



Oak Grove United Methodist Church
6440 OLD STATESVILLE ROAD
CHARLOTTE NC 28269-1782

February 2016

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday School – 9:30AM
Worship – 10:30AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - THURSDAY 9:00AM - 2:00PM

Phone & Fax Number – 704-596-4084

Pastor's Home -980-339-5903

Pastor's Cell –1-828-0995

Web Address – www.oakgroveumc.net

Pastor's email – ogumc.pastor@gmail.com

Church office email—office@oakgroveumc.net

Secretary email—oakgrovesecretary@gmail.com



February 2016

The monthly newsletter of Oak Grove United Methodist Church



The Oak Grove

Breeter

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The Oak Grove Breeter

February 2016



From the Pastor's Pen

Can This Be?

As I write this, I am aware that weather predictions made today for the next several days will have “come and gone” by the time you read this. But for now, and having just watched the local weather forecast, I ask, “Can This Be?”. Will the forecast materialize with freezing rain and snow?

Remember, a few weeks ago, as week-upon-week of warm weather came and went, we asked, “Can this Be?”. Somehow, after years of experiencing Charlotte-area winters, we knew that the cold of winter had to come. But as we waited, as we enjoyed those warmer-than-

normal days, we asked, “Can This Be?”. And ironically, now that winter has arrived with projected ice and snow, I find myself asking, “Can This Be?”.

My question, however, is now directed to the accuracy of the forecast. Yes, winter has finally arrived, but will the icy/snowy mix be as severe as the forecasters predict? Again, “Can This Be?”. The answer will be known by the time you read this.

This “Can This Be?” question is one that has been asked for centuries. Prophecies or forecasts bring forth expectations and a sensitivity to time and awareness. For example, let's consider the gospel accounts of Jesus' life on earth. For hundreds of years before the incarnate birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the prophets (forecasters of the Messiah) had predicted that God would send a Savior to the world. And while Jesus walked, talked, and healed while living here,

many asked, “Can This Be?”.

And today, this “Can This Be?” question concerning the Gospel of Jesus continues for those who have heard the stories of Jesus. For those who know of Jesus, “Can This Be?” is answered “yes” by true Christians; “maybe” by seekers; and “no” by modern-day pagans. But what about those who have not heard about Jesus?

Sadly, it seems that more people in our day and time are more interested in talking about the weather than in talking about Jesus. They have heard the weather forecast, but have they heard about Jesus Christ? Let us as Christians and members of Oak Grove share the Good News of Jesus. Our Savior is no longer a forecast. We know He lives! Let none of us question and ask, “Can This Be?”.

Pastor Bob



Celebrating God's Love on St. Valentine's Day



On this Valentine's day, looking to the example of this great saint, each person should offer again his love to the Lord, for only by doing so can he properly love those who are entrusted to his care and any other neighbor. Each person should again pledge his love to those loved ones, praying for their intentions, promising fidelity to them, and thanking them for their love in return. Never forget Jesus said, "This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends" (Jn 15:12-13). St. Valentine fulfilled this command, and may we do the same.

LEARN CPR You Can Do It!

There will be **CPR training at Oak Grove UMC** on the morning of Saturday, February 6th, from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are interested, please let me know. We especially encourage all volunteers working with children, ushers, and other church workers to attend. The cost to Oak Grove will be \$35 per person and any donations would be appreciated.

Oak Grove United Methodist Church Makes a Difference in Lives

GIVING STATEMENTS!

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE FINANCIAL GIFTS TO GOD'S MINISTRY AT OAK GROVE IN 2015!

Giving statements are complete for 2015 and have been given out during worship in January. All unclaimed statements will be mailed February 1st. We hope that all our recording is accurate however, if you discover an error or for some reason don't receive yours please contact Laurie in the church office at 704 596-4084 or Jessica Wilson at jessicaw816@gmail.com and we will rectify the situation.

Thank you

CHECK OUT OUR



WEB SITE!

We are working on our website to give members another tool to stay informed as well as to attract new visitors to our website and church! We want to keep our website as up to date and fresh as possible. If you have any meeting dates or events pop up that are not on the monthly greeter calendar, please let Jessica Wilson know so that she can get it added to the website. Also, we need photos! If you have any photos you can share of recent events you can share, please send to jessicaw816@gmail.com or text them to 704-589-0023. For future events you might be involved in, please try to snap a couple of photos and send as well.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is in the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Colossians 1:15-20

I would like to say a special "thank you" to all the wonderful people of Oak Grove United Methodist Church for your prayers, cards, thoughts and of course the great food, with the passing of my husband, Bobby.

The prayer quilt is beautiful in my home. It keeps my body warm and my heart warmer with thoughts of all of you.

A special thanks goes to Pastor Bob. He was my rock and salvation when I did not know where to turn. Let him be your rock.

In addition I want to thank Kathy Phillips for the beautiful service and to Vickie Whitlow for sharing her gift of song.

Susan Becknell and family

Thank you



Remember, a \$25.00 donation dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church (payable to Oak Grove) can purchase a hoodie/coat for a needy student this cold, cold winter.

Thanks and Blessings to you,
-Pat

Something to Consider

In some parts of the world,
TOMORROW is already TODAY
And TODAY is YESTERDAY.

In other parts of the world,
Today is YESTERDAY
And TOMORROW will be TODAY



ROOM IN THE INN

We are collecting personal care and hygiene items to be distributed to the homeless people that come to Room in The Inn. Please bring soap. Shampoo, razors, toothpaste, shaving cream, etc. to the church. Thank you for your generous help for people in need in our community.

DISCIPLES PANTRY

In the month of January, we were able to help to feed over 80 families.

This month we are especially collecting canned goods of all types.

Thank you for helping us stock our pantry!

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of
Judy Finney
Kay Brown
Andrea & Ronnie Wilson

In Memory of
Bobby Becknell
Pat Barker
Kay Brown
Mary Ann Scoggins
Andrea & Ronnie Wilson

In Memory of
Danny Goode
Kay Brown
Mary Ann Scoggins

In Honor of
Lenna Miller
Marc & Kim Houston

*You may designate Memorials and Honoraria for any Oak Grove UMC ministry or fund. Memorials not designated by the donor will be directed (first) to the designation predetermined by the surviving family or, (second) to the default designation (currently, budgeted expenses)



Oak Grove UMC

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26

(Candy and prize donations are always appreciated)

Laity Events in 2016 - Save the Date

Mark your calendar now with these upcoming events for the Metro District laity.

Lay Servant Ministry training:

Attend any training that fits with your schedule. The same basic and advanced course will be offered at all locations. The advanced course is "Life Together in the United Methodist Connection." You must register by the deadline listed. We need to make sure we have the correct number of leaders, classrooms, etc. so we will not accept late registrations.

April 2 (8:30 am registration, 9 am - 4 pm class) - April 3 (2 pm - 5 pm) at Westford UMC, Concord

April 3, 10, 17, 24 6:30 pm - 9 pm Trinity UMC, Charlotte

April 4, 11, 18, 25 6:30 pm - 9 pm at St. Mark's UMC, Charlotte

Registration deadline for the above classes is **March 17th**

April 23 (8:30 am registration, 9 am - 4 pm class) - April 24 (2 pm - 5 pm) at Mouzon UMC, Charlotte

Registration deadline for the April 23 - 24 classes is **April 7th**

Laity Roundtable: Training for laity in the Metro District

March 5th (bad weather date of March 6th) at University City UMC, Charlotte

First session is 9 am - 10:15 am and the second session is 10:45 am - noon. You may come to either session of a focus group or choose to attend two focus groups (the same material will be presented at each session). Registration is required. Deadline to register is February 25th. (Note: if Laity Roundtable held on March 6th, focus groups will be held 2 pm - 3:15 pm and 3:45 pm - 5 pm)

Focus Groups: Staff Parish Relations Committee, Lay Leader, Finance Committee, Communications/Websites, Leadership Development (Nominations), Trustees, Church Vitality and the Laity

Laity Celebration: Recognition of Laity Service Award Recipients: October 16th Location TBD More information about this event will be available but note the change in date of this important event.

If you have any questions, contact the Associate Lay Leader for your Missional Network or Jatana Royster, Metro District Lay Leader (jatanaroyster@gmail.com or 704-454-5333).

UMW

Save the Date

Metro District Mission Study
**"Created for Happiness:
Understanding Your Life in God"**
March 12, 2016 at 9:15 Matthews UMC

Metro District Prayer Breakfast
April 30, 2016
"Growing Stronger Through Prayer"
Registration 8:45 am Program 9:30 am
Cold Springs UMC Concord



Now Playing
Narway Productions
Call for tickets
803-802-2300

