



**Oakmont Baptist Church**



**CONGREGATIONAL PROFILE**

# Table of Contents

*Connecting  
lives with Christ  
as the center  
by following God's  
purpose—through  
reaching, serving,  
going, and growing  
in faith.*

**3** Welcome

**4** Who We Are/Beliefs & Core Values

**5** History /Where We Have Been

**10** Our Ministries/What We Do

**17** Our Missions/What We Do

**22** Our Community/Who We Serve

**24** Our Congregation & Staff/Who We Are

**29** Our Future/Where is God Leading Us

**31** Minister of Music Profile

OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH is a missional church that partners with several Baptist ministries. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina are the two most prominent ministry partners. In addition, Oakmont works with some of the ministries of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the South Roanoke Baptist Association. Oakmont is also involved with other local ministries and non-profit groups impacting the lives of people of all ages in our community.

# Welcome!

**WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH** and our position of Minister of Music. We are located in Greenville, North Carolina, and are entering our 60th year as a congregation. This church profile provides an overview of our congregation and community.

We are a missional church that seeks to be the presence of Christ wherever we go and in whatever we do. Forty-two charter members formed Oakmont on April 26, 1964. Our church family has grown in its commitment to reach people for Christ, grow in their spiritual life, and to serve in missions, ministry, and service locally and nationally. Our focus on our community rather than on ourselves defines our love for Christ. Our mission statement summarizes our purpose to “connect lives with Christ as the center, by following God’s purpose, through reaching, serving, going and growing in faith.”

Since the beginning of God’s Oakmont Idea in 1964, the congregation has been blessed with outstanding ministerial leadership. In recent decades, we’ve been blessed by many long-tenured staff members. Dr. Greg Rogers served as Senior Pastor from 1986 until his retirement in early 2022. Rev. Michael McKnight served as Minister of Music from 1993 until his retirement in October of 2021.

Rev. Jack Glasgow guided us as our Interim Pastor until Rev. Eric Porterfield was called as our fourth Senior Pastor in December 2022. Eric began his service on February 1, 2023.

Karen Meetze, our organist, and Philip Jackson, a member of our Praise Team, have been our worship leaders since Michael’s retirement. Karen leads the Chancel Choir and congregation on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, and Philip leads the Praise Team and congregation on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Included at the end of this church profile is a position profile that describes the desired characteristics and gifts we seek in our next Minister of Music.

We eagerly seek the Holy Spirit’s leadership in our search, and are grateful that the Holy Spirit is already preparing our future Minister of Music to join us as we follow wherever Jesus leads.



# Who We Are

## Beliefs & Core Values

### ► OUR BELIEFS:

#### ► We believe:

- in the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
- in recognizing Jesus as Savior and Lord
- in trusting in the Bible as God's inspired word
- in affirming the priesthood of every believer
- in celebrating the autonomy of each local church
- in affirming historical Baptist views
- in embracing an ecumenical spirit
- in affirming the call by God of all people to serve
- in matching our behaviors with our beliefs

### ► CORE VALUES:

#### ► Worship: Honoring God with. . .

- Praise and thanksgiving
- Prayer and confession
- The giving of God's tithes and our offerings
- Hearing and responding to God's word read and proclaimed

#### ► Prayer:

- Communicating with God
- Discerning where God is at work
- Acting in concert with God in obedience

#### ► Spiritual Growth:

- Practicing spiritual disciplines through studying the Bible
- Participating in formative group studies as the Spirit forms us into the likeness of Jesus

#### ► Missional:

- Using our church resources as a hub of ministry in our community and world to be the loving presence of Christ, by meeting the physical, relational, and spiritual needs of people

#### ► Community:

- Building deep and caring relationships with others

#### ► Innovation:

- Seeking creative possibilities for ministry in God's kingdom that demonstrate openness to the Holy Spirit's mysterious and surprising ways

ON THESE 7 ACRES..  
*The* OAKMONT  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
*WILL BE BUILT SOON!*

*A program dedicated to God & a better Greenville*  
TOMMY J PAYNE  
PASTOR

OUR

History

# History

## God's Oakmont Idea

**OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH BEGAN WITH 42 DEVOTED MEMBERS** – no building, no property, no name, no pastor – but a world of faith. Charter members insisted that Oakmont Baptist Church . . . is the result of “God’s Oakmont Idea.”

### ► OUR FOUNDING

#### ► March 1964 | Birthed from Local Church

The charter members of Oakmont Baptist Church, the majority of whom lived on the southern fringe of Greenville bordering Greenville Boulevard, had been active members of The Memorial Baptist Church in downtown Greenville. By the mid-1950s, this church was so overcrowded that it was forced to turn away many potential churchgoers on a regular basis. Not only was there a problem with lack of space, but in addition they wanted to open the church doors to people of all races and creeds which was not a popular idea at that time. A small group of concerned members met informally at the home of Kenneth and Eleanor Mercer in March 1964 to ponder the space problem at The Memorial Church. After some discussion Dr. Robert Holt suggested that they should organize a new church to serve the southern part of the city. The group immediately adopted the idea, and a plan began to take form to move forward without delay.

On the afternoon of April 26, the prospective congregation met in Rawl Auditorium on the East Carolina College campus in an organizational meeting where a motion to establish a new Missionary Baptist Church was unanimously adopted. A church covenant was adopted, and Articles of Faith were presented. Rev. E. Gordon Conklin, who eventually was called as Oakmont’s second pastor, delivered the organizational sermon. Rev. Tommy Payne, pastor of First Baptist Church of Robersonville and later called as the church’s first pastor, gave the prayer of dedication. The church was composed of 11 family units who all pledged to be generous givers by tithing to the church, believing they could call and support a full-time pastor, provide for ministry expenses, and ultimately purchase property and build facilities for worship, learning, fellowship, and service to the community.

## ► STAFF AND CAMPUS GROWTH

### ► April 1966 | Oakmont Calls Its First Pastor

Dr. Robert Holt, vice president and academic dean at East Carolina College and Professor F. Milan Johnson, a member of the college faculty, both ordained Baptist ministers, agreed to fill the pulpit on a rotating basis. Church leaders reported to the membership on May 13, 1964 that 7.08 acres for a building had been located along the southern fringes of the city. It was eventually purchased at a cost of \$29,500. Also in that same month, the congregation voted to call the Rev. Tommy J. Payne as the first pastor of the new church, who began serving the congregation in August of that year.



### ► June 1966 | Oakmont Breaks Ground

In June of that same year, the church voted to name the new church Oakmont Baptist Church since it would be located near a neighborhood with that name. A groundbreaking service was held on the church's second anniversary – April 24, 1966 – and construction on the new church building began in August of that year. The first unit of a planned, five-phase building program envisioned by the early congregational members, totaling 16,000 square feet, cost approximately \$350,000.



### ► March 1968 | Oakmont's Vision and Staff Are Expanded

The constitution of Oakmont provided a progressive framework for the church's future. Previously, only men were eligible for election to the Diaconate. In March of 1968 the new church constitution was adopted allowing women to be elected as deacons for the first time. The constitution also stipulated that Oakmont "shall actively encourage the outgrowth of missions and/or churches from this church as the city of Greenville expands." In February 1971, an interdenominational and interracial service with the theme of "Love your Neighbor" was held. In that same year the first mission trip, one of many more to follow, occurred when the youth made a trip to Nassau during their Easter holidays. Mrs. Jesse Lamb became the first female deacon elected by Oakmont in 1976, and in 1978 Mrs. Lilly Weaver was elected to the Diaconate. Oakmont has continued through the years to support women in leadership roles both as deacons, Bible study leaders, and as pastors. An Associate Pastor position was created in 2005, and Rev. Beth Thompson was selected to fill this position after having served as Oakmont's Minister of Education since 1994, becoming Oakmont's first female pastor. The congregation has also continued to be active in missions locally, nationally, and internationally. Thus, Oakmont has been guided by and has fulfilled the progressive plans of its constitution.

### ► **March 1971 | Oakmont Calls Its Second Pastor**

Rev. Payne resigned as senior pastor on March 14, 1971. Rev. E. Gordon Conklin was called as the second pastor in December 1971. His focus during his ministry was devoted to bringing financial stability and long-term strength to the church. As a result of his failing health, Rev. Conklin retired in July 1986.

### ► **October 1986 | Oakmont Calls Its Third Pastor**

Oakmont's third pastor was Dr. Gregory P. Rogers. He began his service at Oakmont as a summer youth minister after his freshman year at North Carolina State University in 1976, returning to serve the congregation in the summer of 1977. Upon his graduation from college and then from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, he served for three years beginning in September 1983 as Oakmont's Minister of Education. He became Oakmont's senior pastor in October 1986 serving in that role until January 31, 2022. Dr. Rogers met his wife, Leslie, whose family moved to Greenville and joined Oakmont in 1974, during the summer of 1976. They married in 1978 and have been blessed with two married children and five grandchildren.

## ► **MINISTRIES AND IDENTITY: PAST TO PRESENT**

### ► **1986 to Present | Building and Ministry Expansions**

The church experienced growth in members and an increase in various ministries and missions during his tenure. The congregation completed a new fellowship hall and educational wing in 1993, along with a new, 1,000 seat sanctuary and support space in 2003. The church purchased the neighboring Oakmont Square Apartments in August 2007, an adjacent property that includes 112 apartment units situated on 10.5 acres. The congregation also purchased Branches, our second campus located at 1400 Red Banks Road, just .6 mile from the main campus on 1100 Red Banks Road, in December 2014 to expand our ministry footprint. That campus housed our free medical clinic from 2013 until 2023, is currently the home of our middle and high school ministry, and is also used by other church and community groups. One of the most critical areas of growth for the Oakmont congregation, guided by its third pastor, has been in personal and spiritual growth. Church staff or guest leaders guided a weekend Spirituality Retreat for 20 years at Caraway Conference Center in Asheboro, North Carolina. Oakmont scheduled monthly Sabbath Sundays without meetings and activities to encourage individuals and families to practice a Sabbath day of worshiping and resting well. Spiritual Formation classes have met regularly on Wednesday evenings. Many local, state, national, and international mission opportunities have been offered and have been well attended by Oakmont members.



**Branches:** Oakmont's second ministry campus purchased in 2014 and current home to our middle and high school ministry. It is also used by other church and community groups.

## ► 2016 to Present | Identity Discernment

Oakmont began a season of study, conversation, and discernment in the spring of 2016 on human sexuality and the LGBTQ+ community. After considerable church-wide study and conversation, the church leadership concluded that there were varying congregational perspectives regarding how to best include the LGBTQ+ community. The church approved a Diaconate statement on human sexuality in June 2017. That statement affirmed the congregation's desire to embrace unity without uniformity of belief on this issue, identifying Oakmont as a welcoming congregation with our doors open to all who wish to worship and participate in the life of our church. A February 2021 congregational questionnaire revealed a majority of the church family affirmed the 2017 statement and that Oakmont would not become a fully affirming congregation to the LGBTQ community. Several members left the church in March 2021 to form a new congregation that is fully affirming.

Like all churches, Oakmont adapted to the pandemic by live streaming our services and hosting Bible studies and meetings via ZOOM. Once we were able to gather we observed multiple COVID-19 protocols to keep each other safe.

Dr. Jack Glasgow, as our Interim Pastor, guided the congregation as we emerged from pandemic restrictions, worked with the Transition Team and the Pastor Search Team, and prepared us for the discerning work that will lead to what we like to call "Oakmont 2.0." Rev. Eric Porterfield, our new Senior Pastor, joined us in February 2023 and is helping us continue the discernment process, including the work of discerning who God is calling as our next Minister of Music!

As Oakmont moves into a new era, our focus remains on the vision created by those 42 faithful charter members. In faith, they stepped out to follow God's Oakmont Idea. We have journeyed through some difficult and challenging times amid a global pandemic. However, we see God at work in our church, community, and world, and we want to continue being a part of that work. God's Oakmont Idea is alive and well.



**Oakmont's Sanctuary:** Oakmont members and friends gathered together in 2014 to celebrate 50 years of mission and ministry to the Greenville community and beyond.

OUR

*Ministries*



# Our Ministries

## What We Do



### WORSHIP MINISTRIES

#### ► WORSHIP

Our church is a community of believers with many different views, yet we are unified by our faith in Jesus Christ and the Great Commission. Pre-pandemic, Oakmont offered two worship services each Sunday morning. The 9:40 am service featured traditional hymns and contemporary songs led by the Chancel Choir and orchestra, while the 11:00 am Emerge worship gathering featured more contemporary worship with a praise and worship band marked by casual dress and a multi-sensory approach. Currently, there is one service each Sunday at 10:45 am. Our Sunday morning worship is filled with energetic Biblical teaching, and multi-faceted praise incorporating a variety of music, prayer, dramatic, visual, and artistic acts of worship to proclaim the good news of Jesus and offer genuine worship of God. The Chancel Choir and Praise Team lead in worship on alternating Sundays accompanied by piano, organ, and a wide variety of other instruments. Soloists, small ensembles, and dramatic presentations are also a common part of our worship. The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is observed on the first or second Sunday of each month, with ministers wearing their robes and stoles. Additional acts of worship include the receiving of God's tithes and our offerings, and a time of response. Our Sunday services are available for viewing in real time through YouTube Live, Facebook Live, and our church's website. Additionally, services are broadcast by taped delay on Sunday afternoons through Suddenlink Cable Channel 7. Tithes and offerings can be brought to the church on a weekly basis, or be set up through On-Line Giving or our Electronic Transfer app.

#### ► REVELATION PLAYERS DRAMA MINISTRY

The Revelation Players Drama Ministry was founded at Oakmont in 1993. Even though the name may imply otherwise, the focus of this ministry is not on the "end times" as spoken of in the New Testament book of Revelation. Instead, the focus of this team of actors has always been to reveal the truth of God's Holy Word using drama, in all its many forms. Since its formation, Revelation Players has performed frequently at Oakmont as part of Sunday worship, coordinating their scripts with sermons prepared by the pastor. They have also teamed-up with the music ministry for Advent and Easter presentations. In addition, they have performed at other churches, performed Dinner Theaters, participated in drama at Vacation Bible School for over 20 years, performed at statewide denominational events, led drama workshops, taken part in special mission emphases, and assisted with children's musicals and youth drama. Though there is a small base group regularly involved in the drama ministry, there have been numerous other members and outside guests involved over the years from children to senior adults.

## ► TECHNICAL MINISTRY

Every Sunday our Technical Ministry Assistants, along with other faithful volunteers, operate the sanctuary sound, light, cameras, computer, and other technical equipment. Their work makes possible our music, videos, and PowerPoint presentations during the in-person 10:45 am worship gathering and live streaming of the service. Our technical team records the worship gathering and takes it to the Cable Channel 7 television station studio each Sunday, bringing the good news of Jesus not only to Oakmonters, but to potentially hundreds of people across eastern North Carolina.

A recent 12-week review shows that our average worship gathering online was 83 views through BoxCast on the Oakmont website, 30 views with our YouTube Channel, and 137 views on the Oakmont Facebook page – 250 total views on our various streaming platforms each Sunday. Coupled with our in-person worship attendees and hundreds worshipping with Oakmont on Cable Channel 7 each Sunday, the impact of sharing our worship gathering each week is immeasurable.

## ► VOCAL GROUPS

### ► Chancel Choir

This choir is for all adults, college-age and older. No audition is necessary. Currently, rehearsals are every 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening from 7:00–8:30 pm. This choir leads in worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month. It also prepares music for several major productions at various times throughout the year. Past ministry opportunities have included a music tour to Vermont, and several visits to nearby retirement facilities.

### ► Oakmont Praise Band

The Oakmont Praise Band features a vocal leader and usually three other singers, along with instrumentalists. The instrumentalists have included keyboard, piano, various guitars (both electric and acoustic), drums, bass, mandolin, violin, and flute. This team leads in worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month.

### ► JOY Singers Choir

The JOY Singers Choir stands for “Just Older Youth” and is for senior adults. This choir went on hiatus during the pandemic and has not yet returned. However, when in session, this group sets the bar in ministering through music in the community by singing at retirement homes and assisted-living facilities. Annual mission trips and festivals provide additional ways for the choir’s members to develop meaningful relationships through musical experiences.

### ► Preschool and Children’s Choirs

Prior to the pandemic we had graded choirs for preschoolers and children. These choirs have lead in worship services at various times throughout the year and they usually present a musical in the spring. We look forward to our new Minister of Music helping us restart and grow our music ministry with children.

## ► VOCAL ENSEMBLES

Oakmont has had auditioned vocal ensembles leading in worship since 1994. These groups generally sing monthly during the school year and will often present a Christmas concert. Invitations to sing have taken these groups to the Biltmore House, the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh, Williamsburg, and the White House.

We currently have one active ensemble: Joyful Sounds is an all ladies auditioned group of 8-14 singers and performs a challenging repertoire from various genres of music.

## ► INSTRUMENTAL GROUPS

### ► Orchestra

Prior to the pandemic, Oakmont utilized an orchestra on most Sundays of the year. Open to adults (and high school students by audition), the Orchestra helped lead worship at our 9:40 am worship service. We look forward to the return of this ministry under the leadership of our new Minister of Music.



## ► PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

In addition to Sunday School, Oakmont offers small groups and missions focused activities on Wednesday evenings for children while parents and other adults participate in spiritual formation groups. In previous years, children have participated in preschool and elementary age choirs and have offered a spring musical involving both drama and music. Each year an Inquirer's Class for older elementary children has been offered to share with children the basics of the Christian faith and invite them to profess their faith in Christ and participate in Christian baptism.



## ► VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

In the summer of 2022 Oakmont began an exciting partnership with The Memorial Baptist Church of Greenville, joining together to offer Vacation Bible School to our churches and community. Last year VBS was held at Memorial and this year we hosted at Oakmont. Ages three through fifth grade meet for two hours in the evenings on Sunday through Thursday, beginning with a high energy opening session with singing, drama, and theme interpretation. Each age group then rotates among classrooms for a Bible story, missions story, craft or hands-on mission activity, recreation, and snack. For the VBS offering, children are encouraged to bring money or items during the week to give to a local ministry to help with specific needs. VBS has always been a highlight for the children as they learn about Jesus and how to be His followers.

## ► YOUTH MINISTRY

Our youth ministry seeks to connect with students on a personal level. Our goal is to love students unconditionally, and to help them engage with scripture in ways that will help them live a Christ-centered life. Our youth group is a place where students are encouraged to be themselves, to be who God created them to be. Through intentional small group settings, our youth group has a lighthearted atmosphere that is centered around growing and deepening one's faith in Christ, building community with each other, and enjoying and living life together.

Our primary youth ministry gatherings are on Sunday evenings. There is a community meal, followed by small group Bible studies. Each small group is a place for students to deepen their relationships with one another, and to learn about the different ways in which God is calling them to live. Apart from Sunday night gatherings, we also offer our students opportunities to go on fun trips to develop friendships such as hockey games, amusement parks, and beach and river trips. Oakmont youth also gain valuable leadership experience by volunteering for Vacation Bible School and in other children's ministries.

In 2023 we have enjoyed a Disciple Now weekend (with activities centered at The Branches and in the homes of several church members), a day trip to Busch Gardens Theme Park in Williamsburg, VA, a mission trip to Fayetteville, WV, and Passport Camp in Berea, KY. Our youth led our entire worship service on Youth Sunday in the spring.

Parents are also a focus of our student ministry as we seek to care for the entire family. We invite parents to participate in occasional seminars, classes, and meetings to address the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of the entire family. Our goal is to provide students in grades 6-12 and their families a faith-based community that ministers to those families and likewise offers opportunities for our students and their families to minister in our community and world.



## ► SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH

In addition to Sunday School, our seniors have a fellowship group called the Senior Lunch Bunch. This group meets informally for monthly lunches at local restaurants or in nearby towns, traveling in the church van. Sometimes there are speakers and at other times there is not an arranged program. These gatherings provide an opportunity for fellowship, encouragement, and discussion on senior topics. Pre-pandemic, this group also met for coffee and donuts at the church on the first Tuesday of the month.



## ► ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Along with multiple Sunday School classes for adults, on Wednesday evenings during the school year Oakmont offers an array of spiritual formation small groups for all ages. Bible study, studies of various spiritual formation books, and classes on topics like parenting are offered. Groups are organized for men, women, and coed participation. Small groups are intended to offer additional ways in which we can learn more deeply about our faith. We explore the unique ways God is active in our lives and world. We discover God's presence in our lives and investigate the ways in which God is challenging us to live out our faith in Jesus.

Several services tied to the Christian Year also deepen our formation into Christ's likeness. On the Wednesday night before the First Sunday of Advent we have a Hanging of the Greens service. We also observe an Ash Wednesday service and gather during Holy Week for a Maundy Thursday service.

## DEACON MINISTRY TEAMS

**DEACONS SERVE ON MINISTRY TEAMS BASED ON THEIR SPIRITUAL GIFTS,** natural talents and abilities, a sense of calling by God, and a passion and interest for particular areas of service. Deacons generally serve on one to two ministry teams once they have completed the spiritual gifts inventory and have engaged in a time of spiritual discernment regarding their calling to a specific ministry of pastoral care and leadership in the church. Teams include a bereavement team, conflict resolution team, crisis/benevolence team, homebound/hospital visitation team, Oakmont Square Apartments team, Oakmont Community Missions team, and prayer/discernment team.

OUR

*Missions*



# Our Missions

## What We Do

**OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH IS A MISSIONAL CHURCH** seeking to be the presence of Christ wherever we go and whatever we do. Since its formation, the Oakmont church family has been committed to reaching people for Jesus Christ, helping them grow and center their spiritual life in him, and then sending them out for missions, ministry, and service in the Greenville community and around the world. Oakmont purchased Oakmont Square Apartments in August 2007. The apartments have become a hub for community ministry as well as providing affordable housing for our neighbors. Oakmont's BackYard Buddy Tutoring Program serves this community as we work to meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors.

## LOCAL MISSIONS

### ► OAKMONT VOLUNTEERS AND BENEFICIARIES



### ► Backyard Buddies Tutoring Program

Backyard Buddies is a one-on-one tutoring/mentorship program for our neighbors at Oakmont Square and Carriage House Apartments. Students are paired with an individual tutor to meet with on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. We work with the schools to provide homework help, comprehensive strategy work, and additional study skills practice.

During the summer, Oakmont continues this relationship and organizes summer programs with the focus on building relationships and meeting the physical, relational, and spiritual needs of the residents. This ministry directly benefits the neighborhood children in Oakmont Square and Carriage House Apartments and serves approximately 14 children with 16 tutors and volunteers.

## ► Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery (CR) is a Christ-centered program for anyone struggling with hurt, pain or addiction of any kind by showing them the loving power of Jesus Christ through the recovery process. It is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling lives. CR meets at Oakmont every Monday at 6:30 PM.

## ► Clothes Closet

Our congregation collects gently used clothing for children, men, and women. The closet is open on the first and third Tuesdays from 3:00 -5:00 pm for anyone to come and shop for needed items. It serves approximately 10-30 people a month.

## ► C.M. Eppes School Partnership

Oakmont has had a partnership with C.M. Eppes Middle School since 2005 to assist faculty and students. Events, gift baskets and treats are planned for teachers and staff during the school year that allow for times of connections between Oakmonters and those faculty and staff at the school. Collecting donations of school supplies and hygiene items to meet student needs is another part of our partnership. Oakmont's Backpack Pals food ministry is also a way we partner with the school: teachers identify students who are food insecure. A volunteer at church packs food bags each week with donated and purchased food from financial donations for the students to take home on weekends during the school year.



## ► Knit/Crochet Group

Individuals knit or crochet dishcloths, shawls, scarves, and caps and donate them to various individuals and groups. Recipients of items have been church members upon the birth of a baby, or when in the hospital, Samaritans' Purse for the shoeboxes, Ayden Court Nursing Home, and Packs for Patriots.

## ► Oakmont Ramp Builders

This group of men builds handicap ramps for Pitt County neighbors in need each week, which literally gives people their lives back so they can safely go outside their homes. These 15 faithful volunteers built new ramps, took down old ramps to reuse and also repaired ramps, for a total of 45 ramp projects in 2022. This ministry receives a grant from the ECU Health Foundation for patients who cannot return home until a handicap ramp is built, which helps some individuals with needed funding for construction materials.

## ► The Village Bible Study and Lunch

Oakmont volunteers meet twice a month and provide lunch, Bible study, and child-care to the residents at The Village, an addiction recovery program for women with children. Relationships are built with the women as the team interacts positively with them, shares God's word, and prays confidentially over their written prayer requests. Approximately 8-12 women attend each session, along with a few preschoolers.

## ► Tuesday Night Meal Ministry to Oakmont Senior Adults

Hot meals are prepared and delivered to home-bound and senior adult members, and food boxes are packed and delivered on a rotating basis to our BackYard Buddies families at Oakmont Square and Carriage House Apartments.



## ► Medical Clinic

From 2013 to March 2023 we operated a Medical Clinic for residents of Pitt County who do not have medical insurance or a doctor. The Medical Clinic began at Oakmont Square Apartments and later moved to Branches to accommodate the need to see more patients. The Clinic provided basic wellness check-ups, medical follow-up, referrals, and prescription refills. The Medical Clinic had over 2,700 Patient Encounters seen by nurses, physicians, PAs, NPs, lay volunteers, pharmacists, and health assistants since 2013. Our hope is to renew this ministry at some point in the future.

## ► Operation InAsMuch

Operation InAsMuch is a day of hands-on missions in our community involving multiple local churches and many volunteers. Oakmont's first OIAM was held in 1999 and the church has led over 20 OIAMs through the years. A planning team identifies needs of local agencies and individuals; then volunteers (children, youth, and adults) sign up for the project of their choice and use their God-given passions and talents to meet tangible needs locally.

## MISSIONS GIVING

Oakmont is partnered with a variety of local and national ministries that we support with finances, prayers, volunteers, and other tangible resources:

- Missions Offering - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions
- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina
- NC Baptists on Mission (formerly known as NC Baptist Men)
- NC Woman's Missionary Union and NC Woman's Red Prison Boxes
- Community Crossroads Center (Homeless Shelter)
- Carolina Pregnancy Center
- Building Hope Community Life Center
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Little Willie Center
- Eastern NC Stop Human Trafficking
- CareNet Counseling East (affiliated with Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist in Winston-Salem, North Carolina)
- The Village - Rehabilitation Home for Women With Children
- Ramp Builders - Partnership with ECU Health Foundation

## INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL MISSIONS

Our purpose statement summarizes what we hope happens in our community of faith: "Connecting lives with Christ as the center by following God's purpose – by reaching, serving, going, and growing in faith." Oakmont's members, including youth, youth leaders, parents, and various other short term missionaries, travel to different locations sharing the love of Christ, serving others, and participating in a variety of missions experiences. These teams have assisted with the construction of a school, church and houses, worked on Vacation Bible School programs, and provided medical services in these communities. We are excited to continue this tradition with a renewed emphasis on local, regional, and international missions.

- Ukraine (1996)
- Alaska (2001, 2004, 2005)
- Belize to work with Maas Family, CBF Missionaries (Construction, Schools, Medical and VBS) (2008-2016)
- Honduras Construction Mission (2004-2007)
- Disaster Relief (2006, 2007)
- Moldova Orphanage Camp (2007, 2008, 2010, 2011)
- Nicaragua (2008, 2013, 2015-2018)
- Cuba (2017) - Construction Team
- Dominican Republic - Youth and Medical Teams, Various Years
- Youth US Summer Mission Trips include New York, Washington, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Atlanta, and Florida

OUR

Community



# Community

## Who We serve

### OUR COMMUNITY/WHO WE SERVE

**OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH IS IN GREENVILLE, N.C., THE 11<sup>TH</sup> LARGEST CITY IN THE STATE**, located about 90 miles east of Raleigh and 75 miles west of the Atlantic coast. Greenville is the health, entertainment, and educational hub of Eastern North Carolina. It is the home of East Carolina University, the 4th largest state university with 30,000 undergraduate students and 1,800 faculty members. Vidant Medical Center serves as the tertiary care referral center for the 29 counties of Eastern North Carolina and the teaching hospital for the ECU Brody School of Medicine. The main employers in Greenville are ECU Health, East Carolina University, and the Pitt County Public Schools. The median income in Greenville is \$45,000-\$60,000; there is, however, a significant underserved population with 30% of residents at the poverty level. Nearly 50% of Greenville residents identify as religious and most church members are Protestant Christian composed of Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, and Disciples of Christ. Roman Catholics comprise a sizable cohort of the Christian spectrum with two vital Catholic congregations in our community, one of which sponsors two schools for elementary and middle and high school students. Baptists comprise nearly 10% of church members in the area. Recreational activities include hiking, camping, golf, tennis, hunting, fishing, and water activities on the Pamlico River and the Atlantic Ocean. Organized sports are very popular, and Greenville has a strong tradition in Little League Baseball with teams making appearances in the Little League World Series in 1998 and 2017. Greenville has a wide variety of cultural events with especially strong programs offered by the ECU School of Theater and Dance.





OUR

*Congregation  
and  
Staff*

# Congregation & Staff

## Who We Are

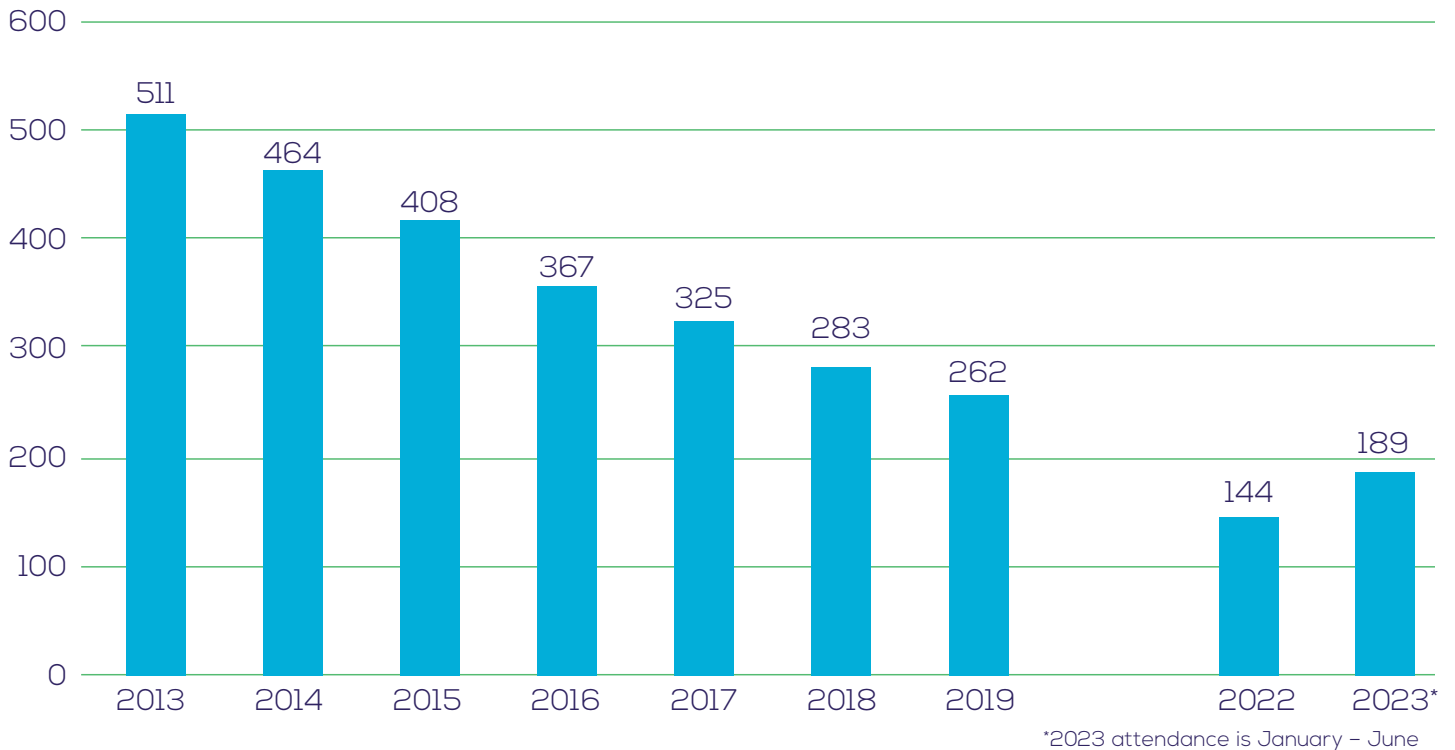
**THE MEMBERSHIP OF OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH IS A DIVERSE AND ACTIVE BODY OF BELIEVERS.** Our congregation is a welcoming home for people of all ages, and we are fortunate to have a wide range of ages and longevity. Relationships are at the core of what we do as we serve and worship together as a church family.

There are many discipleship and service opportunities for people at all stages of their spiritual walk. Men and Women serve in a multitude of lay led teams that impact not just our church, but our greater community. We strive to embody Christ's servant heart as we share His love in our church and world. We believe that what we do outside the walls of our congregation is far more important than a single, inward focus on ourselves.



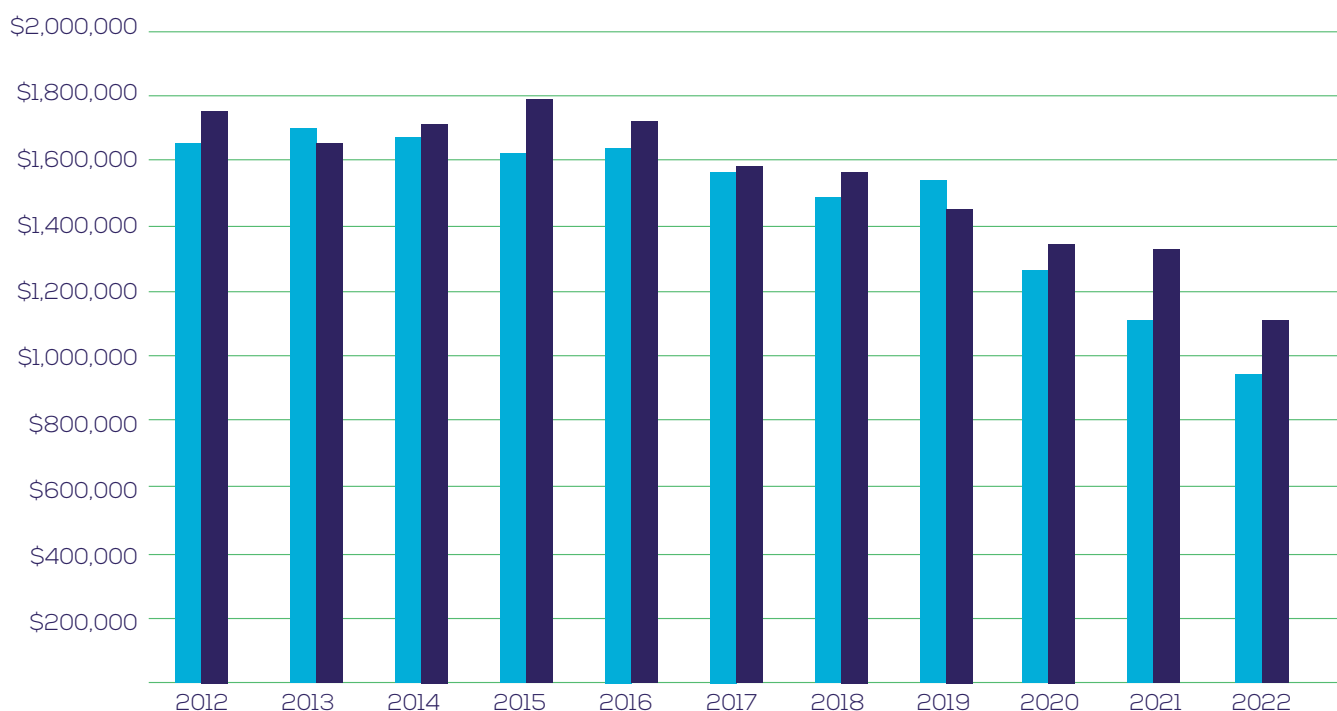
## ► 10-YEAR AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE DATA

(No data for 2020–2021)



## ► 10-YEAR EXPENSES VS. RECEIPTS

■ Expenses | ■ Receipts



**ALL PEOPLE OF OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH  
ARE MINISTERS AND SERVE ALONGSIDE:**



**SENIOR PASTOR**

Rev. Eric Porterfield



**WORSHIP LEADER**

Mr. Philip Jackson



**MINISTER OF EDUCATION,  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Mr. Ben Gurganus



**WORSHIP LEADER**

Mrs. Karen Meetze



**PASTORAL/MUSIC  
MINISTRY SECRETARY**

Ms. Lauri Johnson



**PIANIST**

Mrs. Alisa Gilliam



**EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES  
SECRETARY**

Mrs. Sally Pride



**MUSIC ASSISTANT**

Mr. Jim Gilliam



**FACILITY MANAGER**

Mr. Wayne Taylor



**SEXTON**

Mr. Jimmy Weaver



**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT**

Mrs. Caroline Bissette



**COMMUNICATIONS  
SPECIALIST**

Mrs. Amy Cook



OUR

*Future*



# Our Future

## Where Is God Leading Us?

**"OAKMONT 2.0" BEGAN WITH THE CALLING OF A NEW SENIOR PASTOR, AND CONTINUES AS WE SEARCH FOR A NEW MINISTER OF MUSIC.** The search for a senior pastor included deep prayer, discernment and congregational conversations, and we're following a similar path in our music search. In addition, our "Oakmont 2.0" work involves a prayerful, intentional visioning process during the fall of 2023 and the first half of 2024. We seek a Minister of Music to join us on this journey, helping Oakmont build on the foundations of a welcoming and loving missional church that works to connect others to Christ.

We are ready to move forward with God's will, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. We know that we must make necessary changes to accomplish the ideal of living into God's will. With God's help, we can:

- Build on the foundations of a welcoming and loving church that is nurturing and accepting of others.
- See the needs of others and put them above our individual and personal preferences.
- Focus on God's dream for Oakmont and avoid distractions.
- Grow younger by focusing on the needs of our youth.
- Grow spiritually as individuals and a congregation.
- Serve God and our community through missions.
- Have unity without uniformity.



# Minister of Music Profile

**OAKMONT BAPTIST CHURCH IS SEEKING A MINISTER OF MUSIC** who will help keep us focused on God in worship, striving for excellence and faithfulness in all areas of music and all elements of our worship services. As the unique person God has shaped him or her to be, we look to this person to bring energy and theological depth to our worship services and congregational life. We are looking for someone to collaborate with pastoral staff and lay leaders in pointing us to Jesus in worship, helping us become more like Jesus in all we do, and helping us participate through the Holy Spirit in Jesus' work in the world.

Based on conversations with the congregation, we believe the following represents the primary ministry responsibilities and characteristics of the next Minister of Music of Oakmont Baptist Church.

## ► MUSIC AND WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

- Works with pastoral staff and lay leaders in planning weekly worship services based on the sermon passages and the seasons of the Christian Year.
- Directs the Chancel Choir and congregational hymn singing, leads or guides/supports the Praise Team, ensembles, handbells, and orchestra, and guides/supports the Revelation Players drama team.
- Appreciates a variety of musical styles and teaches the congregation music from a variety of styles.
- Cultivates opportunities for children, youth, and senior adults to experience and deepen their faith through music

## ► PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TRAITS

- Loves Jesus and nurtures his/her own spiritual life.
- Loves the congregation through patient presence, listening, and prayer.
- Loves our neighbors through community involvement, prayer and presence, and outreach through music.

## ► MUSIC LEADERSHIP TRAITS

- Collaborative leader and team player.
- Comfortable working with all ages.
- Able to lead musicians of all styles and abilities.



## Oakmont Baptist Church

1100 RED BANKS ROAD | GREENVILLE, NC 27858

[OAKMONTCHURCH.COM](http://OAKMONTCHURCH.COM) | 252-756-1245

[Greenville.gov](http://Greenville.gov) | [Visitgreenvillenc.com](http://Visitgreenvillenc.com)