

*“SHARING THE JOURNEY”*

When I Consider Your Heavens

The ever popular hymn "*How Great Thou Art*" could easily have been taken from Psalm 8:3-4 which reads, "*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?*" I don't believe there is anything else in all of creation that speaks to my heart about God's majesty, power, and sovereignty as does a glimpse into His incredible wonder and creation on a clear dark night.

There is such precision and attention to minute details laid out by the Master Designer that someone could spend a lifetime studying them (and many do) and still not understand most of what is there. Our closest celestial neighbor, the moon, is a prime example of such careful design. The moon adds immeasurably to our uniqueness among the sister planets of our solar system. Were it not for the presence of our moon, life as we know it could not exist on planet earth. Consider these few facts.

When God created the earth He placed the moon in its path to be more than just a beautiful light beaming in the dark. The constant pull of gravity between the two bodies is what sets earth's 24 hour clock and 29.5 day month. Without a moon the earth would spin much too quickly, and days would be only about a fourth as long as they are now. That would not do well for most living creatures on earth, especially man. An interesting bit of trivia is that the moon is slowing earth's rotation by about .002 seconds per century. The days really are getting longer, but God's timepiece is so carefully set that we will be in eternity long before the earth's rotation slows down enough for us to notice.

The moon keeps the earth from wobbling in its orbit around the sun. The moon's gentle pull stabilizes the earth's rotation and tilt at a very constant 23.5 degrees. Were it not for this pull, our planet would wobble excessively. As children, we learned that the 23.5 degree tilt is what accounts for the changing seasons, but a random or excessive tilt varying anywhere from 0 to 90 degrees would cause weather patterns to change all over the globe leaving us without reliable or survivable consistency. For several months it would become arid and hot as a desert in our county. Imagine the effect on vegetation, conveniences, and life.

The next "season" could cause a frozen wilderness like Antarctica. Our continent would become the new, but temporary, north pole. Within days our lives would grind to a halt. There would be no traveling, no venturing outside, no food, and no electricity as water turbines, nuclear plants, and rail systems would go silent. Electronic and digital communication would end, because we would no longer be able to rely on satellite technology, and even the old technology would be destroyed as the frost line would become much greater than a mere couple of feet. Conduits, pipes, and cables would be snapped or crushed. Those souls that made it through the hot season would find survival impossible through months of frigid cold.

The next season and weather pattern would be an unknown. Regular planting and harvest would no longer be possible, and most plant and animal life would simply disappear due to the harsh temperatures, daylight extremes, and disrupted reproductive cycles. All of the grocery store shelves would have been emptied long ago. The "Katrina Effect" would be global. Our lives depend upon the days and seasons that God has ordered into place by the setting of the moon.

The moon accounts for most of the tidal effects on planet earth. Besides providing great fun to surfers and other water people, the tides have served to help regulate the earth clock as mentioned above and promote life and healthy conditions in the world's oceans. Tidal interactions helped cause the moon's rotation to slow down to where we only see one side of the moon at any given time. This attraction plus the physics of centrifugal force keeps the moon at a pretty steady distance of about 240,000 miles (give or take a few thousand miles due to the elliptical orbit). It takes the moon 29.5 days to rotate once which is the same amount of time the moon needs to complete one orbit (one moon or month) around the earth.

And if that isn't finely tuned enough, consider that the Lord has arranged for the distance to be exactly where it needs to be so that its apparent size in the sky is the same as the sun's. That's why we can have a total eclipse from time to time! The tiny moon can slip perfectly in front of the gigantic sun, and because of just the right distance and alignment, blot out all of that powerful sunshine. Another interesting bit of trivia is that the moon is slowly moving away from the earth at a rate of about 1.5 inches per year. This means again, that by the time it would take for this to make a difference, humankind will have long been gone from the old earth.

During the early creation period, the moon served to protect the earth from the impact of countless other bodies as it swept up untold numbers of objects as they orbited near the earth. Even today the moon continues to protect the earth from some impacts. You might say the Lord used the moon to clear a minefield of dangerous threats as He prepared earth for us to live on.

The next time you step outside under the light of a full moon (which by the way will be the Hunter's Moon on October 18), recall again the words of the Psalmist, "*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?*" God is mindful of us, because He loves us dearly. He has placed all of the stars, moons, and planets on their courses for our pleasure and benefit. His handiwork declares His glory and might.

Rev. Steve Manuel



### TRUNK OR TREAT

Oak Level Baptist Church will host a "Trunk or Treat" Halloween night, Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Everyone is invited to come and decorate a table and you also decorate yourselves to hand out candy to Trick or Treaters that come by our church.



Also, donations of individually wrapped candy are needed so they can be given out to the Trick or Treaters. Drop by, because it is a lot of fun! See Peggy Morris for more information.



### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Church will be collecting Shoeboxes again this year for **Samaritan's Purse**. Pamphlets will be placed in the in the Church Pew Pockets very soon for information on how to pack your box. **The dedication and collection date is Sunday, November 10, 2013.**

The ladies from WMU have ordered shoeboxes so there are shoeboxes available if you are in need of them. Please see Donna Winebarger, Betty Jo Foley or any of the ladies in the WMU for shoeboxes or for more information.

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 01 Sherry S. Taylor  
Oct. 04 James Snead  
Oct. 05 Benny Young  
Oct. 07 Paul McKee  
Oct. 09 Bobby Haulsey  
Oct. 10 Jody Keaton Underwood  
James Keaton  
Oct. 12 Linda Whitten  
Oct. 14 Rhonda Seay  
Oct. 15 Moir Foley  
Oct. 16 Rosa D. Stone  
Oct. 18 Justin Spencer  
Oct. 20 Shirley Tobler  
Ryan Wingfield  
Oct. 23 Dot Wray  
Oct. 24 Joanne Hurd  
Ronnie Brown  
Charlie Lumpkin  
Caleb Howell  
Oct. 27 Dave Judson  
Debi Wells  
Mark Forbes  
Oct. 28 David Lee Franklin  
Oct. 30 Betty S. Sparks  
Taylor Biggs  
Oct. 31 Jed Coleman

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 2 David Hurd, Sr.  
Nov. 3 Gary Thomas  
Nov. 4 Marcia Miles  
Barbara Mabe  
Nov. 5 Kyle Scott  
Nov. 8 Jason Howell  
Nov. 10 Nancy Turner  
Nov. 11 Jordan Gilley  
Nov. 12 Bettie Snead  
J.T. Young  
Nov. 13 Brandon Keen  
Nov. 17 Bunny Thomasson  
Nov. 18 Donna Gilbert  
David Tuttle  
Nov. 20 Kristi Thomas  
Nov. 21 Emily Sara Boswell  
Nov. 24 Dolores Thompson



### NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

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

Golden Living Center,  
1607 Spruce St. Martinsville, VA, 24112  
\*Glen Young

Blue Ridge Nursing Ctr.,  
P.O. Box 459, Stuart, VA 24171  
Viola Turner Thelma Love

Fork Mountain Rest Home,  
2925 Fork Mtn. Rd. Rocky Mt, 24151  
\*Dianne Chitwood \*Lillian Forbes  
Howard Hodges Hazel Sizemore  
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

Stanleytown Health Care Ctr.,  
240 Riverside Drive, Bassett, VA 24055  
Blandean Akers - 9 Grace Mullins - 12

The Laurel, 72 Chatham Business Park Dr  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
\*Lovelene S. Lewis

Trinity Rehab, 300 Hatcher St.  
Rocky Mt. VA 24151

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS



Flowers placed in the Church Sanctuary on Sunday, September 15, 2013 are in loving memory of Jesse Hanks Cox and given by his mother, Esther Hanks, his family, his friends, and by Grace and Numbers.

Flowers placed in the Church Sanctuary on Sunday, September 29 are given in honor of Jake Divers on his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday and are given by his daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Ken Turner.

Flowers placed in the Church Sanctuary on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> were in loving memory of Cecil Stone, celebrating his birthday. They were given by his wife, Wanda Stone



### NEW MEMBER

Oak Level Baptist Church would like to welcome a new member.

**Ms. Lenzie Erin Boswell** was baptized, on her 11th birthday, Sunday, September 29, 2013, by Rev. Steve Manuel. Lenzie is the daughter of Lee and Mearl Boswell, who are also members of the church.

### IN MEMORY


#### Fund

Children's Fund

#### Name

Matthew Thompson

Be sure to check out our website at  
[www.oaklevelbaptist.org](http://www.oaklevelbaptist.org)



## With Sympathy

Christian sympathy extended to Elmer and Ann Stone and their family and friends on the death of Ann's brother, Wesley Stroop, who passed away Thursday, August 1, 2013.

Christian sympathy extended to the family and friends of Jane Viars Lawson, who passed away Wednesday, August 14, 2013.

Christian sympathy extended to the family and friends of Samuel Wiley Nolen, who passed away Monday, August 12, 2013. He was a dear friend of Jesse & Barbara Cannaday.

Christian sympathy extended to Dionna Thompson and Holly Thompson on the death of Dionna's son and Holly's brother, Matthew Scott Thompson who passed away Thursday, August 22, 2013. Matthew was also a beloved attendee of the Oak Level Baptist Church Youth Group.

Christian sympathy extended to the family and friends of Ida Latham, who passed away Tuesday, August 13, 2013.

Christian sympathy extended to the family and friends of Eva Colleen Thornton who passed away Monday, August 19, 2013.

Christian sympathy extended Brenda and Dennis Ferguson and their family and friends on the death of Brenda's mother, Betty Lou Haynes Ayers, who passed away Sunday, August 25, 2013.

### THANK YOU

Barbara and I want to thank you for your tremendous support as we have faced this new adventure in our lives. Your understanding, encouragement, many prayers, cards, and gifts have been a powerful testimony to your love and deep concern for us, and we are truly grateful that the Lord has allowed us to be part of your lives at this time. You have no idea how much this means to us.  
Steve & Barbara Manuel

Thank you for the flowers, phone calls, cards, and words of sympathy expressed to Elmer, me, and our family, during the death of my brother, Wesley Stroop, who passed away on Thursday, August 1, 2013.  
Ann Stone



## DATES & TIMES FOR YOUTH MEETING

Youth Meetings are held **every other Sunday**. Dates for October and November Meetings are listed below. Please see Missy Thompson or call the Church Office for more details.

### October Meetings

October 06 - 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

October 20 - 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

### November Meetings

November 03 - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

November 17 - 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

## OPERATION IN AS MUCH,



The one day event will be on Saturday, October 12, 2013.

Everyone is needed and welcome to come out and help us as we

share love with the community; at the local grocery store, laundry mat, fire and rescue station, nursing home and many others. People are needed to help with lunch and putting gifts and snacks together here at the church. We also need prayer warriors at the church during this time.

If you, a neighbor, or a friend, have a small problem of an electrical nature or construction, please let us know so we can schedule someone to take care of it on Saturday, October 12th. Please call the Church Office at 629-7973 with the information.





**WMU MEETINGS FOR AUGUST & SEPT.**

October 22 - WMU Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
 November 26 - WMU Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

**Women's Get-Away**  
**November 1-2 and 2-3, 2013**  
[wmuv.org/getaway](http://wmuv.org/getaway)

REGISTER ONLINE beginning August 1 at <http://wmuv.org/getaway> for online registration or mail-in registration form.

**Connect • Commit • Celebrate**

**Costs for BGAV churches:**  
 Hotel (and three meals)- \$80.00  
 Lodge (and three meals)- \$62.00  
 Computers (day) - \$20.00  
 • For registration forms or information, call WMUV office at 800-255-2426, ext. 6267, email [wmuv@wmuv.org](mailto:wmuv@wmuv.org) or check the website <http://wmuv.org/getaway>  
 • For specific information on lodging or meals, contact Eagle Eyrie directly at 1-434-384-2211.

Breakouts/Conferences will be at <http://wmuv.org/getaway> after August 1.

Get-Away begins with Dinner at 5:00 p.m. - Ends following lunch.

**HYGIENE PACKETS FOR FLUVANNA CORRECTION CENTER FOR WOMEN**

The WMU will be collecting hygiene items and Card Ministry items to be given to women at the Fluvanna Correction Center for Women. Please keep in mind that we may not deviate the amount, size or type of hygiene items.



**APPROVED HYGIENE ITEMS ARE:**

- One individually wrapped toothbrush
- One 6 oz. tube of toothpaste .
- One 2.4 oz. deodorant stick (no spray or roll-on)
- One 15 oz. bottle shampoo
- One 15 oz. bottle of lotion

\*Substitute items are **NOT** permitted  
 \*Size limitations cannot be exceeded

**Place all Items in a Gallon Zip-Lock Bag**

**APPROVED CARD MINISTRY ITEMS**



- One unsharpened wooden pencil
- Greeting Cards (all occasions—including Christmas & Hanukkah) Avoid envelopes that have aluminum Foil in the envelope flap.
- Stationary Items (envelopes, writing paper)
- Postage Stamps (Please donate the Forever Stamps)

• We will be taking the Fluvanna packets to the Women's Get-Away, so please have items at the church by Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Give to the  
**CBF Offering for GLOBAL MISSIONS**

**OLBC 2013 Goal - \$4,000.00**  
**Offering to Date - \$2481.00**

**You can change lives!**

100 percent of your gift to CBF Offering for Global Missions will help people hear and experience the gospel of Jesus Christ.



**OAK LEVEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**ALMA HUNT OFFERING**

**Goal - \$1250.00**  
**Received to Date - \$600.00**

**WOMEN'S GET-AWAY AT EAGLE EYRIE**

All Women are invited to join us for a great time of learning and fellowship at the Women's Get-Away

November 1-2 and 2-3, 2013  
 Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center  
 Lynchburg, Virginia

Contact Donna Winebarger, Betty Jo Foley, or call the church office for more information.

# October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Deacon of the Month -</b> <b>Virginia Metz -276-629-8662</b>		1	 2 Men's Breakfast - 7:30 a.m. Operation In As Much Mtg. 6:00 p.m. PTS Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	3	4	5
 6 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Youth Meeting  5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	7	8 Deacon's Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	9 PTS Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	10	11	12 <b>Operation</b> <b>"In As Much"</b> <b>Day</b> <b>8:00 am - 2:00pm</b>
13 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.	14	15 HCBA Annual Meeting 4:30 (Registration) First Baptist, Bassett Columbus Day	16 Budget & Business Meeting - 6:30 p.m. National Boss' Day	17	18	19
20 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Youth Meeting  5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	21 Sue Young on Vacation	22 WMU Meeting 7:00 p.m. Sue Young on Vacation	23 PTS Meeting - 6:30 p.m. Sue Young on Vacation	24 United Nations Day	25 Raceway Ministries Weekend Martinsville Speedway	26 Raceway Ministries Weekend Martinsville Speedway Teresa Adkins Wedding Church Reserved)
27 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Judgement Day - 3:00 p.m.  Pennies for the Precious	28	29 Church Council Meeting 4:00 p.m.	30 PTS Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	31 TRUNK OR TREAT 5:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.  Halloween		

# November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>Deacon of the Month - Ben Morris - 540-489-8577</b>						1	2
					Women's Get-A-Way at Eagle Eyrie WMUV Annual Meeting	Women's Get-A-Way at Eagle Eyrie WMUV Annual Meeting	
3 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Youth Meeting  5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Daylight Savings Time Ends	4	5 Deacon's Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	6  Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	7	8	9	
10 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Dedication of Shoeboxes Operation Christmas Child	11 	12	13 Business Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	14	15	16	
17 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m. Youth Meeting  5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	18	19	20 PTS Meeting - 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	
24 Sunday School - 9:45 a.m. Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.  Pennies for the Precious	25	26 WMU Meeting 7:00 p.m.	27 No PTS Meeting Today	28  THANKSGIVING DAY Church Office Closed	29 Good Friday Church Office Closed	30	