November 2026

THE INTERSECTION

being the presence of Christ at the crossroads of life

Faithful Thoughts..

This month we begin a new worship series titled (Thanks)Giving. November is the season of thankfulness. It is also the season of holiday sales, year-end appeals, and organizational budget planning. Throughout the month we will explore how gratitude shapes the way we think about money and how we use our money reveals where we place our trust. Along the way, I will share an honest assessment of Oakland's finances.

November 1 – On this All Saints Sunday, we recognize that everything we have is received: our lives, faith, relationships, resources, and the church we inherit from those who came before us. We will name and thank the saints, seen and unseen, who built our church and still hold it up today. What have these saints entrusted us with that we can pass along to future generations?

November 8 – Jesus shares a parable about wise and foolish bridesmaids that reminds us stewardship requires preparation, not simply good intentions. Nobody builds an emergency fund the week of the emergency, and no church builds a reserve the month the roof fails. What does it mean for Oakland to prepare well, and what "oil" are we storing up for the days ahead? I will also share statistics from a recent financial analysis of Oakland through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

November 15 – Jesus told a story about servants who took what they were given and invested wisely compared with servants who buried what they were given out of fear. We'll ask what Oakland can do to invest wisely, and I'll propose a new initiative to secure our church's future for generations to come.

November 22 – On this Reign of Christ Sunday Jesus reminds us that our money ultimately serves a kingdom. Therefore, the church budget, like our own bank accounts, are not simply financial documents but tell the story of what we believe matters. What does our budget say about what we value? Can we see generosity as a way of showing our allegiance to Christ?

A word before we begin. Most of us were raised to think money is a private matter, not a pulpit matter. But Jesus didn't treat it that way. He talked about money and possessions constantly, more than almost any other subject, because he knew it reveals exactly where our trust lives. But hear this clearly: the focus of this series isn't only about dollars. It's about a heart of gratitude. We give out of our (Thanks)Giving for all that God has done.

As always, it is a privilege to serve as your pastor!
~Jeff Hayes

We are a church that values *Relationships*

Lunch Bunch

November 4, 11:30PM

Join Lunch Bunch on November 4th for a delicious lunch and great fellowship at Charanda of Newport. If you've never participated before and would like more information, contact Janice Hicks (jmhicks@comporium.net) or Sandy Hunter (sandyhunter150@gmail.com). The next Lunch Bunch will be on February 4.

2nd Sunday Men's Breakfast

November 8, 8AM

Men you are invited to a time of fellowship, relationship building, and spiritual growth on the 2nd Sunday of each month. This group will meet in the gym for a delicious breakfast followed by a devotion. This great opportunity is being coordinated by the Monday night men's group and all are invited. If you have any questions please contact Jimmy Williams (stonesteele21@gmail.com). The cost is $5 per person.

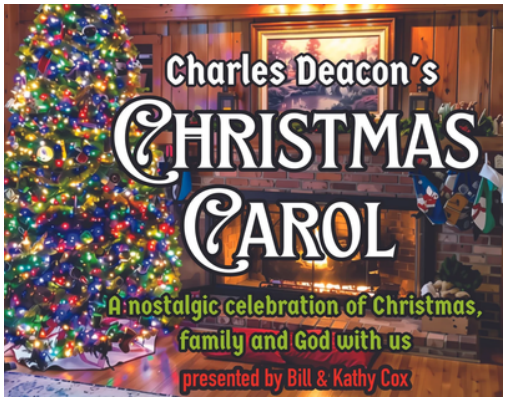
NEW OPPORTUNITY

CLICK HERE to sign up.

Merry Makers

December 1, 12:30PM

You are invited to join the Merry Makers for a festive Christmas celebration on December 1 at 12:30PM in the gym. Following a delicious meal prepared by Lolita Dixon of Taste of Love, Bill & Kathy Cox will present "Charles Deacon's Christmas Carol." Rev. Bill Cox, the Executive Director of Concoxions Ministries, has spent his career partnering with churches and groups to provide outstanding creative programming, including "Art to Heart," "Peter, Once a Fisherman," and "Christmas Chronicles." He has also led unique conferences for youth, such as Seesalt and Chillipepper, and was the Director of Abundant Life Ministries.



The cost for the meal is $10.00, and the deadline for signing up will be November 25. Plan to join us as together we kickoff the Christmas season!

CLICK HERE to sign up.

OBC at ChristmasVille

December 5-6

Join us for Christmas Charades at ChristmasVille!
This year, we are hosting Christmas Charades at Rock Hill's ChristmasVille, and we'd love for you to be part of the fun! No acting required. Volunteers simply cheer on the participants and help everyone enjoy the game. We'll provide all the supplies and instructions you need.

Get Festive with an OBC Christmas Shirt!
Add a little extra cheer to your season with a long-sleeve OBC Christmas shirt. If you are volunteering at our ChristmasVille station, you can purchase a shirt at a special discounted price of $12. Can't make it to ChristmasVille, but still want a shirt? No problem! You can order yours for $18. Please place your order by November 9.

CLICK HERE to sign up for a shift at ChristmasVille

CLICK HERE to purchase an OBC Christmas shirt

First Wednesdays at Oakland

Dinner begins at 5:30PM
Program begins at 6:15PM

No two First Wednesdays are exactly alike. Some months we'll worship. Some months we'll learn. Some months we'll serve. Whatever the program, you'll always find a welcoming place to connect and grow. *With this new format we will only gather for a meal and program on the first Wednesday of each month.

5:30PM–6:15PM

November: Ham, yams, corn, green beans, salad bar, and dessert. **CLICK HERE** to sign up by Monday, November 2 at 9AM.

December: Pork chops, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, and salad bar. **CLICK HERE** to sign up.

*Chicken nuggets are always available for children.

Dinner Cost:

- $10 per person (6th grade & above)
- $7 per person (5th grade & below)
- $35 family maximum

Please sign up by 9AM on the Monday prior to each First Wednesday at Oakland . In addition to what you are paying, the church offsets the cost of this meal. Please only sign up if you are planning to attend.

6:15PM–7:15PM

November: Rev. Dr. Tim Moore and representatives from Myers Park Covenant Church in Charlotte will share the story of their decision to change the church's name from Myers Park Baptist to Myers Park Covenant.

December: We will be getting into the spirit of the season with a Christmas-themed program you won't want to miss. The evening will include festive Christmas music and a Christmas cookie swap! There will be other surprises along the way, but we'll keep those under wraps for now.

For the cookie swap, all you have to do is bring a batch of your favorite cookies to share. In return, you'll go home with a delicious variety of tasty treats from your church family.

We can't wait to spend First Wednesdays at Oakland with you!

Sip, Share, *and* Care

Sunday, November 22 | 9:15-10:15 AM | The Gym

The Adult Ministries Committee is delighted to invite every adult in our church family to our first "Sip, Share, and Care." We sincerely hope to see you in the gym on November 22!

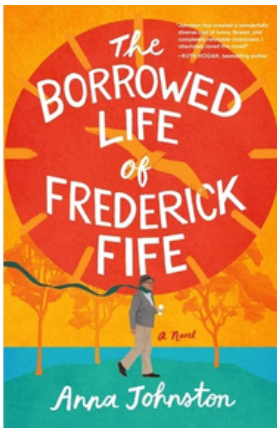
Each Sunday, many of us gather in our own classes, and those friendships are a gift. But we've also felt a longing to know one another beyond our usual circles. "Sip, Share, and Care" is a time for fellowship and spiritual growth across every age and stage of life, whether you're in one of our nine adult classes or haven't yet found a class to call home.

Here's what to expect:

- **Sip:** Start the morning with fresh doughnuts and hot coffee, and take time to say hello, catch up, and meet someone new.
- **Share:** Settle in around tables for guided conversation, where we'll hear one another's stories and experiences of faith.
- **Care:** Leave with a deeper connection to others and a fuller sense of what it means to be the family of God together.

This is a wonderful chance to talk with people you might not often sit beside on a Sunday morning, and to learn from the wisdom, questions, and experiences of others in different seasons of life.

Mark your calendar: Beginning in 2027, this opportunity will take place on every 5th Sunday (January 31, May 30, August 29, October 31). We can't wait to sip, share, and care with you!



Faith and Fiction Book Club

Join Leigh Reynolds on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6PM at Rey Azteca (2124 Celanese Road) for food, fellowship, and a conversation about the themes of our faith that are woven into that month's selcted book.

November: *So Far Gone* by Jess Walter
December: *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston

CLICK HERE to sign up

OBC Kids

November 8, 15, 22, 4PM-4:45PM

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for music, worship, learning, and fun! OBC Kids will not meet on November 29.Combined children and youth choir will rehearse from 4:45PM until 5:45PM in preparation for their Christmas musical.

OBC Youth

November 8, 15, 22, 6PM-7:30PM

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a meal followed by a time of fellowship and spiritual growth. OBC Youth will not meet on November 29. Combined children and youth choir will rehearse from 4:45PM until 5:45PM in preparation for their Christmas musical.

Youth Fall Retreat Recap

Our youth had a wonderful weekend at our fall retreat at Look Up Lodge! We enjoyed the beautiful fall weather as we explored the campus, played games, shared meals, and enjoyed time together in fellowship.

Throughout the weekend, we explored the theme "What Is Your Song?" and considered the different ways we can express ourselves to God. Through music, Scripture, reflection, and activities, we discovered how songs can help us express a wide range of emotions - from joy and gratitude to grief, uncertainty, and hope. We were reminded that we don't have to have all the right words or have everything figured out to come to God. We can bring our whole selves and our unique stories into God's presence.

We are grateful for the time spent growing in faith, building friendships, and making memories together. It was a meaningful weekend of connection, reflection, and discovering new ways to express our faith.

We are a church that values *Missions*

Christmas Clothesline

The "Christmas Clothesline" of gift tags (Oakland's version of an angel tree) is back! Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to help. Working with counselors from Sullivan Middle School and Castle Heights Middle School, Oakland will be providing assistance to underserved families in the Rock Hill community. Our "Christmas Clothesline" focus will be families with middle and high school students as there are fewer organization providing gifts for this age range. Each gift on each tag is equivalent to $25.

Throughout November, representatives from the Mission Committee will be on the first floor, outside of the Fellowship Hall before Sunday School to help you select your tag(s)!

Family Promise Host Week

November 15-22

Join us in welcoming families who need our support. Through Family Promise, we're offering more than shelter and meals, we're providing hope and dignity to neighbors working toward a brighter future. Every role matters. Every volunteer makes a difference. Sign up today!

If you are interested in helping with the wonderful ministry but have other questions, contact Leigh Reynolds (lreynolds@oaklandchurch.com).

CLICK HERE to sign up to help.

Poinsettia Donations

Poinsettias will be in the Sanctuary throughout Advent. You are invited to make a donation in honor or memory of loved ones. All donations will be placed in the Benevolence Fund to assist those in our community who are in need.

The cost is $10 per name. The last day to make a donation is December 6. Thank you for your continued support of our outreach to help those in need.

CLICK HERE to donate online.

America Recycles Day

November 15

As we seek to be good stewards of God's creation **CLICK HERE** to read a note from Julie Johnson, member of Rock Hill's Clean and Green Team, about best practices for recycling.

Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

November 14-21

Throughout this week, organizations from our community will help raise awareness to the challenges faced by individuals and families experiencing food insecurity and housing instability while inspiring collective action. **CLICK HERE** to learn more and get involved.

November at a Glance

November 1: Coffee in the Fellowship Hall, 8:50AM; Sunday School, 9:15AM; Worship, 10:30AM; Churchwide Fellowship, 3PM
November 3: Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Women's Bible Study, 9:15AM & 6:15PM
November 4: Ministry Center Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM; Budget Discussion, 12:30PM; First Wednesdays at Oakland, 5:30PM; ESL, 6:15PM; Budget Discussion, 7:15PM
November 5: Lunch Bunch at Charandas, 11:30AM
November 6-8: Women's Retreat in Montreat
November 7: Ministry Center is Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM
November 8: Men's Breakfast, 8AM; Coffee in the Fellowship Hall, 8:50AM; Sunday School, 9:15AM; Worship, 10:30AM; OBC Kids, 4PM; Children's and Youth Choir, 4:45PM; OBC Youth, 6PM; Chancel Choir, 6:15PM
November 10: Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Women's Bible Study, 9:15AM & 6:15PM; Book Club, 6PM
November 11: Ministry Center Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM; Veterans Day Luncheon, 12:30PM; ESL, 6:15Pm
November 14: Ministry Center Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM
November 15: Coffee in the Fellowship Hall, 8:50AM; Sunday School, 9:15AM; Worship, 10:30AM; OBC Kids, 4PM; Children's and Youth Choir, 4:45PM; OBC Youth, 6PM; Chancel Choir, 6:15PM
November 15-22: Family Promise Host Week
November 17: Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Women's Bible Study, 9:15AM & 6:15PM
November 18: Ministry Center Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM; ESL, 6:15PM
November 21: Ministry Center Open for Shoppers and Donations, 9AM
November 22: Coffee in the Fellowship Hall, 8:50AM; Sip, Share, and Care, 9:15AM; Worship, 10:30AM; OBC Kids, 4PM; Children's and Youth Choir, 4:45PM; OBC Youth, 6PM; Chancel Choir, 6:15PM
November 24: Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Women's Bible Study, 9:15AM & 6:15PM
November 26-27: Church Office Closed
November 29: Coffee in the Fellowship Hall, 8:50AM; Sunday School, 9:15AM; Worship, 10:30AM

News from the Pews

OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
The presence of Christ at the crossroads of life

Congratualtions to **Ryan Bridges** who has been named the Founding Principal for Discovery School at Rock Hill, a new K-8 free public Charter school opening in August 2027.

cbf OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS
BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS

Thank you for generously supporting the Offering for Global Missions. Thanks to you we collected $20,865.32, exceeding our goal of $20,000.

We give *because* God gave first!

October Needs:	$73,408.00
Gifts from October:	$54,502.91
YTD Requirements:	$789,136.00
YTD Gifts Received:	$710,690.43
YTD Budget Variance:	$(78,445.57)
YTD Expenditures:	$764,322.50

Thank you for helping us be the presence of Christ at the crossroads of life through your financial contributions. **CLICK HERE** to give online. You will be directed to a secure link which allows you to use your debit or credit card to make online contributions.

Oakland Baptist Church Staff

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Jessica Collins, Day School Director
jcollins@oaklandchurch.com
John-Marc Gold, Facility Assistant

Church Office hours
8AM - 3PM, Monday - Friday
Should you need to speak to a minister after hours, please call to leave a message for the on-call minister. Also, all of our ministers are available via their personal cell phone.

Connect with us!

803.328.3864
obcoffice@oaklandchurch.com
oaklandchurch.com
facebook.com/OBCRockHill
instagram.com/obcrockhill
youtube.com/obcrockhill
If you are traveling, take us with you! Join us on YouTube for worship.
oakland.breezechms.com
Breeze is our Church Management Software which provides access to our directory. If you need to be connected to this app contact the Church Office.

We look forward to #growingatOBC with you. If you need help finding the right Sunday School class, Bible Study, or mission opportunity to connect with or want to participate in any of the other activities and need more information, contact the Church Office. We would love to help you get more involved.

Sunday Mornings at OBC

8:50AM-9:15AM: Coffee in the Fellowship Hall
9:15AM-10:15AM: Sunday School
10:30AM-11:30AM: Worship

Scan for our church calendar

All of the sign ups can be accessed on our website:
oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up
or by calling the Church Office: 803-328-3864.

If you have information to be included in next month's newsletter, please email Leigh Reynolds by the 15th.