

# Oak Level Baptist Church

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[www.OakLevelBaptist.org](http://www.OakLevelBaptist.org)

Volume 40

SHARING THE JOURNEY

December/January 2017

May the Lord bless you with a Christmas filled with love, peace, and joy. Let us really celebrate Jesus Christ miraculous birth and life. Only Jesus Christ can transform us into a new creation as we follow Him every moment.

Thank you to everyone who donated, prepared, and help ship the **26** shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child ministry. You have made it possible for 26 children to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our God is good and faithful. Revival was a wonderful blessing to everyone who came to worship. Two children, Hayden and Breanna, accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Praise the Lord! I am thankful for all the decisions made during the Revival. I am thankful for the powerful sermons, fellowship, music, meals, and your support. Pray for Rev. Roger Roller and his evangelism ministry. Thanks to Lance Frith for his faithful service as pianist. Do you remember that Roger prayed for a pianist during revival last year?

I encourage you to pray for and give to help support the CBF Literacy Offering **December 4-11**. Our annual church goal is **\$2,000**. Thank you for supporting this global missions offering.

Be sure to put **Sunday, December 4** on your calendar. You are invited to the parsonage for Open House following the morning worship service. Pastor Joe and family welcome you to this special fellowship time.

Calling all men to a special fellowship breakfast on **Wednesday, December 7** at **7:30 a.m.** in the church fellowship hall. Sheriff Lane Perry will be our guest speaker. You will enjoy this breakfast and fellowship together.

Make plans to come to the Angel Tree Service and Christmas Play on **Sunday, December 11** at **5:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. Afterwards there will be a time of fellowship with finger foods.

Let us rejoice as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2017.

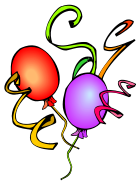
Luke 2:11

Pastor Joe



### December Birthdays

Dec. 04 Joshua Howell  
Dec. 07 Shirley Foley  
Hilda Plaster  
Dec. 10 Kenneth Keen, Sr.  
Dec. 12 Homer Hodges  
Dec. 13 Megan Keen  
Dec. 15 Peggy Morris  
Dec. 16 Ethel Jones  
Dec. 18 Betsy Henny  
Jean Thomas  
Dec. 22 Ira Seay  
Dec. 24 Howard Webb  
Dec. 25 Barbara Slate  
Sue Seay  
Denver Stultz  
Dec. 29 Kelly Gray Conner  
Megan Thompson  
Dec. 30 Roy Brown



### January Birthdays

Jan. 2 Brenda Woods  
Shirley C. Young  
Paige Brown  
Jan. 5 Ben Morris  
Jan. 7 Sandra Martin  
Jan. 8 Donna Winebarger  
Jan. 9 Ann Stone  
Jan. 11 Lori Keen Pruitt  
Jan. 12 Lewis Turner  
Grover Harrison  
Jan. 14 Carlos Coleman  
James Wray  
Gloria Keen  
Jan. 16 Ryan McKee  
Hannah Glass  
Jan. 17 Lance Frith  
Jan. 18 Kelly Webb  
Jan. 19 Avis Gray  
Jan. 20 Jacob Gray  
Eva Dale Scearce  
Jan. 21 Amy F. Jarrell  
Heidi Hodges  
Jan. 23 Linda Carter  
Jan. 28 Frances Barnes  
Jan. 30 Geraldine Williams

### NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

#### Blue Ridge Rehab Center, 300 Blue Ridge St., Martinsville, VA 24112

\*Dot Wray - Room 106 (Assisted Living)  
\*Avis Gray - Room 364  
\*Thelma Nolen - Room 162  
Sue Meeks - Room 213  
Jake Divers - Room 106 (Rehab)  
Dorothy English

#### Fork Mtn. Rest Home, 2925 Fork Mtn. Rd. Rocky Mt, 24151

\*Wanda Stone

#### Hanson Home, 162 Krontz Drive, Bassett, VA 24055

\*Betty Sue Sparks (Sister of Shirley Tobler)

#### The Laurels, 72 Chatham Business Park Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312

\*Lovylene S. Lewis (Sister of Shirley Tobler)

#### Stanleytown Health Care, 240 Riverside Dr., Bassett, VA 24055

\*Josephine Ferguson - Room 17

#### TLC Adult Home, 880 Lillian Naff Dr., Henry, VA 24102

\*Louise Vipperman

## WITH SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Arnold Hanks who passed away on Sunday, September 25, 2016. He was the father of Esther Hanks.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Butch Vipperman, who passed away on Friday, October 14, 2016. He was the son of Louise Vipperman.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Barbara Young who passed away on Sunday, October 30, 2016. She was the niece of Arthur Foley.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Alice Divers who passed away Wednesday, November 16, 2016. Mrs. Divers was the sister-in-law of Nancy Turner.

## THANK YOU

It's a great encouragement to know that others who care for us are holding us up to God in prayer and sharing our sorrow with us during our father's passing. Thank you for the many expressions of love through gifts, cards, and visits. We love all of you. Marilyn & Esther Hanks

Thank you all so much for all the prayers, visits, and words of encouragement during my recent hip surgery and stay in rehab. I am home now to recoup and would still appreciate your continued prayers. I'm truly blessed to be a part of such a caring and wonderful church family. Love to you all, Elmer Stone



## SERVICE CONTRACTS

The Cleaning Service Contract and the Lawn Maintenance Contract are scheduled to be renewed after the first of the year. If there is anyone who is interested in presenting a bid for these services, you can pick up a copy of the job description and agreement from the church office. Please give your bid in a sealed envelope to Jesse Cannaday, member of the Building and Grounds Committee, by **Wednesday, December 21, 2016**. No other bids will be accepted after this date.

## CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE



The Glass family cordially invites you to attend a Christmas Open House at the parsonage on **Sunday, December 4** at 12:30 pm following the worship service. Join them for light refreshments and great fellowship!

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The December Men's Breakfast will be held in the church fellowship hall on **Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7:30 am**. Sheriff Lane Perry will be the guest speaker. All men of the church are invited to attend and invite your friends and neighbors to come also. Please let Pastor Joe know if you plan to attend, so that the ladies cooking will have plenty of food prepared for you to enjoy.

## GOOD NEWS JAIL MINISTRY

The church will be collecting white tube socks, no stripes, to be donated to the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry for the inmates' Christmas bags. There will be a giftwrapped collection box located in the church foyer to place the socks. All donations need to be in the box by **Saturday, December 10**. Thank you for supporting this important ministry.

## ANGEL TREE AND CHRISTMAS PLAY SERVICE

An Angel Tree Service will be held on **Sunday, December 11, 2016** in the Church Sanctuary at **5:30 pm**. Please let Missy Thompson or Katina Pettit know if you would like a loved one remembered on the Angle Tree. There will be a Christmas play entitled "**Where Are You Christmas,**" written by Missy Thompson following the Angle Tree service. Don't miss this time of celebrating the birth of Jesus in song and drama. Bring your favorite finger foods and share in a time of fellowship following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

## CHRISTMAS EVE AND DAY SERVICES

You are invited to celebrate with family and friends on Saturday, **December 24 at 4:00 pm** in this service of prayer, music, and a brief message. We will receive a blessing as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Join us at **10:30 am** on Christmas Day, Sunday, **December 25** in the sanctuary as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus. We will not have Sunday School on this day.



everyone is welcome

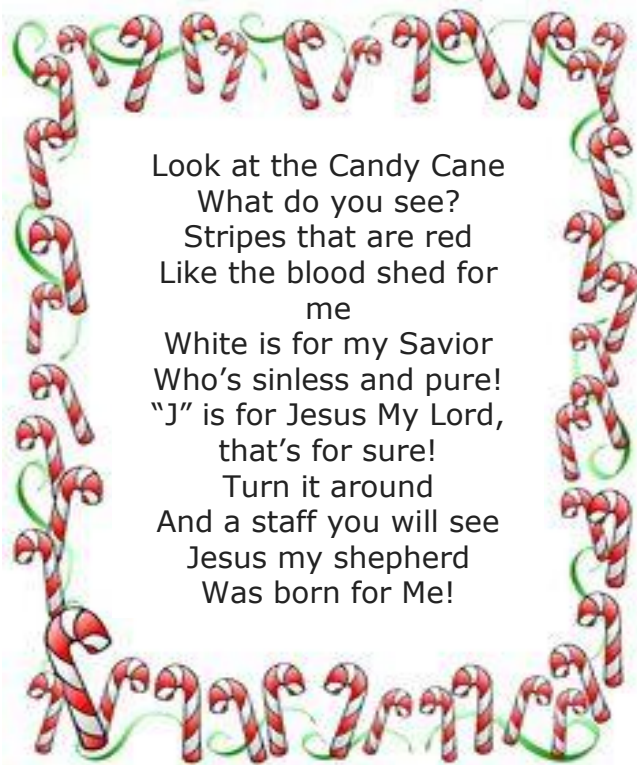
all voices are needed

no experience

is necessary

to sing!

**JOIN  
THE  
CHOIR TODAY!**



Look at the Candy Cane  
What do you see?

Stripes that are red  
Like the blood shed for  
me

White is for my Savior  
Who's sinless and pure!  
"J" is for Jesus My Lord,  
that's for sure!

Turn it around  
And a staff you will see  
Jesus my shepherd  
Was born for Me!

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet **Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.** Come prepared to plan events for the church calendar to May 2017. Those on the church council include: Pastor, Deacons Chairperson, Music Director, Stewardship Chairperson, Sunday School Director, WMU Director, and Youth Coordinating Chairperson. Other committee chairpersons are encouraged to attend if they have items to add to the calendar.

## SCHOOL CLOSINGS FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

The Wednesday evening service is **NO LONGER** tied to the notice of schools closing for inclement weather. The church office will send out an email **IF** there has been a decision to cancel Wednesday services or you can call the office or a deacon to verify the cancellation. For announcements concerning Sunday Morning Services, listen to B99 FM radio or watch TV Stations, WDBJ, Channel 7 or WSLS, Channel 10, for possible church cancellations.

May each day of your Christmas be filled with peace, and may God's love light your way through the New Year.



### WMU MEETINGS

Tuesday - December 27 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday - January 24 - 6:30 p.m.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS!**



Thank you to everyone who gave to the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions! We surpassed the goal of \$900 and collected **\$935**.



Thank you to everyone who donated, prepared, and help ship the **26 shoe boxes** for Operation Christmas Child with Samaritan

Purse. Your generosity will put smiles on children's faces this Christmas season.

Give to the  
CBF *Offering for*  
GLOBAL MISSIONS

**OLBC 2016 Goal - \$2,000.00**  
**Offering Received - \$1,235.90**

Special "LITERCY" emphasis will be  
**December 4 -11, 2016**

Please plan to give to this offering during this time  
and help us reach our goal for 2016!



CBF of Virginia celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. To observe this occasion, we want

you all to join us as we collaborate with local churches, non-profits and partners (past and future) in hosting twenty-five mission sites all over the state during this, our 25th year. You can sign up yourself or your church for any of these events listed on the website <http://www.cbfva.org/25-25th/>.

### GRACE AND MAIN FELLOWSHIP

Josh Hearne, CBF field personnel, will be our guest speaker on **Sunday, January 29, 2017**. He and his wife, Jessica, guide the Grace and Main Fellowship, an intentional and ecumenical Christian community in Danville. Grace and Main is committed to being a community that practices radical hospitality; share resources with people in need; practices shared life; commits to prayer, scripture reading, and discernment; utilizes partnerships to benefit the kingdom; works for justice among "the least of these" and the marginalized, understands relationships are foundational to God's work in the world; focuses ministry in neglected and often exploited places in the city; encourages sustainable lifestyles that preserve life and creation; rejects materialism in favor of practicing simplicity; and practices the rule of Christ Matthew 18: 15-20 - peacemaking, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

This year's **Mission Box CBFVA** will support the work of Josh and Jessica Hearne through a new ministry of Grace and Main - The Urban Garden. Land donated by Habitat for Humanity is being transformed into a sustainable, urban farm to feed the neighborhood, provide work/jobs and build community. We will have an opportunity to partner with this work by providing mission boxes. Please fill any shoebox with **work gloves, work socks, reusable water bottle, and sunscreen**. Also include \$5.00 with your completed box to help purchase tools for the Urban Garden. We will deliver the mission boxes to Grace and Main on **Saturday Feb 18th** and volunteer to help with the garden during a CBFVA 25 for the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**WMUV inspires and equips women to influence the world for Christ.**

# December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Birthday Party for Josh Howell 2 – 6 pm – Fellowship Hall Reserved
4 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Christmas Open House at Parsonage – 12:30 - 2:00 pm	5	6 Deacons' Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	7 Men's Breakfast In Church Fellowship Hall 7:30 a.m. PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	8	9	10
CBF Offering Emphasis - LITERACY – December 4 - 11						
11 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm Angel Tree Service – 5:30 pm Christmas Play – “Where Are You Christmas”	12	13	14 Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.	15	16	17
18 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm	19	20	21 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Bousman Family Fellowship Hall Reserved  Christmas Eve Service 4 PM
25 Christmas Day Worship Service Only – 10:30 am  Pennies for the Precious	26	27 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	28 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	29	30	31

Deacon of the Month – Lee Boswell

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Lance Frith

# January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m.  Church Council 5:30 PM  PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Communion Sunday Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm Deacons' Mtg. -7:00 p.m.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Choir Practice – 12:30 pm   Pennies for the Precious	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>25</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Sunday School Fellowship – 10:00 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Josh Hearne, guest speaker Choir Practice – 12:30 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

Deacon of the Month – Lee Pettit

Counters of the Month – Donna Winebarger & Homer Hodges