ForKids</i>	<i>Truman Weekly (Paige's</i> <i>Father)</i>
<i>Freekind Virginia</i>	<i>Wesley ODU</i>
<i>Patricia Guthrie (Mildred</i> <i>Walling's sister-in-law)</i>	<i>Betty Whitehurst</i>
<i>Karon Hardy (Monica's</i> <i>Neighbor)</i>	<i>Monica Whitehurst</i>
<i>Doris Wolfe Harlan</i>	<i>Phyllis Buchanan Wolfe</i>
<i>(Phyllis B. Wolf, mother-in-</i> <i>law)</i>	<i>Tommy Womack</i>
<i>Ethel Hickman</i>	<i>Our Pastor</i>
<i>Hope Hodges & 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

I love a good "mountaintop experience,"
Jesus, but life isn't always like that. As you
call me into daily, "down-to-earth" ministry,
help me follow in good faith.

Calendar

Sunday, March 2, 2025

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in Person & Facebook
(Nursery: Lisa & Brooks Ryno)
- 12:00 pm Staff Support Team Meeting

Monday, March 3, 2025

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

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

- 11:00 am Shrove Tuesday Pancakes IHOP
- 5:00-9:00 pm Chesapeake Master Gardeners

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

- 5:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service
- 6:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 6

- 8:30 am-3:00 pm HSOTB
- 10:00 am Bible Study

Friday, March 7

Saturday, March 8

- 8:30 am-3:30 pm Tidewater Quilting Guild

Sunday, March 9

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in person & Facebook



During the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year), Christians figuratively follow Jesus into the desert. Just as our Savior spent 40 days fasting and facing temptation, we focus on self-reflection and contrition.

In an 1873 hymn, Claudia Hernaman wrote, “O Lord, throughout these forty days, you prayed and kept the fast. Inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.”

The desert experience of Lent serves a clear purpose, filling us up rather than depleting us. “This is what Lent is meant to be,” writes theologian Ron Rolheiser. “Time in the desert to courageously face the chaos and the demons within us and to let God do battle with them through us. The result is that we are purified, made ready, so the intoxicating joy of Easter might then bind us more closely to God and each other.”



I have no idea how many frozen packages of chicken drumsticks I gave out at the Community Feed in Berkley on Tuesday. I volunteered 9:30-12:30 and doors opened at 10. Folks were there from the first moment ‘til the last, but there was enough down time for me to look at scriptures for our March 5 Ash Wednesday service. Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 is the customary Old Testament reading, but an alternate reading, Isaiah 58:1-12, caught my eye. Starting in verse 3, we read, “You serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with the wicked fist....Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?. Is this not the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice.”

Preaching on this text seems to me a good way to start our observation of Lent for 2025. I hope our service will be even richer this year, as our Blue Christmas service last December was, I felt, richer than the one the year before. I’ll add some new elements, in part because I understand our A/V system a little better.

Please join in worship Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. If you’d like to receive ashes earlier that day, please let me know and I’ll try to come by your home or office. Remember that Lent gives us an opportunity to examine our relationship with God and to cast out anything that stands in the way of that relationship. As Advent allows us to look at God’s vision for the world compared to the way that the world really is, Lent allows us to make similar comparisons on an individual basis.

Ned