

Oakland
Baptist
Church



THE ACORN

December
2016



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

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

“A Part in the Play”

Judith B. Bailey

Janet Wolf tells the story of an especially challenging child named Joseph. He could disrupt a class in two or three seconds. No matter how well prepared the teacher, Joseph could turn things upside down in a heartbeat. On the day they class was getting ready for the Christmas pageant, Joseph was especially difficult. He kept muttering, “Ain’t coming to no Christmas play. I got better things to do. Wouldn’t come if you gave me the best part!”

The teacher considered leaving him out altogether, but coaxed him to work with her in directing the participants where to go. “It’s a really important part, Joseph. In fact, they can’t do the play without us, so I hope you are going to be here.” Joseph responded, “Told you, I ain’t got time for no stupid play. My Mama’s taking me to the Christmas parade and I’ll be partying while all y’all in here fooling around.” Joseph’s mother worked two jobs, so it was unlikely he would get to the parade.

Even so, the teacher didn’t expect to see Joseph that Sunday afternoon, but when she arrived 45 minutes early he was there, all dressed up, sitting on the steps, waiting. He greeted the teacher with a smile and a hug and was extremely helpful, willing to do whatever was asked. Later one of the older boys came into the room and yelled at Joseph, “Thought you weren’t comin’ to no stupid play. Thought you had better things to do!”

Joseph responded, “That was before I was in the story, stupid. See, now I’m in the story - they can’t do it without me. Now I’m in the story - course I’m here.”

(Janet Wolf, *Finding Ourselves in the Story*,” in Jubilee: Readings Through the Year, p.30-31).

It matters that we “show up,” when we are needed. It matters that we realize how important our presence is - that each person has a role in the congregation. I hope each of you reading this will take your place this Advent and Christmas season. We have special services planned, beginning with the Hanging of the Greens with the Chrismon Tree, the Choir Cantata, the Children’s Pageant and the candlelight Christmas Eve service among other events and opportunities to serve. There are still parts in these services for you to play.

The Season of Light for Us

*We try directing
the Christmas pageant
but the script is calling for us to be onstage
for us to listen
for us to go with haste
for us to open the inn
for us to share the stable
For us to glimpse the star.
All the parts
have not been taken yet.*

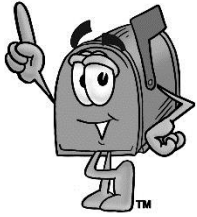
(Thomas John Carlisle, Jubilee: Readings Through the Year, p.29.)



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Keep in Touch!

Ruth Coleman
Symphony Manor
12411 Gayton Road, #118
Richmond, VA 23238

Margie Gonzalez, 334.692.4131
162 Jones Road
Newton, Alabama 36352

Tom & Claire Parrish, 804.447.4141
Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center
1601 Broad Rock Road
Richmond, VA 23224
Tom - Room 138; Claire - Room 137



Christmas at Oakland

- December 18th - Cantata @ 10 am
- December 18th - Christmas Caroling @ 1 pm
- December 18th - Children's Christmas Play @ 6 pm
- December 24th - Christmas Eve Service @ 6 pm
- December 25th - Christmas Service @ 11 am

There will be a special called business meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 7 pm to discuss and vote on the following:

- 2017 Budget
- Nominating Committee Report
- Nominations from the Deacon Fellowship for the Pastor Search Committee

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 as you want it to appear in the bulletin, newsletter or website, 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 Sharon Kincaid.

Deadlines:

- Bulletin** - 12 noon of each Wednesday
- Newsletter** - 15th of each month
- 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 any member of the Deacon Fellowship 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.

Contact Information:

Interim Pastors: David & Judith Bailey
Home: (804) 740-4037
David: (804) 405-8108; Judy: (804) 683-0786

Youth Leader:
Shelby Jones

17250 Taylors Creek Rd
Montpelier, VA 23192
(804)402-6506 (cell)

Email: mom21elijah@gmail.com

Deacon Fellowship:

- Bobby Fields: (804) 556-4800
- Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482
- Pat Groome: (804) 908-3276 (cell)
- Ricky Harper: (804) 556-3694; (804) 514-6985 (cell)
- Sandy Harper: (804) 556-3694; (804) 514-3871 (cell)
- Lonnie Kincaid: (804) 363-3288 (cell)
- Kim Rosson: (804) 928-2780 (cell)
- Ron Taylor: (804) 556-3519; (804) 339-6067 (cell)
- Betsy Young: (804) 457-4048

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 Matyset	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
Addison Brolia	12/19
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

CIAs on the move...

We packed 33 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Each child choose a box to track so we are excited to see where our boxes end up. In the box, they put a letter and picture so maybe we will hear from the child who got it.



The CIAs are collecting non-perishable food items for the Food Bank at Victory Christian. They are in need of canned fruit and soups; however, any and all donations will be accepted. Thank you for your support.



On November 20th, 76 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were delivered to Ragland Baptist. Thanks for your support in making a child's Christmas. In 2017, the CIAs will be collecting items throughout the year to pack shoeboxes. Watch the newsletter for more details.

The Children's Christmas Play will be held on Sunday, December 18th at 6 pm. Come join us as we read the Christmas Story and sing carols. Afterwards we will have a time of fellowship and a special guest. Please bring a finger food/snack to share.



**FREE
PANCAKE
BREAKFAST
WITH SANTA**

**OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 3, 2016
8am - 10am**

**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!
(free pix will be emailed)

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

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Join us for our Annual Caroling on Sunday, December 18th. Bring a bag lunch and we will meet immediately after the worship service and eat. We plan leave church at 1 pm and return by 3 pm.

WMU Happenings...

Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering - Goal \$3,000. Prayer guides and offering envelopes are in the Sunday school rooms and on the table in the church foyer. Thank you for your support.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Post Office is open. Drop off Christmas cards for members who regularly attend church and save some money. Place a suggestion \$.25 donation per card in the tin which will support the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Questions? See Sharon Kincaid.

The New Way (John 13:33-35)
The Baptist General Association Meeting, 2016

Oakland Baptist Church sent three messengers to the 2016 annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia held at Bonsack Baptist Church in Roanoke, VA, November 14-16, 2016.

The three of us, Shirley Bath, Sherry Alston and I were there to experience the programs, learn from the breakout sessions and special speakers, worship, vote on the budget and resolutions, hear resolutions about retiring employees and meet old and new friends. It was a very interesting and uplifting meeting and we want to share some of the highlights for us.

The new schedule this year included breakout sessions on Monday afternoon, not just on Tuesday. I helped lead a breakout titled "Women in Ministry" with two other ministers, Colleey Swingle-Titus and Eli Withers. Our session dealt with the question of how women in ministry have both experienced progress and challenges. Sherry and Shirley attended a breakout on "Welcoming the Stranger" a film that profiles three immigrant stories and includes interview with local and national Christian leaders.

The Tuesday breakout session that Shirley attended was "What's in a Label" led by Mary Ann Johnson, Valerie Carter and Laura Davis, focused on the most common types of mental illnesses and the generalization characteristics associated with those labels. Sherry's breakout was "Understanding Malachi" led by Dr. Bob Moore. It was a study of this prophetic book that contains practical truths and godly principles relevant to our social, political and religious laws today.

Chaplain Lynn Litchfield of *Graceinside* prison ministry presented a dramatic monologue portraying a woman named Hope who has been incarcerated for stealing food to feed her children. This was extremely powerful and heartbreaking; it led most of us to tears. *Graceinside* proposes to be the light of Jesus Christ calling for hope, change and a new way in the lives of prisoners.

The Rev. John Upton, Executive Director of the BGAV and The Rev. Chris Cadenhead of Bonsack Baptist Church, led worship services. The featured speaker on Monday and Tuesday was Gabe Lyons, founder of Q Ideas, a learning community that mobilizes Christians to advance the common good in society and author of *The Next Christians; Seven Ways You can Live the Gospel and Restore the World*.

The two business sessions of the meeting included voting in new officers, approving the 2017 budget of \$10,000,000 and approving changes to the Bylaws and Constitution. New covenants were signed between the BGAV & Campbell University Divinity School and BGAV & Northern Baptist Theological Seminary. The business meeting concluded with a memorial service for those that were associated with the BGAV.

Tuesday's lunch could be purchased from the Virginia Disaster Relief Truck; it was nice to see how that all works. We toured the dental truck that is sponsored through Just Compassion Inc. The dental truck is one from NC that is used to provide 100% free dental services to the poorest areas in NC. They are hoping to be able to provide a dental truck for VA that would begin servicing the 5 poorest locations in Appalachia.

As Shirley and Sherry have said, "It is always a blessing to be able to attend this annual meeting."

Judith B. Bailey

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS – December 2016

Date	Deacon	Greeter	Kid's Korner	Extended Session – Babies to 2 years	Extended Session – 3 years to PreK
04	Bill Groome	Peggy Bartley	Sharon Kincaid	Denise Brooking	Sarah Blair
11	Pat Groome	Hilda Harper	Bill Groome	Cheryl Klaty	Janet Hawk
18	Lonnie Kincaid	Wanda Miller	Sharon Kincaid	Kim Rosson	Alisha Fields
25	Sandy Harper	Ann Taylor	Pat Groome	Sandy Harper	Becky Sutterfield



				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> 8 am – 10 am Breakfast w/Santa
<u>4</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:30 pm Deacon Meeting	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u> Deadline for Angel Tree Gifts	<u>8</u> 7 pm Wrap Angel Tree Gifts	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
<i>Dec 4 – 11: Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering</i>						
<u>11</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:30 pm Church Council	<u>12</u> 10am – WOM Morning Group	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> 7 pm – Special Called Business Meeting	<u>15</u> 10am Seniors @ Holly Grove 7pm WOM	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> 9:45am Sunday School 11am Cantata 12:30 pm – Christmas Caroling 6 pm – Children's Christmas Play	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 6 pm Christmas Eve Service
<u>25</u> <i>Merry Christmas</i> 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> New Year's Eve

The Acorn

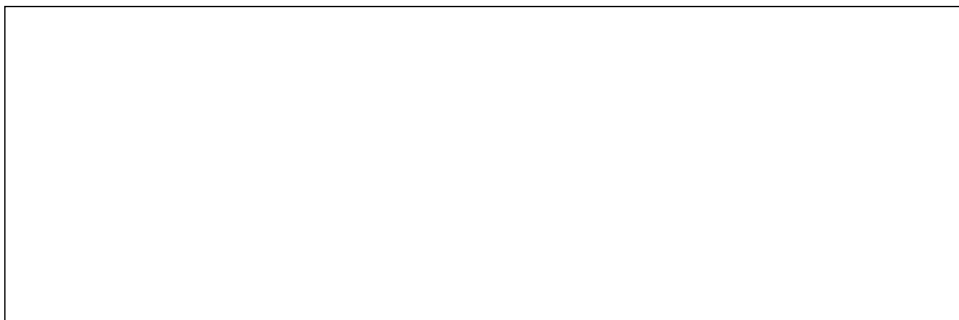
P.O. Box 99
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(please leave a message)

Web Address:

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



Remembered in our hearts & prayers:

Nathan Alford
Vernell Amos
Patsy Anderson
Virginia Beach-Cook
Don Beatty
Shirley Bowyer
Ruth Coleman
Lucy Cook
Lu Dodson
Cary Lynn Fields
Margie Gonzalez
Bailey Grant-Dickerson
George Groome
Pat Groome
Alan Harper
Julie Lloyd
Paul Magyar
Bryan McCallister
Millie Michem
Frank Moran
Mary Lee Moxley
Dale Nester
Gladys Nester
Virginia O'Neal
Ethel Osterbind

Louise & Robert Parrish
Callahan Phillips
Mabel & Gerald Pleasants
Betty Rackley
Heath Rains
Randy & Betty Rains
Hayley Rosson
Riley Saunders
DeJean Senatus
Linda Shettle
The Silva Family
Betty Smith
Nita Snead
Betty & Loren Stanley
Jimmy Stewart
Tommy Tyler
Cecil & Pete Watson
Chloe Wiltshire
Our Church & Nation
Interim Pastors - David & Judy Bailey
Youth Leader - Shelby Jones
Our New Pastor/Pastors
Pastor Search Committee: Michelle Alford, Len Archer, Bill Groome, Susan Heffinger & Kim Rosson

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, Stateside
Sully Edwards, Deployed
Sgt. Allen Gordon, Deployed

The prayer concern is completely revised monthly through mentioned prayer concerns, website submissions, email (communication@oakland-baptist.com) or by contacting Sharon Kincaid by the 15th of each month.