

# Oakdale Messenger

www.obcbaptist.org

January 2010



Everybody dreams of being a winner. From the middle school football player to the businessman working for a financial breakthrough, we all want to score big in life. As Christians, the Bible describes our life as a race. In Hebrews 12:1 it encourages us to "run with endurance the race that is set before us." God has given us the "Power to Win" in the Christian life. Philippians 3 says "forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead." God has called us to be winners in every area of our walk with Him.

January 10 - February 7, our focus at Oakdale will be on the "Power to Win." For the five Sundays we will be setting our hearts and minds on being winners. through sermons, testimonies, and special events, we will remind ourselves what the Apostle Paul said in I Cor. 15:67- "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." This will be an exciting five weeks culminating on February 7th, which is Super Bowl Sunday. That day two pro football teams will be battling it out for the NFL championship. At Oakdale, February 7th will be SUPER SUNDAY." We will be having high attendance day in Sunday School and a special quest speaker in the morning worship. That night we will have a "Super Bowl Outreach." This will be a time of outreach, fun, food, and fellowship. Gear up! Get up! Get ready to win !

Pastor Joe

Our mission is to KNOW Jesus, SERVE Jesus,

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

**Happy Birthday!!**

1/11	Ms. Katie K.	1/16	Ms. Shirley
1/13	James Williams	1/29	A’Naudia Smith
1/15	Ms. Casey		

Congratulations to Ms. April on your acceptance to Columbia International University. Also, congratulations to Ms. Tameka, Ms. Ashley, and Ms. Casey for completing their Community college semester for 2009.

The year has come and gone so quickly. We were very busy through December. Our Christmas program was great. The children sang Christmas carols along with sign language, and acted out The First Christmas. They did a wonderful job. I hope to have some pictures to post soon. Our December mission project was making Christmas cards for several people in prison and for recovering soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital. We hope that by sharing some special artwork along with some uplifting scriptures that we will be a blessing to others.

Now the New Year is upon us and we are praying that 2010 will be a good year. We continue to have several openings within our childcare facility and would love to see some new faces. If you or someone you know has a childcare need, send them our way. We would love to accept someone new to our family.

Our renovations should be complete the first part of January and we are looking forward to getting back into our classrooms. I ask that you continue to pray for our program, teachers, families and leadership.

The month of January our Bible focus will be on the Beatitudes of Jesus: “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their’s is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for their’s is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:3-10

Michelle Marks  
Childcare Director



**JOY GROUP**

**JANUARY 9TH**  
**BREAKFAST**  
**8:00 AM**

**JANUARY 28TH**  
**COVERED DISH**

## Youth Ministry Update

We will be going to the Planet Wisdom Student Conf. in Woodbridge, VA. March 12-13. Check it out at [www.planetwisdom.com](http://www.planetwisdom.com). More information coming soon. Registration deadline will be Wednesday, Feb 10.

### Children’s Corner

On Sunday Feb. 7th, I will begin teaching the **Discovery Sunday School class** for children who have either made a recent decision for Christ or have questions about what it means to become a Christian. We will talk about salvation, baptism, communion, and living a Godly life as a new believer. The class will be held in the gym and will be taught each Sunday in February. Please contact me @ 985-0456 to sign up your child.

*Dear Church Family,*

*Thank you very much for the tremendous support you gave with the Angel board. The angels represented 4 children (from 2 families). Not one angel was left pinned to the board...Praise Him! Praise Him! Thank you for providing the gifts on these children's wish lists. I pray these families will feel much happiness on Christmas morning; but most importantly, I pray that every day they will feel the joy that only Jesus can give. Please keep these families in your prayers. Thank you again for your participation. May our focus stay on God's Gift to us - His Son, Jesus. 1 John 3:17 says, “Giving is a reflection of God's Love.”*

*Cold weather...Warm thoughts... of children’s summer camp! Mark your calendars! August 8-11. More details soon!*

*Because He first Loved Us,  
Jennifer & Children’s Ministry Team*

# CHURCH MAILROOM



Mr. Price,

I am a Case Manager with Pride In North Carolina. I recently contacted Bill Lamm to assist with the building of a wheelchair ramp for a family with whom I recently started working. I want to tell you that I have never seen such dedication, good will, and perseverance in action until collaborating with Mr. Lamm. I knew that raising almost \$1,000.00 was going to be a huge undertaking in this economy and it would take quite a while before we could build the ramp. Mr. Lamm went above and beyond to help me find the funds to pay for the materials to build the ramp. His heart was in the job and his mind was made up on doing this good deed.

Mr. Lamm, James Walston, Wayne Walston, C. T. Worrell, and Carroll Brown worked together on November 17th and November 18th to build the ramp for this family. Their time, labor, dedication and kindness will never be forgotten by this family.

Sincerely and with much gratitude,

Susan Myers BA, QDDP  
Pride In North Carolina, Inc.

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Mr. Lamm & Church Members,

Thank you so much for building the handicapped ramp for us. This ramp is beautiful and will really come in handy for Rusty, Bobby, Mom and Dad.

This is truly a blessing to us. One of the Lord's many favors. Your act of kindness will not go unappreciated.

We wished we could have been here while it was being built, but we were at Shriners Hospital for Bobby's rehab.

Continue to keep our family in your thoughts and prayers as we go through this journey. May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

With sincere thanks!!

The Robbins Family

Danny, Cynthia, Rusty & Bobby

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Thanks so much for all the Christmas cards, gifts, and love offering. My prayer is that God would bless you with a Jesus-filled New Year. It is a joy to serve the Lord with you.

Pastor Joe

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, sympathy cards and other cards of encourage-

### Our Sympathy to:

Carroll Brown family in the passing of his brother Keith

Chris Webb family in the passing of his father

Daphne Rhodes family in the passing of her brother



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Happy New Year! January 2010, the Sunday School will be having "Play off Sundays" leading up to Super Sunday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. This is part of our church-wide "Power to Win" emphasis. We will be gearing up by inviting old and new friends to Sunday School. If you haven't been in awhile, now is the time to come on back. Just as the NFL teams fight to keep their game going, we as Christians need to always endure and intentionally keep up our calling to spread the GOOD NEWS. We are planning February 7<sup>th</sup> to be the highest attendance this church year. Let's all do our part, by reaching our community and invite them to Sunday School and Worship at Oakdale. Share what God has done for your life. Let them know the excitement you have for Jesus, our Savior, and how HE can change their lives as well. Now more than ever, we need to reach to our lost brothers and sisters and bring them back into the fold.

Invite everyone you meet at Upward to Sunday School and Church. Tell them, if you think Saturday is fun at Oakdale, try coming on a Sunday!

Our leaders at the Southern Baptist Convention are praying and acting for the Great Commission Resurgence. We need to continue to do our part by spreading HIS word to our community and let HIM make a difference through us.

<http://www.pray4gcr.com>

### Matthew 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>(A)</sup> 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples <sup>(B)</sup> of <sup>[a]</sup> all nations, <sup>(C)</sup> baptizing <sup>(D)</sup> them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, <sup>[b]</sup> I am with you always, <sup>[c]</sup> to the end of the age." <sup>(E)</sup>

Mark Ream  
Sunday School Director

### There will be a Sunday School Planning Meeting on

Friday, January 8th at 7:00 PM. This is for the current quarter teachers and the directors.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Kaitlyn Harris**  
**(Baptism)**

1708 Foxhall Drive  
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**SECURITY TEAMS FOR  
JANUARY**

Jan. 3 Tim & Dillon Engelking  
 Jan. 10 Stacey Nicholas & Carroll Brown  
 Jan. 17 C. T. & Justin Worrell

**USHER TEAM FOR JANUARY**

Wayne Lassiter—Head Usher  
 Bruce Rhodes  
 Shawn Webb  
 Brent Griffin



1/1 Mack Ruffin	1/17 Velma Griffin
1/4 Joella Webb	1/18 Speight Powell
1/6 James Johnson	1/18 Ellen Ruffin
1/6 Tammy Joyner	1/21 Rachel Hicks
1/6 Beverly Rhodes	1/21 Emily Owens
1/6 Becky Vester	1/21 C. T. Worrell
1/7 Kelly Bentley	1/22 Stacy Lanier
1/7 Jackson Perry	1/23 Angela Hill
1/7 Michael Pittman	1/23 Deryl Lewis
1/9 Robert Van Scoik	1/23 James Walston
1/10 Larry Sawyer	1/24 Crystal Bell
1/11 Roger Edwards	1/24 Timothy Bell
1/12 Maigon Joyner	1/24 Melissa Causey
1/13 Judy Vanmale	1/25 Tony Medley
1/14 Marie Bell	1/26 Beverly Barnes
1/15 Susan Cobb	1/26 Peggy Holloman
1/15 William Smith	1/27 Kelly Hill
1/16 Heather Eason	1/28 Alex Batts
1/16 Amanda Murray	1/29 Mavis Bradshaw
1/16 James Sledge	1/30 Lisa Manning
1/16 Holly Worrell	1/31 Meghan Murray

**JANUARY NURSERY  
SCHEDULE**

**11:00 AM & 6:00 PM WORSHIP**

1/3 Tony & Theresa Lassiter  
 Linda Davis & Judy Walston  
 1/10 Chrissy & Bruce Rhodes  
 Dianne Rackley, Johanan Armstrong  
 1/17 Jeffrey & Patty Collins  
 Gwen Taylor, Peggy Johnson  
 1/24 Aaron & Trina Rhodes



**The Church Would Like To Share In Your Special Dates and Occasions!**

Effective with the New Year the church asks that you please consider sharing your Special Dates and Occasions with us; if you would like to, by placing flowers in the sanctuary during special times in your life. It is always a blessing to see flowers in memory or honor of someone or an event in someone's life.

To place flowers, you need only to contact the church office to discuss the date you would like to reserve and provide details about the person(s) or occasion you or observing. Then contact Jean's Florist, 446-2952, to place your order and handle your billing.

Your special event will be printed in the weekly bulletin, unless you request differently.

Sharing our current and past blessings make them even more special.

If you have questions, please contact the church office.



# MISSIONS UPDATE



## WMU NEWS

Thank you to all who taught December 9th for the International Missions Study. I have heard nothing but wonderful things about the mission study! For those who were unable to attend you missed at real treat. Please keep our Lottie Moon offering in prayer that we will meet and surpass our goal of \$6,000.

If you would like to know more about our mission study and missionaries in the North African area log on to the International Mission Board website at [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org) and you will find testimonies from missionaries and what \$6 can do for the people of Ayorau, Niger.

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our INTERNATIONAL Missions Banquet! It was a tremendous success and the speaker was wonderful! And to all those who helped put it together and to my kitchen staff. . . WONDERSFUL JOB! It was a great way to start our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Thank you to all the RA's & GA's for the hard work they did selling Lottie links for our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Thank you to all who purchased links and for your prayers for missions. We will continue to collect until January 6th, and will total up and hopefully we will have met our goal of \$6,000. Whatever our total ends up, I know that it will be blessed and multiplied for the glory of the Lord!

As the New Year starts, what can families do to further missions? Here are some suggestions for mission work in our community...

**My Sister's House**-they always need toiletry items such as shampoo, toothbrushes & such along with school supplies & medical supplies. Fix bags with these items for a nice touch. Also, if your spring cleaning early or just getting rid of unwanted clothing, think about donating them to For A Second Season. Clothes and items are given to clients of My Sister's House & sold to the public.

**LifeBox**-This is your opportunity to bring joy to someone serving in the military overseas. Fill an APO box (which you can get from the post office) with Christian stuff such as CD's, Bibles, books, literature along with gum, pens & paper, game books, etc. Be sure to include a personal note, you never know whose life you will touch. Fill the box up to 20 lbs. You'll spend about \$13 in postage to tell someone that he/she is important and the sacrifice they are making is important and the very most important thing is that God loves them & so do you. For more information on LifeBox go to [www.lifeway.com/lifebox](http://www.lifeway.com/lifebox).

**United Community Ministries or Homeless Shelter**-when you go to the grocery store, just pick up a little extra and send it to one of these places. They always need food & more importantly they need people to share their time to help those less fortunate. Because "there by the Grace of God go I".

Pray for mission work being done all over the world & right here at home. Pray that you will do whatever God is leading you to do and just follow the Lord.

Missions begin with YOU! Enjoy the New Year and thank you for making missions work a success at Oakdale.

Karen Murray, WMU Director

## BAPTIST MEN

### OPERATION INASMUCH

We serve an awesome and powerful God!

All of the handicap ramps have been built and the majority of the renovation work in the childcare/church nurseries has been completed. There is still some trim painting and plumbing that has to be accomplished, but for the most part, we are on schedule to finish these projects in a timely manner.

I cannot say enough about the men and women who gave of their time and effort to do all of the work that was done, especially in the nurseries, the foyer, and the kitchen cleaning. I am just so proud of them all for the attitude of brotherly love and friendship throughout the entire renovation process. I am convinced that there is nothing we can't do for our God and our Church.

I also want to thank Teddy and Joe Williams for their expertise and sacrifices they made to ensure a top quality job was done. Without their help, we would not have accomplished as much as we did. Special thanks goes to Wayne Lassiter as project coordinator who also did most of the electrical work in the rooms.

January brings on a new year and of course new challenges. I know that our God will use us to do His will and give to those in need of His love and compassion. Let us commit to be a witness to all for our loving God!

The Oakdale Baptist Men will meet on the third Saturday of each month beginning January 16th. Please come out to support and be an active member of this church group. There are many blessings to be received for serving our God. Baptist Men's day will be Sunday, January 24th and a special church program is scheduled for that day. Please come out and support the men.

I wish to thank you all for answering the call to serve.

In His Service,

Carroll Brown, Oakdale Baptist Men's Director

Luke (Chapter 12 v.48 KJV)

"For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required."

# **DISCIPLELIFE**

**NEW SESSION STARTS JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>  
SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 6:00 PM**

## **ADULT GROUPS**

Way of the Master (Witnessing Training)

Book of Romans, Part II

Biblical Parenting

The Truth Project

Biblical Financial Study

**WE WILL ALSO HAVE CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
GROUPS**

# SHINE THE LIGHT FOR JESUS

We are very thankful that we have passed our initial building fund goal of \$75,000 and met the stretch goal of \$100,000. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all that have contributed to this program.

Lighthouse components sold or committed to date:

12 Tower Bricks-(\$1,000.00)- All are sold or committed

17 Foundation Bricks-(\$1500.00)- All are sold or committed

20 Foundation Stones-(\$2500.00)- 5 are sold/15+ are available

29 House Bricks-(\$520.00)- 250+ available to be sold

1 Light at Top of Lighthouse-Sold

Lighthouse Template-Sold

Our total cost for the building project is \$423,000, which means that we still have over \$300,000 to pay on the building. We will continue to have a monthly payment to make on the building. If you have made a commitment to the building fund, with a weekly or monthly contribution, please consider continuing to keep this commitment until the building cost is completely paid off. We realize that this would be above and beyond your initial commitment to purchase a brick or stone. However, the church treasurer will track your contributions and let you know when you have contributed enough to have another house brick (\$520.00) engraved and placed on the light house in honor or memory of someone that has touched your life.

If you will recall when we started this project we provided the church some information on the “giving habits” of our church. At that time approximately 20% of our congregation was carrying the majority our church budget. We are proud to say that this has now improved to approximately 28% of our congregation. All financial information supplied to the Stewardship Ministry Team is via computer generated range reports that do not identify the names of individual contributors.

We are pleased that we have had 69 giving units contribute to the building program “Shine the Light for Jesus”. For those of you who are not currently supporting this much needed building project with your offerings, won’t you please prayerfully consider joining us in financially supporting this worth while building project?

MAYBE THIS SHOULD BE ONE OF YOUR NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS?

Thank you for your support

The Stewardship Ministry Team

# UPWARD BASKETBALL & CHEERLEADING

Get ready everyone-Upward is here! Our first game is January 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. We currently have 224 players and cheerleaders. Come out and join the fellowship. Try one of our famous hamburgers or hot dogs made by Oakdale's very own "Weeny Queenys" (Linda Davis & Marcia Walston) and team. Most of all, keep Upward in your prayers as the coaches minister to their players. Pray for all our volunteers to keep this ministry "Christ Centered". Thanks to all who make Upward possible and "To God be the Glory"

In Christ,

Aaron


Upward Director



## 2010 Upward Commisioners:

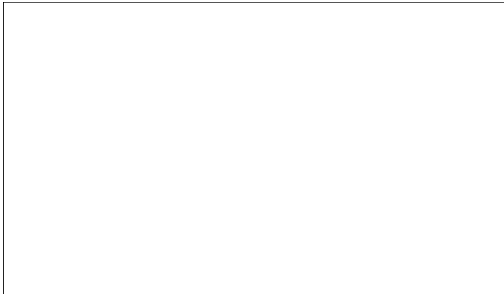
Dan Howell	Referee Commissioner
James Walston	Devotion Commissioner
Pat Jackson	Prayer Commissioner
Marcia Walston	Concessions Commissioner
Linda Ruffin	Scorekeeper Commissioner
Angie Ruffin	Clock Commissioner

# January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 January 10-February 7, 2010					1	2
<b>Youth Retreat (Gr. 9-12)</b>						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<i>Upward Practice</i>	7:00 PM <i>Church Council Meeting</i> <i>Upward Prac-</i>	7:00 PM <i>Regular Sched- ule</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	7:00 PM <i>Sunday School Planning Meet- ing</i> <i>Upward Practice</i>	<i>First Up- ward Game</i>  8:00 AM <i>J.O.Y. Breakfast</i>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<i>Power to Win</i>  3:30 PM <i>Deacons Meet- ing</i>	6:30 PM <i>Current Mission Group</i> 7:00 PM <i>Bible Study Group</i> 7:00 PM <i>Youth Minis- try Team</i> <i>Upward Practice</i>	10:00 AM <i>Prayer Group</i>  <i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	5:45 PM <i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	8:30 AM <i>Baptist Men</i>  <i>Upward Games</i>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<i>Power to Win</i>  6:00 PM <i>DiscipleLife</i>	7:30 PM <i>H.I.S. Group</i> <i>Upward Practice</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	7:00 PM <i>Regular Sched- ule</i>	6:30 PM <i>Childcare Ministry Team</i> <i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	<i>Upward Games</i>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<i>Power to Win</i> <i>Baptist Men's Sunday</i> 6:00 PM <i>DiscipleLife</i>	<i>Upward Practice</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	7:00 PM <i>Regular Sched- ule</i>	6:00 PM <i>J.O.Y. Covered Dish</i> <i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	<i>Upward Prac- tice</i>	<i>Upward Games</i>
31						
<i>Power to Win</i> <i>Building Dedication</i> 6:00 PM <i>DiscipleLife</i>				<b>NURSING HOME MINISTRY</b> 1/5 Brekenridge 10:30 AM 1/5 IHS Nursing Home 10:30 AM		

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DEACON BEACON—News from Deacon Ministry Team

A guiding light to the rock.

Jan. 2010 Deacons of the Month: Robert Chadwick, Mark Ream, Carroll Brown

**Running the Race of Faith**

Hebrews 12:1-3

The runners in a marathon must all follow a clearly marked course. Suppose one of the athletes decides to pick his own path. He keeps to the 26-mile race standard and sets his finish line in the same spot as the official one, but he runs through neighborhoods with fewer hills and across less crowded parks. His plan seems excellent to him, but when he crosses the finish line, there will be no medal or ribbon waiting.

What a silly thing for a person to do! Yet, believers fall into this very trap when they decide the course for their life instead of running the race God sets. By submitting to His will—doing what He says and going where He leads—we remain on the right path. But the moment we revert to our old habits and start making decisions based on our own wisdom, we go far afield.

For believers, the finish line is the same whether they run the race God's way or their own way—namely, heaven. However, the difference is what we have to show for all the energy expended getting there. No one wants to look back and say, "I didn't really accomplish anything of value." Regardless of how grand a legacy someone leaves, the only truly lasting and worthwhile deeds are those done for the Lord and in the power of His Spirit.

Thankfully, no matter how far off course we veer, the Holy Spirit is still present. He reminds us of the right path—as well as the power available to get back on it and persevere. Your route is set; your choice clear. Run the race set before you and finish well (Acts 20:24).