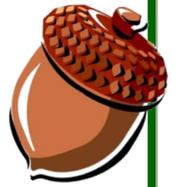


The Acorn

November 2024



Monthly publication of The Oak Chapel United Methodist Church
4203 West Old Lincoln Way • Wooster, OH 44691
330-264-2537 • www.oakchapelumc.com

The Report Cards Are In and You Made the Honor Roll!

As November approaches, I am reminded of at least three significant events that will be coming our way this month. As you know, the first Tuesday is Election Day, and we are all urged to cast our vote that day (although early voting allows us to do that ahead of time if we wish). Of course the big celebration in November comes at the end of the month when we rejoice and praise God for His many blessings on Thanksgiving. In addition, we will pay homage to those who came before us when we celebrate All-Saints Day on November 3.

There is, however, another November tradition that is no more. Many years ago, when the academic calendar began in September, we would receive our first report card, which would give an account of our performance during the first nine weeks of school. It would be a joyful time for many students, especially those who excelled in the classroom and were named to the Honor Roll. For the rest of us, well, it was a time of angst and trepidation.

Churches don't give out report cards, although we do engage in evaluations to measure what we do well and what areas need improvement, but if we did give report cards, how would Oak Chapel grade out? Well, as far as I am concerned, it would be straight A's and a place at the top of the Honor Roll. You have all been outstanding students — or should I say stewards — of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Your behavior has been exemplary and your commitment to serving others has been outstanding.

Just as we received grades for each subject in high school, so, too, can we issue grades in various areas of church life. At least 15 areas come to mind as we begin our evaluation process...

Art and Soul: This is a unique program that taps into the impressive creativity of our members, but you don't have to be an artist to participate. If you're interested, please join us. Grade: A+

Christian Education: We have a robust Sunday School class and a vibrant Bible Study on Monday mornings. Both programs are excellent, but we hope to expand further in the year ahead, particularly with regard to Sunday School for children and youth. If you would like to become involved, please let us know. Grade: A+

Days for Girls: This ministry provides a safe, beautiful, washable, and long-lasting alternative to girls and women around the world to manage their menstruation. along with vital health education. Grade: A+

Fall Craft Fair: Formerly known as the Bazaar, this annual fall event brings many visitors to our church, and therefore serves as a form of both evangelism and outreach. The commitment of those who work so hard to put this event on every year is exemplary, and the craft items for sale are exceptional. Grade: A+

Fellowship Dinners: Don't run off after worship on the third Sunday of the month. Instead join us for our monthly Fellowship Dinner in which everyone brings a covered dish to share, as we all spend time catching up with one another. This longtime Oak Chapel tradition warms the heart and fills the stomach. Grade: A+

Food Pantry: Our Food Pantry has been in operation for five years, and there is no telling how many hungry individuals and families have been served, but we know that the efforts of this group, particularly those of Rosie Troutman, Connie Reed, and Cindy Mykrantz, have enabled us to provide for many, as we answer the call of Jesus to feed the hungry. Grade: A+



Continued on the next page.

Glass Candy: This delicious one-of-a-kind fall activity continues through November, spreading joy and raising funds for United Women in Faith. If you have never participated in a candy-making session, please make plans to do so this month. We get together every Monday night at 6:30. Grade: A+

Good News Club: This exciting and ambitious new initiative aims to attract young people to the church for an afternoon of fun, games, food, and fellowship in the hopes that they will tell their friends so that we can increase participation. We also hope that for those whose family is unchurched that their parents might consider entering into a relationship with Oak Chapel. Grade: A+

Lifeline Ministry: Each summer we gather to package meals for those in need in other countries. This annual event really enables us to stretch our reach beyond the four walls of the church and lift up people from around the world. Grade: A+

Music: We have a wonderful music ministry, led by Jen Moser, who works so hard to provide beautiful music every Sunday while guiding our choir to share inspirational hymns and praise songs in the fall, winter, and spring, and putting on a Hymn Sing during Advent and a Cantata on Good Friday. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please let Jen know. Grade: A+

Operation Christmas Child: This annual mission effort brings joy to children around the world by delivering gifts and other useful items in tightly packed shoe boxes. From toothbrushes to teddy bears, you have generously loaded up these boxes so that underprivileged children around the world will be able to smile on Christmas morning. Grade: A+

Pictorial Directory: Rosie and Bob Troutman, in collaboration with the Membership Care Team, have worked hard to set up a plan for a new pictorial directory. In addition to its practical application of providing contact information, this directory will be a signal to others that Oak Chapel is an active, growing, vibrant church. Grade: A+

Prayer Shawl: This devoted ministry provides carefully crafted shawls for those who are struggling with illness, pain, depression, and grief. These shawls offer enormous comfort and encouragement to those who receive them. Grade: A+

Shelter from the Storm: This new initiative, in which we donated blankets for Salvation Army and One-Eighty while also providing sheets, blankets, and pillows for Homeward Bound, the new homeless shelter in Wooster that is scheduled to open November 1, gets to the heart of Jesus' call to provide shelter for the homeless—a very noble and much needed ministry in our community. Grade: A+

United Women in Faith: This group offers all women opportunities for spiritual growth, leadership development, transformative education, and advocacy for social justice. Grade: A+

United Methodist Men: This group provides fellowship and service opportunities as well as time for spiritual reflection for men of all ages in the church. Grade: A+

As you can see, our church is alive and earning straight A's on its Report Card, giving us a 4.0 grade point average and a spot high atop the Honor Roll for service, mission, worship, and so much more.

Well done! Good and Faithful Servants!

Well Done!

Pastor John

Our Daily Bread

Copies of *Our Daily Bread* devotional books are in the Narthex. Feel free to pick one up and place it on your nightstand so that you can easily access it when you wake up in the morning and before you go to bed in the evening.



United
Women
in Faith

On October 8, we met for a quarterly meeting. Elizabeth Feldman and Pam

Domer presented an interesting interactive program on the inception of our organization. Key women and how they brought forth changes that have improved the lives of women worldwide were discussed. One woman, Jesse Daniel Ames, an active Methodist, became the executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching...in 1930! In 1952, the Charter of Racial Justice that UWF wrote was adopted by General Conference and it remains a core UWF focus. Throughout the program we sang hymns that were pertinent to the times and the causes that carried many women forward through many difficult situations.

Watch for information about our next meeting. All girls and women are invited to attend meetings and we encourage you to invite family, neighbors and friends to join us.

Retirees Breakfast—Tuesday November 5.

Join us at Buehler's Town Market at 8:30 a.m. for great food and great conversation. No agenda, just a good time to be together.

Good News Club

This five-week program was a huge success and we hope to resume in the spring. Our thanks to those who dedicated their time and talents to this endeavor.



Women and Girls—You are invited to come and know God's grace – the love of God to share. No formal invitation is needed. Just bring yourself and maybe a friend. Who knows what you will find in United Women in Faith? Come and join us. Did you know you do not have to be a member of our church to be a member of UWF? That's right! If you have a friend, neighbor or family member that would like to attend, we would love to have them come any time. All women and girls are welcome!



On Sunday, November 3, we will celebrate All Saints Day. We will honor those who have died since

November 1 last year. If you would like us to recognize a loved one, please let Pastor John or the church office know. They need not be members of Oak Chapel.

Acorn Society

The Acorn Society met at Mrs. Yoder's Kitchen in Mt. Hope for the October outing. Fourteen women enjoyed good food, friendship and lots of laughs! Our next get-together will be November 13, Place to be announced! We ask that you let Elizabeth Feldman or Phyllis Weaver know if you plan to join us as we will need to make reservations.

Crabby Kitchen Lady

With the change of seasons, we are now in the time of year I call "food time! Fellowship meals, snacks, refreshments, etc. The building smells of glass candy and casseroles.



I need to remind you of the basic food rules and procedures of the kitchen. They are posted on the cupboard doors on both ends of the kitchen and dish washing room, but I suspect many don't notice them anymore. And **don't** buy ketchup!

Basically, it's this—if you use dishes, flatware, etc. you must wash everything AND PUT IT BACK WHERE YOU FOUND IT! Also, if wash cloths and towels are used, take them home, wash, and return. And **don't** buy mustard!

The biggest concern that has popped up is leaving the countertops and tables in Fellowship Hall un-wiped. We are currently feeding a variety of beetles, spiders, and other crawly things, plus the occasional mouse, as a result.

Please help me keep them at bay.

CKL, AKA Miriam

An Invitation to Join Us

If you have been worshipping with us recently and would like to enter into membership at Oak Chapel, we would be honored and blessed to have you join our congregation. Just let Pastor John know, and he will make arrangements to officially welcome you into our church during one of our Sunday services.

Shelter From the Storm

Oak Chapel's new outreach initiative, "Shelter from the Storm," delivered new blankets to Salvation Army and One-Eighty on October 7 and will provide sheets, blankets, and pillows for Homeward Bound, the new homeless shelter in Wooster. In addition, we have blankets and pillows for individuals and families. If you know of someone with this need, please contact the Outreach Team or the church office. Our thanks to the Outreach Team for its dedicated work on this project!



The Choseness Bible Study group meets on Sunday morning at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. The Bible is the sole source for the study. The current study series is the *Challenge of Islam to Christians* All are welcome!

Monday Morning Bible Study meets on Monday morning at 9:30 a.m. Study will be the book of Exodus. Bring your Bible. Class will be in person and Zoom. If you would like to attend via Zoom, please contact the church office for the link. Everyone welcome.

Gathering Music

Did you know that our wonderful musicians provide gathering music before each service, beginning at 10:20 a.m.? Please join us in the sanctuary and you are welcome to sing along or simply soak in the uplifting music as we prepare for worship.



The monthly breakfast will be Saturday, November 9, at 7:30 a.m. at Farmer Boy Restaurant. 2558 Cleveland Rd. Wooster.

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

28 Patti and Jim Pfander

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Finn Kitchen
6 Zoe Ring
7 Milo Kitchen
26 Tonya Houser
27 Erica Boyer



Wish your neighbor a Happy day!

This information comes from our membership database. Please contact the church office if there are any corrections or additions.

Hand Bell Concert

Church of the Cross UMC Bell Choir is hosting a Holiday Benefit Concert Saturday, December 7 at Lincoln Way Winery, 9050 W. Old Lincoln Way. The concert will start at 1:00 p.m. There will be a food truck there for you to purchase food. You are also welcome to bring your own food, plates, etc. You may also bring in non-alcoholic beverages. Check them out on the website <https://lincolnwayvineyards.com/> and their Facebook page! Hope to see you there!



Feed My Sheep

Oak Chapel will continue to collect food on the first Sunday of each month as we come to the Lord's table. Food collected will help support our in-house food pantry. Any surplus items will be shared with People to People Ministries.

Thanks to everyone for the wonderful support of our food pantry! It is serving the community every single day! How exciting! As a reminder, we cannot accept anything that is not in tamper-resistant packaging. Nor can we take perishable foods. Please donate only SHELF STABLE items.



Acorn Submissions

The next issue is **December 2024**.
Deadline is November 15.

Font size for late articles will not be guaranteed.



To view our CALENDAR, please visit our website—oakchapelumc.com



Glass Candy Making continues every Monday night through November, 6:30-9pm. We need YOU to reach out to your circle of

friends and let them know we have Glass candy for sale—for just \$6 for two cups. Our candy is yummy and makes a great gift for card clubs, neighbors, hair dressers, mail carriers, teachers and more. You can also request a bag of just one flavor. Just let us know. Thank you in advance. This is one of our main fundraisers for missions.

The Days for Girls Team will meet November 12, at 2:00 p.m. in the room directly across from the church office. We are making progress toward getting another shipment of kits out. We would love to have new participants in this outreach ministry to girls in underdeveloped countries. We also welcome monetary donations to help cover the cost of materials and shipping. **Join us the second and fourth Tuesdays.**

Oak Chapel UWF has Layettes available for you to share with new mothers in our community. Pick one up in the room across from the office and sign the appropriate list, or contact Robin Kitchen if you would like help. Supply donations are also appreciated.



Cranky Custodian

Hi! Thank you for helping me keep the building looking good and staying clean. As the weather changes from rain to snow, we all need to remember—stomp your feet outside and wipe your feet inside! Wet floors are slippery floors! West carpets grind the dirt down deeper.

My “Crank” this month is tape usage. Never tape anything to wood unless there is no other choice. And no matter what the surface is, **STOP USING SCOTCH TAPE!** It leaves a mess, or takes the finish with it. Use painters tape or masking tape. It is kinder to all surfaces.

Thank you, CC

Jingly Buckets

Don't you just hate it when your wallet and pockets are full of change? We have the solution! On the 3rd Sunday of each month we will pass the buckets and collect all those pesky, heavy, noisy coins weighing you down! (We will also gladly accept "quiet" money, too.) Quarterly, United Women in Faith will choose the mission project/ agency to benefit from your generosity.

Nuts and Oak Chapel go hand in hand! It makes the perfect fund raiser for United Women in Faith. **In Stock and ready for your enjoyment.** We have Deluxe Mix, Cashews and Harvest Medley Mix, in the Narthex, but there are many more choices available online. The link for ordering is on the front page at oakchapelumc.com. And did we mention that the nuts and candies are premium quality and very fresh and delicious? Great for gifting, baking and snacking!

Prayer Shawls—We need people to make shawls! They can be crocheted, knitted, or sewn. Many sizes are needed. We meet on the last Monday evening of the month, at 6:30, but if you would like a different day or time, let Miriam Zech know—we are flexible! Also, if you'd like to learn yarn or sewing skills, we can teach you! Perfection is not necessary!

**Oak Chapel UMC Leadership
Administrative Council**

- Chair Bob Troutman
- Lay Leaders Greg Cantrell and Doug Henshaw
- Lay Delegate Elizabeth Feldman
- Treasurer Bill Braucher
- United Methodist Men Captain Stuart Mykrantz
- United Women in Faith Captain Phyllis Weaver
- Finance Captain Stuart Mykrantz
- Finance Secretary Elizabeth Feldman
- Team Captains:

- Education Bruce Bloch
- Evangelism Steve Moore
- History and Records Alice Giffin
- Membership Care Rosie Troutman
- Memorials Cheryl Rastetter
- Nominations Pastor John Finn
- Outreach Cindy Henshaw and Beth Patton
- Pantry Connie Reed
- Staff Parish Relations Joyce Varns
- Trustees Dick Wiley
- Worship and Music Kim Domer
- Youth Jen Moser



2024 Poinsettia Order Form

Order a poinsettia to help decorate the Sanctuary in celebration of Christ's birth.

Last day to order is **November 24**. Please fill out the form and place it with your check in the collection plate or drop off at the church office or email eflogil@gmail.com. Poinsettias will be available in red, white and Marble (pink with white edges) and will cost **\$13** each. Checks may be made payable to Oak Chapel UMC and marked as Poinsettia money.

Please note: You may pick up your poinsettia following the Christmas Eve Service. Thank you.

GIVEN BY

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF.....

Please indicate the quantity ordered: White _____ X \$13.00 = _____
 Red _____ X \$13.00 = _____
 Marble _____ X \$13.00 = _____

Become SPECIAL AGENTS OF GOOD CHEER

Flat Rock Homes, in Flat Rock, Ohio just west of Norwalk, has a covenant relationship with the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. They are inviting us to become Special Agents of Good Cheer.

Flat Rock Homes individuals, like many people, love the Christmas season! And like many people, the following days can be a bit down, due to so much excitement before and on the Big Day!

Will you write letters and cards to these folks which will be distributed the days after Christmas through King's Day/Epiphany to extend the holiday good cheer? FLH individuals would love to hear from you!

Contact Elizabeth in the church office if you would like to share this tradition this holiday season. Again, these special cards and letters will be distributed December 26 through January 6 to continue the Christmas cheer. Flat Rock Homes Church & Community Engagement Coordinators are Sherri Buehl and Rose Darling. Each of these ladies have spoken at Oak Chapel in the past.

The mission of Flat Rock Homes is to provide outstanding services which transform lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and persons with critical needs through a dedication to caring and excellence that demonstrates Christian values.



The Art and Soul group will not meet in November, Instead, please show up to help make glass candy. Did you know we sold out of candy during the Craft Fair?

December 2s meeting will be cookie decorating using the flow technique with royal icing. Our instructor has led us in the past and is looking forward to showing us something new. In order for everyone to have cookies to decorate we will need to know if you are coming and if you plan to bring guests. We will have a sign up sheet in the narthex and will need to know by November 23.

Planning Ahead

November 3—Daylight Savings ends

November 5—VOTE!

November 17—Fellowship Lunch

November 23—Deadline to register for cookie decorating

December 7—Christmas Handbell Benefit Concert

Lincoln Way Vineyards 1:00 p.m. Proceeds to Disabled American Veterans and Triple Nickel

December 15—Carol Sing—Oak Chapel 2 p.m.

Kindness Matters!

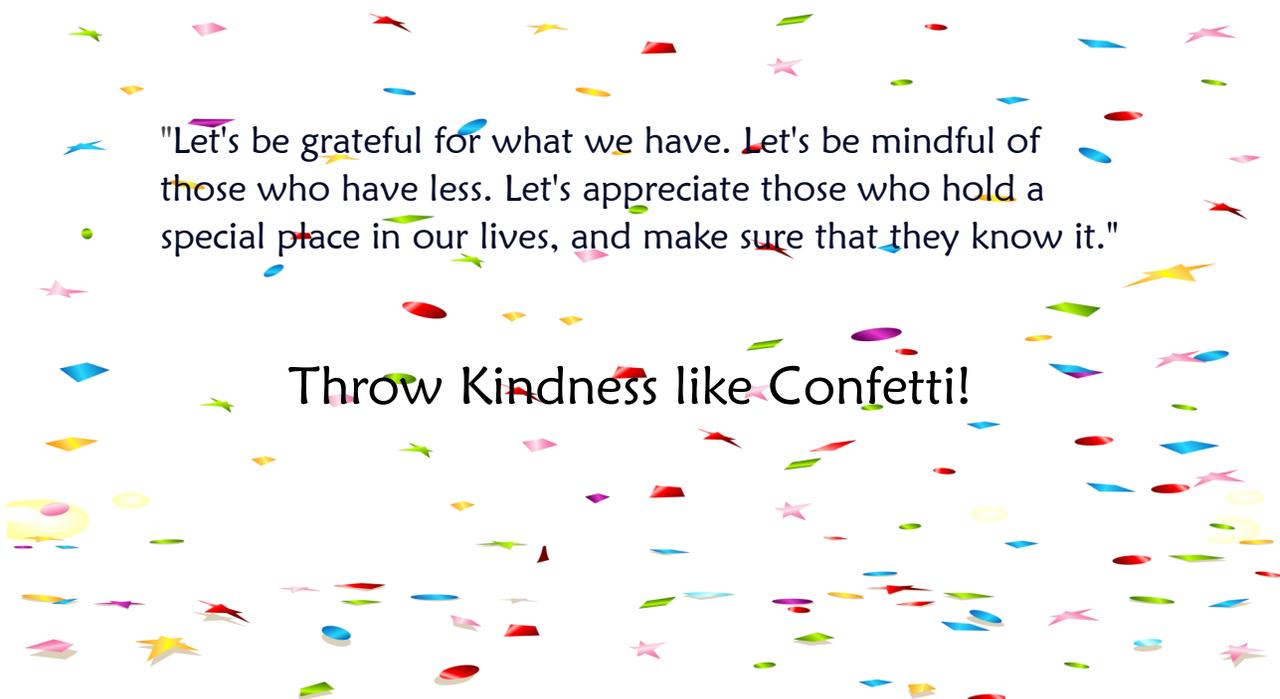
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AFFECTION
 EMPATHY
 KINDNESS
 RESPECT
 CITIZEN
 NICE
 FAMILY
 HELP
 PATIENCE
 FRIEND
 ENCOURAGE
 COMPASSION
 LOVE
 ACCEPTANCE
 NEIGHBOR
 HUMANITY
 GENEROSITY

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1250354/>

"Let's be grateful for what we have. Let's be mindful of those who have less. Let's appreciate those who hold a special place in our lives, and make sure that they know it."

Throw Kindness like Confetti!





ACORN Newsletter
 Oak Chapel United Methodist Church
 4203 West Old Lincoln Way
 Wooster, OH 44691-3239
<http://www.oakchapelumc.com>



WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.
Young Adult SS	11:30 a.m.

Oak Chapel United Methodist Church

“Serving Christ and Community through Love, Compassion, Fellowship and Caring”

Rev. John Finn Pastor
 Elizabeth Feldman Secretary
 Jen Moser..... Organist and Choir Director
 Miriam ZechCustodian
Church Phone **330-264-2537**
 Pastor John’s Cell Phone.....330-988-2577

E-mail addresses:

pastor@oakchapelumc.com office@oakchapelumc.com

Visit our website: www.oakchapelumc.com

WE ARE ON FACEBOOK! CHECK US OUT!

CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT OFFICE
 8800 Cleveland Ave NW, Canton, OH 44720
 330-499-3972, ext. 202 or email centralvalley@eocumc.com
 Rev. Cara Stultz Costello and Rev. Edgar Brady, Co-District Superintendents
 Megan Myers, Administrative Assistant