

2022

November

December

OAKWOOD / HEBRON UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

# The Messenger

**“Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.”  
1 Chronicles 16:11**

As we are closing in on the last couple of months of 2022, so are we wrapping up another church year and beginning a new church year.

The church year begins with Advent- a four-week season of preparation for the birth of the Christ child and the longing for Christ to come again. We will celebrate the hanging of the greens on the first Sunday in the church new year on November 27<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday of Advent. We invite you to join us as we kick off the church new year together praising God and celebrating the presence of God with us through the decorations.

Following Advent is the Christmas season. Christmas is a 12-day season in the church year. Perhaps, this is the inspiration of the song “Twelve Days of Christmas.” We get to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior for 12 days.

Then we have Epiphany. Epiphany is when the magi journey to visit the Christ child with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

After Epiphany, we have a small window of ordinary time. Ordinary time indicates a resting time in between seasons of the church year. We hear stories of Jesus’ teaching and ministry from the gospels, stories from the Old Testament, Psalms, or teachings from one of the New Testament letters during ordinary time.

The Sunday before Lent is known as Transfiguration Sunday, a time when we remember Jesus glowed brightly before the disciples on the mountaintop.

Then we have Lent. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday each year which is determined by the timing of the full moon following the Paschal feast. Lent is a 40-day season leading up into Easter. It is a time for reflection and introspection on who God is and who God has called us to be as God’s people.

The final week of Lent leading up into Easter is holy week. On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey and the celebration of the people waving palm branches. On Maundy Thursday, we remember Jesus’ last supper and the washing of the disciples’ feet. On Good Friday, we remember the suffering and death of Jesus on our behalf.

Following Lent is Easter. Easter is a 50-day season in which we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. We are reminded that sin and death do not have the final word. As Jesus is risen, so are we invited to rise with Christ.

On the 50<sup>th</sup> day of Easter is Pentecost. Pentecost is a special day in the life of the universal Church that celebrates the presence of the Holy Spirit among God’s people and the birthday of the universal Church. We often associate the color red with Pentecost.

After Pentecost is another longer period of ordinary time. There are special Sundays we get to celebrate in our congregations during this time such as World Communion Sunday (first Sunday in October) and All Saints Sunday (first Sunday in November).

The final Sunday of the church year is known as Christ the King Sunday- this year observed on November 20. Christ the King reminds us of who Jesus is to us- our King, our Lord, our Messiah, and our Savior.

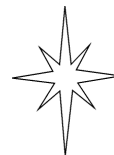
As we close another church year and begin a new one, I invite you to join me in observing the church year. I invite you to reflect on where you see God at work as we move through the different seasons of the church year together.

There are many upcoming opportunities to participate in the life and ministries of our churches as highlighted throughout the newsletter. You are invited to come and see what God is doing. You are invited to join us as we complete another church year and begin a new church year as we seek God together.

Have a blessed holiday season.

Take care,

*Pastor Trevor*



# Did You Know?

## WHERE HAS YOUR MISSION MONEY GONE THIS YEAR?

Each year we have events that raise money to support mission needs throughout the year. These are the Pancake/Sausage Breakfast in the Fall, the Yard Sale in the Spring, the Angels and Butterflies during the holiday seasons, the Spaghetti Dinner in the Winter and your individual support for special needs throughout the year.

### Your support has provided funding to:

- Food aide for Ukraine refugees
- ERIC to support travelers' needs



## Turkey Trot 5k Race

The Food Pantry is once again hosting a 5K run. Proceeds will be used to fund weekly food needs.

**Saturday, Nov. 26th, 9:00 am**

The run will be around Oakwood and the Kickapoo Trail.

Registration can be made online, or a copy of the registration form can be picked up at the church.



### WORSHIP TIMES

Oakwood —10:00 am  
Hebron —11:15 am

Virtual: after 2:00 pm  
on Sunday  
[ohumc.weebly.com](http://ohumc.weebly.com)

### 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](mailto:toetting95@gmail.com)

Facebook: [Oakwood United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/OakwoodUnitedMethodistChurch)  
Website: [ohumc.weebly.com](http://ohumc.weebly.com)

# Special news

## PANCAKE/SAUSAGE BREAKFAST UPDATE

We had a great Pancake Sausage Breakfast this year. It was great to see everyone again and enjoy Christian fellowship as we raised money for our missions.

As a result of all your hard work and donations, we were able to raise over \$1800 (so far) for our missions.

THANKS AGAIN!!!!



## CHARGE CONFERENCE

November 12th  
1:00 pm to 5:00 PM  
St. James UMC

Join with other United Methodist Churches in the area for fellowship, and hear a message from Bishop Beard.

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



We had a wonderful time at the World Communion Service. We worshiped with 14 other United Methodist Churches in our area.

It was a blessing to spend some time with fellow United Methodist from the area. The message from Bishop Beard was inspiring and left us wanting to hear more from him.



*May my prayers to you, O God, begin from a place of thanksgiving, recognizing your countless gifts.*

## HOLIDAY BASKETS

The Churches of ERIC are providing food items for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets.

The Oakwood UMC will be supplying Egg Noodles and Candy for Thanksgiving and Canned Pineapple and Sweet Potatoes for Christmas.

Hebron will be providing Gravy for Thanksgiving and Cake Frosting for Christmas

The Oakwood NOW Committee will purchase these items on behalf of the Church. If you would like to make a donation just add a little extra to the noisy bucket.



THANK YOU

# Youth News

## COMETLAND YOUTH NEWS

Grades 7-12

Sunday 6:00 –7:15 pm

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

Cell: 814-969-1766

JOIN THE  
YOUTH  
GROUP!



## BIBLE'S COOL

Thursdays, 3:15 to 4:45

3rd thru 6th grades

Have the children come for games, fun  
and Bible lessons.



## BOOKS FOR PRE-K

We are still collecting books for Pre-K students at Oakwood Elementary School. We need at least 51 books. Please leave any books in the basket on the round table .

Thanks from the kids.

## *Christian Symbol*

**CANDLE**—The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning. Many churches have a candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve, often at midnight.



## **ASP 2022 - Adults** **Rooted in Love**

*“Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.” John 15:4*

Eight adults will leave for Jonesville, VA on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> (as the newsletter went to press) and will return on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. They are staying at the year-round facility while working on homes in the area. Keep them in your prayers for safe trip.



## **ASP 2023 - Youth**

A youth trip is being planned for the summer of 2023. Any junior high or high school youth who are interested, should contact Connie Young at 217-474-4065.

**Youth are selling Texas Roadhouse Rolls for Thanksgiving!**

**ASP**  
**Appalachia**  
SERVICE PROJECT®



# Upcoming events



## SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6TH

We will be having a service of remembrance. If you have a loved one you would like included in the service, contact Pastor Trevor.

We will have votive candles during the service to honor those who have passed. If you would like to honor someone, let Laura or Wanda know.

We ask that you donate to the noisy bucket as a sign of remembrance.

## ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays,  
Beginning —November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm

### “INCARNATION”

Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas

By Adam Hamilton

No Bible Study Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> for Thanksgiving.

Let Laura or Pastor Trevor know if you would like a book.



## HANGING OF THE GREENS

### November 27th

During Sunday Morning Worship, we will have the Hanging of the Greens and hear about their meanings.

After the service, plan to stay for Soup and Sandwiches.



## ERIC

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd  
Muncie Baptist Church

6:00 pitch-in Thanksgiving dinner followed by the worship service.

Oakwood and Hebron will be providing **salads**.

Additional details will be provided during Sunday service and in the bulletin.

## ADVENT WREATH



Each Sunday in Advent, members of the congregation will light a candle on the Advent Wreath and an explanation of what that candle symbolizes will be read. If you would like to participate in this meaningful part of our worship services, please contact Jan McFarland or Melanie Goodwin.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!

## CHRISTMAS DAY JOINT SERVICE

Our three churches (Broadlands, Hebron and Oakwood) will join together on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of our savior.

Sunday, December 25th at 10:00 am

Oakwood UMC



# Calendar

Remember to set  
your clocks back!

**SUNDAY,**  
November 6th  
2:00 am



November 2022						
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			

December 2022						
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



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 24TH**

Hebron UMC	5:00 pm
Broadlands Community	7:00 pm
Oakwood UMC	9:00 pm



## ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

Let Nancy Tyler know if you need an annual giving statement for tax purposes.

Call Nancy at 217-354-4787.

## NOVEMBER

6 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	All Saints Sunday Communion
11 <sup>th</sup>	Friday	Veterans Day
12 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Charge Conference (1:00)
13 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Administrative Council 1:00 pm (OUMC)
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday	ERIC Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm
24 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday	Thanksgiving 
27 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Hanging of the Greens Advent Begins

## DECEMBER

4 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
18 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
21 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Winter
24 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm Hebron 9:00 pm Oakwood
25 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	Christmas (Joint. Service) 10:00 am
31 <sup>st</sup>	Saturday	New Years Eve



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## OAKWOOD

### November

#### Birthdays:

- 2 Todd Lee
- 3 Chad Sprague
- 5 Mark Leverenz
- 7 Bob Linn
- 9 Katelyn Tellier
- 10 Carlos Stewart
- 14 Parker Lee
- 15 Caroline Culp
- 22 Jackson Dudley
- 23 Linda Cunningham
- 30 Nancy Linn

#### Anniversaries:

- 13 Wayne & Debi Cronin
- 19 David & Julie Calkins

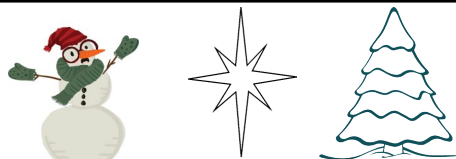
### December

#### Birthdays:

- 10 Heather Trask
- 12 Connor Smith
- 13 Debbie Clow
- 16 Ryan McFarland
- 21 Meredith Steffen Culp
- 23 Linda Preston
- 25 Tracie Jones
- 26 Katie Lee
- Dennis Westfall
- 27 Brett Wittig
- 28 Cameron Lee
- 30 Kendra Westfall

#### Anniversaries:

- 13 Tom & Melanie Goodwin
- 28 Bob & Nancy Linn



## HEBRON

### November

#### Birthdays:

- 3 Dean Grimes
- 9 Mike Pouilliard
- 26 Christopher Johnson
- 30 Allie Covington

#### Anniversaries:

- 23 Matt & Deanna Morton

### December

#### Birthdays:

- 22 Pat Razatis

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

[melrodmae@gmail.com](mailto:melrodmae@gmail.com)  
Cell: (217) 474-3260

### THE COMPANY YOU KEEP

At a concert, a Christian musician talked about growing up in the South, saying his accent was a giveaway. Then he described his relationship with Jesus, noting that he spends lots of time in God's Word. By "hanging out with Jesus," he said, he has "picked up Jesus' accent." Just as people know he's from the South because of how his voice sounds, they know he follows Christ through his actions and words.

Proverbs 13:20 emphasizes that the company you keep can greatly influence you, for better or worse. Imagine the impact we can have on other people by hanging out with Jesus more!

Dear God, we invite you into our daily lives. Hang out in our hearts and minds so that when people see and hear us, they'll know whose we are. Amen.—Julie Lee

### 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

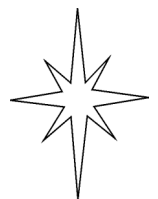
#### Pat Razatis

Liberty Village  
3222 Independence Avenue  
#609  
Danville, IL 61832

They would love to hear from you by card, call or visit.

### Remember those in the Military

Capt. Toby Neil  
Stationed—  
Fort Hood, Texas



OAKWOOD/HEBRON U.M.C.

P.O. Box 218

Oakwood, IL 61858



**Christmas Ornaments**

This year the Oakwood United Methodist Church will again adorn the sanctuary Christmas tree with ornaments during the Advent and Christmas season. These ornaments can be purchased for a donation of \$6:00 in memory or honor of a loved one. We will display the ornaments during the holiday season, list the names in whose memory or honor they were purchased, and then you may take them home after our Christmas season services. Four out of every six dollars of your donation will support the Oakwood UMC Missions. If you would like an ornament in memory or honor of a loved one, please complete the form below and return it with \$6.00 for each ornament to Wanda Plawer or Laura Wittig by Dec. 18th

Additional donations are welcome to support these projects.

In Memory Of (Please print )

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of (Please print )

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Given by (Please print )

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_