

# Oak Level Baptist Church

7720 Oak Level Road Bassett, VA 2055  
(276) 629-7973 [olbc@comcast.net](mailto:olbc@comcast.net)  
[www.OakLevelBaptist.org](http://www.OakLevelBaptist.org)

Volume 32

*“SHARING THE JOURNEY”*

February/March 2012

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## Prayer Forgotten

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” is a well-known verse,  
but greatly forgotten in our busy day to day routine.

In the late 19th century E. M. Bounds penned the following in his book “Purpose In Prayer.” Does it have a familiar ring?

“Where are the Christlike leaders who can teach the modern saints how to pray and put them at it? Do our leaders know we are raising up a prayerless set of saints? Where are the apostolic leaders who can put God’s people to praying? Let them come to the front and do the work, and it will be the greatest work that can be done. An increase of educational facilities and a great increase of money force will be the direst curse to religion if they are not sanctified by more and better praying than we are doing.

“More praying will not come as a matter of Course. The campaign for the twentieth or thirtieth century will not help our praying, but hinder if we are not careful. Nothing but a specific effort from a praying leadership will avail. None but praying leaders can have praying followers. Praying apostles will beget praying saints. A praying pulpit will beget praying pews. We do greatly need somebody who can set the saints to this business of praying. We are a generation of non-praying saints. Non-praying saints are a beggarly gang of saints, who have neither the ardor nor the beauty, nor the power of saints. Who will restore this branch? The greatest will be of reformers and apostles, who can set the Church to praying.

“Holy men have, in the past, changed the whole force of affairs, revolutionized character and country by prayer. And such achievements are still possible to us. The power is only wanting to be used. Prayer is but the expression of faith. “Time would fail to tell of the mighty things wrought by prayer, for by it holy ones have “subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to fight the armies of the aliens, women received their dead raised to life.

“Prayer honors God; it dishonors self. It is man’s plea of weakness, ignorance, want. A plea which heaven cannot disregard. God delights to have us pray.

“Prayer is not the foe to work, it does not paralyze activity. It works mightily; prayer itself is the greatest work. It springs activity, stimulates desire and effort. Prayer is not an opiate but a tonic, it does not lull to sleep but arouses anew for action. The lazy man does not, will not, and cannot pray, for prayer demands energy. Paul calls it a striving, an agony. With Jacob it was a wrestling; with the Syrophenician women it was a struggle which called into play all the higher qualities of the soul, and which demanded great force to meet.

“The closet is not an asylum for the indolent and worthless Christian. It is not a nursery where none but babes belong. It is the battlefield of the Church; its citadel; the scene of heroic and unearthly conflicts. The closet is the base of supplies for the Christian and the Church. Cut off from it there is nothing left but retreat and disaster. The energy for work, the mastery over self, the deliverance from fear, all spiritual results and graces, are much advanced by prayer. The difference between the strength, the experience, the holiness of Christians is found in the contrast in their praying. “Few, short, feeble prayers, always betoken a low spiritual condition. Men ought to pray much and apply themselves to it with energy and perseverance. Eminent Christians have been eminent in prayer. The deep things of God are learned nowhere else. Great things for God are done by great prayers. He who prays much, studies much, loves much, works much, does much for God and humanity. The execution of the Gospel, the vigor of faith, the maturity and excellence of spiritual graces wait on prayer.”

O God, may we quiet ourselves to hear Your call to pray; may we become righteous people fervently raising unselfish petitions to Your Holy throne.

## February Birthdays

Feb. 1 Jon Mark Atkins  
 Feb. 5 Tena B. Cassidy  
 Feb. 6 Larisa Blair  
 Feb. 7 Tena Mullins  
 Feb. 8 Dianne Chitwood  
 Sara Seay  
 Feb. 9 Dennis Wray  
 Feb. 10 John K. Ramsey  
 Feb. 11 Amy Starita  
 Feb. 12 Monica Greer  
 Betty Metz  
 Feb. 13 Savanna Sirt  
 Feb. 14 Martha Sue Meeks  
 Feb. 15 Roger Woods  
 Feb. 16 Jean Martin  
 Feb. 17 Lucy Atkins  
 Sharon Snead  
 Wanda Stone  
 Feb. 18 Sara Gill  
 Martha Jane Gunter  
 Feb. 19 Debra Workinger  
 Cierra Underwood  
 Feb. 20 Josephine Ferguson  
 Jane Judson  
 Marvin Seay  
 Feb. 21 Tammy Foley  
 Feb. 23 Robbie Wilson  
 Feb. 24 Amy Lawson  
 Feb. 25 Arthur Foley  
 Linda McMillan  
 Feb. 26 Mildred Ramsey  
 Feb. 27 H. L. Snead

## March Birthdays

Mar. 2 Glen P. Young  
 Mar. 4 Jim Thomasson  
 Mary Carter  
 Brandi Hale  
 Mar. 6 Courtney Snead  
 Mar. 7 Julia R Wilshire  
 Mar. 8 Janet Branscome  
 Mar. 9 Mary Ann Turner  
 Mar. 10 Kevin Atkins  
 Mar. 12 Joe McMillan  
 Joanna Martin  
 Violet Cleveland  
 Mar. 14 Andrew Hodges  
 Emory Hodges  
 Mar. 17 Al Harley  
 Joshua Wilshire  
 Mar. 18 Katina B. Pettit  
 Mar. 20 Jamie Brown  
 Lillian Forbes  
 Mar. 21 Michelle Mason  
 Roger Young  
 Mar. 23 Lora Atkins  
 Sommer Carter  
 Janice Ramsey  
 Mar. 25 Lee W. Pettit  
 Mar. 28 Shannon Wright  
 Lois Young  
 Sue Young  
 Mar. 29 James E Joyce  
 Mar. 30 Jeremy Gill

## REHAB & REST HOME RESIDENTS

Blue Ridge Manor,  
P.O. Box 4904, Martinsville, VA 24112  
 Alice Martin - Room 205

Blue Ridge Rehab,  
P.O. Box 4904, Martinsville, VA 24112  
 \*Glen Young - Room 216  
 Jim Belcher - Room 202

Fork Mountain Rest Home,  
2925 Fork Mtn. Rd. Rocky Mt, 24151  
 Golden Stone                      Howard Hodges  
 \*Lillian Forbes                      Angela Mason

Hanson Home  
162 Krontz Dr., Bassett, VA 24055  
 \*Betty Sue Sparks

Harmony Hall  
P.O. Box 1614, Bassett, VA 24055  
 Louise Turner                      Betty Pagans  
 Darlene Wray

Stanleytown Health Care  
P.O. Box 538, Stanleytown, VA 24168  
 \*Charlie Ramsey                      Janie Keys  
 \*Mattie Robertson                      Creed King

TLC Adult Home  
880 Lillian Naff Dr., Henry, VA 24102  
 \*Lora Atkins

Trinity Mission Health & Rehab,  
300 Hatcher St. Rocky Mt. VA 24151  
 Ruby Weaver                      Ida Turner

# SUPER CHILI BOWL SUNDAY

**February 5th, 2012**

following the 11:00 AM Worship Service

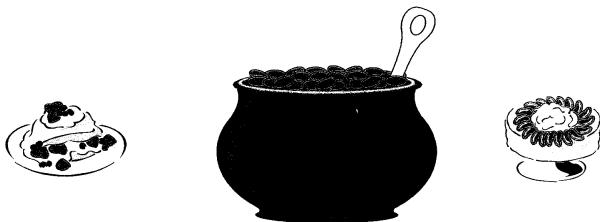
**Oak Level Baptist Church**

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Phone: 276-629-7973

www.oaklevelbaptist.org

**We will also have Pinto Beans, Cornbread,  
 Side Dishes & Yummy Desserts.**



**EVERYONE WELCOME!**



## IN MEMORY

Fund

Name

Church Budget

Shirley K. Young

## IN HONOR

Children's Fund

The Youth &  
 Youth Workers

**GOD IS LOVE!**



Christian sympathy extended to the family and friends of Jessie M. Durham, who passed away Monday, December 26, 2011.

Christian sympathy extended to Virginia & Betty Metz on the death of their step-nephew, William Allen Joyce, who passed away December 31, 2011.

Christian sympathy extended to Ben & Peggy Morris and their family and friends on the death of Ben's cousin, Margaret (Jean) Boone Naff, who passed away January 1, 2012.

Christian sympathy extended to Wanda & Cecil Stone and their family and friends on the death of Wanda's first cousin, Robert Simpson, who passed away Tuesday, January 03, 2012.

Christian sympathy extended to Debi & Wes Wells on the death of Debi's brother, Roger Merricks, who passed away, Sunday, January 08, 2012.

Christian sympathy extended to Norman Young, Sherry, Danny & Rosa Stone and their family and friends on the death of Shirley Keen Young, who passed away Monday, January 16, 2012.

# THANK YOU

The Youth and Youth Leaders would like to thank everyone for all the help and hard work you did with the Angel Tree, the Candlelight Service, and the Youth Christmas Program. We are looking forward to doing a Christmas Program next year.

Oak Level Baptist Church would like to thank all the ones that came and helped take down the church Christmas decorations. All your hard work is appreciated.

Thank you so much for all the love and kindness you show to me and for all the Christmas cards and presents. The Lord has blessed me in so many ways by bring me to Oak Level Baptist Church.  
Sue Young

I would like to thank our church family for your prayers, visits, cards, food, phone calls, and hospital visits after my knee surgery and during my recuperation. It was so thoughtful of you and I really appreciate everything you did so much.  
Deborah Thomas



Anyone who has not been receiving church e-mails of prayer requests, deaths, and other important information, please make sure we have your correct e-mail address by sending an e-mail to the church at [olbc@comcast.net](mailto:olbc@comcast.net) Just a reminder, you can also check our website at [www.oaklevelbaptist.org](http://www.oaklevelbaptist.org). where you can check for events at the church and in the community.

## Commitment to Pray



Prayer is vital to the well-being of individual believers, the church, and the body of Christ. Commit yourself to learn more of this privileged exercise of faith, and put into practice this easily forgotten discipline.

Each Wednesday your church family meets at 6:45pm for a season of prayer, praise, study, and sharing. Please join with us in this fellowship of intercession and community. How special to share with a small group of your brothers and sisters your praises, words of thanksgiving and encouragement, and petitions as we enter into the Lord's heavenly throne room.

These PTS (Pray, Teach & Share) gatherings are so necessary in the middle of the week and contribute to bringing our church family closer together in the love of Christ.

We look forward to seeing you!

## Raceway Ministries Weekend At Martinsville Speedway

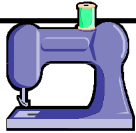
Saturday, March 31, 2012, Kroger 250, Truck Race  
Sunday, April 1, 2012, Goody's Fast Pain Relief 500  
Raceway Ministries needs volunteers to provide and distribute refreshments, hand out gospel tracts, drive handicapped shuttles, and PRAY at the upcoming Race Weekend events. If you can help, call the HCBA at 638-2951.



## JONES EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Through the generosity of Inez and Casey Jones assets have been bequeathed to Oak Level Baptist Church for providing financial assistance to students attending institutions of higher learning.

Beneficiaries shall be limited to active members of Oak Level Baptist Church and their immediate families, children, grandchildren, step children, etc. and must be verifiable active members of a church. If you are interested, please call or e-mail the Church Office for an application.



## CALLING ALL SEWERS!



**Saturday, February 11, 10:00 am -2:00 pm.**  
Calling all Sewers, young and old, new and experienced. Do you know how to sew?

### **Come share your skills!**

Want to learn how to sew – come as we make simple jumpers for the girls at the Standing Rock Reservation. A soup lunch will be served.

## February/March 2012 Calendar

**February 11 - Focus on WMU sewing party**

**18 - Children's Ministry Day**

**28 - WMU Meeting - 7:00 p.m.**

**March - 11-17 Ingathering of CBF Missions**

**14 - Prayer Study (Touching Miami With Love)**

**27 - WMU Meeting - 7:00 p.m.**



## Mom & Me 2012 **April 27-28 and April 28-29** **for girls (1st-5th graders)** **and their moms.**

**For more information go to [WMUV.org](http://WMUV.org)**



**Emphasis - Touching Miami with Love**  
**Prayer Study - Wednesday, March 14**

**OLBC 2012 GOAL - \$3,000.00**

## SHINE 2012

You & I are called to live in community -  
with God and with each other.

At Shine 2012, we will explore this idea through missions, worship, Bible study, breakouts, and more. Come discover how we can 'stay together' and join Jesus Christ where He is at work in the world.

Who should Come - Teenage girls (grades 6-12)

When is Shine - April 13-15 (Friday & Saturday kickoff event - Saturday-Sunday main event)

Where is Shine - Eagle Eyrie Conference Center

Register online at - [wmuv.org/shine](http://wmuv.org/shine)

# Engage

## Human Exploitation

During 2012 we will focus on awareness, education, prayer, and some basic ways to Engage in addressing Human Exploitation. As we continue to emphasize prayer in 2013, we will target specific areas in which to respond more fully. We encourage you to explore the following issues and prayerfully consider where you would join Jesus Christ where He is at work in the world



## WOMEN'S SILENCE RETREAT



**Bloom**

**March 30-31 or September 21-22, 2012**

**CrossRoads Camp and Conference Center**

**COST: \$80 includes single occupancy and**

**three meals. For more Information**

**call 800.255.2428, ext. 8267**

**or online at [wmuv.org/silenceretreat](http://wmuv.org/silenceretreat)**



## GRACE NETWORK

Include these items on your shopping list when you go to the Grocery Store. Bring them to the church where they will be delivered to Grace Network.

**Food Items for February/March are:**

**Boxed Potato Products - (13 oz.)**

**Bread Mixes - (Bisquick Type - 40 oz.)**

## ISSUES: Ways children can Engage in Bullying

- Children can Engage in helping Bullying by:
- Treating others with respect and Kindness – Remember the Golden Rule – “Do unto others what you would have them do to you”.
- Read books about bullying
- Speak up on behalf of children being bullied. Use words like: “Don’t treat her or him that way, it’s not nice.” or “Hitting is not a good way to solve problems. “