

Oaklawn United Methodist

Dear Oaklawn members and friends,

We are asking each of you to get outside and enjoy the beautiful fall that the Lord is giving us. The chrysanthemums are blooming and the marigolds are still flowering; the mornings are cool which means it's the perfect time to sit outside and have a talk with the Lord. Even though 2020 has been a hard year, we all have many blessings to count. We thank God for each one of you. We are averaging about 57 people in church on Sundays, and we are ready to receive each of you when you feel safe to return.

In the meantime, I am developing a relationship with a spider that is spinning an amazingly large and complex web on the front porch of the parsonage. Sometimes, I pass by and speak to the spider; other times, I let my fingers snip the ends of his web. Now that spider has taken to running up to the top of his web whenever he sees me pass. God speaks to us in all of God's creation. And yes, somehow and someday, we are related to that spider, sparrow, or squirrel in our yards. I laugh to myself as I see squirrels with acorns stuffed in their cheeks as they collect food for the winter. I am thankful to have lived through 57 autumns, and I pray for my family, church family, our state, and nation. This virus has brought out the best of us and the worst of us. We have watched healthcare workers serve to the point of exhaustion; we have seen many people become covid-crazy and vent their anger and frustration.

What can we as followers of Christ do during this fall to grow in our faith? The Upper Rooms are here at church and offer a good daily devotional. We can reach out to others and offer them encouragement.

And we can take time to notice that we are all connected to each other and to all of creation. Together, we can pray the prayer of St. Francis.

God bless us all,

Peace,

Russ

Giving Report

Sunday, Sept. 6

Operational Fund Contribution \$5,050.00

Worship Total: 55

Sunday, Sept. 13

Operational Fund Contribution \$2,432.00

Worship Total: 50

Sunday, Sept. 20

Operational Fund Contribution \$2,798.00

Worship Total: 57

Sunday, Sept. 27

Operational Fund Contribution \$2,283.00

Worship Total: 50

Family Life Center gifts\$1625.00

Total September Giving\$14,188.00



MISSION OF THE MONTH

You may donate to the mission any-time during the month through the church by making your check out to the church and **putting the Mission name on the memo line of your check or envelope.** A 'mission box' is on the table in the church foyer into which you may place your 'above the tithe' offering. The mission we are supporting for the month of **October is Open Door Ministries.**

Due to our current church finances, we have had to reduce the secretary position to 20 hours per week.

We appreciate Kristi and all her hard work. We pray that God will direct her path towards success and open doors.

Beginning, October 15th the new church office hours will be Monday – Friday 9a.m. – 1p.m.

We are also thankful to our pastor and other staff members for voluntarily taking a salary reduction to offer support to our church during these hard times.

With God's help and working together, we will make it to a brighter day.

Gerald Stewart, Finance Chair

Kent Bard, SPRC Chair

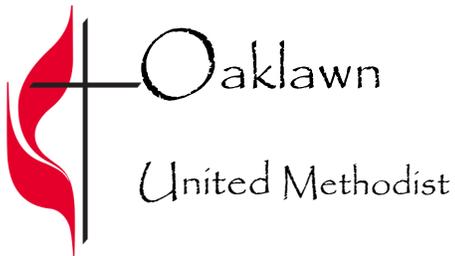
October 2020 Birthdays

10/01	Elaine Johnston	10/11	Koven Gaede
10/03	Joyce Lewis	10/11	Billie Reed
10/05	Sherry Shirley	10/18	Barbara G. Ward
10/06	Alazae Allen	10/23	Tatiana Odom
10/06	Gail Sears	10/26	Shauna Allen
10/08	Drew Short	10/26	Glen Martin
10/08	Ella Lou Smith	10/27	Tracy Johnson
10/08	Skylar White	10/28	Lance Burroughs
10/11	Nancy Behringer	10/29	Judy O'Neal
		10/31	Michael Crawford

ANNIVERSARIES

Doris & Jim Wenner

10/17/1953



216 Higdon Ferry Rd
Hot Springs, AR 71913

Rev. Russ Breshears, Pastor
Phone: Church—501-623-5588
Pastor's Cell—501-772-7919
Kristi Vallee, Administrative Secretary
Email: oaklawnsec@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.oaklawnmethodist.org

Non-profit Organization

U. S. Postage

PAID

Hot Springs, AR

PERMIT NO. 266

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Prayer Requests

We pray for active-duty Military, Government Leaders, Police & First Responders, Medical Personnel, and all who are hurting

Members in Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

Gertrude Ferguson - Garrett Woods, Rm 301
Bonnie Hardin - Atrium, Rm 215
Ann Irby - West Shores, Rm 231
Laura Parker - Garrett Woods, Rm 305
Darryl Cadwaller — Heritage Nursing Home
Irene Meenen — Country Club Village Rm 319
Judy & Jim Wetherington - The Atrium #241
Margie Wolfe — Belvedere Nursing and Rehab
Zola Morphew - Belvedere Nursing and Rehab Rm. 218

Members at Home/Rehabilitation:

Bill Harris, Billie Reed,
Doris Wenner, Donna Carvin

Friends and Neighbors:

Hunter Ault

Love Lunch Bunch

Oaklawn United Methodist Church served 61 Love Lunches at Salvation Army on September 20, 2020. A big thank you to Oaklawn volunteers: Kathy Johnson, and Susan and Doug Hunter!

During October, the Confirmation Class will be providing homemade cookies, and writing prayer messages for each of the sack lunches. I know the recipients will appreciate that!

Thank you to everyone that assists with our Love Lunches!

Blessings,

Laurel Williams



Oaklawn United Methodist Women is a group that meets for fellowship, Bible study, and service. We are a mission-oriented organization of the church. We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month here at Oaklawn United Methodist Church. Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 12 at 1 p.m. Contact the church office at 501-623-5588 or Sylvia Griffin, President at 501-701-4288.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 13

Nancy and Kathleen will start rehearsing with those who wish to do solos, duets, etc.

Please contact them directly if you are interesting in participating!

Congratulations to Mary Beth Breshears and Jordan Fugitt on their upcoming marriage!

The UMW will be hosting a wedding shower for the couple at the Fellowship Hall on November 14 from 1p.m. - 3p.m.

This will be a "come & go" event with masks and social distancing.





The Prayer of St. Francis

**Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved, as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.
Amen.**

