

It's hard to believe that we are transitioning into another year. Where in the world did 2011 go?

We look back over the past year and can remember significant events around the world like: troops finally returning from Iraq, the end of Osama Bin Laden, devastation in Japan with an earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown. We have seen people occupying parks and civic spaces while trying to get their voices heard.

During the past year we have had some good times around Oakland Baptist Church. As I look back, I recall ministries that touched lives near and far. We have sent food to Appalachia, a nurse to North Dakota, men to the Mountains of Western North Carolina, and youth to Greenville, SC. Care packages were sent to Marines in Afghanistan while blankets were collected for homeless in Richmond. There's been Bible School, Revival, and Consignment Sales; Fall Festival, Fish Fry and Trunk or Treat. It's been good.

We've said so long to some special friends and family members as they are now residing in heaven. We've met new friends who have been welcomed into our fellowship. Truly there have been moments of sadness, and gladness, too!

By the time the last page of 2011 is turned, Christmas will seem long ago. The decorations will be taken down, the tree will be set to the curb, and gift exchanges will have taken place. A new year is dawning, but what will it bring?

It's my desire that we make an impact in 2012... impact our lives in worship while growing in discipleship and fellowship. As we grow we should desire to minister, serve, give, and go, all the while, making an impact in the lives we come in contact with.

Will you commit with me to making an impact in 2012... growing, giving, serving and going? "Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." (Ps. 37:4)

It's a joy to serve Jesus as your Pastor...

Rev Kev

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Keep in Touch!



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Remember our Nursing Home Members:

Evelyn Grimes, Envoy at The Meadows, 2715 Dogtown Road, Goochland, VA 23063
Ellis Holloway, Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Health Care, 1601 Broad Rock Blvd., Room 123, Richmond, VA 23224
Bernice Peasley, Parham Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, 2400 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23228



Please sure to submit your announcements or articles for the newsletter, bulletin, website or Goshen News according to the schedules listed below. We will only publish items that are submitted through the communication@oakland-baptist.com email. For those of you without email access, please call or submit your written request to Sherry Alston (804) 855-7446.

Deadlines:

Bulletin – 12 noon of each Thursday
Newsletter – 18th of each month
Website – 12 noon of each Thursday
Goshen Newsletter – 15th of each month



REFERENCE INFORMATION

Deadlines:

Newsletter – 18th of each month
Bulletin – 12 noon of each Thursday

Submit **articles** to communication@Oakland-Baptist.com

Prayer requests should be e-mailed to communication@Oakland-Baptist.com or call the church office and leave a message (804) 556-3550.

Website requests should be sent to: webmaster@Oakland-Baptist.com

NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #, BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CHANGES:

Please notify YOUR DEACON with ANY CHANGES to your personal information. This will assist in assuring birthdays and anniversaries are correct and included in the newsletter at the appropriate time. The changes include: name, address, phone # changes, new births, deaths, weddings and divorce information for name changes or anniversary deletions to keep the church database updated for newsletter and other mailings to members and non-members. When we don't have your correct mailing address, your mail is returned to the post office and the church is charged return postage.

HOME ADDRESS and PHONE NUMBER:

Kevin & Danette Moen
P.O. Box 1342
Bowling Green, VA 22427
804-633-2873 – home
804.366.5672 – Kevin's cell phone
Kevin's email: pastor@oakland-baptist.com

If you would like to receive information by e-mail from Kevin, our pastor, email him to be added and you will be added to his Oakland Church list.



YOUR OBC website

is constantly being updated. Please check it often for updated information: www.oakland-baptist.com and please click the "contact us" to give us any suggestions on what you'd like to see included. Thank you.

Happy Birthday!

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Shannon Fields | 1/1 |
| Amanda Brooking | 1/3 |
| David Hodges | 1/3 |
| Karen Nicely | 1/3 |
| Julia Strebel | 1/4 |
| Adam Alford | 1/5 |
| Stewart Hicks | 1/5 |
| Sophie Summitt | 1/5 |
| Melissa Heffinger | 1/7 |
| Judy Bailey | 1/8 |
| Linda Smith | 1/8 |
| Missy Bowmaster | 1/9 |
| Patrick Hodges | 1/9 |
| Rhiannon Sherrill | 1/9 |
| Ricky Harper | 1/10 |
| Kenny Southall | 1/10 |
| Jason Snead | 1/11 |
| Trish Wise | 1/11 |
| Crystal Kirkines | 1/12 |
| Nancy Walton | 1/14 |
| Katherine Murphy | 1/15 |
| Amy Gordon | 1/16 |
| Charles Atkins, Jr. | 1/17 |
| Gregory Comstock | 1/17 |
| Robert Parrish | 1/18 |
| Jenny Summitt | 1/18 |
| Liz Alford | 1/19 |
| Frank Erdt | 1/19 |
| Rebecca England | 1/19 |
| Mabel Pleasants | 1/19 |
| Mabel Behrens | 1/21 |
| Jessica Osborne | 1/22 |
| Frank Smith | 1/22 |
| Hallie Hicks | 1/23 |
| Kyndall Bradshaw | 1/25 |
| Robert Gammon | 1/25 |
| Alice Troy | 1/25 |
| Peter Carrasco | 1/28 |
| Jennifer Parkerson | 1/29 |
| Patricia Gammon | 1/29 |
| Kim Groome | 1/29 |
| Josie Summitt | 1/29 |
| Jennifer Walsh | 1/29 |
| Mike Dillon | 1/30 |
| Tammy Price | 1/30 |
| Bernard Hawk | 1/31 |
| Beth Willis | 1/31 |

Happy Anniversary!

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Dan & Carol Summitt | 1/1 |
| Grayson & Barbara Atkinson | 1/9 |
| Frank & Mary Southall | 1/9 |
| Wallace & Brenda Snead | 1/20 |
| Stewart & Hallie Hicks | 1/23 |
| Tony & Kathy Wade | 1/27 |

WHAT'S UP WITH THE YOUTH THESE DAYS?

FALL/WINTER MISSION - - MARINES IN AFGHANISTAN - - The OBC Youth will be sending packages to the Marines of Fox Company deployed in Afghanistan. Many books have been saved from last year to be sent, and new items list has yet to be determined. That being said we will hold off on items collection, though a monetary donation is still needed. Monetary donations will be used to send the packages. Please contact Ali Marks if you are led to donate.



We will have a fish fry planning meeting Tuesday, January 3rd, at 7pm. We need everyone's input to make this a successful fish fry. This will be our 10th year.

facebook

Name:
Oakland Baptist
Church



facebook

Name:
Goshen Baptist
Association



Do you facebook? Did you know that Oakland Baptist Church has a facebook page? Did you know that Goshen Baptist Association has a facebook page? We would love to have you "friend" us and follow us on facebook! We post upcoming events to the facebook page as well as our website. We'd love to hear your comments and suggestions!

NOTES, MISSION OPPORTUNITIES and ANNOUNCEMENTS

We had a super day at our second annual “Breakfast with Santa” on Saturday morning Dec. 3. We noticed just how commercial a visit with Santa at the mall had become and felt we could bring back the fun that was missing.

We had a great turn out with 56 kids and 68 adults to spend some time with Santa. We also had 32 Oakland members to help out during the event which was a blessing to have this kind of support. With the help of the consignment committee we used their data base to help get the word out though the community and come they did.

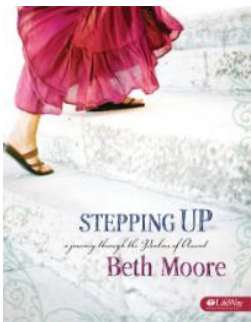
What can we say about Santa..... He did a great job spending time with every child, young and old. We had commits like “he is the best Santa ever” and” he is the real Santa”. He sat for hours in his hot suit never complaining and talked to all the kids, several times. Family members and friends were able to take as many pictures as they liked. Kim Rossen, Sherry Alston, and Dennis Brooking among others took pictures of everyone with Santa and have them posted on our web site so take a look.

The kitchen crew cooked a mountain of pancakes and sausage with Sandy Harper, Lonnie Kincaid, Hazel Morgan, Jerri & Mike Sherrill, Betsy Young, and others I’m sure I forgot to mention. I think Rev Kev served up the record size pancake for Santa. The youth helped out serving and working with Santa.

We collected information from each visitor which we will use to contact them about coming to Oakland if they are not currently church members elsewhere. We want to use this as a stepping stone to help grow our children’s and young adult ministries.

It really was a fantastic day and I don’t know if the kids or the Oakland crew had the most fun, I know I did. I did see a lot of our church members setting on Santa’s lap. We are already looking to next year to see if we can make it bigger and better while bring people closer to the Lord.

Love in Christ,
Ricky Harper



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We have two opportunities for you to join our next Beth Moore study, “Stepping Up: A Journey through the Psalms of Ascent”. This is a seven week, in-depth study of Psalms 120-134, psalms of sojourners, pilgrims going to worship God three times a year, at least in Jerusalem. This Bible Study leads fellow travelers to strive to reach a new level of relationship and intimacy with God. Member books can be purchased at LifeWay for \$12.95.

The Sunday school group will begin this study on Sunday, January 8, 2012. A light breakfast will be served at 9 am and we will start the discussion and video at 9:15 am. If you have any questions about the Sunday school class, see Sharon Kincaid.

Can’t make it to the Sunday school class? Then join us on Monday evenings beginning Monday, January 9, 2012 at 6:45pm. If you have any questions about the evening group, contact Sherry Alston (804.855.7446).

Baptist Buzz...

Excerpts from

News from the WMU, Goshen Baptist Association, & Virginia Baptist...

Fresh Expressions National Gathering: The Good News: Every Person. Every Place. Every Church. March 16-17 at First Baptist Church Alexandria. Visit: freshexpressionsus.org for more information.



RuraLove Ministry Update

During the past month RuraLove helped churches minister to:

- 13 families with financial help
- 10 families with household needs
- 3 families with a whole house
- 2 families with clothing
- 2 families with a project
- 2 families with wood

Excerpt from The Religious Herald:

“Tithing hits record low and recession only partly to blame” By Piet Levy, Religion News Service

Tithing to mainline Protestant churches as a percentage of income is at its lowest level in at least 41 years, according to a new report, and churches are keeping a greater share of those donations for their own needs.

Parishioners gave about 2.38 percent of their income to their church, according to “The State of Church Giving through 2009,” a new report being released Oct. 14 by Empty Tomb inc., a Christian research agency in Champaign, Ill.

Those are new lows, at least going back to the first report in 1968. At first glance, the lagging economy would appear to be a primary culprit. Edith H. Falk, chair of Chicago-based Giving USA Foundation, indicated this summer that the biggest drops in more than 40 years occurred in 2008 and 2009, as the recession took its greatest toll.

“We all have to be concerned anytime there’s a decline in charitable giving,” Hood said. “People are not being served at the same level that they have been.”

To read the full article see the Religious Herald; online:

http://www.religiousherald.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5392&Itemid=53



Holy Land Experience - November 26-December 4, 2012

Would you like to have a life-changing and never to be forgotten experience? It is our joy to invite you to join us on a trip to the Bible Lands where you will find a new dimension in understanding Christian history and the life of our Lord. We will visit places where Jesus walked, lived, taught, performed miracles, where He was crucified and raised from the dead. We will take a boat ride on the Sea of Gallilee, worship in the Garden of Gethsemane, and much more. Contact Mike Durham for more information at 540.894.4234.

Baptist Buzz...continued

Excerpts from

News from the WMU, Goshen Baptist Association, & Virginia Baptist

Human Exploitation:

WMUV is launching a new initiative in partnership in connection with WMU's Project HELP^(SM). During 2012 our focus will be on awareness, education, prayer, and some basic ways to Engage. As we continue to emphasize prayer in 2013, we will target specific areas in which to respond more fully.

We encourage you to explore the following issues, and prayerfully consider where you would 'join Jesus Christ where He is at work in the world.'

BULLYING



PORNOGRAPHY

SEXTING

HUMAN

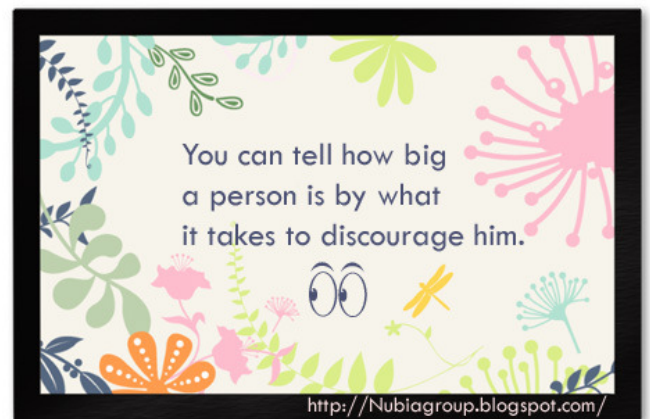
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EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES



MEDIA EXPLOITATION



WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

| Date | Deacon of the Week | Greeter | Extended Session | Kid's Korner |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 | Sandy Harper | Edith Wheedleton | Christina Clough | Kathy Wade |
| 08 | Mike Sherrill | Peggy Bartley | Kim Rosson | Bill Groome |
| 15 | Hazel Morgan | Carolyn Grant | Robin Battle | Sharon Kincaid |
| 22 | Ricky Harper | Hazel Morgan | Cheryl Klaty | Shirley Bath |
| 29 | Jerri Sherrill | Marie Nester | Michelle Alford | Lesley Alford |



January

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> 6pm WNS 7pm & Bible study 8pm Choir Practice | <u>5</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>7</u> |
| <u>8</u> 9:45am-Sunday School 11am Worship 12:30 Deacons Meeting | <u>9</u> | <u>10</u> | <u>11</u> 6pm WNS 7pm & Bible study 8pm Choir Practice | <u>12</u> 7:15pm WOM Evening Group | <u>13</u> | <u>14</u> |
| <u>15</u> 9:45am-Sunday School 11am Worship 11:15am Children's Worship 12:30 Church Council | <u>16</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>18</u> 6pm WNS 7pm & Bible study 8pm Choir Practice | <u>19</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>21</u> |
| <u>22</u> 9:45am-Sunday School 11am Worship 11:15 Children's Worship | <u>23</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>25</u> 7pm Bible study 8pm Choir Practice | <u>26</u> | <u>27</u> | <u>28</u> |
| <u>29</u> 9:45am-Sunday School 11am Worship | <u>30</u> | <u>31</u> | <p>Joshua 24:15 - New International Version (NIV) ¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."</p> | | | |

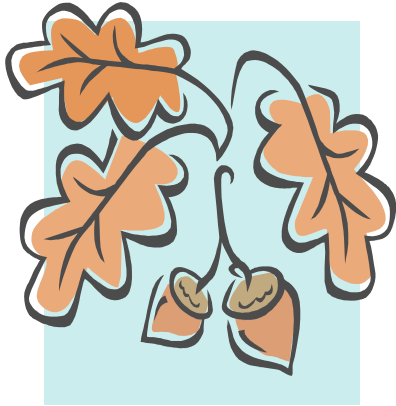
The Acorn

P.O. Box 99
Gum Spring, VA 23065

Church Office: 804-556-3550
(please leave a message)

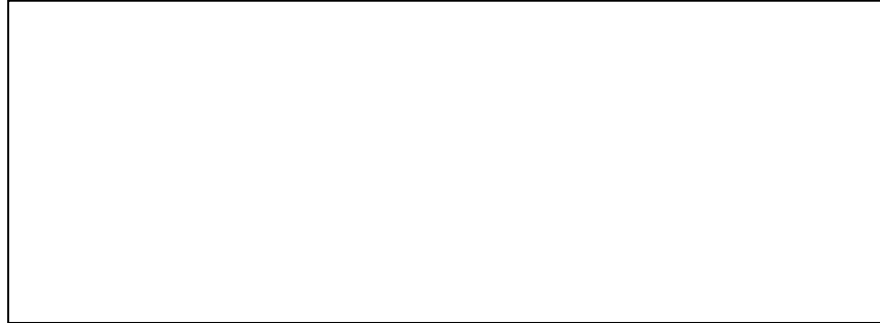
web address:

www.Oakland-Baptist.com



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Remembered in our hearts and prayers:



Amanda Alston
Sherry Alston's friend, Lisa
Family of Maria Alvis
Jim Bartley
Sandi Blair's godson
Ruth Coleman
Ricky Harper's Sister-in-Law
Jim Hawks (Gladys' cousin)
Michaela Kandrotas
Sharon Kincaid's co-worker
Mary Leistra (Gladys' sister in law)
Luca Liesfeld & Family
Rhonda Lloyd's Cousin - Scott
Frank Moran
Primo Parrish Family
Wanda Powell
Tonya Kay Robbins (Danette's
cousin)
Harry Rosson

Frank Smith's co-workers infant &
family
Sandi Williams

Oakland Angel Tree Recipients;
Our Children's Ministry; Santa
Breakfast Attendees.

**Remember our Nursing Home
Members. Their names and
addresses are listed under
"Keep in Touch" section.**

**Remember our Servicemen &
Their Families:**

*USMC 2/4 Fox Company
(Afghanistan)*

*Chris Durham, Stateside
Sully Edwards, Out on Deployment
Sgt. Allen Gordon (Deployed)
Daniel Gregory, Army - Stateside
Chris Humphrey-Afghanistan
Ethan Payne, U.S.M.C.*