

Oak Level Baptist Church

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Volume 47

SHARING THE JOURNEY

May/June 2023

Trust the Process

When I was on active duty, this time of year (late spring/early summer) began what was called the PCS (or, Permanent Change of Station) season. This was the time of year when folks would be wrapping up their time serving at one duty station and getting ready to move to a new duty station. As a result, you'd see neighborhoods full of moving trucks. Now, most of my moves were on winter cycles but no doubt, summer is the busiest time. To me, this thought is the best analogy to use to highlight a tendency that we have: trusting the process. You may ask, "Why does this thought trigger our tendency to not trust the process? Well, because I am notorious for not wanting to trust processes and if ever there was a stressful time that would trigger this problem it's the thought of PCS season.

I don't know if any of you have this problem, but I find that I have a very difficult time trusting the process. Of course, this is a direct result of a simple issue that we all have and that I find myself talking about on multiple occasions: we are human and in our humanity, we think we always have the answer, we always direct how things go, and we are the masters of our destiny. Nothing could be further from the truth. Yes, God gives us many abilities to be able to do some great and wondrous things. Other times however, we learn (usually the hard way) that we need to trust the process. Let me give you an example. The year that I was set to PCS from Ft Stewart, GA, I decided I would paint the house we were renting. I started with the downstairs bathroom and from there am working on an "order of merit" list of different rooms and areas to paint to not disrupt living in the house too much. When I was working on the downstairs bathroom, I was applying the second coat and my expectation was that the paint would roll out smooth and the walls would (even while still wet) all be the uniform color of the paint and it would look awesome. But as I would finish each wall, I noticed that the paint didn't appear to be even, and it had roller strokes and brush strokes visible. I had to

tell myself to trust the process. See, anyone who has ever done any painting knows that the paint will blend during the drying process and will show the desired result once dry. In my humanity and in that inborn need that I must be in control I expected the finished result immediately, but I had to remind myself of the process.

Do you ever find yourself with the same issue? Maybe you have something going on, some trial, some tribulation, perhaps some joy. It is normal for us to want the desired result right then. Often though, we find that there is a process. Just as often, if we allow ourselves to trust the process, we find that it all works out the way it's supposed to.

Maybe you find yourself wanting God to fix something in your life instantly or make something happen right now instead of having to navigate through some process. The Psalmist has the word for all of us that fall victim to that: "Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him... (Psalm 37:5-7a). The Psalmist is clear: The Lord will work it all out, so commit your way to Him. Do what He has given you the ability to do, be patient, and trust the process.

Love you folks, praying for you. If you haven't been with us in a while, please come and join us in worship! You'll get a blessing!

Daniel
Phil. 4:13



May 14, 2023

May Birthdays

May 5	Audie Atkins
May 8	Mearl Boswell
May 10	Debra Brown
May 12	Carolyn S. Fardell
	David Hurd, Jr.
May 14	Michael Snead
	Hazel Harrison
	Nancy Felter
May 15	Erma McKee
	Kasey Viars
May 18	Patricia Handy
	Teresa D. Seay
May 19	Regina Atkins
May 22	Allison Snead
May 23	Logan Coleman
May 24	Marie F. Anderson
	Jeanette Crum
May 25	Tyler Tilley
May 30	Whitni Wright
May 31	Treva Shively

June Birthdays

June 2	Penny Martin
	Andrew Thomas
	Chad LaBounty
June 5	Lisa Slate Ackerman
June 6	Ben Workinger
June 7	Linda Poore
June 11	Tammy Lynn Reel
June 17	Brendon Strawbridge
June 18	Jeffrey Ferguson
June 19	Brittany Hausley
June 23	Kenneth Keen, Jr.
	Allen Beach, Jr.
June 24	Alice S. Brown
June 27	Daisy Barnes
June 28	Heather Piel

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

PARKING LOT

At a called business meeting held on Sunday, April 16, the church voted to repave the parking lot. The cost will be approximately \$65,000 or more. If you would like to give an offering above your tithes to this project, please designate on your envelope the Building Improvement Fund.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Day of Prayer is **Thursday, May 4, 2023**. The theme for 2023 is "Pray fervently in righteousness and avail much." **Mill Creek Missionary Baptist Church** invites you to join them for this special prayer event for our nation at **7:00 p.m.** in their sanctuary. Worship will include special music. There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments after the service.

BUSINESS MEETING

The quarterly business meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 17, at 6:00 PM**. Please plan to attend this important meeting because a quorum is needed and your input is vital to the routine business of the church.



There will be Deacon Nominations on **Sunday, June 18**. Start now to prayerfully seek God's guidance on who He is calling to serve you at Oak Level Baptist Church. Current deacons serving are rotating off: Brenda Ferguson and Betty Jo Foley.



On **Sunday, June 25, 2023**, we are celebrating family; Mothers, Fathers, and our Church family. We will be grilling hotdogs and hamburgers after the worship service for

lunch in the fellowship hall. Bring your loved ones, bring your neighbors, and bring your favorite side dish or dessert to go with the hotdogs/hamburgers provided by the church.



June 18, 2023



WMU MEETINGS

Tuesday - May 23 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday - June 27 - 6:30 p.m.



OPPORTUNITY FOR MISSION GIVING

In **May**, the WMU of OLBC will be sponsoring a Baby Bottle fundraiser to help support the **Pregnancy Care Center of MHC**. By filling this bottle with loose change, cash, and/or checks, you are supporting an organization that will do all it can to reach mothers and protect the unborn in our community. If writing a check, make it payable to OLBC and designate your envelope for PCC of MHC. Return the bottles to the church by **Sunday, May 21**. Every cent donated helps save babies and help mothers facing crisis.

COMMUNITY IMPACT DAY

This year the HCBA will sponsor an event on **Saturday, May 6** (with Saturday, May 13 as a rain date) that will be called 'Community Impact Day'. Local Baptist churches will be providing a presence at the first day of the Spring Sports program in our local parks. OLBC will be sharing the love of Christ with the folks coming to play ball from 11:00-1:00 PM at Jack Dalton Park. Contact Donna Winebarger for more information or if you would like to volunteer to represent OLBC at this event.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated to the WMU Missions Project for the Franklin County Jail Ministry in March. The OLBC WMU purchased 125 pairs of socks and 75 journals for the inmates. Lt. Pigg at the Franklin County Jail extends his thanks for such a generous donation. And many thanks to all who donated individual wrapped cookies for the Raceway Ministry on race weekend, April 14-16.



May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Deacons' Mtg. 5:00 pm PTS Meeting 6:00 pm	4 National Day of Prayer	5	6 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend Community Impact Day Jack Dalton Park 11am – 1pm
7 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend Rev. Mark Hackler – Guest Speaker	8	9	10 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	15	16	17 Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.	18	19	20
21 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Return all Baby Bottles	22	23 WMU Meeting 6:30 pm	24 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	29 Memorial Day	30	31 Deacons' Mtg. 5:00 pm			

Deacon of the Month – Shirley Gilbert

Counters of the Month – Ken Turner & Lance Frith

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend
4 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend	5	6	7 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	8	9	10
11 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	12	13	14 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	15	16	17
18 Father's Day Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Deacon Nomination Newsletter Info Due	19	20	21 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	22	23	24
25 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Hotdog/Hamburger Lunch after Worship Service	26	27 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	28 Deacons' Mtg. 5:00 pm PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	29	30	

Deacon of the Month – Betty Jo Foley

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Brenda Ferguson