



## FRANK YOUNG AND JOHN HUDGINS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Chesapeake Fire Department will hold a 30th Anniversary Memorial honoring Firefighters Frank Young and Johnny Hudgins, who made the ultimate sacrifice March 18, 1996.

As part of this remembrance, firefighters will have a solemn procession traveling the same route Firefighters Young and Hudgins took that day 30 years ago.

- Fire Station 3 at 1801 Rokeby Avenue
- Rokeby Avenue to Providence Road
- Providence Road to Sparrow Road
- Sparrow Road towards Indian River Road
- Advance Auto at 4345 Indian River Road



Residents are welcomed to stand streetside in quiet observation to support your first responders and to honor the legacy of Frank and Johnny.

This is a non-emergency, ceremonial event intended to reflect, remember, and recognize their service to our community.



Please join us for the Memorial Dinner at the Khedive Shrine Center  
645 Woodlake Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23320  
Doors will open at 5PM, dinner starts at 6PM.  
Tickets are limited and must be purchased before March 11, 2026 online at [Chesapeake Fire Department Hot Zone](#) or scan the QR code.

## The Oakletter, March 8, 2026

I apologize if the graphic above is difficult to see. I downloaded it from the Chesapeake Fire Department Facebook page. It shows the route of a March 18 memorial procession honoring two Station 3 firefighters, Frank Young and John Hudgins, who died in a fire at Advance Auto on Indian River Road on March 18, 1996. The procession starts at Fire Station 3 on Rokeby at 11:30 a.m. and ends at Advance Auto. The public is invited to line the route in quiet observation.

Would Oaklette like to have a presence at this procession? If so, I invite us to pick a time and a place to gather. I wondered about meeting at Bill's at Sparrow and Providence by 10 a.m. to have breakfast and observing the procession afterward. [Breakfast is served there until 10 a.m.] Anyone is welcome to suggest another time and place – perhaps Rokeby Center at Rokeby and Providence – or someplace farther along the route. Please let me know what you think.

I've shared this announcement on Facebook and will talk about it in worship Sunday. I'll post something about this on our webpage, too. Oaklette's mission statement says that we seek to make the Gospel of Jesus Christ real for all people through worship, outreach, and education. I think that this is a good and fairly simple way for us to make the Gospel real through outreach – through witness, if you will, and through a ministry of presence.

Another way to discuss this is in terms of discipleship. In John 12:26, Jesus says, "Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also be. My Father will honor the one who serves me." I think this event gives us a chance to be where Jesus was and where he would be in this situation. I invite us, as his followers, to join him there.

I'll post a copy of this graphic on the bulletin board opposite the church office. See the QR code there if you're interested in tickets for the 6 p.m. memorial dinner March 18 at Khedive Shrine Center on Woodlake. According to the graphic, tickets must be purchased by March 11.

*Faithfully,  
Ned*

**Birthdays:** Riley Reichling, March 9; Brian McDonald, March 14

**From Sunday's Gospel, John 4:5-42**

Just then, Jesus' disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who has told me everything I've done! Could this man be the Christ?" They left the city and were on their way to see Jesus. In the meantime, the disciples spoke to Jesus, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

Jesus said to them, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

The disciples asked each other, "Has someone brought him food?"

Jesus said to them, "I am fed by doing the will of the one who sent me and by completing his work. Don't you have a saying, 'Four more months and then it's time for harvest'? Look, I tell you: open your eyes and notice that the fields are already ripe for the harvest. Those who harvest are receiving their pay and gathering fruit for eternal life so that those who sow and those who harvest can celebrate together. This is a true saying, that one sows and another harvests. I have sent you to harvest what you didn't work hard for; others worked hard, and you will share in their hard work."

**This Week at Oaklette:**

Sunday, March 8: Sunday school and SOTM @ 9:30 a.m.; worship for the third Sunday of Lent @ 11 a.m.

Monday, March 9: Food pantry [J. Rooks/T. Webb] @ 10 a.m.; HRM Band @ 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 10: The Last Supper study at 6:30 p.m. [Zoom only]

Wednesday, March 11: choir practice @ 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 12: HSOBX @ 8:30 a.m.; Bible study @ 10 a.m.; Model A Club @ 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 14: district United Women in Faith Zoom meeting @ 10 a.m.; United Methodist Women meet @ 11 a.m. at Oaklette, followed by lunch at Vino

Sunday, March 15: Sunday school and SOTM @ 9:30 a.m.; worship for the fourth Sunday of Lent @ 11 a.m.

**Mission of the Month** [Blessing Box]: canned beans

**Pray for our military:** Jordan Carter, Justin Castellow, Heather Guster, Kara and Mike Pietrzykowski; Matt Springer, Scott Weifert, MAJ Paul Leone Wolfe III, Marcus Hincks III

**Our Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Residents:** Billy East, Richard Tucker

**Our prayer list:** Pastor Tyrone Armstrong; Donna Baker; Eileen Balance; Preston Basnight; Tanya & Steve Benton; Sandy Carraway; Megan Carroll; Chesapeake Police Dept.; Coastal VA District & DS Givens; Kaylee Cuccorillo; Jay Eckert; ForKids; Joyce Gaston; Freekind Virginia; Bill Gilliam; Kaye Herndon; Ethel Hickman; Debbie Hodges; Home School Out of Box; Earl Jenkins; Teal Jenkins; Pat Johnson; Karon Hardy; Brian Lincoln; Dave Lorence; Rose Marie Madu; Wayne Magner; Pat Newbern; Dakota Rebel; Ray & Bob Rosales; Rhonda Roughton; Roman Roughton; Loretta Smith; The League of Advocates; Virginia Conference & Bishop Sue; Edward Thomas; Marilyn Washington; Monica Whitehurst; Phyllis Buchanan Wolfe; Our Country & Military; Our Pastor

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