

# Oak Level Baptist Church

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

Volume 44

SHARING THE JOURNEY

February/March 2020

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I hope you are enjoying a good winter season. Let us rejoice in the beauty of each day as we see the birds, sunsets, and the power of God in the wind. It is my prayer that we remember the gift of love from the Lord as we get closer to Valentine's Day.

The Lord has shown us how we should love one another. We must take a closer look at the cross of Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches us to love one another for love is of God. (1 John 4:7) The truth is found in God's Word that God is love. Let us love others as God has taught us. May you and I be willing to give of ourselves each day. What can you and I do to make a positive difference in the life of another person?

I have met people in my life that I have had the opportunity to be a blessing to them. Will you be a channel of blessing to someone today? Are you willing to share your Christian faith with someone who needs to know Jesus Christ and His love? Take time to rejoice in the Lord and determine to be a blessing to people you meet today. (Psalm 118:24) Be available share the love of Jesus Christ as you have the opportunity. When was the last time you shared with someone your Christian testimony? Pause to pray today that you will be the best witness for Christ now.

The month of March reminds us that spring time is coming soon. We look forward to green grass, flowers, and warmer weather. As the spring season gets closer, take time to think about newness of life found in Jesus Christ alone. As Christians we experience a life that is transformed by the power of God. 2Corinthians 5:17 teaches us this important truth – in Christ we are a new creation.

Have an enjoyable and safe rest of the winter season. Take time to see the beauty of each season. The seasons of the year help teach us there are seasons of our lives. There are people who are reading this article who are young, middle aged, and senior adults. Be sure to make the most of each season in your life. May each of us always strive to make our days and our moments count. (Psalm 90:12) It matters most in our lives what we do with the time, talents, and resources the Lord has given us.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your pastor for five years. We continue to pray for each other and support each other in ministry. To God be the glory! We are thankful for a good, safe move here five years ago and began serving as your pastor on February 2.

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor Joe  
John 3:16; Romans 6:4

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### February Birthdays

Feb. 1 Jon Mark Atkins  
Feb. 2 Joe Glass  
Feb. 5 Tena B. Cassady  
Feb. 6 Holly Thompson  
Feb. 8 Sara Seay  
Toby LaBounty  
Feb. 9 Dennis Wray  
Feb. 10 John K. Ramsey  
Feb. 13 Sheila Ramsey  
Feb. 14 Martha Sue Meeks  
Feb. 16 Jean Martin  
Lydia Baumgardner  
Feb. 17 Wanda Stone  
Feb. 18 Sara Gill  
Martha Jane Gunter  
Feb. 19 Debra Workinger  
Cierra Underwood  
Feb. 20 Marvin Seay  
Feb. 24 Amy Lawson  
Feb. 25 Arthur Foley  
Linda McMillan  
Feb. 26 Mildred Ramsey  
Feb. 27 H. L. Snead  
Feb. 29 Jacob Glass

### March Birthdays

Mar. 4 Mary Carter  
Brandi Taylor  
Mar. 8 Janet Branscome  
Mar. 10 Kevin Atkins  
Mar. 11 Jennifer Thompson  
Mar. 17 Al Harley  
Mar. 18 Katina B. Pettit  
Mar. 20 Jamie Brown  
Kim Glass  
Mar. 21 Mischelle Carter  
Roger Young  
Mar. 22 Kevin Baumgardner  
Mar. 23 Sommer Carter  
Janice Ramsey  
Mar. 25 Lee W. Pettit  
Mar. 26 Lee Boswell  
Mar. 28 Shannon Wright  
Sue Young  
Christy Hunley  
Mar. 29 James Edward Joyce

### NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

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

\*Avis Gray - Room 364  
\*Shirley Tobler - Room 341  
\*Bill Young - Room 264  
Sue Meeks - Room 213

Friendship Rehab, 5647 Starkey Rd., Roanoke, VA 24018

\*Wanda Stone - Room 317

Please remember to pray for our shut-ins and nursing home residents daily. They always appreciate visits, cards, and phone calls.

### CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Betty Metz, who passed away on Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Betty was a faithful member of OLBC and will be missed by all.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Grady Snead, who passed away on Tuesday, December 31, 2019. Grady was a longtime resident of the Oak Level community and the husband of Betty Snead, who played piano/organ at OLBC for many years.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Nell Cannaday, who passed away on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Nell was a member of OLBC for many years and lived in Myrtle Beach, SC.



On **Sunday, February 2nd**, everyone is asked to bring your favorite chili, soup or dessert to share for a fellowship luncheon after the morning worship service.

Please bring at least one can of soup to help support the ministry of Grace Network. Invite a friend to come with you! Thank you for supporting this important ministry in our community!



Congratulations to Chuck and Kyrie LaBounty on the birth of their daughter Eliza Joann on Thursday, January 2, 2020. Eliza weighed 7lbs. 14oz.



Congratulations to Pastor Joe as he celebrates ministering here at Oak Level Baptist Church for 5 years and on his birthday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>!

### STOP THE BLEED

"STOP THE BLEED" course will be held at OLBC on **Monday, February 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Must have 10 or more persons** interested before the class can be held. Text Robert Gillespie if interested at 276-618-6003. Stop the Bleed is a national awareness campaign and call-to-action. Stop the Bleed is intended to cultivate grassroots efforts that encourage bystanders to become trained, equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on **Saturday, March 7th!**

### GOSPEL SINGING

**Daughters of Calvary** is coming to Oak Level Baptist Church. Begin inviting friends, family, and neighbors now! They are coming for an exciting musical event on **Sunday, March 29**. This concert will begin at **6:00 PM**. Make plans now to join **Daughters of Calvary** at Oak Level Baptist Church for an awesome event filled with a life changing message. There is no admission charge, but a Love Offering will be collected. Check out their Facebook page or at [www.daughtersofcalvary.org](http://www.daughtersofcalvary.org) to preview some of their songs.

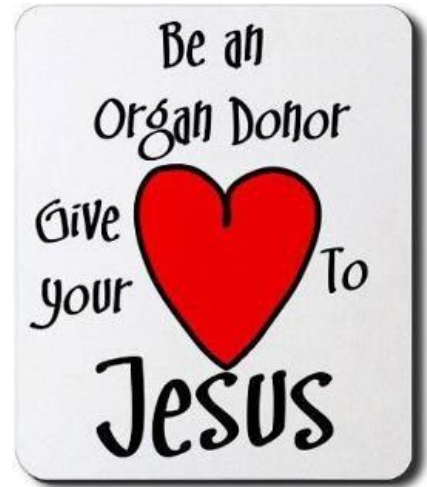


The first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 am, the men of the church meet for food and fellowship. This is a time for them to foster and build relationships with other men of the church and the community. The men meet at the church to ride the van and then go to a predetermined restaurant. If you haven't been a part of this ministry, consider joining them on **Wednesday, February 5 and March 4**.


### JONES SCHOLARSHIP FUND




Through the generosity of Inez and Casey Jones, assets have been set aside by Oak Level Baptist Church to provide scholarships to students attending institutions of higher learning. Beneficiaries of the fund shall be limited to active members of Oak Level Baptist Church and their immediate families, children, grandchildren, step children, etc. The applicants must also be a verifiable active member of a church. If you would like to apply, please call or e-mail the **Church Office** for an application. The deadline to receive completed applications is **April 1, 2020**.



Mark your calendar now for **VBS**. Plans are underway for this summer event with a Moses theme. The date is **June 13 from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.** Make plans to **VOLUNTEER** this year. There will be more information available in the coming months.



Beloved,  
**Let Us**  
*Love*  
 one another,  
 for love is of  
**GOD**  
 and everyone  
**who loves**  
 has been born of God, and  
**KNOWS**  
*God.*  
1 JOHN 4:7





### WMU MEETINGS

Tuesday - February 18 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday - March 17 - 6:30 p.m.

### BLAND MINISTRY CENTER

In 2020, the Bland Ministry Center will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> year of meeting physical and spiritual needs in SW Virginia and southern West Virginia. The OLBC WMU has decided to do 4 mission projects with the Bland Ministry Center this year. For the first quarter we plan to collect items for the Rams CARE Cupboard (Creating Access, Reaching Everyone). We will collect non-perishable items to help stock this food pantry on the campus of Bluefield College with single serve microwaveable food items, snacks and toiletries. There are plenty of barriers to attending and completing college; hunger should not be one. More than 75% of responders to a campus survey know a fellow student who is hungry. The WMU will be planning and scheduling a trip to Bland and Bluefield College to deliver these items and tour the facility. Watch for the WMU basket in the foyer labeled "Rams CARE" to place your donations.

### REMEMBER TO PRAY

The Tindi People of The Caucasus Mountains are at the intersection of Europe and Asia. Stretching between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, these mountains are in the State/Province of Eurasia. With a population of less than 15,000 these physically hard-to-reach people have no gospel presence.

### WHAT WILL YOU RESOLVE TO DO IN 2020?

We "would rather be comfortable and slightly miserable than change....God's best for us always lies just beyond our comfort zone."

Sandy Wisdom-Martin, *Missions Moasic January 2020*

"If a commission by an earthly king is considered an honor, how can a commission by a heavenly king be considered a sacrifice?" David Livingstone

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



**OLBC 2020 Goal - \$2,000.00**

**"SHARE ABUNDANT LIFE"**

Special Offering emphasis will be

**March 1 - 8, 2020**

**THANK YOU** for the great work with the CBF Offering during 2019. We collected a total of \$1,998.25 of our \$2,000 goal.

### SAMARITANS PURSE

OLBC has a goal of collecting 40 Samaritans Purse Shoe Boxes in 2020:

We want to add another way to help: in the past you have seen the list of needed items every month that can be collected and you can still do that if you choose.

New this year, if you would like to sponsor a box for a total of \$25 which includes shipping and not worry about collecting any of the items and all the shopping will be done for you, you can do that also. Please let Betty Jo know of your intention to do that. Payment can be made to her at any time or designated in an offering envelope through the church offering.

Of course, if you want to take care of packing a shoebox yourself, you can still do that.

Also, NEW this year, we would like to include some more personal homemade items. We are planning simple cotton dresses, small tote bags, and maybe some homemade jewelry.



February 15th is Children's Ministry Day and from 9-11:00 am on that day, we want to invite all the young people of the church and the young at heart to join us in making jewelry items for the shoeboxes. We will supply everything. Just come prepared to get CRAFTY! Children ages 5 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Souper Bowl Luncheon Deacons' Mtg. - 5:00 p.m.	<b>3</b> "Stop the Bleed" Class 6:00 p.m.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Business Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Children's Missions Day 9-11AM in Fellowship Hall
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             Focus on WMU Week February 10 - 16           </div>						
<b>16</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>19</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am  Pennies for the Precious	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

Deacon of the Month – Chuck LaBounty

Counters of the Month – Ken Turner & Brenda Ferguson

# March 2020

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 Deacons' Mtg. - 5:00 p.m.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 a.m. PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
CBF Offering Emphasis – Share Abundant Life -- March 1 - 8						
<b>8</b> Daylight Saving Time Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Ingathering of CBF Offering	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Business Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Newsletter Info Due	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	<b>18</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Bridal Shower 2-4 PM in Fellowship Hall
<b>22</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am  Pennies for the Precious	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice – 7:30 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Daughters of Calvary Concert 6:00 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

Deacon of the Month – Robert Gillespie

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Lance Frith