THE ACORN MARCH 2026

Oakland BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

Wow, it has been a long winter! I seem to have brought Highland County winters with me. I apologize, y'all. Please forgive me!

When I was a kid, I loved the snow. Of course, I used to ride my sled, build snowmen and snow forts and have snowball fights. Best of all, I didn't have to go to school! But, with this snow, it wouldn't have been possible to build snowmen and snow forts, because there was a layer of ice on top of the snow!

I don't like winter very much anymore. I make a point to note that there is beauty in all of God's creation, and I know that God is just as present in winter as He is in the other seasons. However, I like to play golf and go fishing. When I lived in Highland County, I expected long winters, and I tried to be patient. But in late February and early March my patience began wearing thin, just like it is doing now. Hopefully a Richmond-area spring is right around the corner.

I will never forget, however, an encouraging word God spoke to me one winter. I was pastoring in Rockbridge County at the time. I was also going through a spiritual winter. I think this happened around the middle of February. We were renting a log cabin on a farm. I was looking out a window as I was praying, which gave me a view of a bare tree. As I was staring at the bare tree, God spoke to me. He said, "It's winter, but spring is coming." I knew that this was more than just a message about the physical seasons. God was telling me that a spiritual spring was coming, too! And it did!

From time to time I have shared this word, because I love to tell how good God is, but also because there may be others who are going through a spiritual winter. Spring is coming! And spring is a season of resurrection! I close with this Scripture from 1 Peter 5:10: "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." Praise God!

In Christ,

Pastor Mark

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REFERENCE INFORMATION

Send information for the bulletin, newsletter, website or Goshen News to:
communication@oakland-baptist.com

Deadlines:
Bulletin – Noon on Thursday
Newsletter, Website, Goshen – 15th

For updates to personal information please notify any member of the Deacon Fellowship or log into ChurchTrac (link on church website) and update your information.

Contact Information:
Reverend Mark S. Davis
Cell: (540) 292-4668
Email: revmsdavis@yahoo.com
Office Hours: Tues-Fri 10am – 2pm

Deacon Fellowship:
Chair: Ron Taylor: (804) 339-6067
Vice Chair: Tom Sutterfield: (804) 405-4046
Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482
Ricky Harper: (804) 514-6985
Sandy Harper: (804) 514-3871
Frank Smith: (804) 624-0633
Ann Taylor: (804) 339-6085
Church Office: (804) 556-3550

2965 Oakland Church Rd
Gum Spring, VA 23065
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 99, Gum Spring, VA 23065
Website: www.Oakland-Baptist.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

REMINDER!	**Note the new schedule on Wednesday Nights!** Choir practice at 5pm; Supper from 6-6:45pm; Prayer Meeting from 6:45-7:15pm and Group Bible Study at 7:15-8pm. The Prayer Meeting has moved from Sunday to Wednesday.
March 1 – 8	**Week of Prayer for North American Missions** – Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
March 4	**Mt. Gilead Packing Day** – 9:15am
March 5	**Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School – 2:30pm
March 12	**Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School – 2:30pm
March 14	**Goshen Missions Dinner** – 5:00pm (Family Life Center of Mineral Baptist Church, 51 Louisa Avenue, Mineral VA. **Reservations required at 540.894.8440 by March 5.**
March 19	**Seniors Meeting/Luncheon** – Holly Grove Christian Church – 11:00am
March 19	**Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School – 2:30pm
March 21	**Mission Stitchers** – Goshen Baptist Association
March 26	**Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School - 2:30pm
March 29	**Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast** – 8:00am

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES: TOGETHER – SERVING OTHERS – MEETING NEEDS – CHANGING LIVES

Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24

Mt. Gilead Food Pantry - Please continue to support this joint ministry program with your donations of non-perishable food items, plastic grocery bags (all colors including white).
THIS MONTH'S EMPHASIS: Soup, canned pasta, canned beans, canned fruit, cereal, dishwashing liquid. Drop off box located in the main hallway.

Glasses for Guatemala – We are collecting prescription eyewear, new and/or gently used reading glasses and eyeglass cases/holders for a missionary in serving in Guatamala. Collection box in the Seekers Sunday School classroom.

Hope for Appalachia - Hope Box Item Collection
THIS MONTH WE ARE COLLECTING: Tennis balls, baseballs, beach balls, Matchbox cars and trucks. Collection box located on the table next to the church office.

See the Goshen Monthly newsletter, "The Goshen News" for additional ministry needs.

Goshen Mission Action Project

- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- Church Planter Support

A special THANK YOU for all who contributed to the Baby Bottle Project to help support the crisis pregnancy ministry at the **Paul Stefan Home** in Orange, VA.

Rewards await us yonder, work awaits us here." Annie Armstrong

Let's Celebrate!

BIRTHDAYS

Kaitlyn Jones	Mar 1
William Hees	Mar 1
Cole Fields	Mar 5
Eddie Bradshaw	Mar 7
Brandon Klaty	Mar 8
Vicky Kellison	Mar 9
Dan Summitt	Mar 9
Kathy Wade	Mar 9
David Atwood	Mar 10
Michaela Johnson	Mar 12
Rhonda Lloyd	Mar 15
Becky Edwards	Mar 17
Noel Brooking	Mar 18
Elizabeth LaSauvage	Mar 22
Angela Wright	Mar 24
Tennis Bradshaw	Mar 24
Laura Beth Holder	Mar 25
Thasha Luck	Mar 26
Nancy Franklin	Mar 26
Jeremy White	Mar 27
Roberta Abbott	Mar 27
Amber Bowmaster	Mar 28
Mandy Durham	Mar 29
Janet Jones	Mar 30
Breianne Hafley	Mar 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Rosson, Bubba & Kim	Mar 25
Cooper, Wendy & Jeff	Mar 27
Cooper, Amanda & Austin	Mar 31

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

Tom Sutterfield	Mar 1
Ricky Harper	Mar 8
Ann Taylor	Mar 15
Sandy Harper	Mar 22
Ron Taylor	Mar 29

STAY INFORMED!

In addition to the monthly newsletter, you can get up-to-date information on our website, Facebook and Instagram – Follow Us!

Website: www.Oakland-Baptist.com
Facebook: OBCGumSpringVA
Instagram: oaklandbaptistgumspring

Focus on Group Bible Study

There's something uniquely powerful about gathering for Group Bible Study. When we open Scripture together, God speaks through many voices—not just our own. Someone else's insight can shine a new light on a familiar passage, and shared questions often lead to deeper understanding.

Group study also strengthens fellowship. We learn each other's stories, pray for one another, and build relationships that make our church feel like a true spiritual family. It becomes a weekly rhythm that keeps us grounded in God's Word and connected to one another.

Most of all, studying the Bible in community reminds us that faith was never meant to be lived alone. The early church grew by gathering, learning, and encouraging one another—and we continue that same tradition today.

If you've been thinking about joining our Group Bible Study on Wednesday nights, this is a wonderful time to step in. Your presence and perspective are a gift to the whole church.

MARCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Week of Prayer for North American Missions 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	2 Week of Prayer for North American Missions	3 Week of Prayer for North American Missions	4 Week of Prayer for North American Missions Choir Practice 5:00 pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting 6:45 pm Group Bible Study 7:15 pm – 8:00 pm	5 Week of Prayer for North American Missions Good News Club 2:30 pm	6 Week of Prayer for North American Missions	7 Week of Prayer for North American Missions
8 Week of Prayer for North American Missions Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am	9	10	11 Choir Practice 5:00 pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting 6:45 pm Group Bible Study 7:15 pm – 8:00 pm	12 Good News Club 2:30 pm	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Women on Mission 12:30 pm	16	17	18 Choir Practice 5:00 pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting 6:45 pm Group Bible Study 7:15 pm – 8:00 pm	19 Seniors Luncheon 11:00 am Good News Club 2:30 pm	20	21 Mission Stitchers 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
22 Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am	23	24	25 Choir Practice 5:00 pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting 6:45 pm Group Bible Study 7:15 pm – 8:00 pm	26 Good News Club 2:30 pm	27	28
29 Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 am – 9:30 am Sunday School 9:45 am – 10:45 am	30	31	Apr 1 Choir Practice 5:00 pm Wednesday Night Supper 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting 6:45 pm	2	3	4

1 Peter 5:10: "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast."

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tyler Adams
Lesley Alford
Steve Alford
Scott Andrews
David & Beth Biles
Dennis Braswell
Mike Carden
Pedro Carrasco
Charlie Childress
Ronnie & Virginia Cook
Debbie Crowder
Debbie Cutchin
Roy Edwards
Taylor Ferguson
Carolyn Ferris
Frances Gillend
Jorge Gomez & family
April Grant
Robbie Green
Alex Guardino
Judy Gunter
Stewart Hicks
Jeannie Hyatt
Angela Lewis
Dot Lloyd
Joan Lloyd
Mary McCullough
Jessie Magana
Barbara Mayberry
Hazel Morgan
John Nunn
Susan Parker
Casey Ralston
Jane Salo
Steve Smith
Donnie Tate
Judy Trouch
Kathy Wade
Martin Walton
Anne Wells
Gordon Whitehurst
Sandy Williams
Ernie Wootton

Continue to pray for:
Bobby Fields
Jane Morgan Jones
Riley Saunders
Betty Jane Smith
Leah Stiles
Billy Walton
Our Pastor & Church
Our Country
The Holy Land
Outreach Project
Pianist for Oakland

Remember our Servicemen & their families:
Nathan Alford, Stateside
Gabe Edwards, Stateside

Please email any additions or changes to communication@oakland-baptist.com by the 15th of each month to be included in our Sunday bulletin

The Acorn

P.O. Box 99
Gum Spring, VA 23065

Church Office: 804-556-3550

www.Oakland-Baptist.com

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