

# ***F.H. & L.***

**Faith, Hope and Love, and the Greatest of These is Love**

**A Mini-Newsletter From Your Family at Oakhurst United Methodist Church**



**THIS IS OUR CHURCH!**

## **OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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*LOVING GOD, LOVING OTHERS, LOVING LIFE*

**Our Mission is to make disciples, nurture disciples,  
and spread the Kingdom of Christ.**

Dr. Tim Ehrlich, Senior Pastor  
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Rev. Nathan Carlson, Associate Pastor  
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.....  
Hello to our Friends and Family,  
Back in the day, there wasn't a church as we know it in Jerusalem, there was a Temple. Like our church today it was a place to worship God. However, back in that day, there was an area in the church that held the Tabernacle, the holy word of God. In that area is where God spoke to the high priest. No one else was allowed to go behind the curtain to be in the presence of God on penalty of death. Until THAT moment.... "Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom." (Matthew 27:50-51). Back in the day.... Back on THE day...

Today there is no longer a curtain that separates up from God. In our wonderful church we can sit in any pew and see all there is to see. We can gaze on that wondrous cross of our risen Lord and Savior. We can listen to our Pastors, hear the word of God and let God replenish our soul. Well, at least we will be able to do that again soon. For now, our church is in our home as we watch services on YouTube and FaceBook. Or maybe it is in the park where we can enjoy nature and commune with God. You see, the tearing of that curtain opened all of us to the wonders of God's voice. We can hear him in the rustling of the leaves, the cry of a baby, the imprint he leaves on our hearts.

This time of quarantine and social distancing is another way for all of us to experience another of the miracles of the sacrifice Jesus made for us. While we cannot be together physically in union with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we can still experience our own personal relationship with God and Jesus. There is no curtain separating us from personally experiencing God.

Back to our church. All churches have traditions and special decorations that meant something at the time they were created. In this issue of F. H. & L, you have the chance to learn a little about the needlepoint that hangs high in the back of the church. Something you can look forward to examining when once again we can meet in communion with each other in our own Oakhurst UMC sanctuary.

Keep smiling until we meet again.

In His Joy,  
Your Pastors and Staff

**Tales of the Temple** the new booklet by Dr. Frank Leeds, III is now available for a donation of \$10. All proceeds support our Baby Basics ministry.

Our Garden Angels are once again working to improve the planting areas around our church. We are desperately in need of pine bark nuggets, or donations to help purchase some. Bags of pine bark nuggets and or donations may be dropped off at the church office between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm.



*In Memoriam*  
*Doris Branch (87)*  
8/16/1932- 5/6/2020

*Al Hammell (90)*  
9/8/1929 - 5/2/2020

Please Remember Doris, Al and their families in you prayers.



## A WINDOW OF NEEDLEPOINT

Several years ago when the Worship Commission asked me to design a permanent hanging for the Sanctuary, I was completely at a loss for ideas. The Bridge Fellowship would provide funding for whatever supplies were needed.

Ideas were slow in coming, but what you see today is the result of many hands work. Claris Hillier, Joyce Tarkenton and I did the needlepoint stitching; Betty Stricker provided the gold frame and lining; Jim Szenas built the inner stretcher frame (3 times) and the gold frame; Bridge Fellowship bought the canvas and wool; and Fred Michel hung it securely on the wall.



Look closely at the figures in the needlepoint:

The CROSS AND FLAME is, of course, the Methodist symbol; the cross is the central symbol of our faith. The flame represents God's presence in our midst, as well as the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the movement of the Church out into the world. The basketweave stitch shows up this section, applied to the center portion of the hanging.

The LAMB OF GOD WITH THE BANNER OF VICTORY, also known as AGNUS DEI, symbolizes Christ, victorious over sin and death. The background is stitched in purple, the color of royalty, in the brick stitch.

The SHIP AND DOVE represents the congregation of believers on the stormy sea of life; the dove depicts the help of the Holy Spirit available to us all. The blue background, stitched in the Scotch stitch, represents heavenly love.

The CROSS AND DESCENDING DOVE, in mosaic stitch, echoes the central theme of the Christian faith—the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. The descending dove always stands for the Holy Spirit, as at Christ's baptism and at Pentecost. In the Old Testament the color red means life; in the New Testament red stands for martyrdom.

The CHALICE AND WHEAT remind us of the cup from which Christ drank at the Last Supper and our observance of Holy Communion in remembrance of Him. Green is the color of renewal and regeneration. The Hungarian stitch shows circles of renewal, also, in the background.

The geometric border binds these all together in unity. Gold stands for the majesty of God and white for holiness and purity.

This needlepoint hanging is lovingly presented to Oakhurst United Methodist Church on October 30, 1994, and dedicated to the glory of God.

Virginia Nave Szenas





Quarantine Cut-ups



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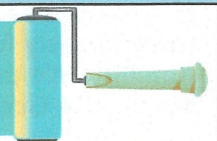


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# Oakhurst UMC



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BEATITUDES	GENESIS	MEETINGS	SEMINOLE
BETHLEHEM	GOD	MEMBERS	STEEPLE
CANDLE	GREETERS	METHODIST	STEPHANIE
CHOIR	HOLY SPIRIT	MISSIONS	SUNDAY
CHURCH	HOPE	NATHAN	TAMMY
COFFEE	JACKIE	OAKHURST	TIM
COMFORT	JERUSALEM	PASTOR	TRADITIONAL
CONGREGATION	JESUS	PEACE	TWELVE
CONTEMPORARY	JOHN	PEWS	USHERS
CROSS	LOVE	PRAISE	WORSHIP
DISCIPLES	LUKE	PRAYER	
EUCCHARIST	LYNDA	PSALMS	
FAITH	MARK	SANCTURARY	