



The Oakleaf

Oakland Presbyterian Church, Oakland, Florida

February 2011 • Number 1



UPWARD **Update**

Our **UPWARD** Basketball season is well underway! We have 70 children in our program with 14 great volunteer coaches.

Practices are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and all the games are on Saturday mornings from 8:00am until Noon. Everyone is welcome to come out on Saturday mornings to help cheer on our **UPWARD** teams. Please keep the children, coaches and parents in your prayers as we continue to minister through **UPWARD** basketball!



Presbyterian Men's **Dinner**

Tuesday, February 22
at 6:30 p.m.

Join the men in Fellowship Hall for their annual "Carolina BBQ" and fellowship!



~Dream Destination Ladies Tea ~

Saturday, March 12th, 2011
2:00pm – 4:30pm

Join the Presbyterian Women for an afternoon of tea, featuring a delicious selection of sandwiches and sweets. Each table will be uniquely decorated to illustrate this year's theme of "Dream Destinations". Enjoy a fashion show organized by Janet Carr, with a boutique available to purchase clothing and accessories. A separate tea is available for little ladies, ages 4-8, with appropriate refreshments and activities.

Your complete "Dream Destination" experience can be enjoyed for \$10 per person.

All proceeds will benefit Mission projects and the Youth Fellowship ministry of Oakland Presbyterian Church. For more information, to volunteer as a table hostess, or for tickets contact Bonnie Litteral at 407-877-3525 or bblitteral@aol.com or contact the church office at 407-656-4452.

Singing of God's Creation

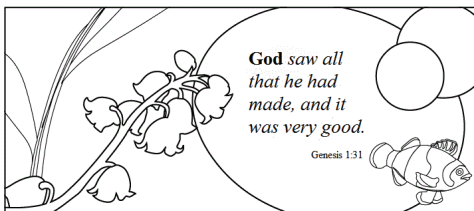
A Festival of Hymns

Sunday February 27th at 4 pm
Oakland Presbyterian Church

Come and enjoy members of both Oakland Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church of Winter Garden as we praise our Creator with hand bell, choir and congregational singing.

Mr. Ture Larson will be our guest organist for this festive event.

Are you an artist? Consider contributing to the Creation Gallery, a display of artwork in any style or medium. There are no age restrictions. Please see Jennifer or Tiffany with any questions.



Men's Prayer Breakfast

Our Men's Prayer Breakfast continues to grow! During the past year we had an average of 33 men per session for fifty-two weeks. Truly God is working His way with His ministry here at Oakland Presbyterian Church. The fellowship and bonding each week is inspirational to our group and our prayer concerns for others continues to grow. Men are encouraged to bring others to our breakfast so they, too, can enjoy the fellowship and find out what the ministry is all about. We continue to support Edgewood Ranch Children's Home, and we enjoy our annual visit there to see these young folks perform and give testimony for us regarding their progress throughout the year. We ask your blessings and support and invite all men to join us every Tuesday at 7:00am in the Fellowship Hall as we enjoy breakfast together and pray for those in need.

Flowers for

Sunday Worship

(To provide sanctuary flowers, please sign up in the lobby or contact the church office.)



FEBRUARY

- 6 ~ Family of Ruth Swanson
- 13~ Charles & Alice Hawthorne
- 20~ Open and Available
- 27~ Open and Available

MARCH

- 6~ Open and Available
- 13~ Open and Available
- 20~ Open and Available
- 27~ Open and Available

Ladies Sewing Group

All ladies are invited to join us

Monday, February 21st

9:30am-11:30pm

Monday, February 28th

10:00am - 2:00pm



We are currently working on quilts for Project Linus and STARS Preschool, making pillowcases for Matthew's Hope from hotel bed sheets, and assembling dolls and bears for children at local hospitals!

We can always use willing hands and giving hearts!





From the Pastor

As many of you know, the Pittsburgh Steelers are headed for the Super Bowl once again. This will make their 8th trip to the “Big Game,” tying them with the Cowboys for the number of appearances. (Of course, only the Steelers have 6 Super Bowl victories, but far be it from me to point that out). Football fans have often wondered where this great success comes from. To what can we attribute the Steeler greatness?

Let me offer my own analysis (and then apply it to our lives as Christians).

The Steelers have been consistently successful over the years for the following reasons:

- 1) Good, stable leadership at the top, including the ownership and head coach.
- 2) The ability to evaluate talent and see the potential in some players overlooked by others.
- 3) Patience in the process of developing talent in some of those players.
- 4) Providing resources needed to develop a winning record.

In our relationship with God, we can say without any question that in God we have good, stable leadership. He’s been in charge since the beginning of time!

God also has a marvelous ability to evaluate his people, with a special knack for seeing the potential in people. The Apostle Paul, for example, was a great enemy of the faith when Christ called him to be his servant. And Peter was a rough, peasant fisherman who became one of the key leaders of the movement.

God shows amazing patience with us all the time (at least he does with me!).

And through the Holy Spirit, God endows his people with spiritual gifts needed to do the work of ministry to which we have been called.

Yes, the Steelers have had great success over the years, but it can’t compare to the great and amazing things God has done through God’s people, and what God will continue to do through you and me in the future.

Pastor Bob
(Go Steelers!)

Session Highlights

At the January meeting, the Session took the following action:

- Approved several requests for use of the building.
- Had prayer for several people mentioned at the start of our meeting.
- Heard reports on youth ministry, the Oakland Coalition of Churches, Upward Basketball, our Preschool, and our new phone system.
- Learned about the Mission Committee’s plan to collect sandwich style cookies for Harmon Biehl’s prison ministry.



Opal McLean Leighvard, Nursery Staff, Says Good-bye

We are sad to report that Opal McLean, one of our nursery attendants, is resigning. She recently got married (in our church sanctuary) and wants to spend more time with her new husband. Her last Sunday was January 30. Opal, who is a principal in the Orange County School system, has served us well for several years with her warm and gentle spirit. We thank her for her service, and wish her well in all her future endeavors.



LEGO Meeting
 Sunday, February 27, 2010
 2:00pm-4:00pm
 Fellowship Hall

Ages 7+ and parents are welcome
 to stay and play, too!

For more information
 please contact
 Laurie Hallock
 352-223-4273

UNBREAKABLE YOUTH

- 2/3 ~ Creative Youth (5:15-6:20)
 Bible Study (6:30-7:30)
- 2/6 ~ Youth Fellowship (4:30-6:30)
- 2/9 ~ Creative Youth (5:15-6:20)
 Bible Study (6:30-7:30)
- 2/11-2/13 ~ Youth Ministry Architects
 Weekend
- 2/13 ~ Stakeholder meeting with YMA
 6:00pm Potluck Dinner
(Come for dinner and hear the YMA Report!)
- 2/16 ~ NO Creative Youth Or
 Bible Study
- 2/20 ~ Youth Fellowship (4:30-6:30)
- 2/27~ Hymn Festival (3:30pm)
*(After the festival we will go to Tijuana Flats
 for dinner. Bring \$\$\$\$ to eat!)*



**Preschool
 NEWS**

I hope everyone had a wonderful New Year!! We have some special dates to remember at our Preschool. We are now enrolling for the 2011-2012 school year. Tours are available Monday thru Fridays from 9:00-11:00. No appointment necessary. Valentines day parties and pajama day on February 11, 2011. This is the day that the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*Blessings,
 Kim Hyatt
 Preschool Director*



**Join Us For February
 KIDS' CLUB!**

Kids in Grades 3-5,
Sunday, February 13th

12:15pm in

Fellowship Hall

Kids, join us as we make Valentines and travel to Golden Pond Communities to visit, share our Valentines with the residents and have an Ice Cream Social!

Consultation on Youth Ministry Set for February 11-13

As part of our on-going evaluation of our youth ministry, the Session agreed to bring in a group that does consultations with churches in this area of ministry. We have contracted with Youth Ministries Architects to meet with us and help us think about and organize our ministry. They will be here on February 11-13. We are asking all parents, youth, and others who provide leadership make every effort to attend one of the Focus Groups.

That weekend will include a number of Focus Group meetings with the consultants. The Focus meetings are limited to 8 people per session, open on a first-come, first-serve basis to those who sign up. Once we get 8 people signed up for a group, that meeting is full. The Stake-Holder meeting set for Sunday evening includes Session members, parents, youth, and anyone else who has a serious interest in youth ministry and/or plays a part in leadership. That meeting will include a covered dish dinner. Here is the schedule for those meetings:

Friday, February 11:

Noon to 4:15 pm: various members of the church staff.

4:30 pm: General meeting open to church members who have an interest.

6:00 pm: Parents of former members of the youth group.

7:30 pm: Parents of children in grades 3-5

9:00 pm: Former youth group members

Saturday, February 12:

8:30 am: Middle school youth

10:00 am: Parents of middle school youth

11:30 am: High school youth

1:00 pm: Parents of High school youth

Sunday, February 13:

2:30 pm: Meeting with Pastor Bob and Tiffany Goggans

6:00 pm: Stakeholder meeting to receive final report and recommendations.



**Join Music Director
Jennifer Hunt
at the
Annual Worship and
Music Conference**



***PAM Worship and Music Conference 2011
Montreat, NC June 26-July 2***

Below is the introduction to this year's conference written by Jeff Jones, conference director. There are seven beds still available to anyone interested in going at a cost of \$100 per person for the week. Participation in the conference is not required; concerts and worship services are open to all. Come; participate in a wonderful week of worship, fellowship and nature. Please see me for more information.

*Jennifer Hunt,
Director of Music*

One in Christ: Visions of Unity

Christ's prayer for unity in the gospel of John is central to the mission of the church: to be one, that the world might believe and know love. (John 17: 20-23)

At the 2011 Montreat Worship and Music Conferences, we will explore the fullness of what it means to be Christian in a church and world filled with diversity and division. We live in a world divided by culture, class, faith, and politics—a world which needs to embrace the vision of Isaiah's peaceable kingdom, a world which needs the comforting vision of John's New Jerusalem. How does the church—how do we, as people of faith—live into the fullness of Jesus' vision and embody Christ to the world? One in Christ: Visions of Unity is the theme that will guide our worship and study.

Our time together will include what many who return each year have come to expect of the Montreat Worship and Music Conferences: vibrant worship, strong preaching, inspiring musicians, artists, and teachers, all leading us through the biblical visions. Choirs for children, youth, and adults are at the core of the conference. Additionally, there are opportunities to participate in handbells, instrumental ensembles, art, dance, Routley lectures, Bible studies, world percussion, and professional development—and all of this against the inspiring backdrop of the beautiful mountains of North Carolina.

*Looking forward to seeing you there,
Jeff Jones, Conference Director*

“...I was in prison and you came to visit me.” Matthew 25:36

The Mission Committee is sponsoring a **Cookie Drive** in the month of February to help Harmon Biehl in his service to Kairos Prison Ministry International. Each Tuesday, Harmon, along with other Kairos members, travels to Lake Correctional Institution to minister to incarcerated men with agape love, and yes, to share *cookies!*

Kairos programs offer to prison residents, their families, and those who work with them, the opportunity to receive God’s forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ, and to grow in their faith and servant hood in Christian community.

Return your donation of store-bought, sandwich-style cookies to the Drop Box near the Fellowship Hall. Approximately 140 dozen cookies are needed for one month!

To learn more about Kairos Prison Ministries, speak with Harmon, or visit the Kairos website at:

<http://kairosprisonministry.org/>.



DAILY BREAD

DID YOU KNOW that Daily Bread in Ocoee served 56,883 meals in 2010? The Daily Bread program at the Christian Service Center began in 1975 with a goal that no person in Central Florida would go hungry. Daily Bread offers free noontime meals six days a week to anyone in the community who is hungry, no questions asked. They receive donations from restaurants, grocery stores, hotels, churches, and bakeries, but unfortunately as the needs have increased, the donations have decreased. A special thanks to the faithful OPC volunteers who prepare and serve meals each month. Please remember the continuous need for non-perishable food which can be dropped off in the special "shopping bag" outside the church office.

Acknowledgments & Notables



The thoughts and prayers of the congregation are extended to the friends and families of the following who have recently passed away:

- *Wally Adams*
- *Bob Tietz*
- *Ruth Swanson*
- *Bob Griffith*

The congregation also extends our sympathies to Holly Gordon upon the passing of her nephew.

THANK YOU FOR MATTHEW’S HOPE DONATIONS

The Mission Committee would like to thank you for your generous donations of warm clothing and blankets to Matthew’s Hope in December and January. Matthew’s Hope started out by providing shelter to the homeless on cold winter nights, and has grown in a year to also providing clothes, shoes, supplies, blankets, bicycles, haircuts, medical services, assistance in applying for VA benefits, ID cards, and more. There is a tremendous ongoing need in West Orange County and the basket for Matthew’s Hope will remain outside the church office with a list of needed items on the bulletin board. Thank you for supporting this important ministry!



Birthday Blessings to
those born in
February

- 1 Larry Cappleman,
Harmon Biehl
- 3 Nick Joiner
- 4 Jimmy Pitchford, Lee King
- 6 Arden Griffith,
Madelyn Gaston, Austin Beltz
- 7 Phyllis Edwards
- 8 Jean Hiatt, Kristin Oaks,
- 10 Broc Kuhn
- 11 Jan Hawthorne
- 13 Mary Gillespie,
Charles Hawthorne
- 14 Mitchell Geltz, Fred Noe,
Hallie Bodiford, Nick Brassell,
Warren Griffin
- 15 John Thoren
- 16 Wayne Anderson
- 17 Neil Britt, Jr.
- 18 Jordan Paulling
- 19 Matthew Brock
- 21 Theresa Joiner
- 22 Trudy Britt
- 24 Melissa Burbank
- 26 John Terrell
- 27 Karen Britt, Stan Smith

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

This month in Discovery Kingdom Sunday School we will be learning about the prophet Jeremiah. The story of Jeremiah teaches us that people of all ages are called to serve God. It also teaches us that there are consequences to our actions, yet we can learn from our mistakes and God will continue to love us and offer us hope.



**DISCOVERY
KINGDOM**

Some things to remember.....

- **Items that are borrowed from the church MUST be checked out from the office.**
- **Please remember that you or your group MUST reserve rooms to be used at the church with the office and get your group on the calendar.**
- **The Lobby area is for current and ongoing Mission donations ONLY.**



**Your cooperation with these issues
helps make our church a better place!
Thank You!**

*If you have a **February** birthday not mentioned above please e-mail the church office at welcomed@oaklandpres.org to add your name to the birthday list.*



Immediately following our basketball season we will begin our Flag Football/Cheerleading season! Registration will be February 17th and 18th from 6:00pm-7:00pm, with practices beginning March 10th!



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast (FH) 5:15pm Handbells 6:00pm UPWARD 6:30pm Boy Scouts	2 5:30pm Children's Supper/Choir 5:35pm Creative Youth 6:30pm -Youth Bible Study -Praise Team 7:30pm Adult Choir	3 6:00pm UPWARD Basketball Practice	4	5 UPWARD Basketball Games 8am-12pm (CLC)
6 8:45am Worship 9:45am Church School 10:30am Choir Practice 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Worship Comm. meets 4:30pm Youth Fellowship	7 10:00am PW Coordinating Meeting (FH) 5:30pm Staff mtg. 6:30pm Cub Scouts	8 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15pm Handbells 6:00pm UPWARD 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Preschool Board meets	9 5:30pm Children's Supper/Choir 5:35pm Creative Youth 6:30pm -Youth Bible Study -Praise Team 7:30pm Adult Choir	10 6:00pm UPWARD Basketball Practice	11 Youth Ministry Architects Arrive	12 UPWARD Basketball Games 8am-12pm (CLC)
13 8:45am Worship 9:45am Church School 10:30am Choir Practice 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Fellowship Committee meets 12:15pm KIDS' CLUB 6:00pm Youth Stakeholder Pot Luck Dinner and YMA Report	14  10:00am PW Circle/Bible Study (FH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts	15 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15pm Handbells 6:00pm UPWARD 6:30pm Boy Scouts	16 5:30pm Children's Supper/Choir 5:35pm Creative Youth 6:30pm -Youth Bible Study -Praise Team 7:30pm Adult Choir	17 6:00pm UPWARD Basketball Practice 7:00pm UPWARD Football Registration 7:00pm Session meets	18 7:00pm UPWARD Football Registration	19 UPWARD Basketball Games 8am-12pm (CLC) STERLINGS BUNCO 6:30p.m. (FH)
20 8:45am Worship 9:45am Church School 10:30am Choir Practice 11:00am Worship 12:15pm Christian Education Committee Meets 4:30pm Youth Fellowship	21 President's Day <i>Church Office closed</i> 9:30am Women's Sewing Group (FH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts	22 7:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:15pm Handbells 6:00pm UPWARD 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Men's Dinner(FH)	23 5:30pm Children's Supper/Choir 5:35pm Creative Youth 6:30pm -Youth Bible Study -Praise Team 7:30pm Adult Choir	24 6:00pm UPWARD Basketball Practice	25 7:00pm Cub Scouts Pack 978 Blue/Gold Banquet Scout Troop 145 Campout on church grounds	26 UPWARD Basketball Games 8am-12pm (CLC) Scout Troop 145 Campout on church grounds
27 8:45am Worship 9:45am Church School 10:30am Choir Practice 11:00am Worship 12:15 Outreach Committee meets 2:00pm LEGO (FH) 4:00pm Hymn Festival 4:00pm Youth Fellowship (Hymn Fest & Tijuana Flats)	28 10:00am Women's Sewing Group (FH) 6:30pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Deacons Meet	<i>I will praise thee with my whole heart Psalm 138:1</i>				
						

OAKLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 P.O. BOX 38
 OAKLAND, FL 34760

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship, 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
 Church School, 9:45 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**CHURCH STAFF**

Dr. Robert P. Hines, Jr. *Pastor*
 Tiffany Goggans, *Director of Christian Education*
 Julie Butler, *Administrative Assistant*
 Jennifer Hunt, *Director of Music*
 Diane Flagler, *Organist*
 Daphne Miller, *Pianist*
 Bonnie Litteral, *Director of Children's Choirs*
 Kim Hyatt, *Director of Preschool*
 Julie Dale, *Business Manager*
 Derek Blakeslee, *Church Treasurer*
 Mark Winsor, *Property Manager*

E-Mail welcome@oaklandpres.org
www.oaklandpres.org

The Oakleaf is the monthly newsletter of the Oakland Presbyterian Church, 218 East Oakland Avenue, P.O. Box 38, Oakland, Florida 34760. Members and newcomers are invited to share Sunday Church School at 9:45 a.m. and Worship at 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. • Office phone 407-656-4452 Fax 407-656-8201. You're always welcome at Oakland Presbyterian. For more information please visit our web site: www.oaklandpres.org.



Listen to Pastor Bob's sermons on the OPC website. Pastor Bob's sermons are now being digitally recorded during the 11:00 am service and available on the church website: oaklandpres.org, just click on worship and then sermons.

In FEBRUARY:

- Feb. 13 KIDS' CLUB
- Feb. 13 Youth Stakeholder
Pot Luck Dinner
- Feb. 14 Presbyterian Women's
Bible Study
- Feb. 17 UPWARD Flag Football
registration
- Feb. 18 UPWARD Flag Football
registration
- Feb. 19 Sterlings ~ BUNCO
- Feb. 21 President's Day
(Church offices closed)
- Feb. 22 Presbyterian Men's Dinner
- Feb. 27 Hymn Festival