

# OAKDALE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2008

[www.obcbaptist.org](http://www.obcbaptist.org)

Christmas Programs
Church Ministries: Childcare, Youth, Children & Joy Group
Mail Room, Sympathy's, Clerk's Corner, Miscellaneous
December Calendar
Birthday's, Ushers, Nursery Schedule & Security Team
Upward, DiscipleLife
Missions Update
Deacon Beacon



**“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a  
Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”**

**Luke 2:11**

## **SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH 6:00 PM**

**“Behold the Lamb”**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH 6:00 PM  
CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**“It’s A Wonderful Life!”**

**(Church Wide Baby Shower for Pregnancy Care Center  
following the Christmas Program)**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 6:00 PM**

**ADULT CANTATA**

**“Christmas Is Jesus”**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH  
CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION**

**6:00 PM—9:00 PM**

## **UPWARD BASKETBALL & CHEERLEADING**

Thanks to everyone who helped during Upward evaluations. Thanks to all coaches and commissioners who volunteered. We have approximately 200 basketball players and cheerleaders.

Practice will begin the week of December 8<sup>th</sup>. Our first game is Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Here we go again! Please pray for our tenth year of using sports ministries to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,  
Aaron Rhodes

**SUNDAY NIGHTS @6:00 PM**

**NEW SESSION STARTS JANUARY 4, 2009**

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

Happy Birthday:

Mackenzie Rogers	12/9
Gabriel Vick	12/14
Jordan Wright	12/28
Conner Worrell	12/29

Ms. Jamie	12/3
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It is hard to believe that it is already December. The weather has been so nice. The children have been working hard throughout November on all kinds of fall activities. They have also been talking about what they are thankful for. Now we are moving on into December with many Christmas activities. The children are working hard on the Christmas program and we hope that you will receive a blessing as you watch “The Christmas Story”. The bible focus for the month of December of course is leading up to and taking the children through the birth of Jesus. Each class will be having a birthday party for Jesus and they will have a gift exchange. Our mission project this year is to help a family or more if we receive enough participation. The family or families come right out of our childcare family. We are accepting monetary donations to purchase Wal-Mart gift cards for the family or families. If you are interested in helping, leave your donation in the lock box on the office door. Make sure it is in an envelope marked childcare mission project if you leave cash, or if you write a check make it payable to Oakdale Childcare with a memo of childcare mission project. Please continue to pray for the childcare staff, families, and all that work so hard to make this ministry a success.

“God loves the person who gives happily. And God can give you more blessings than you need. Then you will always have plenty of everything.” 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Staff/Ministry Team Christmas Party	December 6
Christmas Program	December 16
Birthday Parties for Jesus/Classroom	December 19
Christmas Holiday	December 24 & 25

Ms. Michelle  
Childcare Director

**CHILDREN’S CORNER**

You’re invited to the Children’s Christmas Play. After the play, we will have a Baby Shower honoring our Savior’s birth.

**When:** Sunday, December 14th at 6pm  
**Who:** Everyone!

You don’t want to miss [It’s A Wonder-Full Life!](#) It is a precious play that will bless your heart. Thank you for supporting Oakdale’s children. Please bring an unwrapped baby item. Gifts will be donated to the Rocky Mount Pregnancy Care Center.

**Youth Ministry Update**

Please continue to pray for our Youth Minister Search Committee. They are meeting, praying and seeking God’s will for our youth ministry. Anyone who has suggestions or input can contact Tony Lassiter, chairman of the search committee.

**Christmas Program at Bassett Center**

Plans are coming together for our new youth space. The Youth Ministry Team is working toward renovating the classrooms over the gym to be a youth area. “The C.A.G.E.” will be a place our youth can use for fun, fellowship, worship, and outreach.

The “Worth Waiting For” abstinence program is now scheduled for Jan. 2009. Marcia Brown, “Worth Waiting For” director from the Pregnancy Care Center, will be sharing with our parents and youth. The schedule will be as follows:

Wednesday, Jan. 14– Parents’ Meeting  
Wednesday, Jan. 21–Girls’ Meeting  
Wednesday, Jan. 28–Boys’ Meeting

In January, we are also looking forward to Youth DiscipleLife. Mark and Paulette Ream will be teaching our youth, grades 10-12 about money management. Jackson Perry will be leading Bible study for grades 7-9.

**Youth, parents-mark your 2009 calendars for...  
Ski Retreat— March 6-8  
Deep Impact Mission Week at Ft. Caswell  
August 3-8**

Pastor Joe



**JOY GROUP NEWS**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6  
JOHNSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**CLERKS CORNER**

**Church Conference of 11/12/08**

**Treasurer's report** accepted. These reports are available in the foyers in the plastic sleeves.

**Sunday School report** given by Bert Peele-enrollment is 299; average attendance 180

**Discipleship Training report** given by Rev. Joe Price-average of 100 each Sunday night; will end classes in Nov. 08 and restart in Jan. 09

**WMU report** given by Linda Ruffin-Time to donate money for Red Boxes for Fountain, GA's and Mission Friends and ladies groups helping with Red Box Ministry.

**Baptist Men's report** given by Carroll Brown-men have constructed 8 handicap ramps; if you know of a project let him know. Beautification project is ongoing.

**Youth report** given by Faye Worrell-Buie Holder and Jackson Perry teaching classes; going on ski trip in March/ going to Fort Caswell in Aug.09. Mark and Paulette Ream to teach a Financial class to older group of youth; Helping with Christmas at Bassett Center; will attend a Worth Waiting for Seminar in January 09; having several fundraisers to help offset cost of projects/ camp/redecorating project for rooms in FLC.

**Children's report** given by Jennifer Engelking-having skate night 11/24/08 and doing a Christmas play 12/14/08; had 28 children at Fall Festival at Pepper Lake; need to bring 4 cans of food to skate night for needy families and \$2.50 for admission. Following the Christmas program they will have a baby shower to honor the birth of Jesus and take the unwrapped baby gifts we bring to the shower to the Rocky Mount Pregnancy Care Center

**Upward Report** given for Aaron Rhodes by Joe Price-had 160 to register on first night of evaluations; make-up evaluation night is 11/13/08 at 6:30 pm.

**Music Report** by Angie Ruffin-12/14/08 group will present "Behold The Lamb"; 12/14/08 Children's Choir will present "It's A Wonder-Full Life"; 12/21/08 Adult Choir will present cantata "Christmas Is Jesus".

**Budget/Finance Report** given by Tim Engelking-New budget should be presented to the congregation in a couple of weeks.

**Survey/Planning Report** given by Tim Engelking-Still working on bids and downsizing our plans for building.

**Building Report** given by Wayne Lassiter-Steeple and front doors have been cleaned; have estimate on remodeling in back foyers, bathrooms, etc., but feel that at this time we are unable to do any of this work due to price. Hope to have workday soon to do some painting.

**Nominating Report** given by Linda Davis-Motion to delete Amber Williams from Nursery Team at her request and add Barbara Whitehurst; to add Jackson Perry to Youth Team.

The Building Ministry Team has been asked to draw up guidelines for use of this entire facility and they have appointed a subcommittee to do this.

Request resurfaced to put handrails in the choir entry.

Letters granted to Mindy Jenkins to Tarboro First Baptist, Robert Daughtridge to Trinity Baptist in Tarboro, Jason and Beth Sessoms to remove name from our membership.

The minutes and reports in their entirety are available for public viewing in the office of the church and anyone wishing a copy of same only have to make the request to the church clerk.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers in our time of sorrow. Thank you for the kindness you showed to all of us. Thank you!

Ethel Webb, Emily, and All

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Oakdale,

I wanted to say thank you so much for all you did for my mother and our family. The food, visits, words of encouragement, and love were greatly appreciated. I can not think of a better church & community for my mother to have been with all these years.

God Bless,

Hugh Credle

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Dear Oakdale Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers and kindness shown to my father, Marvin (Bill) Whitley and family while he was in the hospital and undergoing physical therapy at Autumn Care. I am so happy to say that he is coming home and is continuing to get stronger and looks wonderful! Please continue to pray for continued strength and know how grateful my family and I are for your prayers.

Jane Whitley Pridgen and Family

Our Sympathy to:

Frances Credle family in her passing

Lynn Eason & Family in the passing of her father, Joe Taylor

**CHURCH OFFICE AND CHILDCARE  
CLOSED**

**December 24th & 25th**

**January 1st**

DECEMBER 2008

**SECURITY TEAMS FOR  
DECEMBER**

- Dec. 7 Wayne Walston & Kevin Marks**  
**Dec. 14 Doug Smith & Aaron Rhodes**  
**Dec. 21 Bill Lamm & Bob Van Scoik**  
**Dec. 28 Steve Sturgill & Carroll Brown**

**USHER TEAM FOR DECEMBER**

*James Johnson*  
*Dennis Rose*  
*Allen Harrelson*  
*Phil Wood*  
*Stacey Nicholas*

12/1	Ryan Pridgen	12/14	Robert Wells
12/2	Dianne Rackley	12/15	Mollie Batts
12/2	Ann Rhodes	12/15	Jeannie Ruffin
12/3	Jamie Batts	12/15	Janet Pridgen Smith
12/3	Andy Tess	12/15	Linda Terry
12/3	Justin Worrell	12/16	Robin Griffin
12/4	Irvin Rackley	12/17	Renee' Holloman
12/5	Tim Engelking	12/18	Carroll Brown
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	Barbara Strickland
12/10	Zel Pittman	12/25	Sheila Smith
12/11	Sharon Brantley	12/27	Thomas Edmondson
12/12	Pierce Sturgill	12/27	Billie Holder
12/13	Donna Howell	12/27	DalynRoyster
12/13	Landon Williams	12/27	Steven Whitley
12/14	Chris Cobb	12/30	Kobe Joseph
		12/30	Matthew Rhodes

**DECEMBER NURSERY SCHEDULE**  
**11:00 AM & 6:00 PM Worship**

- 12/7** JoElla Webb, Paula & Britt Medley,  
Susan & Jonathan Cobb
- 12/14** Debra & Wayne Calhoun  
Sue & Wayne Lassiter
- 12/21** Catherine Arnold, May Howell,  
Nancy Lamm, Teresa Hopkins
- 12/28** Peggy Johnson, Barbara Whitehurst  
Michelle & Kevin Marks



**DECEMBER NURSERY SCHEDULES**  
**8:30 AM WORSHIP**

- 12/7** Jamie Batts & Sharon Brantley
- 12/14** Ginger Tess & Robin Rhodes
- 12/21** C.T. & Faye Worrell
- 12/28** Kelly Bentley, Judy Costello  
Tina Pride



# MISSIONS UPDATE



Local, National and International

## WMU NEWS

### Lottie Moon Offering

This years Lottie Moon offering goal is \$2,000. “Change” can bring Jesus Christ into the hearts of many. Collect your weekly change and drop it in the cans provided and know that you are making a difference in the hearts and lives of people around the world.

### Foreign Mission Study

Have you ever been to Venezuela? Join in on December 3rd and find out what missionaries in Venezuela are doing to spread the good news of Jesus. We have classes for everyone from babies to adults. Come see what God is doing in the world!

### Week of Prayer for International Missions

November 30-December 7

If you think after generations of missionary work the story of Jesus has reached every corner of South America, talk to Gabriel



Mugmal. His idol-worshipping neighbors almost burned him alive for preaching the Gospel. That was 25 years ago. Today some 250 villagers worship less than 200 yards from the site where Gabriel was nearly martyred. Through a partnership with missionaries Darrell and Rogene Musick, Gabriel has helped start nearly 30 Bible studies and churches in other villages dotting the Andes. This week pray for the Musiks and other missionaries serving and partnering in South America going out and telling the good news of Christ to the lost in this region.



### WMU Christmas Party

All ladies of the church are invited to join us for our annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 15th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Just bring a sweet or salty snack and come join the fun & fellowship.

## BAPTIST MEN OPERATION INASMUCH

Dear Faithful,

Once again, God has blessed us with opportunities to serve Him in a way that will glorify His name. The devastating tornadoes that struck Elm City on Saturday, November 15th gave several members of our church family the opportunity to serve God by responding to the area in conjunction with the NC Baptist Men Disaster Recovery Team. We worked on three houses in an effort to remove tree limbs, clean yards, pick up debris, and patch roofs. We also witnessed to several people from the Elm City community and hoped to plant the seeds of God’s love through our work. I thank God for our church family who are so willing to serve Him.

There will be a Baptist Men/Brotherhood breakfast Sunday, December 14th from 7:30AM—8:30 AM. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help cook, please see Carroll Brown.

For more information on the NC Baptist Men, please access our web site at [obcbaptist.org](http://obcbaptist.org) or call me at 252-382-1766. The opportunities to serve our God at home and away are abundant! The blessings of serving God in any manner are immeasurable. Thanks to all of you for keeping Jesus in your heart.

In His name and for His sake,  
Carroll Brown

Luke: Chapter 12 vs 48 (NIV)

“From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”

## “OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD” A CHILD IS A GIFT FROM GOD

Thank you, thank you Oakdale Church Family for each act of kindness and love shown for children all around the world as well as needy children right here in the United States. You made it possible for Oakdale to give 246 boxes packed with small gifts and the postage for these boxes. Just think, there will be at least **246** children that will receive the good news of God’s love and eternal life-only God knows how many family members and friends will be touched because there are people willing to share.


Oakdale had 23 people to travel to Charlotte on November 25th to work at the Samaritan’s Purse Processing Warehouse. There were over 32,000 people giving of their time to process around 2 million boxes at the Charlotte location. Thank you for the privilege of representing Oakdale on this mission project-countless blessings were received to see God’s people at work.

May each of you have a Merry Christmas, and the coming year be filled with God’s love and grace.  
Operation Christmas Child Ministry Team



# December 2008



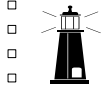
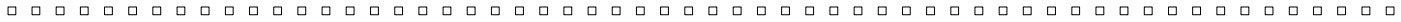
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat												
	1	2 11:30 AM Association Senior Adult Luncheon	3 6:00 PM Childcare Ministry Team 7:00 PM Regular Schedule  International Mission Study	4	5	6 J.O.Y. Group Johnston Community  6:00 PM Fellowship Class Christmas party												
WEEK OF PRAYER THRU DECEMBER 7TH																		
7  6:00 PM "Behold the Lamb"	8 7:00 PM Youth Ministry Team  Upward Practice Starts	9  Upward Practice	10 7:00 PM Regular Schedule	11  Upward Practice	12 6:00 PM Class of 120 Christmas Party  Upward Practice	13  Upward Practice												
Week of Prayer																		
14 Regular Schedule  7:30 AM Baptist Men's Breakfast  6 PM Children's Christmas Programs & Baby Shower for Preg- nancy Care Ctr.	15  7:00 PM WMU Christmas Party  Upward Practice	16 6:30 PM Childcare Christmas Program  Upward Practice	17 7:00 P M Regular Schedule	18  Upward Practice	19  Upward Practice	20												
21 Regular Schedule  6:00 PM Adult Cantata	22	23	24  6:00 PM-9:00 PM Christmas Eve Communion	25 Christmas Day!  	26	27												
28 Regular Schedule  No PM Service	29	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nursing Home Ministry</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Dec. 2</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Brekenridge Nursing Home</td> <td style="width: 25%;">10:30 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 2</td> <td>H.I.S. Nursing Home</td> <td>11:00 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 3</td> <td>Somerset Ct. Nursing Home</td> <td>10:00 AM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec. 5</td> <td>The Albemarle</td> <td>10:30 AM</td> </tr> </table>			Dec. 2	Brekenridge Nursing Home	10:30 AM	Dec. 2	H.I.S. Nursing Home	11:00 AM	Dec. 3	Somerset Ct. Nursing Home	10:00 AM	Dec. 5	The Albemarle	10:30 AM
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Oakdale Baptist Church  
13037 US 64 ALT WEST HWY  
Rocky Mount, NC 27801  
252-442-6587  
Oakdalebcmnc@embarqmail.com

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage  
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Rocky Mount, NC 27801

**Address Service Requested**

Oakdale Staff  
Rev. Roy Porter, Pastor  
Rev. Joe Price, Associate Pastor  
Youth Minister  
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.

December 2008 Deacons of the Month: Robert Chadwick, Bruce Rhodes, Carroll Brown  
**Investing in Eternity**  
Matthew 28:18-20  
The Christian life is an *active* life--one dedicated to working, serving, sharing, and helping. Too often, we think that being a Christian simply means showing up for church each Sunday morning and dropping something into the offering plate. That's a good habit, but if this is the sum total of your Christian life, you've missed the mark. There is a call that Jesus Christ put on all those who would follow Him. That is, He has called us go into the world and make disciples through baptism and teaching. You may say, "Well, that applies just to ministers and missionaries, right?" No. It's the responsibility of everyone who claims the name of Jesus.  
Just look at the first word of Matthew 28:19. What does Jesus say? He says, "Go!" In today's terms, He's saying, "Get off the couch! Turn off the TV! Close the computer! Get up, look at the world around you, and tell someone about Me!" This is not a suggestion. Nor is it a word to only a handful of believers. If you have been saved by the blood of Christ, then Jesus is talking to *you*!  
Making disciples doesn't mean you have to quit your job and become a full-time missionary to a remote part of the globe. But you *could* walk outside, knock on a neighbor's door, and demonstrate Christ to him. You don't need a show-stopping sermon to minister to others; you need simply a willing and open heart.  
What can you do *right now* to "go . . . and make disciples"? Think about things you can do today to respond to God's call on your life and what better time to witness to people or give a special gift or a special offering than during the Christmas season. Make an effort and God will bless it. You must first plant the seed before you see it grow.  
May God bless you and your family during this special time of the year. We serve a great God!! He is worthy of our praise.  
Thank you Lord for the best gift ever. Jesus!!!! Merry Christmas!!!  
In His Service,  
Brent Wooten

