# THE ACORN JUNE 2026

Oakland BAPTIST CHURCH

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

In our Wednesday Night Bible Study, which we'll resume in the Fall, we have been in the eighth chapter of Romans. This is a wonderful chapter in which Paul writes of the importance of living by faith in, following and being empowered by the Holy Spirit. Trying to walk the Christian walk by trusting in your ability to keep the law is life-killing. But, as Romans 8:14 says, "those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God," meaning we become more and more godly, and we experience life more and more abundantly.

As we become more godly, we naturally produce godly fruit. Jesus said in John 15:5, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man abides in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." What does this godly fruit look like? "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). Let's briefly examine these aspects of the fruit of the Spirit.

Love. To act, speak and think in accordance with what most blesses the object loved, even if the object is our enemies. The Greeks considered this type of love, agape, almost out of reach. Without God it is out of reach. But all things are possible with God.

Joy. Not a temporary happiness, but a profound contentment and gladness of heart that is permanent. We can be sad yet still have joy. And we are commanded to rejoice!

Peace. This is more than an absence of conflict. We are not currently at war with China, but we are not exactly at peace with them either. Peace is the ultimate state of serenity, tranquility and well-being. It comes from knowing you are in right relationship with God. The Hebrew word for this type of peace is shalom, a word with which many Jews still greet one another.

Patience/longsuffering. The word literally means long-tempered. Such a person has a persistent attitude of love and forgiveness toward others. He/she is slow to anger. It thinks the best of others and give the benefit of the doubt.

Kindness/gentleness. This is a sweet goodness, a goodness which doesn't chafe.

Goodness. This is a goodness which may chafe, because tough love is sometimes needed, but works for the best. Both kindness and goodness are needed.

Faithfulness. Such a person is reliable and trustworthy. Such a person will continue to follow God and do the right thing, no matter how hard it is. He/she is not swayed by the current culture.

Gentleness/meekness. Today's culture views a meek person as somebody who is easy to push around. That is not the case. A gentle or meek person is pliable in that one is considerate, teachable and submissive to the will of God. But a meek person, though gentle, is very strong. He/she doesn't get angry over little things, but when there is anger, it is a righteous and powerful anger.

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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.

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Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482
Ricky Harper: (804) 514-6985
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*Pastor's Pen (continued from page 1)*

Self-control. This describes one who has mastered one's drives, impulses and emotions. It doesn't mean one who is a stoic, but one who uses the drives, impulses and emotions for good.

These are the kinds of qualities for which I'd like to be known. Some of the them are harder for me than others. But none of them are impossible for the Holy Spirit. We can rest assured that as we abide in Jesus and are led by and empowered by the Holy Spirit, these aspects of fruit will become more and more our nature. And we will experience life more and more abundantly. God is so good!

In Christ, Pastor Mark

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

| | |
|---|---|
| UPDATE: | **Choir practice** - 5:00pm on Wednesdays for the month of June |
| | **Prayer Meeting (Summer)** - 6:00pm on Wednesdays during the summer while we are on break from Wednesday Night Suppers & Group Bible Study |
| June 18 | **Seniors Meeting/Luncheon** – Holly Grove Christian Church – 11:00am |
| June 20 | **Mission Stitchers** – Goshen Association office – 9am-2pm |
| June 21 | **Father's Day & Donuts with Dad** – 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall |
| June 26 | **Vacation Bible School** – 6:30pm - Friday Night Kick Off & ice cream social |
| June 27 | **Vacation Bible School** – Registration opens at 8:30am. The fun starts at 9:00am! |
| June 28 | **Vacation Bible School Wrap Up** – during Worship Service – 11:00am |
| June 28 | **Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast** – 8:00am |

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

*A little rain can straighten a flower stem. A little love can change a life. Max Lucado*

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: Canned fruit, canned meat, crackers, jelly, and dish detergent 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: Toothbrushes, dental floss, shower puffs and full-size toothpaste. 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

- "Sock it to Dad" – Father's Day – June 21st - Collecting socks, all sizes throughout the month of June to benefit Hope for Appalachia. Collection box by the church office
- RuraLove is collecting smaller packages of toilet paper, paper towels and tissues to give to families starting over again.

*The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. Psalm 145:9*

May the Lord richly bless you for your on-going support of these mission opportunities and your compassion for helping others.

# Let's Celebrate!

## BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---|---|
| Evelyn Wade | June 1 |
| John Barber | June 3 |
| Jill Harrow | June 3 |
| Joshua Brooking | June 5 |
| Morgan Lloyd | June 6 |
| Crystal Gillikin | June 6 |
| Amy Murray | June 10 |
| Sharon Smith | June 11 |
| Kalee Harrow | June 13 |
| Sharon Sherrill | June 17 |
| Tammy Brooking | June 18 |
| Hayley Rosson Dyer | June 20 |
| Sarah Blair | June 20 |
| Braeden Smith | June 20 |
| Sean Dickerson | June 27 |
| Freeman Walton, Jr. | June 27 |
| Wendy Cooper | June 28 |
| Brenda Meade | June 28 |

## ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---|---|
| Ricky & Sandy Harper | June 7 |
| Stan & Lorraine Majek | June 12 |
| Derek & Courtney Blair | June 18 |
| Gwen & Adam Saunders | June 22 |
| Bruce & Liz Alford | June 22 |
| Leonard & Janet Jones | June 23 |
| Tony & Amy Gordon | June 29 |

## DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Tom Sutterfield | June 7 |
| Ricky Harper | June 14 |
| Ann Taylor | June 21 |
| Sandy Harper | June 28 |

## STAY INFORMED!

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

Website: f
Facebook: OBCGumSpringVA
Instagram: oaklandbaptistgumspring

## Focus on Vacation Bible School

This year, our church is excited to present Vacation Bible School: "**God's Big Story!**" The children will journey through the Bible to discover the incredible story of God's love and salvation — from Creation, to the Fall, to the Resurrection of Jesus, and finally to Redemption through Christ. Each lesson will help children understand that God has always had a plan to rescue and restore His people, and that they are an important part of His story.

Vacation Bible School is much more than crafts, games, and songs — it is an opportunity to plant seeds of faith that can last a lifetime. Children hear the truth of God's Word in a fun and engaging environment where they are loved, encouraged, and pointed toward Jesus. Many children make first-time decisions to follow Christ or begin asking important spiritual questions during VBS.

VBS also impacts adults in meaningful ways. Volunteers have the privilege of serving together, building relationships, and sharing the Gospel with the next generation. It strengthens our church family and reminds us all of the importance of teaching God's truth with joy, compassion, and faithfulness. We are praying that "God's Big Story" will inspire hearts of all ages and draw many closer to Christ this summer. **VBS Dates: June 26-28**

# JUNE CALENDAR

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 31<br>**Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast**<br>*8:00 am – 9:30 am*<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**Worship Service**<br>*11:00 am*<br>**Goochland Cares Team**<br>*1:30 pm* | 1 | 2 | 3<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting (Summer)**<br>*6:00 pm* | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**The Lord's Supper**<br>*11:00 am*<br>**Worship Service**<br>*11:00 am*<br>**Deacon's Meeting**<br>*12:30 pm* | 8 | 9 | 10<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting (Summer)**<br>*6:00 pm* | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**Worship Service**<br>*11:00 am*<br>**Women on Mission**<br>*12:30 pm* | 15 | 16 | 17<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting (Summer)**<br>*6:00 pm* | 18<br>**Seniors Luncheon**<br>*11:00 am* | 19 | 20<br>**Mission Stitchers**<br>*9:00 am – 2:00 pm* |
| 21<br>**Father's Day**<br>**Donuts with Dad**<br>*9:00 am – 9:45 am*<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**Worship Service**<br>*11:00 am* | 22 | 23 | 24<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting (Summer)**<br>*6:00 pm* | 25 | 26<br>**Vacation Bible School – Kickoff & Ice Cream Social**<br>*6:30 pm* | 27<br>**Vacation Bible School**<br>*9:00 am – 2:00 pm* |
| 28<br>**Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast**<br>*8:00 am – 9:30 am*<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**Vacation Bible School – Wrap Up**<br>*11:00 am – 12:00 pm* | 29 | 30 | Jul 1<br>**Prayer Meeting (Summer)**<br>*6:00 pm* | 2 | 3 | 4<br>**Independence Day** |

Galatians 5:22-23

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control"

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tyler Adams
Steve Alford
Scott Andrews
Dennis Braswell
Charlie Childress
Ronnie & Virginia Cook
Debbie Crowder
Debbie Cutchin
Roy Edwards
Taylor Ferguson
Carolyn Ferris
Frances Gillend
April Grant
Robbie Green
Alex Guardino
Judy Gunter
Denise Harper
Hallie Hicks
Stewart Hicks
Jeannie Hyatt
Angela Lewis
Dot Lloyd
Joan Lloyd
Harry McClurg
Mary McCullough
Jessie Magana
Barbara Mayberry
Hazel Morgan
John Nunn
Susan Parker
Mabel Pleasants
Sam Pleasants
Casey Ralston
Jane Salo
Steve Smith
Judy Trouch
Kathy Wade
Tony Wade
Martin Walton
Donnie Ware
Gordon Whitehurst
Glenn & 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
Gabe Edwards

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**
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**Church Office: 804-556-3550**

**www.Oakland-Baptist.com**

Oakland
BAPTIST CHURCH