

2023

January

February

OAKWOOD / HEBRON UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

The Messenger



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! I hope that you have had the best holiday season available to you. I recognize the holidays bring up many feelings. The holidays can be a joyful celebration with family. The holidays can bring feelings of pain, grief, and loss. For wherever you find yourself in this season, know that God is with you.

There is a lot building up to Christmas and New Year's. We get caught up in the busyness and chaos of holiday shopping, figuring out family schedules, and planning and participating in worship services. God is with us through it all.

It can be hard when the holidays are over because we do so much to prepare and to celebrate. But, God calls us to keep the faith. God calls us to continue to participate in God's mission in the world. Rev. Howard Thurman, a minister and an advocate, writes:

*When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among the people,
To make music in the heart.*

Let us join together in the work of Christmas. Let us share the good news with the least, the last, and the lost in our midst. Let us feed the hungry. Let us be peacemakers. May we share the love and light of God.

Take care,
Pastor Trevor



Did You Know?

2023 Oakwood UMC Officer Roster

Church Council*

Chair	2023	Nancy Tyler
Vice Chair/Secretary		John Sudlow
Lay Leader*		
Church Treasurers		Laura Wittig, Marilyn Elrod
Finance Chair		Brett Wittig
Financial Secretary		Nancy Tyler
Youth Delegate to Church Council		*vacant*
Lay Delegate to Annual Conference		Marilyn Elrod
Alternate Lay Delegate		Roberta Benschneider (Broadlands)
Membership Co-Secretaries		Nancy Tyler, Marilyn Elrod
VBS Director		*vacant*

** Indicates chairperson

Finance

2023	2024	2025
Brett Wittig **	Nancy Tyler	Trevor Oetting
Tim Cunningham	John Sudlow	Laura Wittig
Marilyn Elrod		

Nurture, Outreach & Worship (NOW)

2023	2024	2025
Laura Wittig**	Tracie Jones	Marilyn Elrod **
Melanie Goodwin	Jan McFarland	Wanda Plawer
Farrah Smith	Linda Cunningham	Kelly Hobbs

Trustees

2023	2024	2025
John Dudley	Vicki Trask	Tim Cunningham **
Brett Wittig	Tiffany Johnson	Eric Hobbs
Marty McFarland	Ryan McFarland	

Nomination's – Chair —Pastor Trevor Oetting

	Lay Leader_____	
2023	2024	2025
Jackson Dudley	Brenda Ludwig	Jan McFarland
		Judy Steffen
		Trevor Oetting

Pastor Parish Relations

Oakwood PPRC Chair:
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Marilyn Elrod

2023	2024	2025
Tom Goodwin	Nancy Linn	Kelly Hobbs
	David Calkin	Julie Calkins

Membership Committee

Marilyn Elrod	Carol Leverenz	Nancy Tyler
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Special news

DID YOU KNOW?? (Continued)

Hebron 2022 Church Officers

Trevor Oetting, Pastor

Deanna Morton, Ad Board Chairperson

Connie Covington, Treasurer/Financial Secretary

Matt Morton, Trustee

Daryl Grove, Trustee



Oakwood and Hebron, please take a minute to look over to see what committee(s) you are on.

If you have any questions or would like to serve on a particular committee, please talk to Pastor Trevor or the committee chair.



I just want to thank Oakwood and Hebron for their generous Christmas gifts. I am so grateful to be serving here and to be your pastor. I love all of you.

CONTACT information



WORSHIP TIMES:
Oakwood — 10:00 am
Hebron — 11:15 am

Pastor Trevor Oetting's Office Hours

Monday and Thursday — 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Tuesday — 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Oakwood Phone: 217-354-4950
P.O. 218, Oakwood, IL 61858

Cell Phone: 309-371-7661
Email: toetting95@gmail.com

Facebook: [Oakwood United Methodist Church](#)



OAKWOOD AREA FOOD PANTRY

Your Food Pantry continues to serve the people in our community each week with food and other necessities. It serves around 30 families and over 60 individuals.

It also provides weekend meals for 24 children through the backpack (Packages of Hope) program.

Your continued support for these programs is appreciated. They could not be continued without your help.

The Food Pantry also provided Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for our families. They will also be providing Easter baskets this April.

If you would like to contribute: make your check payable to the Oakwood United Methodist Church and put Food Pantry on the memo line.

We will be sure to see they get the donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THIS OUTREACH TO OUR COMMUNITY.

(A monthly list of needed items is on the last page, please consider clipping it out and bringing these items to the church.)

Upcoming events



NEW YEARS SERVICE

10:00 AM, Sunday, January 1st

Boardlands Community Church

All three churches will be joining together to bring in the new year.

If you want to car pool, we will meet in the Oakwood UMC parking lot at 9:15 am Sunday morning.

SEE YOU THERE!!!!

There will be a Lenten Bible Study starting in February

Please watch the bulletin for additional details.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 22

HOMER UMC

10:00 am

This will be a joint service with Homer and our three churches.

Our District Superintendent, Angie Lee, will lead the worship service.



COACH MAC'S ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, February 18th

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm

All proceeds will go to support our youth on their ASP mission trip this summer.

Youth News

COMETLAND YOUTH NEWS

Grades 7-12

Sunday 6:00 –7:15 pm

Activities to be announced

Stay in touch with Josh Hunsberger to learn about upcoming activities.

Cell: 814-969-1766



ASP 2023

Love, Strong Luke 10:27

“Love the Lord our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and Love your neighbor as yourself”

**The Youth Mission trip will take place June 12-16, 2023.
We are waiting to hear where we will be going.**

The following meetings have been scheduled to prepare for the trip. Please mark them down.

Scheduled Meetings:

- January 29, 2023 – Parent/Participant Meeting**
- February 18, 2023 – Spaghetti Dinner**
- February 26, 2023 – Training (\$175 deposit due)**
- March 26, 2023 – Training**
- April 30, 2023 – Construction Training**
- May 21, 2023 – Parent Meeting with trip details**
- June 11, 2023 – Depart for Service**

Spaghetti Dinner: February 18, 2023

**If you have any questions or are still interested in going,
please call Connie Young at 217-474-4065**

Calendar

January 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

<u><i>JANUARY</i></u>		
1st	Sunday 10:00 am	New Years Day Jt. Service Broadlands Communion
6th	Friday	Epiphany
8th	Sunday	Baptism of the Lord Administrative Council 1:00 pm (OUMC)
16th	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr Day

February 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

<u><i>FEBRUARY</i></u>		
2nd	Thursday	Ground Hog Day
12th	Sunday	Communion/Boy Scout Sunday Administrative Council 1:00 pm (OUMC)
14th	Tuesday	Valentine's Day
18th	Saturday	Spaghetti Dinner
20st	Monday	Presidents' Day
22nd	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
28th	Saturday	Pastor Trevor's Birthday



Let Nancy Tyler know if you need an annual giving statement for tax purposes. (354-4787)

Birthdays & Anniversaries



OAKWOOD

January

Birthdays:

- 3 Mike Wise
4 Audra Tyler
5 Carsen Dudley
23 Carol Leverenz

February

Birthdays:

- 8 Beth Sudlow
16 Amy Ludwig Rouse
20 Judy Steffen
24 Miriah Plawer Volmerding
Nancy Bott
26 Marilyn Elrod
27 John Dudley
28 Trevor Oetting

Anniversaries:

- 19 Larry & Nancy Bott

HEBRON

January

Birthdays:

- 1 Adam Grove
12 Daryl Grove
25 Erin Pouilliard

February

Birthdays:

- 15 Lori Parker
19 Trent Parker
25 Dede Doney
29 Crystal Davis

Anniversaries:

- 11 Darrin & Shelia Fletcher

Remember our Church

Family Living Away from their Homes

Laura Lomax

Pleasant Meadows Christian
Village
400 W. Washington Ave.
Chrisman, IL 61924
(217)269-2369

Pat Razatis

Liberty Village
3222 Independence Avenue
#609
Danville, IL 61832

Remember those in the Military

Major Toby Neil
Fr. Hood, Texas

If you have any additions or corrections to the Birthday/Anniversary list, please let me know.

melrodmae@gmail.com

Cell: (217) 474-3260

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, thereby getting it immediately and in color. Please let me know.

Contact — Marilyn at (217) 474-3260 or
email at melrodmae@gmail.com

OAKWOOD/HEBRON U.M.C.

P.O. Box 218

Oakwood, IL 61858



Clip and Save

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR
2023**

January	Vegetable Cups (corn, beans, carrots)* (no PEAS, please)
February	Soup Cups *
March	Fruit Cups (single serving) *
April	Pudding Cups (single serving) *
May	Toilet Paper (4 or more rolls wrapped)
June	Hamburger/Tuna Helper
July	Canned Meat
August	Vegetable Cups (corn, beans, carrots) * (no PEAS, please)
September	Jiffy Peanut Butter “to go” *
October	Soup Cups (single serving)
November	Cereal Bowls (single serving) *
December	Tuna or Chicken Salad Kits (single serving) *

**** Those marked with the * are for the Backpack Program and need to be single serving. Presently we serve 12 families with 24 children each weekend with meals for both Saturday and Sunday.

(Please bring these items to the church for use in this program).