

Oak Level Baptist Church

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Volume 44

SHARING THE JOURNEY

September/October 2020

How are you doing in the storms of life? I know sometimes it gets discouraging and frustrating in this pandemic. There are many changes and challenges for churches and individuals also. This happens in Bassett, VA and every other place that we as a family have lived and served Christ.

What are you doing each day in the storms in your life? Let us remember to trust in Jesus Christ to give us peace and hope in the storms. Do you trust the Lord to help you daily in every storm in your life? Are you experiencing victory in the storms or are you defeated in these tough times? My prayer is for you and me to believe in Jesus with total commitment to serve Him alone. Jesus invites us to trust His power and His presence in the midst of every storm. He promises to give us His peace. (Philippians 4: 7-8; Isaiah 26:3)

Have you been through the howling winds, high seas, and the unknown? We can trust the one, true Living God to an unknown future. If you have not been in these conditions recently, you will face tough, trying times one day.

The Bible teaches you and me that our all-powerful, all-loving, and all-knowing God is bigger than any storm we are in. We need His presence to comfort us and calm our fears. We can trust the Holy Spirit to give real, lasting peace all the time.

We must remember that nothing - no wind or waves, no storm or fear will stop Him from coming to help us anytime, all the time. I remember the canoeing trip we had as a group from RA camp in Bedford. It began just like any other canoeing trip on the James River. During the trip on the river, I fell out of our canoe in the rapids and I had to be rescued after going under the water. I was scared, but thank the Lord that I was rescued and safe. How many times in your life have you been rescued and you were safe? Take time now to write a few ways that Jesus has delivered you in the past. He is still able to rescue you and me in every storm. Keep trusting in Jesus who is our helper in all storms, in every desperate situation we face.

Read these words prayerfully now, "Bigger Than Any Mountain" by Stephen Hill:

*Bigger than all my problems
Bigger than all my fears
God is bigger than any mountain
That I can or cannot see
Bigger than all my questions
Bigger than anything
God is bigger than any mountain
That I can or cannot see*

We must remember that our real enemy is not the one that kills the body, but that which kills the soul. (Romans 6:23)

The words from another beautiful song reminds us, "I'm Sheltered Safe in the Arms of God" by Dottie Rambo and Jimmy Davis. Amen.

In all situations, God remains the same. He is still with us, listening to us, and always extending His peace to our troubled hearts.

Love and Peace, Pastor Joe

Sept. Birthdays

Sept. 4 Elmer Stone
Sept. 5 Esther Hanks
Sept. 6 Maury Miles, Jr.
Shirley Spencer
Kimberly Wingfield
JR Foley
Sept. 7 Don Barnhart
Sept. 8 Ken Turner
Sept. 9 Abby Tilley
Sept. 11 Kaylee Pettit
Sept. 13 Callie Baumgardner
Sept. 14 Jim McMillian
Sept. 16 Dennis Ferguson
Sept. 17 Joseph Howell
Sept. 22 Nicholas Martin
Sept. 24 Ashley K. Stanley
Sept. 26 Miranda Bousman
Sept. 27 Chuck LaBounty
Sept. 29 Lenzie Erin Boswell
Sept. 30 Amber Foley

October Birthdays

Oct. 1 Sherry S. Taylor
Oct. 5 Benny Young
Oct. 7 Paul McKee
Oct. 10 Jody Underwood
James Keaton
Oct. 12 Linda Whitten
Oct. 14 Rhonda Seay
Oct. 15 Moir Foley
Oct. 16 Rosa Stone
Oct. 20 Shirley Tobler
Ryan Wingfield
Oct. 24 Joanne Hurd
Caleb Howell
Oct. 31 Jed Coleman



Don't forget to pray for our Nursing Home Residents:

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

*Avis Gray - Room 364
*Shirley Tobler - Room 341
*Mildred Ramsey - Room 201
*Bill Young - Room 210
Sue Meeks - Room 213

WITH SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Lauren Monday, who passed away on Wednesday, June 3, 2020. Lauren was the granddaughter of David and Gloria Keen.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Curtis Carter, who passed away on Thursday, June 11, 2020. Mr. Carter was the brother of Eunice Vaughn.

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Nancy Stone. She passed away on Wednesday, July 22, 2020. She was the sister of Shirley Tobler.

Heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of William Bryant, who passed away on Monday, August 10, 2020. Mr. Bryant was the father of Christy Bryant.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Jim McMillian and the family of Brenda Young. She passed away on Tuesday, August 11, 2020. Brenda was a dear friend to many in the Oak Level community.

The Anchor
holds in spite of the storm.

CHURCH DOCTRINE STUDY

Don Barnhart will be leading a Church Doctrine study beginning on **Sunday, September 13**, and will continue through May. The study will be in the Fellowship Hall starting at 6:30 p.m. and is based on the doctrinal guideline of "The Baptist Faith & Message."

HOMECOMING/REVIVAL

Begin to pray now who God wants you to invite to the homecoming/revival beginning **Sunday, May 17 through Tuesday, May 19**. Pray also that God will prepare and begin a revival in each of our hearts here at OLBC. Rev. Don Barnhart will be the guest speaker on Sunday morning and evening. Don has served several churches in PA and NH. He moved to Virginia in 2010 and served as a deacon at Orchard Drive Baptist Church before moving his membership to Oak Level Baptist. Don also ran a small landscape company, Liberty Lawn and Landscape for about 30 years. On Monday and Tuesday, our guest speaker will be Rev. Mike Magnani, pastor at Prillaman Baptist Church. Mike also serves as a Bible teacher at Christian Heritage Academy. The service will start at 6:30 p.m. each evening. Prior to the revival, the church will gather to pray for specific needs and people each Wednesday following the PTS meeting in September. Due to the COVID, there will be no meals.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet **Wednesday, October 7**, at 5:30 p.m. Come prepared to plan events for the church calendar through March 2021. 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.

2021 BUDGET REQUESTS


The Stewardship Committee is beginning the process of working on the 2021 OLBC budget. All committee and organizational chairs are asked to submit their budget requests for the 2021 calendar year by **Sunday, October 18**. Place your requests in the Stewardship box in the Sunday School office or give them to Ben Morris, Ken Turner, or Donna Winebarger. The 2021 budget will be presented on the first Sunday in November. Any changes to the budget will need to be addressed at the November 11th business meeting. The 2021 budget will be presented for adoption on Sunday, November 15th.



The Youth Coordinating Committee is hosting Trunk or Treat this year outside on the church parking lot weather permitting on **Saturday, October 31st from 5:30 - 7:30 PM**. More information will be available as the time nears for the event.



Tuesday - September 15 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday - October 20 - 6:30 p.m.

Give to the
CBF *Offering for*
GLOBAL MISSIONS 
OLBC 2020 Goal - \$2,000.00
Received To Date - \$1,104.00
"SHARE ABUNDANT LIFE"

ALMA HUNT OFFERING

The Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions will look different in the coming year, reflecting the changing world in which we live as we face the challenges of a global pandemic. This annual state missions offering is a joint venture of Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia (WMUV) and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV). As always, this critical offering seeks to meet real needs of real people by funding ministries in a variety of specific areas. For the rest of 2020 and looking toward 2021, the allocations of this offering are being redirected in a way that will allow us to focus on human needs arising from the COVID-19 crisis. **The OLBC 2020 Goal is set at \$900 and to date \$436 has been collected.** A special ingathering of this offering is **Sunday, September 13, 2020**, but you can continue to give throughout the year.

The CBFVA MISSION BOX

This year helping families served by the Wade Center is a part of CBFVA's partnership with Bridges for Hope. The Wade Center exists to nurture Bluefield's children, youth, and their families spiritually, physically, emotionally, and intellectually through practical programs and mentoring relationships. OLBC WMU are asking that you help us collect any of the following items: white copier paper, stamps, trash bags (55 or 13 gallon), 8oz bottled waters, disposable plates, forks, spoons, napkins, and gift cards to Oriental Trading and Sam's Club. The WMU had to postpone the trip to the Bland Ministry Center, but we are rescheduling that trip for **Saturday, September 26**. We will leave the church at 8:30 am. We'll take the items collected to the Wade Center and take a tour. The Center is closed on Saturdays, but someone will give us a private tour and contact with the general public will be at a very minimum.



WOW! A BIG THANK YOU for all the donations to the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox collection. We are approaching 50 boxes and are now in the process of looking for donations for the shipping of \$9 each. If you have not given to this worthwhile project and would like to you can mark your donation "Shoebox Shipping". Again, thank you for this tremendous support.

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Prayer for Revival	3	4	5
6 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Deacons' Mtg. - 5:00 p.m.	7 Labor Day	8	9 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m. Prayer for Revival	10	11	12
Week of Prayer for Alma Hunt State Missions – OLBC Goal - \$900						
13 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Ingathering of Alma Hunt Offering Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	14	15 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	16 Business Meeting 6:30 p.m. Prayer for Revival	17	18	19 Tom Young Reunion – Cancelled due to COVID
20 Sunday School – 9:45 am Homecoming Service – 10:30 am	21	22	23 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	24	25	26 WMU trip to Bland Ministry Center – Leave at 8:30 am
Revival: Sunday – Tuesday Evening at 6:30 PM						
27 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am  Pennies for the Precious Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	28	29	30 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.			

Deacon of the Month – Robert Gillespie

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Lee Pettit

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Communion Sunday Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Deacons' Mtg. - 5:00 p.m. Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	5	6	7 Church Council 5:30 PM PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	8	9	10
11 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	12	13	14 Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.	15	16	17
18 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Newsletter Info Due Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	19	20 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	21 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	22	23	24
25 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am  Pennies for the Precious Church Doctrine Study – 6:30 pm	26	27	28 PTS Meeting 6:30 p.m.	29	30	31 Trunk or Treat 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Deacon of the Month – Betty Jo Foley

Counters of the Month – Donna Winebarger & Brenda Ferguson