



The Oakletter, Jan. 11, 2026

On New Year's Eve, as Sandy Carraway finished her stewed tomatoes at Surf Rider, her fellow Bible study students agreed to go to Judy's Sichuan Kitchen in Chesapeake for lunch on Jan. 8. That turned out to be a good choice since, after lunch that day, there was someone at Chesapeake General Hospital I went to visit and also because I needed to go Michael's.

I needed to go to Michael's to buy Mod Podge and rocks. I purchased both at this time three years ago in Franklin. The reason now is the same as it was then: the rocks and Mod Podge were needed for children's church.

I get lessons for children's church each week from the Discipleship Ministries website. It's a great resource, even if links to children's messages were missing, unusually, this week and last.

No problem. Since the website follows the three-year lectionary cycle, I went back to this time three years ago and found lessons I remembered from Franklin. These call for certain images to be drawn on rocks for the weeks leading up to Lent. For this week, the image is a water drop for Baptism of the Lord Sunday. For Feb. 15, Transfiguration Sunday and the last Sunday in the series, the image is a cloud.

I'm no artist [see above], and my water drop and cloud may look atypical, but I will draw the images in advance since the rocks have to be sealed with Mod Podge and allowed to dry. Maybe I'll see if Sandy and her Bible study classmates will help draw images for future lessons.

Help is important and necessary. We need help now in children's church. I'd love to see Oaklette develop a rotation of volunteers to help teach. We could come up with a schedule similar to those used by the A/V team and for the food pantry. Please consider prayerfully this invitation to help with children's church. It would be nice to have a team of 10 or more volunteers so that no one has to miss worship consistently. Please contact the church office if you'd like to help, and please join me in thanking everyone who's helped with children's church.

Thanks,

Ned



This week at Oaklette

Sunday, Jan. 11

9:30 am Sunday School

9:30 am SOTM

11 am Baptism of the
Lord Sunday worship

Monday, Jan. 12

10 a.m. Food pantry
[Kay Hill and Terry
Webb]

7 p.m. HRM Band

Wednesday, Jan. 14

6:30 p.m. Choir
practice

Thursday, Jan. 15

10 a.m. Bible study

Saturday, Jan. 17

1 p.m. Polar Duck Dip

Sunday, Jan. 18

9:30 am Sunday School

9:30 am SOTM

11 am Human
Relations Day worship

Birthdays

Holly Nance – January 12
Eric Weber – February 13

Kaitlin Brooks – January 13
Kevin Haluska – January 15

S. Jones, Jr. – January 15
LouAnne Poyner – January 17

Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 3:13-17, CEB

At that time Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan River so that John would baptize him. John tried to stop him and said, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you come to me?"

Jesus answered, "Allow me to be baptized now. This is necessary to fulfill all righteousness." So John agreed to baptize Jesus.

When Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up out of the water. Heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and resting on him. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love; I find happiness in him."

From the Prayer List:

Pastor Tyrone Armstrong
Donna Baker
Eileen Balance
Chesapeake Police Dept.
Coastal VA District & DS
Givens
Kaylee Cuccorillo
Preston Basnight
Tanya & Steve Benton

Sandy Carraway
Megan Carroll
Jay Eckert
ForKids
Joyce Gaston
Freekind Virginia
Bill Gilliam
Karon Hardy
Kaye Herndon
Ethel Hickman

Debbie Hodges
Home School Out of Box
Earl Jenkins (Ericka's dad)
Teal Jenkins
Pat Johnson
Brian Lincoln
Dave Lorence
Rose Marie Madu
Wayne Magner
Pat Newbern



Website:
<https://www.oakletteumc.org/>



Contact:
757-545-7434



Email:
oaklette@oakletteumc.org