

# Oakdale Messenger

www.obcbaptist.org

December 2010



Thank you for your comments and feedback on “The Battle is On!” sermon series. I feel God raised the spiritual temperature at our church during those four weeks. He definitely helped us focus on the importance of the spiritual battle we are involved in. Let’s continue to pray and serve God as faithful Christian Soldiers. It’s no time for the casual follower, but time to take up our cross and follow Jesus daily.

Sunday, December 12th is going to be a special day at Oakdale. It is International Missions Sunday and we are all going to bring our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Our church goal is \$6,000. What a great opportunity to express our love for God and make a statement that we want to be a part of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ around the world. I am asking each one of us to pray and seek God about a sacrificial gift to help win lost souls to Jesus. The Lord has blessed us with so many financial and material blessings. At this crucial time, what are we willing to sacrifice for the advancement of the gospel? I can’t wait to see what God is going to do through His people.

Pastor Joe



## “Star of Wonder”

Sunday, December 5th

6:00 PM

(Children’s Choir)

## “How Far is it to Bethlehem?”

Sunday, December 12th

6:00 PM

(Middle School Choir)

## “A 1940’s Christmas Homecoming”

Sunday, December 19th

6:00 P M

(Sanctuary Choir)

Our mission is to KNOW Jesus, SERVE Jesus, and SHARE Jesus.

**“Jumping for Jesus”  
Michelle Marks, Director  
Oakdale Childcare Ministry**

Jayci S. 12/3      Donaven W 12/7      Mackenzie Rh 12/7  
Mackenzie Ro 12/9

Ms. Jamie 12/3

This is a wonderfully, busy time of year. I hope that you always remember the Reason for the Season is not Santa, time off work, out of school, good food, etc. but this is the Season to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**The themes for the month are:**

Christmas Around the World, Sights of the Holidays, Sounds of the Holidays, Taste & Smells of the Holidays, Feelings of the Holidays

**The BIBLE FOCUS will be:**

The Angels Speak, Jesus Is Born, Away in a Manger, The Wise Men  
Worship Jesus, Jesus Grew as a Little Boy

I hope that everyone has a safe holiday season. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas !!

**Dates To Remember:**

December 7 Christmas Program  
December 23, 27 CLOSED/Christmas Holidays  
December 31 CLOSED/New Years Holiday

## YOUTH MINISTRY

The Oakdale Baptist Youth Ministry Team (Brent Wooten, Tim Engelking, Renee' Holloman, Kelly Holloman, Katie Lassiter, Jeffrey Collins, and Patty Collins) are very excited about serving on this committee. We have had three meetings and would like to update you on past and upcoming discussions and events. One of our first ideas was to ask the youth to write their ideas for future mission opportunities and thoughts for possible youth outings on poster boards that were placed in the youth room. To assist with our youth paying attention during Sunday School and during Wednesday night, youth have been asked to put their cell phones in a bucket. (This idea has actually been met with little resistance.) On October 27<sup>th</sup>, a Wild Wednesday Youth night was held with pizza, music and a very touching testimony by Clayton Lassiter. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, some of the youth assisted with packing boxes for Samaritan's Purse and on November 13<sup>th</sup>, four youth attended the Judgment House in Goldsboro. The youth Christmas party is scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>. This year the youth Christmas mission project will be to donate money for restaurant gift certificates for Colt Brake's family. We have begun discussing ideas for camp and expected youth behavior. We are planning a Youth/ Youth Parent Forum for the second or third Sunday in January. Entertainment will be planned for the youth, while the parents of our youth and the youth committee meet to discuss ideas and concerns. We are asking that all parents of the youth attend. There will be more details in upcoming church bulletins and church e-mails. Last, the youth committee would like to ask the youth to pray for our youth and please pray that God will guide and direct the Youth Ministry Team in the best direction to serve our youth. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact any youth team member. Thank you.

Patty Collins  
Chairperson, Youth Ministry Team

## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

We are moving and shaking in the Middle School Department. Check out all of the exciting upcoming events for the month of December.

*How Far is it To Bethlehem?* Sunday, December 12 7:00

*Lottie Moon Mailbag*

Everyone likes to receive Christmas cards. To raise money for the Lottie Moon Missions Offering, the middle school students will be sponsoring a church-wide mailbag event. Here's how it works: If you would like to send Christmas cards to someone who is part of the church family, instead of buying a stamp for your card and mailing it through the postal service, just bring the card and the stamp money to church and put it in our mailbag. We will then deliver the card for you and the money will be put in the Lottie Moon Mission Offering. The mailbag will be open each Sunday and Wednesday night from December 5<sup>th</sup> through December 19<sup>th</sup>. Cards will be delivered as they come in.

*Age to Age Mission Project*

Our mission project for December is an effort to bridge the gap between our middle school youth and our senior adults. We will be assigning young people to work with senior adults to help put up their Christmas decorations. It will also be part of the project for the young people to help take decorations down after Christmas.

**Senior citizens** – you have been signing up for this project through your Sunday School classes for several Sundays. If you have not signed up and would like to participate, just see a Middle School Ministry Team Member. (Angie Ruffin, Joe Williams, Sue Lassiter, Kim Wells) The middle schoolers will be calling you during the week of December 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Angie Ruffin



Upward Season is knocking on Oakdale's door. We have registered over 180 basketball players and cheerleaders. Please be in prayer for this ministry. We will begin practices the week of Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Upward Commissioners this year are:

James Walston-Devotions  
Marsha Walston, Linda Davis, Ann Rhodes-Concessions  
Dan Howell-Referees  
Angie Ruffin-Clock  
Linda Ruffin-Scorekeepers  
May Howell, Bert Peele-Prayer  
Susie Webb, Kim Wells-Outreach

We would appreciate your help in any of these areas. See an Upward Commissioner to sign up!

In Christ,  
Aaron

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

**Jennifer Engelking, Children's Minister**

**Happy Birthday Party for Jesus!**

You are invited to a Birthday Party in honor of our Lord and Savior following the Children's Christmas Program on Sunday night, December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Questions? Call Jennifer @ 985-0456

# CHURCH MAILROOM



Dear Oakdale,  
 We would like to thank Pastor Joe for his many visits to see our Mom. We are so thankful she knew Pastor Joe would be at Oakdale as Senior Pastor before she passed. Our family knew Joe all the years we attended Oakdale, and Mom knew Joe would be at home again where he belonged. God timed it just right for Mom to know that Pastor Joe would be at Oakdale for all of her church members she loved so dearly. Each of her Sunday School ladies were precious to her and she spoke of you all often. Mom appreciated all of her beautiful cards. Mom told me Linda Ruffin made sure the church flowers made it safely to her room. We would like to thank Oakdale for the family meal that was so delicious. The service was special and we learned Mom received recognition earlier for perfect Sunday School attendance for the entire year. Miss Angie Ruffin sang the two songs Mom picked out herself. Miss Angie Ruffin, thank you for using your beautiful voice to sing for all of us. Our mom was the best so keep us in your prayers as we will miss her. Our dad, Billy Powell, would also like to thank Oakdale for being there for him and our mom for so many years. We pray God will continue to bless each of you always.

Love,  
 Speight, Julian, Marie, Scott, and Billy Powell

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Oakdale Family,

Thank you so much for the Pastor Appreciation cards and gifts. The computer and other gifts are greatly appreciated. You are a loving church and I am blessed to be our pastor.

Pastor Joe

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Mission Friends & Teachers,

Thank you so much for the fruit and goodie bag you prepared for me. You are all so special to me and I thank God for you and your families.

Love,  
 Mrs. Jennifer

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Oakdale Ladies,

We so much appreciate the delicious meal you prepared Sunday for the family of Bill Pridgen. It was so sweet of you to take your time to help us in that way. We are thankful for Christian friends. Even though we attend different churches, we serve the same God.

In Christian Love,

The family of Louise Rose Pridgen

\*\*\*\*\*

With W. R.'s passing, my family and I would like to thank you for your support through prayers, calls, visits, flowers, memorial gifts, and OH! the food! A special word of appreciation to Angie and Pastor Joe for their contributions to the Memorial Service. It has certainly helped us through the worst of this time and we request that you continue to remember us in your prayer.

We love you!  
 Lula Mae & Family

## Our Sympathy to:

Ann Rhodes & Mary Brown in the passing of their nephew  
 Michael Lovic

Elton Pridgen & Family in the passing of Bill Pridgen  
 Lula Mae Bulluck & Family in the passing of W. R. Bulluck  
 J. H. Whitehurst & Family in the passing of Harold Whitehurst

## ClerksCorner Linda Ruffin, Church Clerk

### New Members

Jessica McNamara, Noah McNamara, Morgan McNamara  
 220 Old Sparta Rd. Tarboro, NC 27886 (For Baptism)

Annette Patterson 1119 Oak Grove Road Rocky Mount, NC  
 27804 (Rededicates life to Christ)

The regularly schedule conference was held on 11/10/10. The proposed budget for next year was presented and discussed, it was voted on and passed on 11/14/10 during a special called conference prior to Worship Service. Treasurer's report presented for discussion and copies are available. Motion made and passed to replace the annual love offerings for the Pastor, Music Minister, and Worship Leader with the following: \$575 to Music Minister, \$400 to Worship Leader, and one weeks salary to the Pastor and Staff. This decision was in order to help the Lottie Moon Mission offering goal to be met and surpassed. There were a lot of very good reports given by the staff, committees, ministry teams, and officers. These are attached to the minutes and are available in the church office.



### TREASURER'S INFO

#### Budget Receipts & Offerings

Month of Nov. as of 21st

General offerings rec'd.....	\$18,115.74
Amt. Required.....	\$18,107.59
Over.....	\$ 8.15

#### Year-to-Date (Nov. 21st)

General Offerings.....	\$322,844.42
Amt. Required.....	\$300,900.06
Over.....	\$ 21,944.36

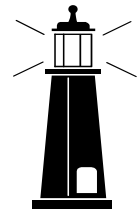
### BUILDING FUND RECEIPTS

Nov. amt. Rec'd as of 11/22

\$1,902.00

Loan Balance

\$324,568.62



Eight new house bricks have been added to the "LIGHTHOUSE FOR JESUS" during the month of November. If you have been notified by letter that you are now eligible to purchase an engraved plate, please contact the church office so your honorarium or memorial can be placed on the lighthouse. Now is a good time to honor or remember someone special in your life with a plate. Bible verses or quotes can also be used if you prefer. It would be special to have the name "Lottie Moon" on a plate.



### JOY GROUP NEWS

DECEMBER 4th

9:30 AM

Johnston Community College

DECEMBER 7th

Senior Adult Luncheon at Calvary Baptist Church

Van will leave the church at 9:30 AM

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**SECURITY TEAMS FOR DECEMBER**

12/5 Elton Pridgen & Derryl Lewis  
 12/12 Eric Stott & Doug Smith  
 12/19 Aaron & Collin Rhodes  
 12/26 Joe & Tyler Williams

**USHER TEAM FOR DECEMBER**

DENNIS ROSE  
 ALLEN HARRELSON  
 PHIL WOOD  
 STACEY NICHOLAS

12/2 Dianne Rackley	12/13 Landon Williams
12/2 Ann Rhodes	12/14 Chris Cobb
12/3 Jamie Batts	12/15 Molly Batts
12/3 Robert Groover	12/15 Jeannie Ruffin
12/3 Andy Tess	12/16 Robin Griffin
12/3 Justin Worrell	12/17 Renee' Holloman
12/4 Irvin Rackley	12/18 Carroll Brown
12/5 Tim Engelking	12/19 Porter Watson
12/6 Adam Collins	12/20 Britt Medley
12/6 Mandy Hoffman	12/20 Chris Weaver
12/6 Rebecca Rhodes	12/21 Christie Joyner
12/6 Alex Wells	12/21 Lisa Lewis
12/7 Scott Powell	12/21 Calvin Winstead
12/8 Phillip Eason	12/23 Jason Gardner
12/9 Connie Hamlett	12/23 J. H. Whitehurst
12/9 Tanner Rose	12/24 Derrick Moore
12/10 Zel Pittman	12/24 Barbara Strickland
12/11 Sharon Brantley	12/26 Angela Spain
12/12 Pierce Sturgill	12/27 Thomas Edmondson
12/12 Chelsea Whitley	12/27 Billie Holder
12/13 Donna Howell	12/29 Gracie Hollifield
12/13 Chris Webb	12/30 Kobe Joseph
	12/30 Matthew Rhodes

**NURSERY NEWS**

Linda Ruffin-Nursery Team Member



**Now is the time for all good men/women to come to the aid of their**

**country...**do you remember typing this as you were learning to type? That was the sentence that we had to learn early on except sometimes it said “party” instead of “country”. I think it is appropriate to use this sentence with the word “nursery”. So far, we have had wonderful response to our nursery caretaker request. Everyone has been in place with a cheerful heart!! Thank you...I failed to say “thank you” to the **September** caregivers and need to say it now..kudos to Wayne & Debra Calhoun, Jonathan & Susan Cobb, Stacey Nicholas, Barbara Whitehurst, Wayne & Sue Lassiter, Kevin & Michelle Marks, Casey Joyner, Catherine Arnold, Teresa Hopkins, Robert & Rebecca Chadwick, also the last Sunday in **October** to Joe, Tammy, & Danielle Williams, Trey Lewis, Phillip & Lynn Eason. **November** Nursery Hostess was Tammy Wooten..caregivers were Steve & Susan Sturgill, Kelly Bently, Linda Davis, Sharon Brantley, Dennis & Cathy Rose, Tad & Dawn Rhodes, Boo & Melissa Causey....As you can see, it takes all of us to keep up with the toddlers and rock the babies... We are so thankful for their presence. You know, when there are **children** in the nursery there are **parents** in the Worship Service...**IMPORTANT** Be on the lookout for your yellow card...let’s start this contest...bring your yellow card back on the Sunday that you take care of the nursery and put it in a box which will be provided...at the end of the church year, 8/31/11...we will draw out a card and the names on the card...we will start this on 12/5/10...if you have already stayed once I will fix a card for you and put it in the will receive a special prize...we will start this on 12/5/10...if you have already stayed once, I will fix a card for you and put it in the box..**let’s not forget to bring your card to church!!!**



**From the Youth/Associate Pastor Search Committee**

We have started the process of searching for our Youth/Assoc. Pastor. The committee is currently working on a Job Description with hopes of posting the job in early December. We would very much appreciate your prayerful support during this process. Please pray that God will send us someone with a passion for your youth and also someone who is able to assist Pastor Joe. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Committee Chairperson Trina Rhodes. Please be in prayer for us.

**Ex-officio members**

Trina Rhodes	Jeff Collins
Matt Sledge	Tim Engelking
Renee' Holloman	Joe Price
Jordan Wooten	James Wakston



# MISSIONS UPDATE



Local, National and International

## WMU NEWS



### Who was Lottie Moon?

Lottie Moon - the namesake of the international missions offering - has become something of a legend to us. But in her time Lottie was anything but an untouchable hero. In fact, she was like today's missionaries. She was a hard-working, deep-loving Southern Baptist who labored tirelessly so her people group could know Jesus.

All these years later, missionaries are still laboring tirelessly to reach the unsaved people groups around the world. And how are they able to do this? Your generous contributions to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering make it possible for these International Missionaries to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our goal as a church is **\$6,000**. It sounds like a lot of money but compared to what it cost to support missionaries it's just a drop. For every fast food meal you eat...you could be keeping a missionary in the field another hour.

#### How much does it cost to support a missionary?

- \$43,845.86 a year
- \$3,653.82 a month
- \$843.19 a week
- \$120.13 a day
- \$5.01 an hour**
- \$.08 a minute

Consider all the sacrifices missionaries make every day...what are you willing to sacrifice to support those who are sharing the gospel to people groups desperately in need of Christ.



## HONDURAS

### August 8-16, 2011

INFORMATION MEETING  
Wednesday, December 15th  
6:00 PM  
Fellowship Hall

Any questions? Contact Buie Holder

## BAPTIST MEN

Dear Faithful,

During the month of December our focus will be helping those in our church who may need our help or a little assistance with the "little" things that sometimes overwhelm us.

On December 4, 2010 from 8 AM until 12PM the RA's and GA's will combine forces to aid and assist those in our church who may need a little yard clean-up or some other "light" work to spruce up for the holidays. Please fill out a "Operation Inasmuch" work request so we can have a record of jobs that need to be done. The work requests can be found in the church vestibule located in the front of the church. We look forward to serving God in this small way and sharing Jesus with our church community. We look for ways to serve him in any capacity within our capabilities.

Thanks to all of you who choose to serve and be a leader with our youth. Your guidance is appreciated and is truly a blessing to you and our church.

May the blessings of our God attend you during this most Holy month which celebrates the birth of our Redeemer.

Yours in Christ,  
Brother Carroll

## THE GREAT JOURNEY

According to Webster the definition for journey is "any passage from one stage to another (the journey from cradle to grave)". Helping spread the Gospel is the most important service Christians can render during their journey of life. Yes, God will use plastic shoe boxes filled by servants like you to show hope and love to the unsaved.

Oakdale Family has truly taken a great journey beginning on October 17<sup>th</sup> and finishing on November 15<sup>th</sup>. You packed **235** boxes - the youth and adults assisted the GA's and RA's in packing **50** boxes - **10** boxes packed by your team with left over items and monetary gifts - **175** packed by individuals. **PRAISE GOD!!!!**

You are giving **25** people the opportunity to continue the journey as they travel to Charlotte to work in the Processing Warehouse. Please pray for safe travel!!!!

Your support for this mission project has shown the true meaning of Christmas and we **THANK YOU!!!!**

Operation Christmas Child Ministry Team



## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

### Steppin' Up, Divin' In, and Reachin' Out

November was an exciting time for Sunday School. It was high-lighted with a large amount of guests that visited Oakdale. Although Pastor Joe's sermon series, the Battle is On, is completed, our work as Christian Soldiers continues. Each week we need to reach out to our community and invite a new or old friend to Sunday School. In January, John Hamm will be giving us a sneak preview to the "REAL Sunday School" multi-church training event that will be hosted by Oakdale Baptist Church on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Four **R.E.A.L.** ministry strategies of the Sunday School give the ministry its true identity or reason for being.

- Building Meaningful Relationships
- Intentional Evangelism
- Assimilation of People
- Life-Changing Bible Study

Look for announcements in the bulletin and on [www.obcbaptist.org](http://www.obcbaptist.org) for more information to come.

FOR HIM!

Mark Ream, Sunday School Director



Need some good reading during the cold months?? The Oakdale Library cart is now stocked with **donated** Christian books & DVD's. Beginning Wednesday, December 1, the cart will be available (in the hallway across from the lighthouse) for checking out books. Hours will be 8:00 -8:30 PM on Wednesday nights and Sunday after Morning Worship and Sunday Evening at 5:30 PM.

This is an on-going project and books will still be accepted. Thanks to the many people who have already

## HOSTESS NEWS



All three teams were active within the last month. We ministered to four families and want to express our deepest sympathy to the families of Ms. Janet Powell, Mr. Billy Pridgen, Mr. W. R. Bulluck and an Oakdale community member, Mr. Charles Hunt. It was our privilege to serve you.

## NEEDED-PICTURES FOR THE UPCOMING CHURCH DIRECTORY!!



If you have any pictures of these events and are willing to share for the new church directory, please give them to Lynn Eason.

VBS    Current Events of 2010    Children & Youth Camps    Childcare Activities  
Upward & StraightWay T-Ball    Baptist Men Activities

## RELAY FOR LIFE

Anyone interested in being on the OBC Relay for Life 2011 Team please join us on Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM in the youth room for a meeting to sign up and come up with ideas for next year's relay! Hope to see you there!!!

Missions:  
Lottie Moon  
Missions Offering

# December 2010

EVERY SUNDAY: SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 PM International Missions Study	2	3 Class 120 Christmas Party	4 8:00 AM GA/RA Yard work 9:30 AM J.O.Y. Group (J CC)  6:00 PM Mixed Blessings Christmas Party
International Missions Week of Prayer Nov. 28—December 5						
5 6:00 PM Christmas Music (Children's Choir)  "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Party	6 Samaritan's Purse-Charlotte  Upward Practice	7 9:30 PM Senior Adult Luncheon 6:30 PM Childcare Christmas Program 6:30 PM Relay for Life Mtg. Upward Practice	8 7:00 PM Regular Activities	9  Upward Practice	10  Upward Practice	11  1:00 PM-3:00 PM Sanctuary Choir
12 International Missions Sunday  6:00 PM Christmas Music (Middle School Choir)  7:00 PM Deacons	13 6:30 PM WMU Current Mission Group  7:00 PM WMU Bible Study Group 7:00 PM Youth Team Mtg.	14 10:00 AM WMU Prayer Group  Upward Practice	15 6:00 PM Honduras Trip Info Meeting  7:00 PM Regular Activities 7:00 P M Youth Christmas Party	16  Upward Practice	17  Upward Practice	18 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM Sanctuary Choir  Truth Seekers Christmas Party
19  6:00 PM Christmas Music (Sanctuary Choir)	20	21	22 7:00 PM Caroling	23	24 Christmas Eve  Church Office & Childcare Closed	25 Christmas Day
26  No PM Service	27 Christmas Holiday  Church Office & Childcare Closed	28	29 7:00 PM Regular Activities	30	31 New Year's Eve Church Office & Childcare Closed	
				<b>NURSING HOME MINISTRY</b>		
				12/1 Somerset Court 10:00 AM 12/3 The Albemarle 10:30 AM 12/7 Brekenridge 10:30 AM		

Oakdale Baptist Church  
13037 US 64 ALT WEST HWY  
Rocky Mount, NC 27801  
252-442-6587  
Info@obcbaptist.org

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage  
Permit #336 US  
Rocky Mount, NC 27801

**Address Service Requested**

Oakdale Staff  
Rev. Joe Price, Pastor  
Mrs. Jennifer Engelking, Children's Minister  
Miss Angie Ruffin, Music Minister  
Mr. Aaron Rhodes, Upward Director  
Mrs. Michelle Marks, Childcare Director  
Mrs. Sharon Lynch, Secretary



DEACON BEACON—News from Deacon Ministry Team  
A guiding light to the rock

**Dec.. 2010 Deacon of the Month: Aaron Rhodes**

Oakdale Family,

It seems like only yesterday that 2009 was ending and the excitement of a new year was upon us,... my how time flies!

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind the entire Oakdale family of a few items that came from the church floor during our quarterly business conference. First, we have adopted a motion that there will be no love offerings taken this year for our Pastoral staff; instead we will be offering each member of our paid staff one week's pay as a Christmas bonus from the church. We will also be making a love offering gift to our Music Director, Angie Ruffin and our worship leader, Matt Sledge. This motion was made by the Deacons as a plea from our Pastor to emphasize our support of the Lottie Moon Christmas offering and ensure that families would be able to align their gifts during the Christmas season with the needs of our International Mission Board.

The Deacons were able to spend more time in training with Pastor Joe during the month of November. In our training series, *The Deacon I Want To Be*, we studied from God's word about the role of the Deacon's wife. We reflected on the importance of the role that our wives' play on our ability to serve His church and the vital role of their ministry and service as a part of our church body. I know that I speak for all for all of the Deacons when I say to the wives of our Deacons; both active and inactive, thank you, we love you and may God Bless each and every one of you.

The Christmas season is near and soon the hustle and bustle of shopping, gatherings and family events will soon be upon us. I would like to challenge all of us to make this Christmas season one that we give praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by pausing long enough to honor Him and give Him the recognition that He deserves.

From your Deacon ministry team we would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10-11*

Tim