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PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

There is a phrase used to describe the time that takes place between two particular or somehow important events. Everything that happens between those moments happens, "in the interim". In the world of professional football, if during the season a head coach is fired, there is often an interim head coach whose principal task is to do better than his predecessor even while he has the same players, owners and frustrations that caused the last head coach's departure. We use the term in business to refer to the transition period when the work previously carried out by one employee now must be distributed among others so there is no drop in productivity even if the burden now shared overloads the remaining work force.

The word, "interim", usually carries with it the idea of temporary or even of somehow being less than. With the professional coaches being the interim does not guarantee that you will remain with the team as the newly installed

leader even if the team goes on a winning streak. In business, the bringing in a "temp" may alleviate some of the stress on the work force, but it does not mean the new worker will remain, do the work well or be accepted by the larger body. None of this is fair, of course, but fairness is a rarity in our goal-oriented world.

Fortunately for me, the world of the Oakland Baptist Church is not professional football or business. It is the world of the Spirit, of divine grace and of the pursuit of the will of the Lord Jesus Christ. The interim period we have entered in is that time from Pastor Dennis's retirement until the person already chosen by the Lord as the new under-shepherd begins working here. This is not a time of rest, however, as the Lord has plans for the people of the church and community that we must be about. Success will not be measured using tangibles like touchdowns or profit margins. It will only be found in the warmth in our hearts, the growth in our spirits and the changes in the lives of people the Lord uses us to touch.

In all work done for the Lord, there are only two goals. These goals do not change or vary regardless of the task being performed or the people involved. In everything we do let us praise God. As the Wednesday night meal is prepared, may the Lord be praised. As the building is cleaned, may the Lord be praised. In our contacts with the ill, new neighbors or those who do not know Jesus, may the Lord be praised. And, secondly, may all be done to bless and support others. Remember the shape of the Cross. It reminds us that every act, program, lesson, and message should pursue these two goals. In the interim, while we are together, may this idea guide our steps and hearts.

John



REFERENCE INFORMATION

For information to be included in the bulletin, newsletter, website or Goshen News, please submit the information as you want it to appear by the deadlines listed below to:

communication@oakland-baptist.com

Deadlines:

Bulletin – 12 noon of each Thursday

Newsletter or Website – 15th of each month

Goshen Newsletter – 15th of each month

If you have updates to your personal information including address or phone change, please notify any member of the Deacon Fellowship or log into ChurchTrac (link on church website) and update your information.

Contact Information:

Interim Pastor: John Miller

Cell: (540) 229-5366

Email: jtsre@yahoo.com

Deacon Fellowship:

Chair: Ricky Harper: (804) 514-6985 (c)

Vice Chair: Ann Taylor: (804) 556-3519;
(804) 339-6085 (c)

Lesley Alford: (804) 512-3854 (c)

Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482 (c)

Pat Groome: (804) 908-3276 (c)

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

Frank Smith: (804) 556-4746, (804) 652-9923 (c)

Church Office: (804) 556-3550

(please leave a message)

Located at:

2965 Oakland Church Rd, Gum Spring, VA 23065

Mailing address: P.O. Box 99, Gum Spring, VA 23065

Website: www.Oakland-Baptist.com

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 10

Brunswick Stew Fundraiser! We will be having a fundraiser to offset the costs for this summer's Armenia Mission Team. The cost of the stew is \$9 per quart. You can help by donating canned or fresh vegetables. Check the list by the kitchen to find out what is needed and quantity. You can also make a monetary donation. Any questions or to pre-order the stew, see Sandy Harper.



February 15

Seniors Luncheon – Meet at Elpis Christian Church at 11:00 am for a time of fellowship and lunch.

February 18

Baptist Women's Day – Join us for this special service as the ladies lead worship time.

Ongoing

Hope for Appalachia Virginia – Hope Box Item Collection

Website: <https://hfavateam.com>

THIS MONTH WE ARE COLLECTING: Chapstick & Deodorant

Doctors Without Borders – The Seekers Sunday School class is collecting prescription and non-prescription bottles in for Doctors without Borders. No need to remove the labels.

Time for Celebration!

BIRTHDAYS

Wayne Troy	Feb 2
Jamie Sprouse	Feb 2
Nancy McKinney	Feb 2
Debra Hollenberg	Feb 2
Lonnie Kincaid	Feb 3
James Wright	Feb 3
Kaleb Kincaid	Feb 3
Brian Hollenberg	Feb 3
Becky Sutterfield	Feb 6
Diana Wagner	Feb 9
Janet Kincaid	Feb 12
Sandy Harper	Feb 12
Sharon Marker	Feb 15
David Hawk	Feb 17
Jena Bath	Feb 17
Michael Priddy	Feb 18
Travis Harrow	Feb 19
Chloe Wiltshire	Feb 19
Harry McClurg	Feb 20
Daniel O'Rourke	Feb 20
Tony Wade	Feb 22
Lillie Rosson	Feb 23
Staci Harpster	Feb 24
John Matysek	Feb 25
Hazel Morgan	Feb 27

ANNIVERSARIES

JC & Cheryl Gallaher	Feb 15
Mike & Linda Dillon	Feb 25



DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

Ann Taylor	Feb 4
Bill Groome	Feb 11
Frank Smith	Feb 18
Pat Groome	Feb 25

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am – 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Baptist Men's Sunday 11:00 am – 12:00 pm	29	30	Jan 31 Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Group Bible Study 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	1	2	3
4 Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am The Lord's Supper 11:00 am Worship Service 11:00 am Deacon's Meeting 12:30 pm	5	6	7 Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Group Bible Study 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	8	9	10 Brunswick Stew Fundraiser 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
11 Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am	12	13	14 Valentine's Day Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Group Bible Study 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	15 Seniors Luncheon 11:00 am	16	17 Mission Stitches 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
18 Baptist Women's Day Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am WOM Meeting 12:30 pm	19	20	21 Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Group Bible Study 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	22	23	24
25 Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am – 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am	26	27	28 Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm Group Bible Study 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	29	Mar 1	2

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[a] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God is love 

The Acorn

**P.O. Box 99
Gum Spring, VA 23065**

Church Office: 804-556-3550

www.Oakland-Baptist.com



Remembered in our hearts & prayers:

James Alford
Matt Alford
Scott Andrews
Rebecca Baker
Eddie Barnett
Joseph Beach
Pat Beach
Abby Beyer
Dennis Braswell
Kim Bryant
Mike Carden
Joyce Collins
Debbie Crowder
Debbie Cutchin
Olivia Dougherty
Roy Edwards
Taylor Ferguson
Daniel Gomez
April Grant
Robbie Green
Judy Gunter
Jeannie Hyatt
Lorraine Klein
Josh Landesman
Angela Lewis
Patty McLarty
Jessie Magana
Jackie Marden
Barbara Mayberry

Updated Prayer Request Cont'd:

John Nunn
Wayne Rapp
Jane Salo
B.M. Seal
Isaac Soderlund
Bianca Stevenson
Cherie Thomas
Judy Trouch
Evelyn Wade
Larry & Cathy Wells
Russ Whitehead
Gordon Whitehurst
Christian & Molly Zimmerman
Ethan Zimmerman

Continue to pray for the following:

Bobby & Betty Fields
Jane Morgan Jones
Riley Saunders
Jerri Sherrill
Betty Jane Smith
Leah Stiles
Billy Walton
Our Pastor & Church
Our Country
The Holy Land
Ukraine
Outreach into our Community

Keep in Prayer:

The Family of Willie Diggs

Remember our Servicemen & Their Families:

Gabe Edwards,
Stateside

**The prayer concern is
completely revised monthly
through mentioned prayer
concerns. Please email any
additions or changes to
[communication@oakland-
baptist.com](mailto:communication@oakland-baptist.com) by the 15th of each
month.**