# THE ACORN OCTOBER 2026

Oakland BAPTIST CHURCH

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Church Family,

On Saturday, October 3rd, I will be attending my 43rd-year high school class reunion. I graduated in 1983 from West Henderson High School near Hendersonville, NC. It started as a reunion for the class of '84, but they decided to include the classes of '83 and '85.

I'm really looking forward to it. I'm looking forward to good fellowship, to renewing old acquaintances and friendships. I hope to be able to fondly remember and laugh with them about the good old days. It will also be nice to spend some time in my home county and to visit some relatives. My Uncle Tom just recently turned one hundred years old and is still going strong!

However, I, along with many others, face the temptation of wanting to impress our classmates. We want to look our best, we want to show off our families, we want others to see how many degrees we've earned and how successful we've been. Maybe we want to prove those wrong who thought we'd never amount to much. Maybe we want to be accepted by those who didn't accept us in school.

As with my other reunions, I have to remember that I don't have to impress anybody. It's okay to want to be accepted, but if others don't accept me, it doesn't matter, because I have been adopted by God as His child through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:5). My identity is in Jesus Christ! God loves me as high as the heavens are above the earth (Psalm 103:11). God has given me the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16), and has made me competent as a minister of His new covenant (2 Corinthians 3:6). I am in the process of being filled to the measure of all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:19). Those are truths about me, not because I have merited them in any way, but because God has done them in me through Jesus Christ.

Accepting God's acceptance of me frees me to be a blessing to my classmates. It frees me to love them, even if they don't love me in return. I don't have to be in any certain person's clique. I don't have to be "cool," I can just be myself. God's acceptance helps me to be compassionate towards those who were largely rejected. And maybe I'll get to share the Gospel with someone who doesn't believe.

Those biblical truths are true about all genuine believers who love God. It doesn't matter what the world thinks about us, it matters what God has done in us and knows about us. We are who we are in God through Jesus Christ. We have the greatest identities that it is possible to have. And the more we grasp these truths, the more we'll be able to love God and all our neighbors, including those who reject us. God created us in His image, through Christ He has re-created us in His image, "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18). We have all been made competent as ministers of His new covenant, so may we minister! May we be blessings to those for whom Christ died and was raised to life!

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
Ron Mickens: (804) 241-7855
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:

| | |
|---|---|
| Oct 1, 2, 3 | Children's Consignment Ministry Sale |
| Oct 11 | Goshen Fall Mission Celebration – Mt. Gilead Church |
| Oct 14 | Quarterly Business Meeting – 7pm |
| Oct 15 | Seniors Meeting/Luncheon – Elpis Christian Church – 11am |
| Oct 17 | Mission Stitchers – Goshen Association office – 9am-2pm |
| Oct 17 | Fall Festival – 9am-2pm |
| Oct 22 | Consignment Pick Up – 6:30pm-7:30pm |
| Oct 27 | Goshen Fall Business Meeting – Oakland - 2pm<br>Light food & fellowship starting at 12:30pm |

**Fall Festival is October 17!** Preorders are now being taken for the brunswick stew at $10 per quart – see Sandy Harper or Kim Rosson or you **scan the QR code to preorder online**!

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

***"The measure of who we are is what we do with what we have." Vince Lombardi***

**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, including white bags. **THIS MONTH'S EMPHASIS:** Cereal, soup, stew, canned pasta, crackers, tissues, detergent {dish and laundry} Drop off box is 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: Warm Winter Clothing Drive:**

- **New** winter hats, gloves, scarves {children and adult};
- Warm winter socks {new-all sizes-children and adult};
- New and/or gently used winter coats {all sizes};
- **New** sleeping bags and **new** winter blankets {lap size, twin or queen}

Collection box located next to the church office.

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

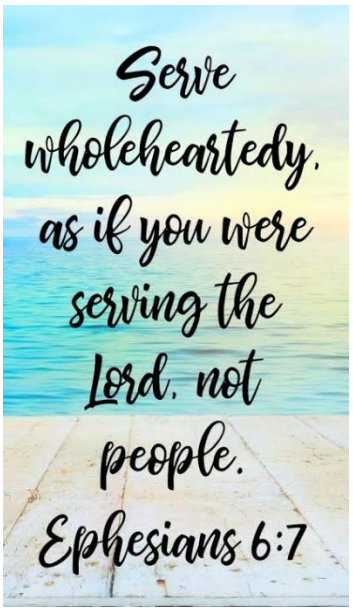
**Goshen Mission Action Project**

- Collecting Christmas and All Occasion cards for the Goochland Women's Correctional Center

***Above all, put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. Colossians 3:14***

Thank you for sharing God's love as together we support others through our suggested mission opportunities at Oakland.

## Focus on the Blessing of Serving




God has given every believer unique gifts and abilities to be used for His glory and the building up of His church. Serving is much more than filling a need—it is an opportunity to worship God, encourage others, and grow in our own faith. Whether teaching children, greeting visitors, singing in the choir, preparing meals, praying faithfully, or helping behind the scenes, every act of service matters in God's kingdom.

The Bible reminds us, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). When we serve with willing hearts, we reflect the love of Christ, strengthen our church family, and become a testimony to those around us.

If you are not currently serving in a ministry, prayerfully consider where God might be leading you to use your gifts. There is a place for everyone to serve, and together we can make a lasting impact for Christ. As Jesus Himself said, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve" (Mark 10:45). May we follow His example with joyful and faithful hearts.

## 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

# Let's Celebrate!

## BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---|---|
| Stephanie Amick | Oct 1 |
| Hannah Harris-Meyer | Oct 4 |
| Gavin Marks | Oct 4 |
| Gwen Saunders | Oct 5 |
| Diane Davis | Oct 6 |
| Kathy Groome | Oct 6 |
| Judy Sharpe | Oct 6 |
| Ray Mills | Oct 6 |
| Cheryl Gallaher | Oct 7 |
| Judy Green | Oct 9 |
| John Ware | Oct 11 |
| Susan Henley | Oct 12 |
| Louise Ware | Oct 12 |
| Polly Kane | Oct 13 |
| Kim Rosson | Oct 15 |
| Sophia Ayres | Oct 15 |
| David Ware | Oct 15 |
| Glenda Baker | Oct 17 |
| Pat Groome | Oct 19 |
| Heather Hodges | Oct 19 |
| Michael Greene | Oct 20 |
| Elizabeth Buie | Oct 21 |
| Grayson Grant | Oct 21 |
| Rebecca Able | Oct 23 |
| Andrew Hutchinson | Oct 23 |
| Judy Walton | Oct 23 |
| Dennis Barton | Oct 23 |
| Gail Brooks | Oct 26 |
| Kathy Pope | Oct 26 |
| Robert C. Parrish, Jr. | Oct 27 |
| Frank Moran | Oct 28 |
| Alma Salazar | Oct 28 |
| Kelli Groome Koegler | Oct 30 |

## ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|---|---|
| Jamie & Mike Sprouse | Oct 4 |
| Stephanie & Jason Amick | Oct 8 |
| Jeff & Gail Brooks | Oct 18 |
| Theresa & Mike Hicks | Oct 26 |

## DEACON ASSIGNMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Bill Groome | Oct 4 |
| Frank Smith | Oct 11 |
| Tom Sutterfield | Oct 18 |
| Ricky Harper | Oct 25 |

# OCTOBER

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27<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* | 28 | 29<br>**Fall Consignment – Early Shopper Night**<br>*6:30 pm – 8:30 pm* | Sep 30<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Wednesday Night Supper**<br>*6:00 pm – 6:45 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting**<br>*6:45 pm*<br>**Group Bible Study**<br>*7:15 pm* | 1<br>**Fall Consignment – Public Shopping Night**<br>*6:30 pm – 8:30 pm* | 2<br>**Fall Consignment – Public Shopping Night**<br>*6:30 pm – 8:30 pm* | 3<br>**Fall Consignment – 1/2 Price Day!**<br>*9:00 am – 12:00 pm* |
| 4<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* | 5 | 6 | 7<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Wednesday Night Supper**<br>*6:00 pm – 6:45 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting**<br>*6:45 pm*<br>**Group Bible Study**<br>*7:15 pm* | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11<br>**Sunday School**<br>*9:45 am – 10:45 am*<br>**Worship Service**<br>*11:00 am* | 12 | 13 | 14<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Fall Wednesday Night Supper**<br>*6:00 pm – 6:45 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting**<br>*6:45 pm*<br>**Quarterly Business Meeting**<br>*7:15 pm – 8:00 pm* | 15<br>**Seniors Luncheon**<br>*11:00 am* | 16 | 17<br>**Mission Stitchers**<br>*9:00 am – 2:00 pm*<br>**Fall Festival & Children's Consignment 1/2 Price**<br>*9:00 am – 2:00 pm* |
| 18<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* | 19 | 20 | 21<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Wednesday Night Supper**<br>*6:00 pm – 6:45 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting**<br>*6:45 pm*<br>**Group Bible Study**<br>*7:15 pm* | 22<br>**Fall Consignment Pick Up**<br>*6:30 pm – 7:30 pm* | 23 | 24 |
| 25<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* | 26 | 27<br>**Goshen Fall Meeting**<br>*12:30 pm* | 28<br>**Choir Practice**<br>*5:00 pm*<br>**Wednesday Night Supper**<br>*6:00 pm – 6:45 pm*<br>**Prayer Meeting**<br>*6:45 pm*<br>**Group Bible Study**<br>*7:15 pm* | 29 | 30 | 31 |

## Scripture:

**"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men..." Galatians 6:9-10**

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tyler Adams
Steve Alford
Scott Andrews
Beth Biles
Dennis Braswell
Charlie Childress
Richard Claty
Ronnie & Virginia Cook
Debbie Crowder
Debbie Cutchin
Roy Edwards
Taylor Ferguson
Carolyn Ferris
Frances Gillend
April Grant
Robbie Green
Kathy Groome
Alex Guardino
Judy Gunter
Sandy 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
Gerald & Mabel Pleasants
Sam Pleasants
Casey Ralston
Steve Smith
Elaine Stoll
Judy Trouch
Kathy Wade
Tony Wade
Martin Walton
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

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**

Oakland
BAPTIST CHURCH