

Oakland
Baptist
Church



THE ACORN

December
2015



Located at:
2965 Oakland Church Rd.
Gum Spring, VA 23065

On the web at:
www.Oakland-Baptist.com
Office: 804-556-3550

Dear Church Family,

Wow... it is hard to believe that December is already here and the end of 2015 is drawing near. This time of year is always a busy time for families and churches as we celebrate the birth of Jesus and all that means for us a Christians. My prayer is that we will all find and take time this month to reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas... which is the reality that God is with us. He is not far off, but He lives among us and within us. He is not some distant creator, but is intimately involved in the daily affairs of our lives and the universe. Because of Christmas, we can know that God is with us no matter what may be going on in our lives. Let's celebrate the reality of "God With Us" this month... and each day of our lives!

We will be celebrating Christmas in a number of ways at Oakland Baptist Church this month. We begin on Saturday/Dec 5th with our "Santa Breakfast" from 8:00-10:00 a.m. This is always a fun time for our children. On Sunday/Dec. 6th we will kick off our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering ingathering as we move toward our goal of raising \$3000. Last year we went far beyond this goal and I am confident we will do the same this year. This Sunday we will be privileged to hear from Jeff & Rose Waligora, missionaries from China. On Sunday/Dec. 13th we will be blessed as our choir leads us in worship as they present their Christmas cantata. On Sunday/Dec. 20 we will continue our celebration at morning worship and also have the joy of seeing our children present their Christmas play that evening. Of course, Christmas Eve will be our "Communion by Candlelight" service as we light the final candle of the Advent Season. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the coming of our Lord during the month of December.

Let me also say a brief word about a change in our Deacon Family Ministry plan. Due to the fact that each year three of our deacons rotate off and three new deacons are elected, it has become somewhat confusing and frustrating to keep up with assigning families to individual deacons. Therefore, we want each church member to feel free to contact any of our deacons or pastoral team as they have a need to do so. We, the Deacon Fellowship and the Pastoral Team, are here to serve you. The names and contact information for each of our active deacons is listed in this newsletter along with contact information for Randy and Betty. Let us know how we can serve and encourage you. We look forward to hearing from you.

With Love, Prayers & Blessings,

Randy & Betty Rains

In this issue:

Pastor's Pen	1
Articles	2
Newsletter / Bulletin Deadlines & Notes	2
Database changes Contact info	2
What's up with the Youth these days?	3
Anniversaries	3
Birthdays	3
Notes & Announcements	4 - 6
Assignments	7
Calendar of Events	7
Prayer Reminders	8



Keep in Touch!

Ruth Coleman
Symphony Manor
12411 Gayton Road, #302
Henrico, VA 23238

Margie Gonzalez, 334.692.4131
162 Jones Road
Newton, Alabama 36352

Tom & Claire Parrish, 804.447.4141
12401 Gayton Road
Room 325
Henrico, VA 23238

Darrell & Cheri Wise
10759 Southern Trace Circle
Flint, TX 7752

New Address:
PFC Bradshaw
3-82 GSAB
Ft. Bragg, NC 28307

Kathy Pope
7321 Fairwood Avenue
New Port Richey, FL 34653

REFERENCE INFORMATION

Do you want to put something in the bulletin or newsletter? Do you want to put something on our Website or in the Goshen News? If so, please submit the information exactly as you want it to appear and where you want it to appear, BY the deadlines listed below to: communication@oakland-baptist.com email. For those of you without email access, please call or submit your written request to Sherry Alston.

Deadlines:

- Bulletin** – 12 noon of each Thursday
- Newsletter** – 15th of each month at noon
- Website** – 12 noon of each Thursday
- Goshen Newsletter** – 15th of each month

Have you moved??? Has your name changed? Do you have an update to a birthday or anniversary in your family? If you answered YES to any of these questions...Please notify YOUR DEACON with ANY CHANGES to your personal information; 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 & other mailings to members & non-members. When we don't have your correct mailing address, your mail is returned to the post office & the church is charged return postage. **If you don't know who your deacon is,** please contact any member of the Deacon Fellowship: Len & Paula Archer, Lesley Alford, Bobby Fields, Bill Groome, Ricky Harper, Frank Smith, Glenn Williams, or Angie Wright. Thank you.

NEWSLETTER CHANGE BEGINNING JANUARY 2016: During the October business meeting, the membership voted to discontinue bulk mailing of the monthly newsletter. This was done for two main reasons: (1) a cost saving of approximately \$600 per year and (2) the inconvenience and challenges of the bulk mailing process. If you are interested in continuing to receive the Oakland Baptist Church monthly newsletter, please provide an updated email address to communication@oakland-baptist.com. Be sure to add this email address to your safe senders list in order to avoid it going to your junk/spam mail. If you do not have email access, you can pick your newsletter up from church. We will continue to mail the monthly newsletter via 1st class postage to members without email access or those who are homebound or in nursing homes. Contact one of the committee members to update/confirm your mailing address. If you wish to continue receiving the newsletters, update your email address or contact one of the committee members by DECEMBER 15, 2015. All others will be deleted as we will assume you no longer wish to receive them. Committee members: Sherry Alston (804.855.7446); Shirley Bath (804.241.5702); Bill Groome (804.556.6482); Pat Groome (804.908.3276); and Sharon Kincaid (804.439.1417). Thank you.

Our cantata this year is "Breath of Heaven" and will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 13th at the 11 am service. We ask you to bring canned or boxed food, wrapped in white paper to be presented under the Chrismon tree during the Cantata. Please join us as we celebrate our Savior's birth.



Thanks for your support! Pray for the children who will receive your shoebox. It will bless their lives.

The OBC Angel Tree is located in the hallway. Take an angel from the tree, write your name on the list provided, and bring the gift back no later than December 9. Questions? Contact Sandy Harper. Thank you for your support.

Everyone is invited to the Children's Christmas Play, *From the Manager*, on Sunday, December 20th at 6 pm. After the play, join us for a time of fellowship & a special guest. Please bring a snack or desert to share.

Special Called Business Meeting on December 9, 2014, at 7 pm to approve the 2016 Budget.

Happy Birthday!

Virginia MacDonald	12/1
Lesley Alford	12/2
Billy Walton	12/6
Jimmy Lloyd	12/7
Rob Strebel	12/7
Peggy Bartley	12/10
Crystal Hicks	12/10
Amy Fields	12/13
Lauren Wagner	12/13
Brad Goff	12/14
Jacqueline Matysek	12/15
Leona Kay Oglesby	12/15
Dennis Gammon	12/17
Judy Gordon	12/17
Joey Hamrick	12/17
Linda Dillon	12/18
Robert Parrish	12/18
Jill Snead	12/18
Warren Hicks	12/19
Theresa Hicks	12/20
Caleb Franklin	12/22
Mark Brooking	12/23
Wendy Grady	12/25
Phil Farmer	12/26
Richard Klaty	12/26
Gail Pillsbury	12/26
Linda Proffitt	12/26
Mike Smith	12/26
Wanda Kirby	12/27
Bruce Alford	12/28
Timothy Jarrell	12/28
Lorraine Klein	12/30
Donald Ware	12/30

Happy Anniversary!

Jason & Jamie Snead	12/3
Les & Pam Bradshaw	12/5
Vance & Beth Willis	12/7
Len & Paula Archer	12/11
Wilford & Shirley Bowyer	12/14
Bill & Jeni DeRusha	12/21
Robert & Sharon Atkinson	12/28
Robert & Louise Parrish	12/31
Thomas & Billie Reid	12/31

Deacon Family Ministry Plan - For several years we have attempted to follow a plan where each deacon was assigned a number of families that would be under their care. This system has not worked well and, with the rotation of deacons each year, has created much confusion and frustration. Therefore, we are phasing out this approach and want any church member to feel free to contact the deacon of their choice or the pastoral team as needed. The Deacon Fellowship and the Pastoral Team are here to serve you as we can. Please don't hesitate to contact whoever you feel could be of service or encouragement to you. We are listing the names of all active deacons and the pastoral team along with their contact numbers for your convenience. It is our joy and privilege to serve you.

Randy Rains: 804.201.6573 (cell); Email - rrains@imb.org; Betty Rains: 804.201.6576 (cell), Email - bgrains@gmail.com; Len Archer : 804.556.4583, 804.517.2901 (cell), Email - badge170@hotmail.com; Paula Archer: 804.556.4583, 804.305-5019 (cell), Email - paulaarcher7@hotmail.com; Bobby Fields: 804.556.4800; Ricky Harper: 804.556.3694, 804.514.6988 (cell), Email - rickyharper03@aol.com; Sandy Harper: 804.556.3694, 804.514.3871 (cell), Email - harperscharper@yahoo.com; Kim Rosson: 804.928.2780 (cell), Email - krosson23065@yahoo.com; Glenn Williams: 804.556.6399, 804.629.5353 (cell); Angie Wright: 804.937.5406 (cell); Betsy Young: 804.457.4048.



FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Oakland Baptist Church

December 5, 2014, 8 am - 10 am

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy breakfast and...

- Hear the story of the first *Christmas!*
- Decorate a *Christmas* ornament!
- Sit on *Santa's* lap and have your picture taken!

Join us for this great time of fellowship and to remember that *Jesus* is the reason for the season!

WMU Happenings...

Week of Prayer for International Missions is November 29 - December 6. Our goal for this year's Lottie Moon Offering is \$3,000.

On Sunday, December 6, Jeff and Rose Waligora, Missionary to East Asian Peoples, will share during the morning service about their work with in China. Afterwards, we will have a fellowship meal. WMU will provide fried chicken. Please bring a side dish³ and/or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.

The Lottie Moon Post Office is open. Drop off Christmas Cards to members who attend services regularly and save some money. Place

The ladies will have a Christmas lunch social at Olive Garden Short Pump, on December 13th directly after church. Meet in OBC parking lot to carpool or arrive at the restaurant by 1 pm if not carpooling. Wear your special Christmas attire for this fun time. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. Everyone is encouraged to bring an inexpensive gift (\$5 limit) for a gift exchange. Do not designate who the gift is for, just wrap it and place it on the gift table. Recipients will be drawn at random during a fun game. Extra gifts will be provided if you forget. Come and join in the fun. Questions? Contact

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS – December 2015

Date	Deacon	Greeter	Kid's Korner	Nursery
06	Len Archer	Hazel Morgan	Lesley Alford	Sandi Blair
13	Paula Archer	Betty Stanley	Bill Groome	Michelle Alford
20	Angie Wright	Ann Taylor	Shirley Bath	Sandy Harper
27	Sandy Harper	Kay Amos	Betty Rains	Kim Rosson



December

		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> 7pm Choir	<u>3</u> 7pm B&G Meeting	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> 8 – 10 am Santa Breakfast
Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon						
<u>6</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 11:15am Children's Worship w/Sarah 12:30pm Deacon Meeting	<u>7</u> 10am WOM	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> 7pm Special Called Business Meeting 8pm Choir	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Cantata 12:30pm Youth Committee 1pm OBC Women's Group Luncheon	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> 10am Seniors @ Holly Grove 7pm WOM	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 11:15am Children's Worship w/Shirley 1pm Christmas Caroling 6pm Children's Play	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 6pm Christmas Eve Service	<u>25</u> Merry Christmas!	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 11:15am Children's Worship w/Betty 5pm Grief Support	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>		

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



*Changes to your name, address, birthday, or anniversary?
Please contact your deacon or call the church office at
804.556.3550 & leave a message*

**PRESORTED STANDARD
Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Goochland, VA
Permit No. 20001**

Return Service Requested



Remembered in our hearts & prayers:

Steve Alford
Len & Paula Archer
Shirley Bowyer
Donna & Robert Burris
Ruth Coleman
Kim Frank
Logan Gibson
Francis Groome
Pat Groome
Bailey Grant-Dickerson
Farris Hamrick
Mike Harris
Rod Holder
Rachel McIlyar
Frank Moran
Gladys Nester
Kenny Parrish
Louise Parrish
Wanda Powell
Heath Rains
Randy & Betty Rains

Scott Richardson
Alma Walton
Glenn & Sandi Williams
Angie Wright
Our Country
Our Church
Our Youth
Community Needs
Unspoken Prayer Requests

Our Christian Love & Sympathy:
The Family of Audrey Brown
The Family of Ruby Lent

**Our Nursing Home Members; see
"Keep in Touch" section.**

Remember our Servicemen & Their Families:

Joey Berlin, Stateside
Tennis Bradshaw, Stateside
Chris Durham, Stateside
Gabe Edwards, Deployed
Sully Edwards, Deployed
Sgt. Allen Gordon, Deployed
Daniel Gregory, Army, Stateside
Ethan Payne, USMC, Deployed

**The prayer concern is completely
revised monthly through
mentioned prayer concerns,
website submissions, email
([communication@oakland-
baptist.com](mailto:communication@oakland-baptist.com)) or by contacting
Sherry Alston BY the 15th of each
month**