

Oakland



BAPTIST CHURCH

THE ACORN

April 2020

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,

I am thankful for how the Lord has blessed through the 1st DVD prepared for Sunday, March 22. There were a number of positive comments made on the GroupMe app, as well as through texts and phone calls. With people in your home who viewed the DVD and who may not participate in worship regularly, plus folks with whom you shared your DVD, it may well be that more people will eventually be exposed to God's Word through this means than we have present on an average Sunday morning at church. The Lord has a wonderful way of doing good in the midst of negative situations!

A second DVD was recorded for Sunday, March 29. It was the next sermon in our current series, "The Word of Victory," John 19:30. The last sermon in the series, "The Word of Contentment," Luke 23:46, will be recorded for April 04 (Palm Sunday). As long as there is not a "Shelter in Place" order given, the deacons will continue personally distributing DVDs. This is a wonderful way for our deacons to minister to our church family. If you would prefer to have the DVD simply left at your front door or other place, please communicate that to Ron Taylor. I pray the Lord will speak directly to you through the music, prayers, and His Word. Feel free to share the DVD with others.

Things are evolving daily, but it is possible we will not be able to gather for upcoming special Easter activities on April 5th for the Cantata, and Easter itself on April 12th. If that is the case, we will set aside a Sunday when we are able to worship together again, and do the sunrise service, breakfast, Sunday School, and the Cantata. Easter will be passed, but we will call it Resurrection Sunday. The resurrection is the reason Christians worship on Sunday, rather than another day of the week, since the resurrection took place on Sunday morning.

Please send prayer requests via the GroupMe prayer app, or email/text them to Ron Taylor or me. If you have a smart phone and have not yet signed up for the prayer app, this would be a great time to do so. It allows you to receive current prayer requests more quickly. Just contact Ron Taylor. I believe all he needs is the email address and he can get you connected.

We want to continue to be intentional about staying in touch with one another and sensitive to needs among members of our church family, as well as others. I will continue to communicate through the church's Web site, FaceBook page, and emails. If you know of someone who is not able to access things electronically, please call them, and either read or summarize those communications. For those persons on "The Acorn" mailing list, we will include this message, plus other general information concerning the church.

Again, please do not forget the importance of maintaining our giving as much as possible during this time. The financial responsibilities of the church continue unabated. You can mail your tithes and offerings to Oakland Baptist Church, PO Box 99, Gum Spring, VA 23065.

In this issue:

Page 1 -2
Pastor's
Pen

Page 3
Articles
Newsletter
/ Bulletin
Deadlines
& Notes
Database
Changes
Contact
info

Page 4
Mission
Opportunities,
Notes &
Announcements

Page 5 Articles
Cont'd,
Birthdays &
Anniversaries

Page 6
Prayer Concerns
& Reminders

I believe it is helpful for believers to be reminded of certain things from time to time, and perhaps especially in the midst of our current unusual situation with the Coronavirus.

- **We are a people of faith.**

The apostle Paul reminds us that “we walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Corinthians 5:7). We do not understand all the science surrounding this virus or its spread, how long it will last, and if we or a loved one will get infected, and what that might mean. What we do know is that we are but pilgrims in this life, and we have a heavenly home awaiting us. In that same chapter 5 of 2 Corinthians, Paul writes, “For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens’ (2 Cor. 5:1).

- **Prayer is essential.**

Faithful Christians are people of prayer. We depend on and lean on the Lord in every circumstance of this life. We are exhorted and encouraged by these familiar words in Philippians 4:6-7, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

- **We are the church.**

The church is not brick and mortar. We, believers, are the church, wherever we are. Jesus said of Peter, and of all faithful believers, “on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). Nothing in this world and this life can destroy the church. So let’s be about the business of being the church, ministering to one another and to people in our community who so need to know Jesus.

- **God is sovereign.**

God is ruler over all . . . this world, science, medicine, the church, and our very lives. We find this promise in Revelation 11:15, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.” When our lives seem to be filled with uncertainty and unknowns, know that God is still on His throne. He is in charge. So let Him rule your heart and mind, and leave all the rest in His capable, loving hands.

What a beautiful encouraging promise from God through His prophet Isaiah . . .

Fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Isaiah 41:10)

We find the echo of these words in the well-known hymn, “How Firm a Foundation.”

1 How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 "When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

4 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

5 "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6 "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Blessings and warmest greetings to each one of you. I look forward to the day we will once again be together. For now, we are the church and we are one in the bond of love, which is Christ, our precious Lord and Savior.

Pastor Dennis



Keep in Touch!

Margie Gonzalez, 334.692.4131
162 Jones Road
Newton, Alabama 36352

Marie Nester
Charlottesville Health & Rehabilitation Center
505 West Rio Road
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Claire Parrish, 804.447.4141
Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center
1601 Broad Rock Road, Room 137
Richmond, VA 232246

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 or log into Church Trac and update your information.

Contact Information:

IPastor - Dennis Barton
(804)997-9015 (cell)

Email: drdrbarton@gmail.com
(effective 4/28/2019)

Youth Leader:

Shelby & Craig
Jones

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

Email:

mom21elijah@gmail.com

Deacon Fellowship:

Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482

Ricky Harper: (804) 514-6985 (cell)

Lonnie Kincaid: (804) 363-3288 (cell)

Kim Rosson: (804)928-2780 (cell)

Frank Smith: (804)556-4746

Tom Sutterfield: (804)556-3836; (804)405-4046 (cell)

Ann Taylor: (804) 556-3519; (804) 339-6085 (cell)

Ron Taylor: (804) 556-3519; (804) 339-6067 (cell)

Tony Wade: (804) 822-0415 (cell)

Mission Opportunities, Notes & Announcements

WOM News...

Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is March 1 - 8, 2020. Prayer guides and offering envelopes are available in the Sunday school rooms and church vestibule. Our goal is \$1,500. Because we are unable to gather in our church building, we will continue to collect for this offering. Prayerfully give.

Due to the current situation, all WOM activities are cancelled. Once the quarantine is lifted, WOM will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month and we will reschedule the Ladies' Tea.

Youth News...

Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Philippians 4:6

As of this moment, there is much anxiety in our world. And as Christians, we must remember that we are not to be anxious about anything. We should be praying and giving thanks to God. This is the time for us to be shining our light in a dark world.

For our youth and children, it's important that we reassure them that God has everything under control. Each family and child is unique so finding ways to ease anxiety will differ from home to home. For some, having a structured routine is important. For others, a more laid-back approach may be better. If you are unsure, talk to your children/grandchildren and ask them how they are feeling and come up with a plan together.

Remember the high school and college seniors in your prayers. They are missing out on multiple opportunities to make lifelong memories with friends.

And please remember not only the doctors and nurses, but all first responders, as well, during these next few weeks. Pray for their families, too.

Camp Deposits and permission forms are due as soon as possible. Also, at this point we are still planning the Youth Spring Retreat for May 2. Your prayers are greatly appreciated. The youth committee will be asking for help with providing food (lunch and dinner) for us that day and ask that you come and join us for a time of fellowship and mentoring.

Blessings,
Shelby

Article from Baptist Press: [Small Madrid church stays vibrant during lockdown](#)

MADRID (BP) -- The streets are eerily silent. It's as if the life has been sucked out of this vibrant capital of Spain that is home to nearly 4 million people. The coronavirus quarantine has been in effect for several days, and everyone is sheltering in place. But behind all the closed doors and windows in the towering apartment buildings, God is at work.

Less than one-half of 1 percent of the population follows Christ. And yet, a four-month-old fledgling church plant of just 25 attendees is not only alive but vitally connected in the midst of an unprecedented lockdown.

La Estación (which means The Station), is a dedicated church committed to the mission of God in Madrid. Three small group meetings and a weekly worship service, all conducted online, have united hearts, spirits, faces and voices in interactive community. Not only has the church's energy not been dampened, but the oppressive nature of the quarantine has actually helped foster a sense of family as they minister to one another and pray for each other and their city.



Participation has not decreased; the people are hungry to be together, albeit virtually. As one of the small groups waved to each other via video conferencing on Friday evening, it was as if long lost friends had been reunited. A few days in lockdown can seem like an eternity, with little to no human contact. Members offered updates about family, as the littlest member of the group at age 2 broke into a broad smile when he saw his best buddy Sam, a golden retriever belonging to one of the other small group members. A few shouts and barks and it seemed as if they were back in the home, meeting together.

They shared prayer requests, and concerted time before the Lord revealed deep needs not only in the group but for family members across the city or even in another country. Jobs are precarious, and health even more so. Yet the time spent that evening "seeing" one another and lifting one another up to the Father helped them bear one another's burdens.

Then on Sunday morning, at the same time they would have been greeting one another in person with a cup of coffee and the traditional kiss on the cheek, computer screens were lighting up. Entire families, couples and singles began popping in on video for the worship service, perhaps not with a kiss, but many

with a cup of coffee in hand, a rambunctious toddler jumping up and down, and a few technological challenges for those less accustomed to church online.

Words of encouragement flowed, smiles and laughter elevated spirits, and the church was the church as God intended it to be -- the body of Christ. There was singing together, there was prayer, there was the reading of the Word, and an apt message for those living in "such a time as this." They discussed that Word, and how they were seeing God at work in the midst of great difficulty. And they talked about how they creatively could be the church to their neighbors, family, friends, co-workers -- ministering to others in this time of need.

As the weekly worship drew to a close, one by one the families, couples and singles waved goodbye. And one by one the little boxes disappeared from the screen as each part of the body went on to live out their faith and life in Christ. Burdens were lifted, strength and commitment restored. The church would be the church. One more day, one more week, in this city of 4 million people. United in the common plea, that through this little body of believers called La Estación, His will would be done, and His Kingdom would come, in Madrid as it is in heaven.

Pictured above is Jan Johnsonius, a worker with IMB, has lived in Madrid for 17 years.

Photo by Adrienne Marlin

Happy Birthday!

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Harry Smith | 4/2 |
| Linda Balsley | 4/3 |
| Jeanette Klaty McLean | 4/4 |
| Betty Stanley | 4/4 |
| Tom Sutterfield | 4/5 |
| Jenni DeRusha | 4/8 |
| Vincent Hutchinson | 4/8 |
| Donnie Amick | 4/9 |
| Carol Summitt | 4/14 |
| Joan Lloyd | 4/15 |
| Gabby Traw | 4/18 |
| John Jones | 4/23 |
| April Grant | 4/24 |
| Russell Hicks | 4/27 |
| Len Archer | 4/29 |
| Kathy Alvis | 4/29 |
| Glenn Williams | 4/29 |
| Emily Hawk | 4/30 |
| Jenny Smith | 4/30 |

Happy Anniversary!

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Wanda & Joe Miller | 4/5 |
| Angie & Ruben Justiniano | 4/6 |
| Betty & Loren Stanley | 4/11 |
| Mabel & Gerald Pleasants | 4/13 |
| Louise & Donnie Ware | 4/18 |
| Polly & Craig Kane | 4/19 |
| Denise & Mark Brooking | 4/23 |
| Sandi & Glenn Williams | 4/25 |

The Acorn

P.O. Box 99

Gum Spring, VA 23065

Church Office: 804-556-3550

Web Address:

www.Oakland-Baptist.com



Remembered in our hearts & prayers:

Donnie Amick
Len & Paula Archer
Joe & Pat Beach
Virginia Beach-Cook
Mike Beyer
Frank Collins
Joyce Collins
Lucy Cook
Ronnie Cook
Kaitlyn Daniels
Margie Gonzalez
April Grant
Bailey Grant-Dickerson
Stewart Hicks
Warren Hicks
Dean & Vicki Kellison
Sharon Kincaid
Bryan McCallister
Dale Nester
Marie Nester
Louis Parrish
Sandy Pattison
Callahan Phillips
Nolan Phillips

Mabel & Gerald Pleasants
Jason Pope
Cindy Pritchardette
Wayne Proffitt
Matthew Richardson
Riley Saunders
Betty Smith
Nita Snead
Betty & Loren Stanley
Alma Walton
Billy Walton
Cecil Watson
Anne Wells
Shawn Williams
Pastor Dennis Barton
Our Nation, Our Church & Community
Coronavirus Situation

Remembered in Our Thoughts & Prayers the Family of:
Dick Butler
Kenny Southall
Susan Wachter

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

Remember our Servicemen & Their Families:

Tennis Bradshaw, Stateside
Gabe Edwards, Stateside

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.