

Oak Level Baptist Church

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www.OakLevelBaptist.org

Volume 47

SHARING THE JOURNEY

March/April 2023

Hello Oak Level! I want to express to you my joy to be your Interim Pastor. For those of you that may not have been to church and have not had the opportunity to meet you, let me tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in Danville and Pittsylvania County. I am married for now 22 years and we have a daughter that will be graduating from high school this summer. I am a U.S. Army Chaplain; having served two years as a Reservist, twelve years as an Active-Duty chaplain, and now finishing up my Army career as a Reservist once again. I also serve as a chaplain with Mountain Valley Hospice & Palliative Care, working out of the Martinsville office. As I said before, I'm excited about this journey as we grow in grace and in the love of God together! Twenty-something years ago, I worked as a Pest Control Technician with Dodson Pest Control. I worked the pest control route in Martinsville, Henry County, and Patrick County and Oak Level Baptist Church was one of the accounts I serviced. I came over to do the pest control service on the church and the parsonage every month. I developed a friendship with Pastor Len Keever and he helped me a couple of times when I was experiencing some difficulty in my life. I also attended Oak Level some during that time as well. A confession: sometimes when I would come and do the pest control service on the church, I would stand behind the pulpit. Who (aside from God, who's all-knowing) would've guessed that twenty-something years later I would be serving as your Interim Pastor?

God's grace is amazing, isn't it? Through His grace He is able to take us and mold us into what He wants us to be. He does that through situations, pruning, learning, people He

puts in our path, etc. to make us into what He has willed for us. Our problem is, sometimes (mostly all the time), we're resistant to that. Then a lot of times we let the difficulties we encounter bring us down and we dwell on that instead of trusting in God's grace and allowing Him to build us up. In Lamentations 3:19-23, Jeremiah provides hope in the midst of his lamenting ("Lament" the root of "Lamentations"). Jeremiah tells us: *Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind; therefore, I have hope. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness.* Jeremiah reminds us that even in the difficulties or the miseries of life, God's faithfulness is new every single day. My prayer is that we will all be encouraged by this truth!

If you have not been attending church in a while, I invite you to come and be blessed. Come and praise God with us, come and be a blessing to those around you. Join us on Wednesdays for our Prayer and Bible study time. We are going through the book "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23." On Sunday mornings, we are in the midst of a sermon series on the "I Am" statements of Jesus. We invite you to come and worship & serve with us!

May God richly bless you and if you have a need, please reach out!

Daniel

Philippians 4:13

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
Mar. 21 Mischelle Carter
Roger Young
Mar. 22 Kevin Baumgardner
Mar. 23 Sommer Carter
Mar. 25 Lee W. Pettit
Mar. 26 Lee Boswell
Mar. 28 Shannon Wright
Sue Young
Christy Hunley
Mar. 29 James Edward Joyce

April Birthdays

Apr. 3 Shirley Draper
Apr. 5 April Gammons
Apr. 7 Meaghan Poore
Apr. 8 Christopher Howell
Apr. 10 Mary Hodges
Deborah Thomas
Apr. 11 Brittany Flannagan
Apr. 15 Alexandra Gill
Apr. 16 Kim C. Dickerson
Joseph Pierce
Jonathan Pierce
Sherry Y. Stone
Melissa Thompson
Apr. 17 Dana Young
Apr. 18 James Griffith
Apr. 20 Virginia Metz
Drake Winebarger
Apr. 23 Robert Gillespie
Apr. 26 Carroll Draper
Apr. 28 Caroline Snead
Apr. 29 Bruce Thompson

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

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

*Shirley Tobler – Room 361
*Bill Young – Room 256

Stanleytown Health & Rehab
Center, 240 Riverside Dr.,
Bassett, VA 24055

*Carroll Draper
Iris Joyce

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

WITH SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Garry Barrow, who passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2023. Garry was a dear member of OLBC and will be missed by all.



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on **Saturday, March 11th!**

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, 2022.**

EASTER MEAL

The Hostess Committee is planning an Easter meal on **Sunday, April 2** following the morning worship. Bring your favorite side dishes and desserts to share. The meat and drinks will be provided by the church.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet **Wednesday, April 5**, at 5:30 p.m. Come prepared to plan events for the church calendar through September 2023. 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.

HE IS NOT HERE;

HE IS RISEN!

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 9, 2023



WMU MEETINGS

Tuesday - March 28 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday - April 25 - 6:30 p.m.

MISSION PROJECT EMPHASIS IN MARCH

We are doing something new this year and focusing on local projects for our missions offering. To start the year off we want to help the Franklin Co Jail, which has approximately 50 inmates (male and female). Lt. Pigg, who is in charge of the jail, has expressed a need for socks and journals. The regional jail budget provides for a lesser quality of sock than is ideal. Also, most of the inmates are attending Franklin Heights church for worship and have expressed an interest in taking notes. A simple journal would be beneficial for them. Our goal is to collect **\$250** to purchase socks and journals. Please designate Franklin County Jail on your envelope when you give. Thank you for your support in this mission project.

OPERATION IN AS MUCH PROJECT

The HCBA is planning an outreach event for the community on **Saturday, April 22.** Mark your calendars! More details to come later.

SUNDAY SERMONS

Daniel has a YouTube and Sermon Audio page where the Sunday messages are posted on Sunday afternoons. The message is also posted to the Church's Facebook page. Please let our shut-ins and others know of this opportunity to view and listen to his sermons each week. [YouTube.com/Dr. Daniel Collins](https://www.youtube.com/Dr.DanielCollins) and [SermonAudio.com/Dr. Daniel Collins](https://www.SermonAudio.com/Dr.DanielCollins)



Thank you to everyone who donated funds to help deliver Valentine bags to the residents of Franklin Health & Rehab and also to Fork Mountain Rest Home! This is just a few of the items that were included in the bags.

MISSION EMPHASIS
March 12 - 19, 2023
 Jail Ministry in Franklin County

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	2	3	4 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend
5 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Deacons’ Mtg. - 5:00 p.m. Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend	6	7	8 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	9	10	11
12 Daylight Saving Time Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	13	14	15 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	16	17	18
19 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	20	21	22 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	27	28 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	29 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	30 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Duty	31 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Duty	

Deacon of the Month – Brenda Ferguson

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Lance Frith

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Duty
2 Communion Sunday Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Luncheon Following Service Deacons' Mtg. - 5:00 pm	3	4	5 Church Council 5:30 PM PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	6	7	8
9 EASTER Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	10	11	12 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	13	14	15
16 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Newsletter Info Due	17	18	19 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22 Operation In As Much
23 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	24	25 WMU Meeting 6:30 pm	26 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	27	28	29
30 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am						

Deacon of the Month – Ben Morris

Counters of the Month – Donna Winebarger & Brenda Ferguson