

## Intergenerational Mission Trip to Puerto Rico July 13-20

We will have two work groups: one leading Vacation Bible School and one helping with home repairs. If you are interested in learning more, come to one of our informational meetings.

- December 3, 11:45AM in the Chapel
- December 6, 6:30PM in the Gym
- December 7, 7:30PM via Zoom



## December - February at a Glance

**December 2:** Oakland Ringers at Christmasville, Noon  
**December 3:** 1st Sunday of Advent (All Sunday opportunities morning & evening)  
**December 5:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM; Merry Makers Christmas Luncheon, 12:30PM  
**December 6:** Wednesday Night Activities, 5PM  
**December 7:** Chapel Open for Guided Prayer and Devotion, 10AM-1PM  
**December 10-17:** Hosting Family Promise  
**December 10:** 2nd Sunday of Advent (All Sunday opportunities (morning & evening)  
**December 12:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM, Progressive Tour, 9AM  
**December 13:** Wednesday Night Activities, 5PM; Children's Pageant Rehearsal, 5:45PM  
**December 14:** Chapel Open for Guided Prayer and Devotion, 10AM - 1PM  
**December 15:** Oakland Day School Children's Pageant, 9:30AM  
**December 17:** 3rd Sunday of Advent (normal AM opportunities); Children's Christmas Pageant, 5:30PM; Youth Christmas Party, 6:15PM  
**December 18:** Service of Remembrance, 5:30PM  
**December 20:** Serving Dinner and Caroling at Bethel Shelter, 5:30PM  
**December 23:** Christmas Eve of the Eve Communion and Candlelight, 5:30PM  
**December 24:** 4th Sunday of Advent (normal AM opportunities); Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight, 5:30PM  
**December 27:** No Wednesday Night Activities  
**December 31:** Virtual Worship, no in-person activities  
**January 3:** Children's Slip, Slide, and Serve; No Wednesday Night Activities  
**January 4:** Lunch Bunch, 11:30AM  
**January 5-7:** High School Retreat  
**January 7:** All Sunday morning opportunities; No afternoon activities  
**January 9:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**January 10:** No Wednesday Night Activities  
**January 14:** All Sunday morning opportunities. No afternoon activities.  
**January 16:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Coffee and Conversation for Day School Parents, 9AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**January 17:** Wednesday Night Activities Resume  
**January 19:** Youth Lock-in  
**January 20:** Progressive Tour, 9AM  
**January 21:** All Sunday Opportunities (Morning and Evening)  
**January 22:** Grief Share; 6PM  
**January 23:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**January 24:** Wednesday Night Activities  
**January 26-28:** Adult Festival by the Sea  
**January 28:** All Sunday Opportunities (Morning and Evening), Get to Know OBC Luncheon, 11:45AM  
**January 29:** Grief Share, 6PM  
**January 30:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**January 31:** Wednesday Night Activities  
**February 1:** Lunch Bunch, 11:30AM  
**February 2:** Winthrop Chorale in Concert at OBC, 7:30PM  
**February 4:** All Sunday Activities (Morning and Evening)  
**February 5:** Grief Share, 6PM  
**February 6:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**February 7:** Wednesday Night Activities  
**February 11:** All morning opportunities; No Afternoon Activities  
**February 12:** Grief Share, 6PM  
**February 13:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM  
**February 14:** Pancake Supper, 5PM; Ash Wednesday Worship, 5:45PM  
**February 18:** All Sunday Opportunities (Morning and Evening)  
**February 19:** Grief Share, 6PM  
**February 20:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM; NAMI Basics, 6:15PM  
**February 21:** Wednesday Activities, 5PM  
**February 23:** Children's Movie Night  
**February 25:** All Sunday Opportunities (Morning and Evening)  
**February 26:** Grief Share, 6PM  
**February 27:** Men's Bible Study, 8AM; Ladies Bible Study, 9AM; NAMI Basics, 6:15PM  
**February 28:** Wednesday Night Activities, 5PM

## Stay Connected!

Check out our *Weekly Update* each Thursday for current events. **If you do not currently receive electronic communication from us, contact Missy Snipes or Thereasa Crabb in the Church Office.**

If you are not currently connected to *Breeze*, contact Missy or Thereasa. Please keep your contact information up to date. If you move, get a new phone number, or new email address, let us know.

The Church Office will be closed on the following days in the next quarter: November 23-24, December 22, 25-26, January 1, January 15.

Church Office hours are 8AM - 3PM, Monday - Friday. Should you need to speak to a minister after hours, please call 803-328-3864 and press 0 to leave a message for the on-call minister. Also, all of our ministers are available via their personal cell phone.

Connect with us on Social Media. "Like" our page our and posts! The more you "like" and interact with our content, the more other people will see it!

If you are traveling, take us with you! Join us online for our worship services at [youtube.com/obcrockhill](https://youtube.com/obcrockhill).

- [facebook.com/obcrockhill](https://facebook.com/obcrockhill)  
[facebook.com/groups/obcrockhill](https://facebook.com/groups/obcrockhill)
- [youtube.com/obcrockhill](https://youtube.com/obcrockhill)
- [instagram.com/obcrockhill](https://instagram.com/obcrockhill)
- [oaklandchurch.com](https://oaklandchurch.com)
- [oakland.breezechms.com](https://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 Missy Snipes or Thereasa Crabb.

We look forward to #growingatOBC with you. If you need help finding the right Sunday School class, Bible Study, or mission project 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.

## Sundays at OBC

8:50AM-9:15AM: Coffee and Pastries in the Fellowship Hall  
 9:15AM-10:15AM: Sunday School  
 10:30AM-11:30AM: Worship  
 4PM-4:30PM: Children's Bells (4th & 5th Graders)  
 4:30PM-5:15PM: Youth Bells (6th -12th Graders)  
 4:30PM-5PM: Children's Choir (K - 5th Graders)  
 5:15PM-6PM: Youth Choir (6th -12th Graders)  
 5PM-6PM: Missions Movers (K - 5th Graders)  
 6PM-7:15 PM: Adult Choir (all adults are welcome!)  
 6PM-7:30PM: Youth Group (6th - 12th Graders)  
 7:15PM-8PM: Adult Bells (all adults are welcome!)

Scan for our church calendar



## Oakland Baptist Church Staff

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- Liz Hille**, Church Hostess
- John-Marc Gold**, Facility Assistant



The Oakland Ministry Guide is published four times a year: December-February, March-May, June-August, and September-November.



# Winter Ministry Guide

December 2023 - February 2024



## Advent and Christmas Worship Series: December 3 - 31

As we journey through the Advent and Christmas seasons, how can our church building and our homes become places where the Holy will be born anew—offering respite, sustenance, and care to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life? Our worship will be based on the story of the Innkeeper who, though not mentioned in Scripture, must have existed since Luke's Gospel says there was an "inn." Often our stories cast him in a negative light, someone who banished a pregnant woman to where the animals were kept. But what if he was truly an entrepreneur? Someone who saw a problem and instead of thinking "there's nowhere," he thought, "there has to be somewhere." Just like the innkeeper in the nativity story, no one church or person can do it all, but each can do something to make a welcoming space for the needs of humanity. That's what the stable and the manger became that night!

## Epiphany Worship Series: January 7 - February 4 Bearing Light



In 2019 Pastor Jeff used the season of Epiphany and the idea of shining light to preach on pertinent social justice issues. Five years later we will revisit some of these issues as well as incorporate new ones, including equality and human rights, poverty, social media alongside artificial intelligence, politics, and racism.

## State of the Church Worship Service: February 11

Pastor Jeff will give his annual State of Church sermon. Included will be a line-by-line update from our Vision Report.



## Lent Worship Series: February 14 - March 29 Rehab



Rehab. It is a word that means many different things; from health (cognitive rehab, wildlife rehab, drug rehab, occupational rehab, physical rehab, psychiatric rehab, vision rehab, vocational rehab) to politics (restoration of disgraced politicians) to home improvement (think "Rehab Addict!" on HGTV). To rehabilitate is to restore to a condition of good health and operation. Similarly, the annual observance of the Lenten season is a time to seek rehabilitation for our lives. It is a time to reflect, take stock of our spiritual condition, and realign our lives. Using this idea of rehab, our Lenten journey will take us from life in the wilderness to intervention, a help program, recovery, and the promise to never go back to where we were before rehab.



## December

### Advent Devotions

Devotions related to Housing the Holy will arrive in your inbox Monday - Friday of the weeks leading up to Christmas.

### Children's Gingerbread Decorating: November 26 & December 3, 5PM

During Mission Movers, our children will be building and decorating cardboard gingerbread houses as they discuss our Advent theme: Housing the Holy.

### Oakland Ringers at Christmasville: December 2, Noon

Oakland's handbell choir will be serenading festival goers on Main Street, beside the York County Visitor's Center.

### Merry Makers Christmas Party: December 5, 12:30PM

### Prayer and Devotion in the Chapel: December 7 & 14, 10AM-1PM

There will be music playing and a guide for personal prayer and devotion.

### Hosting Family Promise: December 10-17

Check the *Weekly Update* for information about ways to help with this important ministry which houses the holy.

### Youth Serving Dinner at Bethel Shelter: December 10, 5:30PM-7:30PM

Part of housing the holy is feeding the holy. Our Youth will meet at Bethel at 5:30PM.

## Housing the Holy Progressive Tour

As we consider what it means to House the Holy, we invite you to participate in a "progressive tour" of three organizations who provide housing and other services to those in need.

We will begin at Bethel Shelter at 9:15AM, the next stop will be at Pathways Community Center, and our final tour will be at LifeHouse Women's Shelter. Following our tour, we will enjoy lunch together. **Please sign up at [oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up](http://oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up)**



### Chancel Choir Cantata: December 17, 10:30 AM

During worship, our Chancel Choir will present their Christmas cantata.

### Children's Christmas Pageant: December 17, 5:30PM

Join us in the sanctuary as our children warm our hearts with the words they say and sing. **As an offering, please bring diapers for Pilgrims Inn.**

### Service of Remembrance: December 18, 5:30PM

We will gather in the sanctuary for this time of worship.

### Serving Dinner and Caroling at Bethel: December 20, 5:30PM-7:30PM

We will meet at Bethel at 5:30PM. After serving dinner, we will sing some of our favorite Christmas carols with our friends who are calling Bethel home this Christmas.

### Christmas Eve Worship: December 23 & 24, 5:30PM

We will gather in the sanctuary for our communion and candlelight worship. **As an offering, please bring a blanket which will be given to one of our shelters.**

### Virtual Worship: December 31

There will be no in-person activities. A link to a virtual service will be emailed. You can also access it via our YouTube channel and Facebook page.

## Christmas Decorations Needed

This December we are hosting Family Promise for one week and the Bethel overflow shelter for two weeks. We hope to make their stay as warm and cozy as possible by decorating the Fellowship Hall and basement. If you have holiday decorations you no longer use, please donate them to the church. These decorations will not be returned. You can drop them off in the blue bins or with the church office by December 8.



## January

### Slip, Slide, and Serve: January 3, Time TBA

Our children are invited to a day of fun and fellowship which will include a service project, lunch, and ice skating.

### High School Winter Retreat: January 5-7

### Youth Lock-in: January 19, Time TBA

### Men's Breakfast: January 21, 8:00AM

Representative Brandon Guffey will share his family's story followed by a joint conversation with Representative Heath Sessions to discuss their legislative work for regulating social media.

## Grief Share

The group will meet on Mondays  
January 22 - February 26, 6PM-7:30PM

GriefShare is a support group where you can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. This 6-week study will be led by Rev. Suzanne Ringer and Mr. Jim Ringer (LMSW) and will meet in the Conference Room. Please sign up at [oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up](http://oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up) or by contacting Suzanne Ringer.

### Adult Festival By The Sea: January 26-28

### Get to Know OBC Luncheon: January 28, 11:45AM

If you are new to Oakland or just haven't had a chance to get plugged in, join us for lunch and learn about our church, our vision, and the ways you can be involved. **Please sign up at [oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up](http://oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up)**

## February

### Winthrop Chorale in Concert at OBC: February 2

### Rev. Dr. Paul Baxley at OBC: February 4

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Executive Coordinator, Paul Baxley, will be preaching. He will also be leading a combined adult Sunday School class in the Sanctuary. **Pleasant Ridge Baptist will be joining us for worship and a luncheon.**

### Pancake Supper: February 14, 5PM

Our youth will be hosting a pancake supper. All donations will be used to offset the cost of their summer mission trip.

### Children's Movie Night: February 23, Time TBA

## NAMI Parenting Basics Class

The class will meet on Tuesdays  
February 20 - March 26, 6:15PM-8:30PM

NAMI Basics is a 6-session education program for parents, caregivers and other family who provide care for youth (ages 22 and younger) who are experiencing mental health symptoms. This program is free to participants and will meet at OBC. For more information: [nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education/NAMI-Basics](http://nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education/NAMI-Basics)



OBC at Pleasant Ridge with Rev. Dr. Eliabeth Nance-Coker preaching:

April 7

Children's Sunday:

April 14, 10:30AM

Youth Sunday:

May 12, 10:30AM

During the weeks leading up to each of these events check our *Weekly Update* and website ([oaklandchurch.com](http://oaklandchurch.com)) for more details.

## Wednesday Evenings at OBC

**5PM-5:45PM:** Dinner in the Gym

For dinner reservations: [oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up](http://oaklandchurch.com/sign-me-up)

**5PM-7PM:** English as a Second Language

**5:45PM-6:30PM:** Wednesdays Around the Table, Children's Bible Study

## Wednesdays Around the Table

Our youth and adults will gather around the tables in the gym for the conversations listed below. Our children will meet in Room 141 for Bible Study. There are also opportunities to be an ESL volunteer.

### November 29, December 6 & 13: Housing the Holy

Throughout the Advent season, our Wednesday night discussions will center around the book "We Aren't Broke: Uncovering Hidden Resources for Mission and Ministry" by Mark Elsdon. This book is an invitation to envision a different way of putting God's gifts to work in the world. It draws upon a remarkable story of rebirth at a Presbyterian affiliated campus ministry center at the University of Wisconsin, along with profiles of other creative social enterprises, to describe how church property and investment assets can be put to work for innovation, transformation, and financial sustainability. The book is available for purchase on Amazon. You do not need to purchase or read the book to participate in the discussions.

## Winter Bible Study January 17-February 7

Rev Dr. Jerret Fite, chair of Religion and Ministry studies at Clinton College and Pastor of Robinson A.M.E. Zion Church in Cheraw, SC, will be leading us in a 4-week discussion of a Christian model for discipleship.



**Dr. Fite is a graduate of North Carolina Central University with a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science, Gardner-Webb University with a Masters of Divinity, and Hood Theological Seminary with a Doctorate of Divinity. He lives by the motto "Only what you do for Christ will last."**

### Ash Wednesday Worship: February 14, 5:45PM

Youth and Adults will gather in the sanctuary for worship which will include the imposition of ashes. Children will gather in the chapel for a child-friendly Ash Wednesday worship experience.

### February 21: Wellness 101

Elizabeth will lead us in a Wellness 101 course designed to help us take better care of your body and spirit.

### February 28: Refresh and Reclaim led by NAMI

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will lead us in a conversation on the importance of the relationship between values-based healthy boundaries and a comprehensive self-care regimen. This discussion will include identifying personal boundaries, overcoming opposition to boundaries, and creating a list of self-care methods.

Growing Young Seminar with consultant Rev. Dr. Andy Jung:

May 18-19

Baccalaureate Worship:

May 26

Vacation Bible School:

June 23-27 (evening)

Youth Mission Trip:

details coming soon

Puerto Rico Mission Trip:

July 13-20

Children's Music & Arts Camp:

July 22-25