

Oak Level Baptist Church

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Volume 48

SHARING THE JOURNEY

September/October 2024

Welcome to September/October. It feels like this year has flown by faster than last year. Since our last newsletter we've celebrated Father's Day and Independence Day, we've finished "Dangerous Prayers" during our Wednesday night Bible study time, there's a new sign being worked on for the church, exciting times! Now we look forward to the beginning of the new church year and our entry into the Fall. We have homecoming service coming up and we're seeing God bless us in so many ways. I sure am glad we serve a God that blesses!

I have had a few instances of late where I will be visiting with someone and they tell me, "I sense Jesus in you." What a humbling statement. Of course, my intent is to show Jesus who lives in me; sometimes I don't know if I do such a good job of showing the Savior in me, but when someone tells me that, I feel that my mission has been completed. It's simple: as a Christian I'm supposed to show outwardly what's in my heart. I fail only when I don't show Jesus in me. It reminds me of something I heard one time. A Marine who was deployed on the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, when asked if he felt like a failure because there were no bombs dropped by the Navy and Marine aviators during the deployment, said this: "We fail when we don't launch these jets off the carrier." A simple but powerful example: we fail when we do not do our basic mission. That Marine's mission was to successfully launch the F-18 fighter jet from the flight deck of the USS Nimitz - that's all. Christians, our mission is to show Jesus in us; we only fail when we don't do that. It's not our mission to save the world, it's our mission to show Jesus to the world. Then, trust the Holy Spirit to provide salvation, encouragement, or whatever is needed in the lives of those we encounter.

Consider the ministry of Jesus. In the 3 years that Jesus ministered on this earth He did a simple mission: He showed God to people that needed Him. Simple. Christians, that's our mission too. May everyone that we encounter say (either aloud or in their heart): "I sense Jesus in you."

May we all be blessed as we enter the latter half of the year 2024; expecting God's provision, His grace, and His blessing!

Daniel

September Birthdays

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

October Birthdays

Oct. 1 Sherry S. Taylor
Oct. 5 Benny Young
Shirley Spencer
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. 29 Pat Gusler
Oct. 31 Jed Coleman



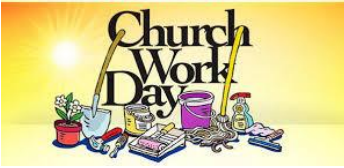
Spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to Oak Level Baptist Church Homecoming Celebration on **Sunday, September**

29, beginning at 10:30AM (No Sunday school). Special music will be presented by April Neal of Vandola Baptist Church, Danville, VA. Dr. Joey McNeill will be our Guest Speaker. Lunch to follow; bring your favorite covered dish and/or dessert. Join us for a morning of music, worship, and fellowship as we celebrate God's blessings on this church past and present.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The Church Council will meet **Wednesday, October 2**, at 6:00 p.m. Come prepared to plan events for the church calendar through March 2025. Those on the church council include: Pastor, Deacons Chairperson, Music Director, Stewardship Chairperson, Sunday School Director, and WMU Director. Other committee chairpersons are encouraged to attend if they have items to add to the calendar.

It's Your **Ch_rch** & **u** are needed!



**Saturday,
September 21**
Final work day
before Homecoming
and HCBA Meeting.



Tuesday - September 24 - 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday - October 22 - 6:30 p.m.

2025 BUDGET REQUESTS

The Stewardship Committee is beginning the process of working on the 2025 OLBC budget. All committee and organizational chairs are asked to submit their budget requests for the 2025 calendar year by **Sunday, October 13**. Place your requests in the Stewardship box in the Sunday School office or give them to Ben Morris, Ken Turner, or Jim McMillan. The 2025 budget will be presented on the first Sunday in November. Any changes to the budget will need to be addressed at the November 13th business meeting. The 2025 budget will be presented for adoption on Sunday, November 17th.

HENRY COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the HCBA will be held on **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**, and hosted here at Oak Level Baptist Church. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. followed by a meal at 5:00 p.m. The messengers that were voted on were: Ben & Peggy Morris, Lance Frith, Betty Jo Foley and Daniel Collins. Doug Ramsey, Pat Gusler, Donna Winebarger, and Brenda Ferguson are alternates. **Everyone is needed to come out and help with hosting this event.** See Donna Winebarger or Brenda Ferguson for details, where you might be of use, and to register. **A head count is needed for the meal before September 27.**

FIRST NIGHT BAGS

Lindsay Bartlett with HumanKind Foster Care shared with OLBC one way that everyone can help children that are removed from their families due to abuse and neglect. Their mission is to provide one backpack for every child placed in foster care. The OLBC WMU had purchased 24 backpacks and through your generosity we were able to help children and families in need. **THANK YOU!**

Whatever we ask for falls short of God's giving, for His greatness exceeds every facet of living.

Helen Steiner Rice, From the Heart

ALMA HUNT OFFERING

The Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions was named for Alma Hunt, a native Virginian who was known worldwide for her missions service and her unwavering dedication to the cause of Christ. 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). We invite you to give to the Alma Hunt Offering - joining your gifts with those of many other Virginia Baptists as we seek to be **MISSION: WILLING** - and to share the love of Christ across the Commonwealth and with the whole world. **The OLBC 2024 Goal is set at \$1000.** A special ingathering of this offering is **Sunday, September 15**, but you can continue to give throughout the year.



WOW! A BIG THANK YOU for all the donations to the Samaritans Purse Shoebox collection. We are approaching 60 boxes and plan to finish packing those on **Saturday, October 5**. In October, please consider donating toward the shipping cost of \$10 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.

GETAWAY WITH US THIS FALL!

Sometimes we all need to get away. But what if your weekend away could have a lasting impact on your faith, mental health, relationships, and community? Join us in person this fall at Eagle Eyrie Baptist Conference Center in Lynchburg. This year's theme is "Journey In & Out." There will be worship, bible study, dozens of breakout opportunities, and space for you to rest and reconnect with God and others. Save the date to attend **Friday-Saturday, November 1-2**. The WMUV annual meeting will take place the afternoon of November 4. Registration for Getaway 2024 is now open via [Eagle Eyrie's website](#). If you are interested, please let Donna Winebarger know before September 22.

MISSION EMPHASIS
Alma Hunt Offering

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	2 Labor Day	3	4 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	5	6	7 Daniel Collins – Reserve Duty Weekend WMUV 150 th Celebration at Crossroads
8 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Guest Speaker	9	10	11 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	12	13	14
Week of Prayer for Alma Hunt State Missions – OLBC Goal - \$1,000						
15 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Ingathering of Alma Hunt Offering	16	17	18 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	19	20	21 Last Church Clean-Up Day Before Homecoming 8am – 12pm
22 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	23	24 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	25 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting 7:00 p.m.	26	27	28
29 Homecoming Service Special Music beginning at 10:30 am Luncheon following Worship Service	30					

Deacon of the Month – Ben Morris

Counters of the Month – Ben Morris and Lance Frith

**MISSION EMPHASIS
OCC Shoeboxes**

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Church Council 6:00 p.m.	3	4	5 OCC Shoebox Final Packing 9am -12noon Daniel Collins Reserve Duty
6 Communion Sunday Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	7	8	9 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	10	11	12
13 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	14	15 HCBA Annual Mtg. 4:30 p.m.	16 No Church Activities	17	18	19 Daniel Collins Reserve Duty through Sunday
20 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am Guest Speaker Newsletter Info Due	21	22 WMU Meeting 6:30 p.m.	25 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m.	24	25	26
27 Sunday School – 9:45 am Worship Service – 11:00 am	28	29	30 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting 7:00 p.m.	31		

Deacon of the Month – Lance Frith

Counters of the Month – Jim McMillan & Donna Winebarger