# THE ACORN AUGUST 2026

Oakland BAPTIST CHURCH

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

By the time you get this newsletter, Kim Rosson and several other people from the Goshen Baptist Association will have gone to Armenia on a mission trip. Some will be doing construction, others will be doing Vacation Bible School, and others will be ministering to refugees. This will be important work for God. Having adequate facilities is certainly helpful to a church. VBS ministers to children, who are very special in the eyes of the Lord. And helping people who have fled from oppressed and war-torn areas is absolutely what Jesus wants the church to do.

Concerning the refugee ministry, in 2023 the country of Azerbaijan began military action against a region known as Nagorno-Karabakh, which had many ethnic Armenians. They have now taken full control of the region. Approximately 100,000 refugees have fled to Armenia, many arriving with only the clothes on their backs. Armenia needs help. Providing for the physical and spiritual needs of so many people seems like an overwhelming task. While it might seem like a small mission team can't do very much when compared to the efforts of all the other helpers, remember that Jesus fed five thousand men with only five loaves and two fish. I'm thankful for the willingness of each team member to go, and that for each one, whatever their assignments, God will multiply their ministerial work.

Mission trips or journeys have been a part of our faith since the incarnation of Jesus. Jesus didn't minister only from His local synagogue. He and His disciples ministered all through Galilee and much of Judea. While they ministered mostly in Jewish areas, because Jesus was called first to reach the lost sheep of Israel (who were then to reach the rest of the world), they sometimes traveled to other areas as well. They traveled through Samaria, which Jews just didn't do, because Samaritans and Jews were considered enemies. A woman at a well became a believer, went and told many townspeople about Jesus, and many of them became believers too. The woman instantly started doing mission work. Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee to a Gentile region called Gadara. There He cast a legion of demons out of a man. The man wanted to return with Jesus. But "Jesus did not let him, but said, 'Go home to your family and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.' So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed" (Mark 5:19-20). This man may have been the first Gentile missionary. Jesus took His disciples to the region of Tyre, not on a mission trip per se, but to be able to privately teach His disciples. Nevertheless, a Syrophoenician woman with great faith came and begged Him to cast a demon out of her daughter, which He did. Jesus did mission work wherever He was.

We know that Paul went on four missionary journeys. We also read of Barnabas, Silas and Mark going on such journeys. Although it is not recorded in the Bible, it is almost certain that Thomas ministered in Asia Minor and India, Simon the Zealot ministered in North Africa, Britain and the eastern coast of the Black Sea, and that Thaddeus and Bartholomew spent some time in Armenia!

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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
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Office Hours: Tues-Fri 10am – 2pm

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Chair: Ron Taylor: (804) 339-6067
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Bill Groome: (804) 556-6482
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Sandy Harper: (804) 514-3871
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I encourage you to ask the Lord if He wants to send you on a mission trip. I have been on four such trips. If you go with the right attitude, you will be blessed just as much as the people to whom you minister. I know Kim agrees with this statement. Even if you don't feel led to go, you can be with the team with your love, your emotional and financial support and your prayers. Note how often Paul asked the recipients of his letters for prayer. He knew they made a difference! They will certainly positively impact the Armenia Team and the people to whom they minister, so be faithful to pray for them!

Keep in mind that this community is your mission field. A trip to the store or to the barber can be a mission trip. In Tyre, Jesus was not on a mission trip per se, but He responded to an opportunity for ministry and set the woman's daughter free. You never know when you might encounter someone who is in need of emotional, physical or spiritual support, in need of the Gospel. A couple of weeks ago a repairman came to my house to fix our dryer. He was having some physical issues. It turns out that he had been in a bad car accident thirteen months ago, and was still suffering. I felt that inner impulse from God. As he was leaving, I asked if I could pray for him, which he gladly received. It was a joy to do so! A visit to the hospital or nursing home or to the home of someone in need is, in my opinion, a mission trip. And remember, as with the loaves and the fish, that God multiplies what we offer! It is entirely possible that someone whom we help might become a missionary!

In Christ, Pastor Mark

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

| | |
|---|---|
| July 30 – Aug 10 | **Armenia Mission Trip** – please continue to pray for the teams |
| Aug 5 | **Choir Practice** – 5:00pm; **Prayer Meeting (Summer)** - 6:00pm |
| Aug 9 | **Women on Mission** – 12:30pm |
| Aug 12 | **Choir Practice** – 5:00pm; **Prayer Meeting (Summer)** - 6:00pm |
| Aug 15 | **Mission Stitchers** – Goshen Association office – 9am-2pm |
| Aug 16 | **Homecoming Service** – 11:00am with a fellowship meal following service |
| Aug 17-19 | **Revival** – 6:30pm each night |
| Aug 20 | **Seniors Meeting/Luncheon** – Gum Spring United Methodist – 11:00am |
| Aug 20 | **The Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School – 2:30pm |
| Aug 27 | **The Good News Club** – Randolph Elementary School – 2:30pm |
| Aug 30 | **Men & Women's Prayer Breakfast** – 8:00am |
| Aug 30 | **Goochland Cares** Team – Meet at 1:30 at the Clothes Closet |

**NOTE: The Children's Consignment Sale system is open for the consignors to start entering their items! Drop off is September 25 & 26; Sale starts on October 1!**

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

***"The habit of giving only enhances the desire to give." Walt Whitman***

**Mt. Gilead Food Pantry -** Please continue to support this joint ministry program with your donations of non-perishable food items. There is an **URGENT** need for plastic grocery bags – all colors. **THIS MONTH'S EMPHASIS:** Canned fruit, canned meat, crackers, peanut butter, 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:** School Supplies: pencils, erasers, crayons, markers, pens, glue sticks, blunt tip scissors and pencil sharpeners. Collection box located on the table next to the church office.

**Goshen Mission Action Project**
Goochland Women's Correctional Center – collecting marble composition books (color only – no black & white), 5X7 puzzle/word books and pencils. Collection box by the church office

***Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; his faithful love endures forever. Psalm 107:1 (CSB)***

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

## THE GOOD NEWS CLUB STARTS ON AUGUST 20!

Begining August 20 for six weeks, Oakland will be conducting a Good News Club at Randolph Elementary School on Thursdays at 2:30pm

A Good News Club meets kids right where they are in schools (yes, schools!), community centers, churches, and neighborhood homes, teachers who are screened, trained, and equipped lead action-packed Good News Clubs every week, delivering the timeless truths of the Bible in exciting, engaging ways. Children learn the Gospel, and many come to know Jesus as their Savior.

## BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---|---|
| Tammy Ware | Aug 2 |
| Grant Perkins | Aug 7 |
| Pedro Carrasco | Aug 8 |
| Bubba Rosson | Aug 9 |
| Shelby Jones | Aug 10 |
| Lauren Davis | Aug 11 |
| Norman Snead | Aug 12 |
| Ar Dean Hamblem | Aug 13 |
| Kerstin Tiffin | Aug 14 |
| Doris Atkins | Aug 16 |
| Ron Mickens | Aug 18 |
| Alisha Fields | Aug 21 |
| Betty Jane Smith | Aug 21 |
| Gerald Pleasants | Aug 24 |
| Ricky Smith | Aug 25 |
| Hilda Harper | Aug 25 |
| Katie Nixon | Aug 26 |
| Melissa Smith | Aug 28 |
| Bailey Atwood | Aug 28 |
| Joyce Hamblem | Aug 29 |

## ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---|---|
| Tom & Becky Sutterfield | Aug 3 |
| Mark & Diane Davis | Aug 7 |
| Brandon & Alisha Fields | Aug 10 |
| Cary & Kelly Kincaid | Aug 14 |
| Jill & Warren Harrow | Aug 16 |
| Dennis & Janey Barton | Aug 23 |
| Frank & Jenny Smith | Aug 26 |

## DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Ricky Harper | Aug 2 |
| Ann Taylor | Aug 9 |
| Sandy Harper | Aug 16 |
| Ron Taylor | Aug 23 |
| Bill Groome | Aug 30 |

## 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**

**Homecoming**
**Sunday, August 16**

**Special Guest Speaker:**
**John Miller**
**Fellowship Meal to follow service – bring a side dish or dessert to share!**

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26 | Today 27 | 28 | 29<br>Prayer Meeting (Summer)<br>6:00 pm | 30<br>Armenia Mission Trip | Jul 31<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 1<br>Armenia Mission Trip |
| 2<br>Armenia Mission Trip<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 | 3<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 4<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 5<br>Armenia Mission Trip<br>Choir Practice<br>5:00 pm<br>Prayer Meeting (Summer)<br>6:00 pm | 6<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 7<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 8<br>Armenia Mission Trip |
| 9<br>Armenia Mission Trip<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 | 10<br>Armenia Mission Trip | 11 | 12<br>Choir Practice<br>5:00 pm<br>Prayer Meeting (Summer)<br>6:00 pm | 13 | 14 | 15<br>Mission Stitchers<br>9:00 am – 2:00 pm |
| 16<br>Sunday School<br>9:45 am – 10:45 am<br>Homecoming Service<br>11:00 am | 17<br>Revival<br>6:30 pm | 18<br>Revival<br>6:30 pm | 19<br>Revival<br>6:30 pm | 20<br>Seniors Luncheon<br>11:00 am<br>Good News Club<br>2:30 pm | 21 | 22 |
| 23<br>Sunday School<br>9:45 am – 10:45 am<br>Worship Service<br>11:00 am | 24 | 25 | 26<br>Choir Practice<br>5:00 pm<br>Prayer Meeting (Summer)<br>6:00 pm | 27<br>Good News Club<br>2:30 pm | 28 | 29 |
| 30<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 | 31 | Sep 1<br>Labor Day | 2<br>Choir Practice<br>5:00 pm<br>Prayer Meeting<br>6:45 pm<br>Group Bible Study<br>7:15 pm | 3<br>Good News Club<br>2:30 pm | 4 | 5 |

## Scripture:

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tyler Adams
Steve Alford
Scott Andrews
Dennis Braswell
Charlie Childress
Ronnie & Virginia Cook
Debbie Crowder
Debbie Cutchin
The Family of Gabe Edwards
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
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
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

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