



DISCIPLE EXPRESS

Vol. 21, No 5 May 2013 A Newsletter to Inspire and Celebrate Oakland United Methodists

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Worship Service Time:

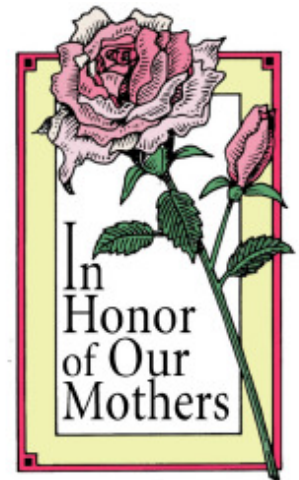
10:00 Worship
11:00 Koinonia

Sunday school
Youth 9:00 a.m.
Adult 11:15 a.m.



Dallas Bane

Hayden Haines



Baccalaureate



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Many years ago I worked for the Loess Hills Area Education Agency as a Tobacco Prevention Specialist. The key word being "prevention." My responsibilities included going to elementary schools in the area to talk to the youth about the health risks of using tobacco products. Now, more than ever, health professionals realize the importance of preventative health care, being proactive.

The results of being proactive, taking an active role in advance to deal with an expected problem, can be seen everyday in our airport terminals. As a response to the 9-11 tragedy, airport security has been tightened. Almost immediately following the Boston Marathon tragedy, people called for more surveillance cameras, a greater police presence, and tighter restrictions for public spaces. And for people whose job it is to keep our nation safe, this would be an understandable reaction.

But what about us? What is our reaction to this horrific attack on innocent people, the loss of lives and life altering injuries? Of course we are deeply saddened, heart broken, and filled with compassion for all affected by this tragedy. Most of us are probably at a loss to understand how anyone could intentionally cause such harm to innocent men, women, and children. Maybe we are filled with anger at the ones who committed this crime. Maybe our sense of security has been threatened.

Yet even in the midst of our sadness, confusion, anger, and fear we are called to remember who we have decided to put our trust in. As followers of Jesus Christ, we put our trust in our Lord and seek to follow him. So we pray and we pray and we pray. We pray for all those affected by the bombing. As the scriptures teach us to do, we pray continually.

And then we love. We do what Jesus did best. He loved. We love our family, our friends, our neighbors, our co-workers, our church family, people of different

racess and nationalities. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love. Surely we have to believe that Jesus knew what he was talking about. If we want to be proactive in dealing with the violence and hatred in the world, if we want to change the world, it has to begin within our own hearts. We have to let the love of God fill us up to overflowing so we have no choice but to share that overflowing love with others.

Admittedly it can be difficult to see how loving our neighbors can change the world. It seems like such a passive thing to do. Yet the reality is loving one another is often times anything but passive. Loving one another requires patience and courage and strength and self sacrifice. Think about Jesus' love for us.

His act of love saved the world.

And All God's Children Said,
"Amen."

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, April 14, four youth were confirmed and one youth was baptized. We are happy to welcome into the life of the congregation our following newest members:

Amanda Applegate
Calvin Duhachek

Shyennah Knoke
Ethan Rankin

Many thanks to Lynelle Jeppesen for facilitating the recent Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University Classes. This is the second year the classes have been offered.

Change in Board meeting date.

In May the board will meet on the 4th Thursday, May 23.

May 5- Graduation Sunday

Please join us for worship on May 5th as we recognize our graduating seniors.

Sunday School Attendance Recognition/ Teacher Recognition

On Sunday, May 19, during the worship service, the Sunday School youth will receive their participation certificates and our Christian education teachers will be recognized

Cans! Cans! And More Cans!

Thanks to all those who donated cans to the Lion's Can Corral in March and thanks to those who helped count and bag the cans. The proceeds go to our community wide Vacation Bible School Program. Many thanks to the Lion's Club for sponsoring this successful fund raising project.



Children's Sermon



Imagine No Malaria Pancake Breakfast

Many thanks to Mark Jeppeson and Marty Reiken, co-chairs of the Pancake Breakfast, for their work in planning, preparing, and serving our successful Imagine No Malaria Pancake Breakfast. And many thanks to their crew (mostly made up of men, with a few women and children assisting) for all of their work. Approximately 150 people were served pancakes and sausage (thank you to OSI for donating the sausage) We are pleased to report \$595 was raised for Imagine No Malaria.

BIBLE TRIVIA answers

1. Whose entrancing dance proved fatal for John the Baptist?

The daughter of Herodias Matt 14:6-8

2. Who held a feast with dancing when his son returned?

The father of the prodigal son Luke 15:25

3. Who laughed at Nehemiah's plans to rebuild Jerusalem?

Sanballet, Tobiah, Geshern Neh 2:19

4. Who danced with all his might when the ark of the covenant was brought to Jerusalem?

David 2 Samuel 6:14

5. Who laughed when she heard she would bear a son in her old age?

Sarah Genesis 18:10-12

6. was snickered at for claiming that a dead girl was only sleeping?

Jesus Matt 9: 23-24

7. prophetess led the women of Israel in a victory dance?

Miriam Exodus 15:20

8. ill-fated daughter came out dancing after his victory over Ammonites?

Jephthah Judges 21:20, 23

9. had his decree for a Passover celebration laughed at by the men of Israel?

Hezekiah 2 Chronicles 30:5, 10

10. tribe took wives from among the dancers at Shiloh?

Benjamin Judge 21: 20, 23

April 23, 2013 david.hobbs@iaumc.org • P:
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David Hobbs

LDM for Camping & Christian Formation

An Eternal Gaze

A few weekends back I had the great opportunity to have one of my Sunday's off, and spent some time with my family. I always love sharing about camps at churches, but this Sunday was special because I was able to take my children over to my mom and dad's place to visit and play for a while. It was a beautiful day, with the sun slowly peeking out behind some fluffy cumulous clouds. It also was a day that my sister was able to come home and see the kids for a while. The afternoon was delightful and really fun as we played mostly outside so as to take advantage of such a wonderful day. I just can't tell you how much fun it is to watch 3 and 5 year olds playing tag out in the yard, and even playing the traditional hide and go seek game (they're pretty good at it—you try to find them). It makes me want to be a kid again. My mom and dad's farm is also right next to a small country cemetery across the road from their home. It is here that most of my lineage is buried. As we ended the day the older generations of the family (this includes me now) decided to walk over to the cemetery to look at some of our families gravestones and to pay our respects. The younger one's followed, all the way down to my daughter who happens to be 3. I always find it hard to know how to act when I go to a cemetery, so I just watch others.

Typically when I'm by myself though, I usually set beside my family member's resting place and just have a visit with them, knowing that in some way they can hear me. For me, it really is a God filled experience, and normally in this place of quietness I can hear my soul remembering all the beautiful memories that I once remembered about my loved one. My sister, who is in her mid-50's had the hardest time that afternoon, as she had lost her husband 3 years prior, so for her, it was a time for a few tears as



she folded her arms with one hand gently rubbing against her cheek as she looked down at that beautiful swirled, tan colored granite stone. For my father who is almost 80 it was a time with a solemn glance and special smile as he looked down on the gray granite stone that displayed the names of his parents, and my grandparents. For a quiet, stoic farmer I often see in his face the wish that grandpa could see the farm again even after so many years of being gone.

For each of us, our response was one of solemn gratefulness for the lives that had touched us so much, but in the midst of that I sensed a bit of sadness and aloneness residing in each of our hearts. But, when I turned my head, I noticed the little children, running all over the cemetery looking at every grave marker and asking, "Who is this?" In his own manner, grandpa took them to his parent's marker and showed them the engraved names and birthdates (both dates are really birthdates), and said that he wished they could have known his mommy and daddy. My children were quiet, but smiling still asking questions to grandpa. In some ways they could sense a bit of sadness and solemnness in grandpa's voice, but all had a very keen interest in listening to the stories. But what amazed me most was within all that time the smiles continued and the fun and joy in their eyes didn't diminish, in fact it was as though this place of finality didn't even faze them, it was as if there was no sadness at all, and not a fear to be seen.

I've been thinking about this event for the last few weeks, in fact it's not left my mind, nor my heart. How is it that even at my age, which is only in my 40's, and being a pastor, I find that there is still uneasiness in my soul when I think about death. I really don't mind going to cemeteries mind you, but my mind does venture into the reality of what this final resting place means. I think many of us are like this, on the outside we feel strong, we feel like we can handle anything, but when it comes to this one thing, at the very core of our understanding we still have some unsettling questions and quite possibly some fears. Why? As I sat there watching my little children that day, I remembered a week prior we had just

Disciple Express

GODLY HUMOR

celebrated a 'risen Savior', we had heard of the One who had defeated and defied the final fear called death. Though I know my reaction of being a bit sad and solemn was certainly not inappropriate, I admired how the children reacted to this place. I would assume that it's quite possible that if there had been other families there, some might have thought my children's display a bit disrespectful or irreverent. I have to be honest, at first I thought maybe the children are showing too much exuberance and I should have them 'quiet down', but my thoughts changed as we stayed longer. Their joy inspired me, and helped me to understand that I can run and yell with joy even in a place where things seem so final. In fact, where best to show your faith and belief in a God who defeated death for good, than in a place where death is so visible. Maybe death still has too much power over us.

Maybe the words that so loudly came to me the week before hadn't really sunk in: "He has risen!" "Yes, he has risen indeed!" I try to walk with God and talk with God, and believe that my life was totally and radically changed over 30 years ago when I brought Jesus into my life as my personal Savior, but maybe the greatest gift he'd given me hadn't sunk in; the joy of just simply knowing that my life is in the eternal hands of God. Maybe I hadn't truly realized that nothing on this earth can ever separate me from Him, not even death. Maybe I'd given too much credence to that old nemesis called death, and quite possibly maybe I hadn't taken God's promises at face value. And maybe this world, which seems to always focus on things that don't last, those things that ultimately are passing away, maybe it had grasped me a little too tightly. And maybe, it took some precious little ones, who had just come from God, to remind me that death doesn't have the upper hand or the final say, but God does.

"Let the Children come unto me for such belongs the Kingdom of Heaven." Matthew 19:14

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery. And he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation. As he was about to get the anesthesia, he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son; Do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife...."

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age And start bragging about it...

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play.

"Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. " But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner."

And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Wyatt Bell
- 2 Shane Kinnison
- 4 Shirley Adams
- 5 Jason Grobe
- 6 Tray Reed
- 8 Kyler Rieken
- 8 Trisha Fulton
- 9 Gene Gleaves
- 9 Norma Taylor
- 9 Keenan sparks
- 11 LaDonna Applegate
- 11 Mike Bane
- 12 Erma Cleaveland
- 14 Rick Beedle
- 15 Michelle Kindred
- 16 Doc Blanchard
- 16 Kim Schorsch
- 20 Nancy Young
- 24 Charles Pierce
- 24 Dakota Somers
- 24 Dave Nolte
- 26 Andrew Jones
- 26 Sarah Jones
- 27 Norma Bolton
- 28 Lila Hopping
- 31 Jacob Grobe



REMEMBER OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

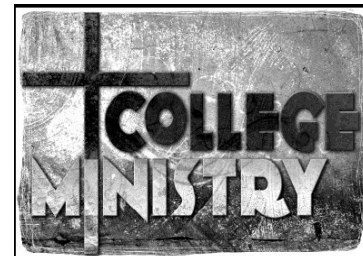


Kristie Copenhaver, John & Mary Lou Copenhaver's daughter; **Jared Myers**, son of Robert Myers and Sid & Tami Skank; **Sonja Husz**; **Lucas Smith**, Addie Mae's grandson; **Brian Thornton** from Avoca; **Tyler Clark**, Marvin & Carolyn Clark's grandson; **Brad Grosvenor**, Cathey Grosvenor's son stateside, and other area service men and women. **Landen Pedersen**, son of Tab and Lorie Pederson & great-grandson of Edith Haines

If you have a loved one in the service and wish to have them listed on our prayer list, please contact the church office.

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Karen will be on vacation May 29-June 5. During this time, if you are in need of a pastor, you can contact Pastor Brody Tubaugh at 712 -484-2247 (church) or by email, brodytubaugh@gmail.com



Dallas Bane
Hayden Haine



Cory Reichart
Dani Turner

Senior Breakfast	Sunday 5th 9:15 a.m.
Senior Recognition	Sunday, 5th 10:00 Worship
Baccalaureate	Sunday 5th 7:30 p.m. Carson Presbyterian
Church	
Class Night	Wed, 15th 7:00 p.m. High School Auditorium
Graduation	2:00 p.m. John Reed Field unless inclement weather (High School)

See the church web page for the college ministry articles.

<http://www.oaklandiaumc.org/wesley-foundation>

NURSING HOMES - Remember those in the nursing homes with cards and visits.

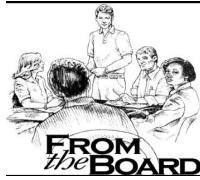
Oakland Manor: Margaret Alff, Eileen Haines, Audrey Hartje; Ralph Pierce

Oakland Heights: Lucille Bentley, Erma Cleaveland, Janice Harris, Pat Burgett



Administrative Board Meeting

March 21, 2013 7:30pm



Members Present: Pastor Karen Hoff, Barb Schorsch, Gloria Gleaves, Dick & Louise Merkle, Dave Applegate, Skip Applegate, Mark & Lynelle Jeppesen, Bernie & Norma Bolton, Mischa Martens, Lyle Bentley, & Terry Gleaves.

Board Chair Barb Schorsch called the meeting to order and asked Pastor Karen to open the meeting with prayer. Those named in need of prayer were: Shirley Walker, Nancy Young, Debbie Keast, Patsy Smith, Susie Bentley, Sandy, Patrick, Bintz family, Julie N, Merlin Jones. Barb read Micah 6: 6-8. Norma volunteered to read scripture for the next meeting.

Norma moved to approve the secretary's report. Terry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dick Merkle presented the treasurer's report for February. Skip moved to approve the report. Seconded by Bernie. Motion carried.

Terry Gleaves reported no activity for finance team. Four months apportionments have been paid for the year.

Dave Applegate reported for the trustees. He will install the sign for handicap access to the fellowship hall. MidAmerica will email results of the energy audit they conducted. Dave Applegate (trustee chair), Bernie Bolton (SPRC chair) & Terry Gleaves (Finance chair) had asked Mark Jeppesen (Clark Electric) to write a proposal to replace/refurbish our heating and cooling system which are outdated and in need of repair.

Mark Jeppesen presented a report to the board recommending replacing the old furnaces with 3 new high efficiency furnaces and replacing current ductwork for additional efficiency. He believes that the new duct work will improve our air conditioning efficiency as well. A bid of \$11,752 for the furnaces and \$10,300 for the air conditioners with rebates

was presented. Mark recommended that we install the furnaces and do a wait-and-see action on the air conditioners. Motion was made by Dave Applegate to accept the very economical bid for the furnaces by a member of our church. Seconded by Mischa Martens. Motion carried unanimously.

Bernie reported that the Staff-Parish Relations team will meet soon to discuss salaries and duties. They will do a walk-through with Dick Kates to determine repairs and improvements that need to be made to the church property.

Pastor's report- Pastor Karen reported that Maundy Thursday services will be held at the UCC, Good Friday services at Sharon Presbyterian, Prayer vigil Saturday at our church, Sunrise services at 7 a.m. at Carson Cemetery with breakfast to follow at the Carson Community Building, worship at OUMC at 10 a.m. Karen will attend the School for Ministry April 2-4. The UMYF youth will be in charge of the church service on Sunday April 7th. Confirmation Sunday will be the 14th of April with New Places for New People meeting in the afternoon of the 14th from 3:30-6. Ministerial Ethics committee workshop will be held in Atlantic on the 15th. Ed Kail will be invited to join the board for the next meeting on the 18th. Camp Sunday will be April 28th. District Spring Conference will be held on April 28th from 3-6 p.m. in Atlantic.

Pastor Karen also reported that the UMYF viewed "The Passion of Christ" movie. She will hold a Holy Thursday service with the youth on March 27th at 7 p.m.

Missions report- Mischa Martens reported that the Missions Team will host the Chicken Dinner and Dance on March 24th to benefit the Heifer project following the regular church service.

Lynelle Jeppesen reported that the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University is one-half completed...

Under new business- The 28th will be the Pancake Breakfast from 8-10 a.m. with freewill offering going to benefit "Imagine No Malaria." Mark Jeppesen and Marty Rieken will co-chair.

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were: Dave Applegate, Bernie Bolton, Terry Gleaves, Dick Merkle.

Jean Blackburn, Barb Schorsch and Norma Bolton will serve as the scholarship selection committee.

Pastor Karen noted that the card table in the lounge was in need of replacement. Terry volunteered to replace the table. She also asked that the kneeling rail be repaired so that it could be used for confirmation services. Norma volunteered to

recover it.

Date for the next administrative board meeting will be April 18, 2013.

There being no further business, Bernie Bolton moved for adjournment. Gloria Gleaves seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Barb closed the meeting with prayer.

Norma Bolton, secretary pro tem.



In Prayer

Dear Lord, I thank you for this day. I thank You for my being able to see and to hear this morning. I'm blessed because You are a forgiving God and an understanding God. You have done so much for me and You keep on blessing me. Forgive me this day for everything I have done, said or thought that was not pleasing to you. I ask now for Your forgiveness.

Please keep me safe from all danger and harm. Help me to start this day with a new attitude and plenty of gratitude. Let me make the best of each day to clear my mind so that I can hear from You.

Let me not whine and whimper over things I have no control over. Let me continue to see sin through God's eyes and acknowledge it as evil. And when I sin, let me repent, and confess with my mouth my wrongdoing, and receive the forgiveness of God.

And when this world closes in on me, let me remember

Jesus' example -- to slip away and find a quiet place to pray. It's the best response when I'm pushed beyond my limits. I know that when I can't pray, You listen to my heart. Continue to use me to do Your will.

Continue to bless me that I may be a blessing to others. Keep me strong that I may help the weak.. Keep me uplifted that I may have words of encouragement for others. I pray for those who are lost and can't find their way. I pray for those who are misjudged and misunderstood. I pray for those who don't know You intimately. I pray for those who will delete this without sharing it with others. I pray for those who don't believe. But I thank you that I believe.

I believe that God changes people and God changes things. I pray for all my sisters and brothers. For every family member in their households. I pray for peace, love and joy in their homes that they are out of debt and all their needs are met.

I pray that every eye that reads this knows there is no problem, circumstance, or situation greater than God. Every battle is in Your hands for You to fight. I pray that these words be received into the hearts of every eye that sees them and every mouth that confesses them willingly...

This is my prayer.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

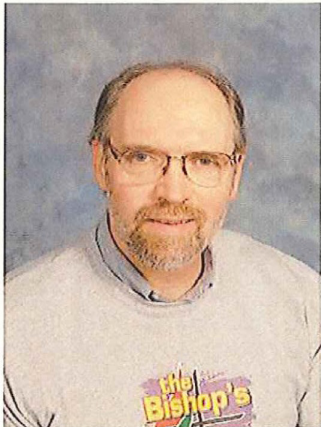
LOST AND FOUND

Several pieces of outerwear have been left at the Oakland UMC. We are attempting to locate the owners. Following is a list of the items:

- blue/gray men's winter jacket with hood
- gray/orange stripes men's Garst spring jacket, L
- navy/yellow stripes Cherokee spring jacket, XL
- red Trax spring jacket, L
- black John Storm women's spring coat, L
- green/lace collar Loft jacket, L
- red/blue stripes Artic Circle men's winter jacket, L
- gray winter women's coat, L
- black Old Navy women's spring coat, M
- red women's sweater, L
- brown zippered sweater, L youth
- white Cherokee zippered sweater, 6/6x
- black winter scarf
- three ball caps- Hawkeye, Lake Tahoe, Napa
Outdoors

The items are hanging in Fellowship Hall. If you think any of the items may belong to you, please come and take a look at them or call the church office. Items not claimed by the end of July, will be donated.





You are cordially invited to the Retirement Celebration of:

Rev. Edward A. Kail

Sunday, June 2, 2013
3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.
Carson Community Center, 316 S. Commercial Street

For those who are not able to attend, and would like to acknowledge Rev. Kail's retirement, cards and letters may be sent to:

Southwest District Office
% Shirley Lewis
The United Methodist Church
1201 E. 7th Street, Suite 300
Atlantic, IA 50022

In lieu of gifts, Rev. Kail would appreciate a monetary donation to one of the following two projects:

- 1) Malawi UMC Missionary Conference (Advance #00203A)
- 2) Rainbow Network: <http://www.rainbownetwork.org/>

**Ed Kail
Retirement -
You are invited**

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NURSERY

VOLUNTEERS

- 5 Sheila Applegate
- 12 Suzanne Pierce
- 19 Leslie Cleaveland
- 26 Pam Ehmke



KOINONIA

- 5th Pam Ehmke
- 12th Veva Larson
- 19th Sue Duhachek
- 26th Barb Schorsch



USHERS,



GREETERS,

CANDLELIGHTERS

- 5th Mitch & Penny Anderson
Mike & Kristy Bane
Candle lighters
Andrew Jones & Sarah Jones
- 12th Dave & Sheila Applegate
Bob & Beverly Beckendorf
Candle lighters
Kyra Martens & Kristian Martens
- 19th Bernie & Norma Bolton
Mark & Mischa Martens
Candle lighters
Emma Ehmke & Anna Duhachek
- 26th Alan & Connie Gardner
Dick & Leslie Cleaveland
Candle lighters
Grace Gleaves & Camryn Pierson



Teacher's schedule -

Nursery Kyra Martens

- 5th MOTHERS DAY Crafts
- 12th Pre Lindsey Henderson
K-1 Lynelle Jeppesen
2-4 Jenn Wilson
5-8 Kristy Rieken
- 19th Pre Jamie Bramman
K-1 Lisa Pierson
2-4 Sue Duhachek
5-8 Kristy Rieken



26th MEMORIAL DAY – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

5:00 p.m. Hispanic Worship Service

	Host	Nursery
5th	<i>Pastor Karen</i>	
14th	Veva Larson	Need Volunteer
21st	<i>Need Volunteers</i>	
28th	Lisa Rollins	Need Volunteer

SUMMER CAMP

Be thinking about going to camp.
Scholarships are available. Contact Robin
Jefferson or Sheryl in the office.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS
YOU'RE THE GREATEST

May Calendar of Events

Wed, May 1	6:30 p.m.	Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups
Sun, May 5	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Confirmation Class/Choir Practice
	9:15 a.m.	Senior Breakfast
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Communion
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Worship Service
	7:30 p.m.	Baccalaureate Service at Carson Presbyterian Church
Sun, May 12	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Choir Practice
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/Mother's Day
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	3:30—6:00 p.m.	New Places For New People
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Worship Service
Sun, May 19	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Choir practice
	10:00 a.m.	Worship/children sing/3rd Sunday Offering for Conf. Asking/Sunday School Recognition Service
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Thurs, May 23	7:00 p.m.	Administrative Board Meeting (Note the date change)
Sun, May 26	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Choir Practice
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Koinonia
	11:15 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 p.m.	Hispanic Worship Service

Mark Your Calendars

**Vacation Bible School will
be held in the evenings June
17- 21 at the Oakland UMC.**



Disciple Express

OAKLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. Karen Hoff, Pastor
Sheryl Sindt, Secretary

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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«City State» «Zip code»

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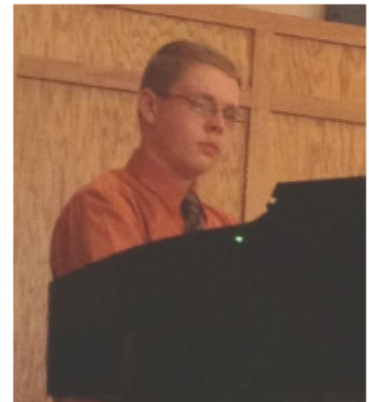
"We invite all persons to be a part of our Community of Faith by participating in worship, education, fellowship and Christian service."

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New Members being Confirmed.

**Amanda Applegate, Shyennah Knoke
Calvin Duhachek, Ethan Rankin**



Calvin Duhachek has been pleasing the congregation with his piano performances on many recent occasions.



Pastor Karen during Children's message.