

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



Luke 1: 26-38

THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

OAKHURST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

13400 Park Blvd., Seminole, FL 33776

www.oakhurstumc.com

727-391-4769

Find us on Facebook

Office Hours: Monday—Friday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Nathan W. Carlson, Senior Pastor

ncarlson@oakhurstumc.com

**Our Mission is to make disciples, who make disciples,
who transform the World.**

FIRST TIME GUESTS: Text Hello to 727-732-3550 to receive info from Oakhurst UMC.

December 16, 2021

Volume 50

NOT RECEIVING OUR CHURCH E-MAILS: TEAR AND DROP IN OFFERING

NAME: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____



THE CANTATA MANGER AND CROSS BEAUTIFUL!

Sunday, December 19th—Regular Service Hours

Contemporary at 8:30 a.m. (Foundry)

Traditional at 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

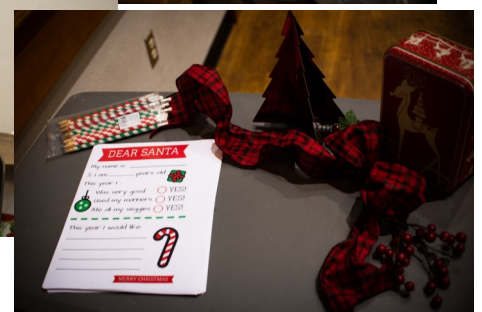
Christmas Eve—Friday, December 24th

Contemporary/Family Service at 6 p.m. (Foundry)

Silent Communion at 7:15 p.m. (The Garden)

Traditional Service at 8:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

A Big Shout Out to another successful—Breakfast with Santa. Thank you to Santa and all his helpers.
And a special Thanks to Stephanie for putting it all together. You're The Best!





Once again, Oakhurst UMC has blessed the children of our community. All 50 angels were selected, presents bought and delivered. Thank you very much!

Merry Christmas from our Missions Teams






DECEMBER

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Unsafe toys have:

- ✓ Strings
- ✓ Cords
- ✓ Small parts
- ✓ Balloons
- ✓ Magnets
- ✓ Loud noises
- ✓ Sharp points or edges
- ✓ Electrical parts



**Many children in the U.S.
go to emergency rooms
every year due to
injuries from unsafe
toys.**

Safe toys are:

- ✓ Sturdy
- ✓ Unbreakable
- ✓ Washable
- ✓ Lightweight
- ✓ Made with non-toxic materials



UMW
Programs for 2022



On January 5, 2022, Oakhurst UMW will be formulating their program calendar for the new year.

**We are interested to know what time of day works best for you should you want to attend a
UMW sponsored program/event.**

Please select the preferred time below:

_____ **Day Program: 10:30 am—12:00 pm**

_____ **Night Program: 5:30 pm—7:30 pm**

Suggestions... List programs/events you would be interested in hearing about and attending.

UMW would love to see more of our congregation involved and engaged in our organization.

Questions/Comments: Text: Lin Johnson at 727-386-2734 Thank You!

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Please place completed card with the offering or in the UMW mailbox in the Church Office. Thank You.

Weekly Puzzle

Names and Titles of Jesus

Search and find only the part of the name that's printed in all capital letters.

U Q O K A I S N S M T K R P M
V L F Z J T Y O A E E O A O R
O M G Y V O N T N Z I C B X K
Y D N Y M O E N U V A N B O A
D L O V F H T C A S I R I X R
E R I G W A R S P D S H E W E
N T O G B M A L I D O V Z N D
F D J L H Q Y V K R T T R Z E
I G Q R R T A E G T H V E P E
P B Y I H D S E K E U C T X M
T S W K F T Y A J I O Q S L E
L I I O N A M F O N O S A H R
V N N Q Z Y K V A D E J M V R
G O J E S U S E M M A N U E L
S V B G G W T Z T P B Q J F E

CHRIST
KING of the Jews
LORD
RABBI
SON OF DAVID

EMMANUEL
LAMB of God
MASTER
REDEEMER
SON OF GOD

JESUS
LIGHT of the World
NAZARENE
SAVIOR
SON OF MAN



year-end is a time for giving

CASH GIFTS

A cash gift in any amount is a convenient and popular way to show your faithful support for the church or other ministries. The full amount of your gift qualifies for a 2021 charitable income tax deduction - up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. Make certain check is dated 2021 and received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2021, to receive a deduction this year.

GIVING APPRECIATED PROPERTY

If you own investments that have increased in value (stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds), you can donate them to a church or charity and take a charitable income tax deduction for the full fair market value and avoid declaring the capital gain of the assets as income. Many people consider this the equivalent of a "double deduction."

SALE & GIFT		DIRECT GIFT	
Stock with fair market value (Cost basis \$200)	\$1000	Stock with fair market value (Cost basis \$200)	\$1000
Taxable Gain on Sale	\$800	Taxable Gain on Sale	\$0
Capital Gain Tax @ 15%	\$120	Capital Gain Tax @ 15%	\$0
Net Sales after Tax	\$880	Net Gift to Charity	\$1000
Charitable Tax Deduction	\$880	Charitable Tax Deduction	\$1000
Tax Savings @ 25%	\$220	Tax Savings @ 25%	\$30

Notice how the Direct Gift option can result in the church or charity receiving \$120 more while costing you \$30 less! To receive this special tax treatment, you must have owned the property for at least one year. In most cases, your gift can be deducted up to 60% of your adjusted gross income.

GIVING & RETAINING INCOME FOR LIFE

Did you know you can give to a charity while retaining income from the gift for the rest of your life? A charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust enables you to receive flexible or guaranteed income. Plus, there are significant tax advantages. Let's assume you are 70 years old, single, and wish to make a \$10,000 gift to the church when you are gone but need to receive income until then. You can make the gift now and receive

several attractive benefits. First, you could receive income that exceeds what you are currently earning on the \$10,000. At age 70 with an annuity rate of 4.7%* of the \$10,000 each year through a gift annuity (\$470) - greater than most bonds or C.D.s. Next, a portion of the \$470 annual annuity may be tax-free over your life expectancy. Finally, you could receive a 2021 charitable income tax deduction for the remainder portion of your gift. This deduction can save you a sizable amount in federal income taxes. Making a life-income gift now offers all these advantages and provides the satisfaction of knowing you have helped your church or charitable organization in a significant way. **The United Methodist Foundation that serves your conference can help you with these types of gifts.** Visit www.naumf.org/locations to find contact information for your UM Foundation.

GIVING UNNEEDED LIFE INSURANCE

Do you own an old life insurance policy that is no longer needed? Perhaps the purpose for the policy no longer exists (your children are grown or your mortgage is paid off) or your financial situation has changed and mitigates the need for the insurance. Consider giving the policy to the church or a charity and receive a charitable income tax deduction for the lesser of your cost basis or the replacement value. This is a great way to benefit a cause you support without reducing your checking account. If the value is more than you wish to donate, consider cashing in the policy and giving a lesser portion. Your gift may sufficiently reduce or eliminate any potential taxes due from the sale.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

As you think of those special persons (a teacher, pastor, relative or other loved one) who have touched your life, you may want to do something "just right" to demonstrate that they are remembered. A memorial tribute can be a satisfying way to salute those whose memories continue to enrich our lives.

WISE TAX PLANNING

Making extra gifts or accelerating future gifts into the 2021 tax year can enable an itemized income tax deduction. The standard deduction threshold for 2021 is \$25,100 for joint filers, \$18,500 and \$12,500 for singles (\$1650/person 65+, \$2600 if joint return, \$1,650 if unmarried). If your total deductions are less than those amounts, you won't be able to deduct any charitable gifts. An extra year-end gift may add just enough to allow you to take advantage of your full itemized deduction. Many tax-wise donors accelerate contributions for the coming year to enable itemization at least every other year.

EXPRESSING YOUR FAITH

Year-end is also the Christmas season. For many Christians this is an occasion to give in gratitude for God's greatest gift to us, Jesus Christ. In all our giving, let us never forget these familiar words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son..." Why not make a special effort to honor Him in your giving this Christmas season - perhaps most important gift you give? May God bless you as you make this expression of your faith.

Contact Us Via E-mail!

Rev. Nathan Carlson (ncarlson@oakhurstumc.com)

Stephanie Fergenbaum (christiandir@oakhurstumc.com)

Jackie Marschall (musicdir@oakhurstumc.com)

Tammy Pluskat (financesec@oakhurstumc.com)

Leticia (Lety) Cruz (officemgr@oakhurstumc.com)

Justin Correll (facilities@oakhurstumc.com)

Amanda Twiddy—Nursery (AmandaLTwiddy@gmail.com)

What's Happening at Oakhurst UMC/Community:

- * Dec 18—Third Saturday Food Drive
- * Dec 24—Contemporary/Family Service at 6:00 p.m.
- * Dec 24—Silent Communion at 7:15 pm
- * Dec 24—Traditional Service at 8:00 p.m.
- * Dec 25—Merry Christmas
- * Dec 27 thru 31—Church Office Closed
- * Jan 1—Happy New Year

Thank you to our bulletin sponsors.

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