

# Weekly Oakletter

Oaklette United Methodist Church

September 7, 2026



*Oaklette UMC will meet in person and on Facebook  
Live at 11:00 am on Sunday,  
August 31. Rev. Ned Alderman will bring the  
message entitled "Welcome One."  
The Scripture is Philemon 1-21 [CEB]..*



**Cynthia Earley – September 4  
Barbara Bennett – September 13**



**Please remember the Blessing Box when you  
are out shopping! School supplies is our focus  
for the month of September Please place  
your donations in the box in the narthex.**



**Debbie and David Rippard – September 4**

## PRAYER CONCERNS

<b>Tyrone Armstrong</b>	<b>Pat Johnson</b>
<b>Donna Baker</b>	<b>Loving Neighbors</b>
<b>Tanya &amp; Steve Benton</b>	<b>Mission Camp</b>
<b>Kendall Brodie</b>	<b>Rose Marie Madu</b>
<i>(friend of Mrs. Hickman's</i>	<b>Wayne Magner</b>
<i>grandson with cancer)</i>	<b>Terry Martin</b>
<b>Megan Carroll</b>	<b>Kristie Masters (friend of</b>
<b>Judy Carter</b>	<b>Ethel Hickman)</b>
<b>Cherry &amp; Sebastian</b>	<b>Karen McCarthy's</b>
<b>Chesapeake Police Dept.</b>	<b>daughter</b>
<b>CNRMA ROC</b>	<b>Pat Newbern</b>
<b>Coastal VA District &amp;</b>	<b>AJ. Panis (Ethel's</b>
<b>DS Givens</b>	<b>friend's son)</b>
<b>Sandy Carraway</b>	<b>Debbie Pope</b>
<b>Kent Carter</b>	<b>Dana Quinn</b>
<b>Kaylee Cuccorillo (Ericka's</b>	<b>Dakota Rebel</b>
<b>co-worker)</b>	<b>Ray &amp; Bob Rosales</b>
<b>Alex Denton</b>	<b>Rhonda Roughton (Stella's</b>
<b>Mary Lou Dory</b>	<b>Daughter)</b>
<b>Jay Eckert (Ethel's nephew)</b>	<b>Loretta Smith (Amy's</b>
<b>ForKids</b>	<b>son's girlfriend's</b>
<b>Freekind Virginia</b>	<b>mother)</b>
<b>Joyce Gaston</b>	<b>The League of Advocates</b>
<b>Patricia Guthrie (Mildred</b>	<b>Edward Thomas</b>
<b>Walling's sister-in-law)</b>	<b>Virginia Conference &amp;</b>
<b>Karon Hardy (Monica's</b>	<b>Bishop Sue</b>
<b>Neighbor)</b>	<b>Truman Weekly (Paige's</b>
<b>Doris Wolfe Harlan</b>	<b>Father)</b>
<b>(Phyllis B. Wolf, mother-in-</b>	<b>Wesley ODU</b>
<b>law)</b>	<b>Betty Whitehurst</b>
<b>Kay Herndon</b>	<b>Monica Whitehurst</b>
<b>Ethel Hickman</b>	<b>Phyllis Buchanan Wolfe</b>
<b>Hope Hodges &amp; Debbie</b>	<b>Tommy Womack</b>
<b>Home School Out of Box</b>	<b>Country &amp; Troops</b>
<b>Earl Jenkins (Ericks's dad)</b>	<b>Our Pastor</b>
<b>Brian Lincoln (friend of</b>	
<b>Ethel Hickman)</b>	

**Nursing Home & Long-Term Care Residents**  
**Billy East**

**"It is easy to be independent when you've  
got money. But to be independent when  
you haven't got a thing, that's the Lord's  
test."**

**—Mahalia Jackson**

## Calendar

### Sunday, September 7

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in person and Facebook
- 12:00 pm Staff Parish Meeting

### Monday, September 8

- 10:00 am-12:00 pm Food Pantry  
(Helen Haluska & Terry Webb)
- 6:00 pm Friends of Indian River Board
- 7:00 pm HRM Band

### Tuesday, September 9

- 10:00 am Website meeting

### Wednesday, September 10

- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, September 11

- 9:00 am-3:00 pm Home School Out of the Box
- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Model "A" Club

### Friday, September 12

### Saturday, September 13

- 10:00 am SOTM Women
- 11:00 am United Women of Faith

### Sunday, September 14

- 9:30 am Sunday School
- 9:30 am SOTM
- 11:00 am Worship in person & Facebook

## THE SOUNDS OF WORSHIP

Have you ever paused to listen — really listen — to the world around you?

*"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" (Psalm 98:4, ESV)*

The hum of morning birdsong. The laughter of children. The comforting voice of a friend. Even the quiet moments of stillness. These aren't just background noise — they're invitations to worship.

God designed a world that sings. Worship isn't limited to Sunday mornings or formal songs; it's woven into the everyday moments that tune our hearts to Him. And when we pause to truly hear it, we are drawn into praise, right where we are.

What sound lifts your heart toward God today? Take a moment to listen. Let it remind you of His love and nearness.



Charge conference is scheduled for Nov. 6 and in light of this, I'd like to ask a question that I asked at this time last year: Is there anything you'd like for Oaklette to do differently in the coming year? I ask this based on information that we've had for some time. The Possibilities Report that Oaklette got from the district three years ago showed steady decline in both worship and Sunday school attendance here. The report showed that worship attendance had dropped from 135 in 2013 to 85 in 2019 and 2020. Charge conference reports show that our weekly attendance in worship was 48 in 2022, 51 in 2023, and 44 in 2024. The Possibilities Report also shows that Sunday school attendance averaged 130 in 2008 and was down to 15 by 2020. In 2024, our average Sunday school attendance was 12.

If we don't do anything differently, can we expect these trends to continue? Please pray about the question asked above: Is there anything you'd like for Oaklette to do differently in the coming year?