

Oak Level Baptist Church

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Volume 48

SHARING THE JOURNEY

May/June 2024

Greetings in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ!

As I sit here and write this, I look out the window at the beauty of the spring morning. We have come through the bleak winter into the beauty of the springtime. It reminds me of the seasons of the crucifixion and Easter that we have recently celebrated. Now, our hearts focus on the coming celebrations of Mother's Day, Father's Day, and any other celebrations that we are engaged in during the late spring and early summer.

Considering the beauty of the springtime, isn't it beautiful that we as Christians have the victory, and that is as beautiful as the springtime (more beautiful even)? Because we have victory, we need not fear what may go on around us. I'm reminded of the stories we find in Mark 5. First, we see Jesus heal a man who is demon possessed; when no other means could cure him (Mark 5:1-20). Then we see Jesus as he is asked to leave that place, goes to another place where He is immediately met by Jairus: a ruler of the synagogue whose daughter is lying at the point of death. As Jesus is trying to make His way through the crowds a woman who has spent all trying to find a cure for her disease exercises just a scant bit of faith and touches the hem of Jesus' garment and is immediately healed (Mark 5:25-34). Lastly, we see Jesus finally arriving at the home of Jairus, where He heals Jairus' daughter. I love the words that Jesus says when He arrives at the home of Jairus and the family members there say that his daughter has already died. Jesus says, "Be not afraid, only believe" (Mark 5:36).

Through all three of these accounts, we see in Mark 5, one theme is prevalent: the use of faith. Yes, there are some fears, yes there is some uncertainty, but the overriding theme is faith over fear. The demoniac of Gadara in verses 1-20 runs to Jesus; I believe even in the midst of demon possession; the man knew to trust Jesus. The woman with the issue of blood had the attitude: "If I could touch just the hem of His garment I will be healed." Finally, Jairus

knew that Jesus would be able to heal his daughter. The common denominator in these accounts is faith.

Folks, we may have some difficult times: we have people that we love going through illness, grief, maybe even some hopelessness. We don't have to fear these things. What does Jesus say? "Be not afraid, only believe."

Daniel
Phil. 4:13

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Day of Prayer is **Thursday, May 2, 2024**. The theme for 2024 is "Lift Up the Word, Light Up the World." **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.



May 12, 2024

BUSINESS MEETING

The quarterly business meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 15, 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.



"Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

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
	Kelly Collins
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 Luna
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

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

*Joan Frith Iris Joyce



- June 8 – OCC Shoebox Work Day in FH from 9 am until noon.
- June 22 – Church Clean-Up Day from 8 am until noon.



There will be Deacon Nominations on **Sunday, June 16**. 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: Ben Morris, Lance Frith, and Donna Winebarger.



SPECIAL MUSIC EVENT

On **Sunday, June 30**, at 6:00 PM there will be a special gospel concert presented by **The White Family**. Please invite all your friends, neighbors, and family members to hear them minister through praise, worship, and testimony! We want to have a good representation of the Oak Level community to hear the witness of this group through music.



WMU MEETINGS
Tuesday - May 28 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday - June 25 - 6:30 p.m.



Brenda Sallee will be at OLBC on **Wednesday, May 8** at 6:00 p.m. to introduce us to Pickle soup and missionary stories. Pickle soup along with a light dinner will be served. She has had the privilege

of participating in global missions in five countries. She has served with Pioneers since 2013. Brenda writes and edits books for adults and children that tell the stories of how God is building His Church among all the many peoples of the world. Most of Brenda’s books are published under the name Maxine McDonald. Pickle soup features in the newest Pioneers book, *Items May Have Shifted: When Missionaries Get Rerouted*. It tells the stories of five displaced missionaries serving displaced people.

Join us to:

- Experience a classic Eastern European comfort food.
- Pray for people around the world who have been displaced from their homes due to war, famine, violence, and persecution.
- Hear stories of rerouted missionaries.
- Get a behind-the-scenes look at the process of creating a book like this.
- Consider an invitation to join Brenda’s prayer and financial support team to help tell more stories of how God is working around the world.

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 19**. Every cent donated helps save babies and help mothers facing crisis.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated to the WMU Missions Project for the Pure Water, Pure Love ministry in April. The church collected **\$589** for this worthy project.



MISSION EMPHASIS
 Pregnancy Care Center
 Baby Bottles

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 PTS Meeting 6:00 pm	2 National Day of Prayer	3	4 Dr. Daniel Collins – Reserve Weekend
5 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Guest Speaker OCC Mtg. In FH – 3:00 pm	6	7	8 Stories & Pickle Soup 6:00 p.m. Special Guest: Brenda Sallee	9	10	11
12 Mother's Day Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	13	14	15 Business Meeting 6:00 p.m.	16 McNeil Piano Rehearsal 4:30pm	17	18
19 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Offering for PCC McNeil Piano Recital 3:00 pm	20	21	22 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	27 Memorial Day	28 WMU Meeting 6:30 pm	29 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Mtg. 7:00 pm	30	31	

Deacon of the Month – Donna Winebarger

Counters of the Month – Ken Turner & Lance Frith

June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	3	4	5 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	6	7	8 Shoebox Workday 9am-12pm
9 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	10	11	12 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	13	14	15
Dr. Daniel Collins Out 12 th thru 15 th						
16 Father's Day Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Deacon Nomination Newsletter Info Due	17	18	19 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m.	20	21	22 Church Clean-Up Day 8am – 12pm
23 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	24	25 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	26 PTS Meeting 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Mtg. 7:00 pm	27	28	29
30 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am The White Family – 6:00 pm						

Deacon of the Month – Ben Morris

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris & Brenda Ferguson