

Oakland



BAPTIST CHURCH

THE ACORN

December 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,

This eventful year is drawing to a close, with just one month left. December will be filled with meaningful, joyful opportunities to celebrate the coming of Jesus and its significance for us and this world: the Hanging of the Greens (November 29); Breakfast with Santa (December 05); Christmas sermon (December 13); first-ever Congregational Cantata (December 20); and the special candle-lit Christmas Eve Service (December 24). And of course, the lighting of the Advent candles will be an important part of our worship experience, beginning November 29, and continuing through Christmas Eve. Additional information about the special events can be found elsewhere in this edition of The Acorn.

We will have an important emphasis on international missions on December 06, with missionary guest speakers, Don and Pam Lynch. I am praying for a very good day as we gather for worship with Don Lynch preaching in the Sunday morning service, followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall, and a very interesting program by the Lynches after the meal. Again, you will find more details in the newsletter.

It will be a busy season at church and, for most of us, in our personal lives as well. If we are not careful and intentional, we can lose sight of the "reason for the season" in the midst of all the activity and events. Let's not let that happen, and miss the wondrous joy of being reminded that God loved us so much that He sent His only-begotten Son. And because of this amazing gift of the Christ child, we can know, in Him, life . . . life abundant, life eternal.

Brazilian evangelist Luis Palau tells of a wealthy Catholic family in Europe that decided to have their newborn baby baptized in their enormous mansion. Dozens of guests were invited to the elaborate affair, and they all arrived dressed in their finest formal clothes. After depositing their elegant wraps on a bed in an upstairs room, the guests were entertained royally.

Soon the time came for the main purpose of their gathering: the infant's baptismal ceremony. But where was the baby? No one seemed to know. The child's governess ran upstairs and returned with a desperate look on her face. Everyone searched frantically for the baby. Then someone recalled having seen him asleep on one of the beds. The baby was on a bed all right—buried beneath a pile of coats, jackets, and furs. The object of that day's celebration had been forgotten, neglected, and nearly smothered.

The baby whose birthday we celebrate at Christmas is easily hidden beneath the piles of traditions and cultural observances of the season. We need to enter every Advent season asking, "Where's the baby? What place does He have in my heart? What place, what priority does He have in my observance of Christmas?"

May we stop and join the heavenly host in praising God for His gift of Jesus . . . "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased" (Lk 2:14).

Pastor Dennis

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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

COVID Guidelines Reminder

These continue to be interesting days in which to live. You may be growing weary of the COVID restrictions and concerns, but there does appear to be some strengthening light at the end of the proverbial tunnel, as daily announcements on the progress of the various vaccines are made. We have done well in respecting the COVID guidelines at church, but just as a reminder, we need to be careful to maintain the 6-foot distance between one another when speaking and interacting, and in our seating in the sanctuary. And we need to wear face coverings in the church and when talking in the parking lot. If for a medical/health reason, you are not able to wear a face covering for long periods, you will still need to wear it when entering and exiting the building, and when moving about the building, and of course when singing. Per the recently amended executive order relative to face coverings, children 5 and older are now required to wear a face covering (The previous age was 10 and older.). Also, please make regular use of the sanitizer available throughout the building. What we have been doing has been working and we want to be vigilant to maintain these vital, required practices.



Join us on Thursday, December 24th at 6 pm to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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:

Pastor - Dennis Barton

Home: (804)244-5995

Cell: (804)997-9015

Email: drdrbarton@gmail.com

Deacon Fellowship:

Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482

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

Sandy Harper: (804) 514-3871 (cell)

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

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

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) 773-0420 (cell)

Church Office: (804)556-3550

(please leave a message)

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Mission Opportunities, Notes & Announcements

WMU Happenings...

Thank you for your support! Bill and Pat Groome delivered 28 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to Ragland on Monday, November 23. It's wonderful to be a part of making a child's Christmas in another part of the world.

The Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and International Missions is November 29 - December 6. Prayer guides and offering envelopes will be distributed by the Deacons. Each week, we will show a video highlighting our missionaries work on the field and ways we can pray for them. We support them by giving to Lottie Moon. 100% of your gift goes to support the missionaries work. Prayerfully give.



Pam and Don Lynch, International Mission Board (SBC) missionaries to Belgium, will be speaking at Oakland Baptist Church on Sunday, **December 6th**. Don and Pam are from North Carolina, and are currently living in the Raleigh area while on Stateside Assignment. Don originally worked as an electrical engineer, and Pam as a pharmacist. Following seminary studies at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, and service in two different churches in North Carolina, the Lynches were appointed as missionaries to South Africa, where they served in various capacities, and raised their two sons.

After a special assignment with IMB in the States, the Lynches transferred to the Flemish part of Belgium in 2014, where they currently serve as church planters in the beautiful port city of Ghent. Don is also the team leader for Belgium, and Pam is the prayer advocate for the European Affinity. Pam and Don welcomed their first grandchild, Henry, earlier this year.

Don will preach in the morning service on December 06. Then we will gather for a delicious **lunch in the Fellowship Hall**, followed by an interesting program by the Lynches in which they will share personally about their ministry to reach the Belgian people for Christ. We will allow time for you to ask questions and dialogue with Don and Pam about their work and about life in Belgium. You will not want to miss this precious opportunity to learn first-hand what the Lord is doing through our missionaries in this part of the world!

OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

DRIVE-IN

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



DECEMBER 5, 2020 * 8am-10am

2965 Oakland Church Road * Gum Spring * 23065

Join us on December 5th for our annual **Breakfast with Santa!**

This year, we will not have it inside, but outside in our parking lot in order to have safe social distancing.

Everyone is invited to our FREE event! Pull in, park your car and celebrate the season with us!

- Tune in your car radio to hear the story of the first Christmas! Every child will receive "The Christmas Story" book. Readings at 8:30am & 9:30am
- A special breakfast will be provided to all!
- Goodie bags given to each child to include a fun Christmas craft and candy from Santa!
- Santa will be making his rounds to every car! (Staying within a safe social distance)
- Fill out your "Letter to Santa" and we will make sure it gets mailed in our special Santa Mailbox.

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

Christmas Cantata 2020

As everything is different this year, our 2020 Christmas Cantata will be too. This year we will include the congregation in presenting it! We will be singing as many Christmas carols as we can while we tell the story of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ! It will be happening December 20 at 11am. See you there! - Lesley

Happy Birthday!

Lesley Alford	12/2
Billy Walton	12/6
Jimmy Lloyd	12/7
Brandi Hutchinson	12/8
Peggy Bartley	12/10
Richard Robinson	12/12
Brad Goff	12/14
Aireanna Nester	12/15
Leona Oglesby	12/15
Wayne Proffitt	12/15
Dennis Gammon	12/17
Judy Gordon	12/17
Joey Hamrick	12/17
Linda Dillon	12/18
Jill Snead	12/18
Theresa Hicks	12/20
Linda Shettle	12/20
Wanda Miller	12/21
Mark Brooking	12/23
Wendy Grady	12/25
Richard Klaty	12/26
Bruce Alfrod	12/28
Timothy Jarrell	12/28
Donnie Ware	12/30



Little Baby Jesus

By Deborah Ann Belka

Little baby Jesus,
so soft and so sweet
one day would have nails
pounded into His feet.

Tightly swaddled now,
in His mother's loving arms
one day He would wear
a crown of prickly thorns.

Small cooing sounds,
He now softly sighs
one day to His Father
He'll moan forsaken cries.

Wise Men bring to Him,
gifts meant for a King
one day to a cross
His life will painfully cling.

Little baby Jesus,
so soft and so sweet
came into the world
so Satan He could defeat.

Happy Anniversary!

Les & Pam Bradshaw	12/5
Vance & Beth Willis	12/7
Len & Paula Archer	12/11
William & Jeni DeRusha	12/21
Craig & Shelby Jones	12/22
Curtis & Linda Shettle	12/25
Robert & Sharon Atkinson	12/28
Thomas & Billie Reid	12/31

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS - December 2020

Date	Deacon
06	Ann Taylor
13	Lonnie Kincaid
20	Ricky Harper
27	Tom Sutterfield



		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> 8 am – 10 am Breakfast with Santa
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS & LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING						
<u>6</u> 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am – Worship 12:30 pm – Fellowship Meal & Presentation by Pam & Don Lynch	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u> 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am – Worship 12:30 pm – Deacon’s Meeting	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u> 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am – Christmas Cantata	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> 6 pm – Christmas Eve Service	<u>25</u> Merry Christmas!	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u> 8:00 am – Men’s Prayer Breakfast 9:45 am – Sunday School 11 am – Worship	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> New Year’s Eve		

The Acorn

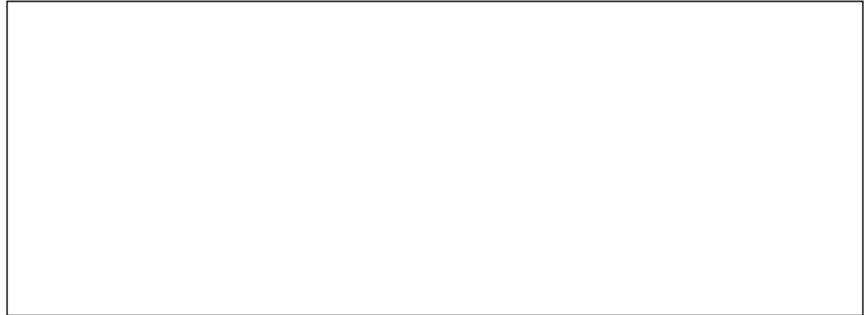
P.O. Box 99

Gum Spring, VA 23065

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Remembered in our hearts
& prayers:

Updated Prayer Request:

Virginia Beach-Cook
Mike Belhumeur
Michael Biener
David Buchanan
Pam Childress
Ron Clarke
Patti Cox
Kevin Driver's father
Betty Fields
Elaine Gammon
Ronald Griffith
Judy Gunter
Shannon Harper
Rod Holder
Jane Morgan Jones
Hassel Kegley
Phyllis Langley
Joe Miller
Bill Morgan
Marie Nester
Louise Parrish
Becky Partin
Sandi Pattison
Gerald Pleasants
Jane & Wayne Rapp

Updated Prayer Request Cont'd:

Riley Saunders
Jeri Sherrill
James Williams
Jim Winburn
Bill Zimmerman

Continue to pray for the following:

Warren Hicks
Sharon Kincaid
Wayne Proffitt
Margaret Rosson
Betty Jane Smith
Leah Stiles
Alma Walton
Billy Walton
Preston & Betsy Young
Our Pastor & Church
Our Country

Remembered in Our Thoughts
& Prayers the Family of:

James Boswell
William Dabney
Bill Hutchins
Franklin Keith Miller
Jim Potter

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

Remember our Servicemen &
Their Families:

Gabe Edwards, Stateside

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 Sharon
Kincaid by the 15th of each month.