



# Oakdale Messenger

www.obcbaptist.org

January 2012

Oakdale,

It is hard to believe that the year is 2012. I hope you had a blessed Christmas! Terri and I look forward to getting to know each of you better in the days ahead. I am also excited about the future and direction of Oakdale Baptist Church.

These holiday seasons (Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Years) all bring celebrations that become family traditions. I recall often my family's traditions and these bring meaning and memories that I call the "good old days." I encouraged my daughter when first married to begin building traditions for her family. I did not want her to feel obligated to carry our traditions, but she needed to build new ones. This is the challenge a church faces with each changing generation. This can seem like a threat to the new in-laws or out-laws in a marriage, and also in a church. We must embrace a new way of seeing the world because the times they are changing! I invite you to join me in the Sunday services as we explore together the Word of God and His vision for Oakdale Baptist Church.

Dr. Larry Purcell

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

### 3.30 STUDENT MINISTRY

Happy New Year!

It has been an incredible year full of many blessings. We had so much fun over the summer with our summer Saturday's and Youth Camp. We started our first Student Worship service and even have our own new space. We have had movie nights and even an awesome Christmas party. God has been so good to us. I am looking forward to this new year and to where God will be taking us in the Student Ministry.

#### Wednesday Nights:

This year we will be continuing with Wednesday night Student Worship services.

#### Sundays:

We will have Sunday School starting at 9:45 am in the Student Worship Center every Sunday morning. This semester, please join us on Sunday nights in the sanctuary for Sunday night worship services. This will replace our DiscipleLife.

#### Upcoming Events:

Be on the lookout for information on this years summer camp, movie nights, and summer mission trip.

Remember to take some time in the beginning of this year to remember all the blessings, trials, and everything in between that God has graced us with this past year.

Pastor Nate

"He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30



Enroll your child today!

Applications are available in the church office.

See Jennifer for more details.

[children@obcbaptist.org](mailto:children@obcbaptist.org)

### Children's Corner

Jennifer Engelking, Director



Our children will not feel the warmth or see the shine of the sun everyday; but they **can** feel the Warmth and see the Shine of the SON for **all** of their days!

Is this your heart's desire? **Claim it in HIS Name!**

**Have our children ever thought? . . . .**

"It's impossible." **All things are possible. (Luke 18:27)** "Nobody really loves me." **I love you. (John 3:16 & John 13:34)** "I can't go on." **My grace is sufficient. (2 Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)** "I can't figure things out." **I will direct your steps. (Proverbs 3:5-6)** "I can't do it." **You can do all things! (Philippians 4:13)** "I'm not able." **I am able. (2 Corinthians 9:8)** "I can't forgive myself." **I forgive you. (2 John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)** "I'm afraid." **I have not given you a spirit of fear. (2 Timothy 1:7)** "I'm always worried and frustrated." **Cast all your cares on Me. (1 Peter 5:7)** "I don't have enough faith." **I've given everyone a measure of faith. (Romans 12:3)** "I'm not smart enough." **I give you wisdom. (1 Corinthians 1:30)** "I feel alone." **I will never leave you or forsake you. (Hebrews 13:5)**

Satan doesn't want our children to know the bold print above. He doesn't want them to have hope in Christ Jesus. He wants to cloud their minds with negativity, hopelessness, confusion, and despair. I say, "NO MORE!" Will you join me in praying these verses over our children as we begin 2012? **Our Lord has given us power over the enemy! Need reminding? Read:**

**2 Chronicles 7:14, Psalm 68:35, Proverbs 8:14, Matthew 21:21-22, Mark 9:29, James 5:16, 1 John 5: 4-5**



Thank you for attending the children's choir Christmas play. Thank you for showing your support to our church's future leaders. They will not soon forget!



The children enjoyed several days at Oakdale during their Christmas break. During their break, they visited Heritage Retirement Home where they presented their Christmas narrative, sang carols, and passed out goodies to the residents. They also visited Deans Farms in Wilson. They had a fun-filled morning! They enjoyed listening to a Christmas story, making an ornament, and taking a Christmas hayride. Thank you for attending the after-school children's Christmas program. Your attendance was greatly appreciated!

More than 100 baby items were collected at the children's "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" parties. Thank you for supporting the Rocky Mount Pregnancy Care Center. Just think... the baby item you donated may be used/worn by America's next Billy Graham, and because you followed Jesus' example in giving, you will have had an important role in that baby's life.

**To God be the Glory! I look forward to a wonderful new year in the children's ministry! I look forward to HIS Blessings being poured out upon Oakdale Baptist Church!**

# CHURCH MAILROOM



To our brothers and sisters at Oakdale,

Wayne and I wish to offer up thanks to each of you who have expressed your love and concern in so many ways during the passing of our mama...some say mother, mom, etc. We call her mama. You hugged us, loved on us, fed us, prayed for us, sent cards with messages of hope and love. You have made donations to the building fund and the Gideon's so that God's word has been and will be sent out in mama's name. You have cried and rejoiced with us. You were there.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. I want to say thank you for Sue and Theresa also. Mama loved them as her daughters and they loved her back.

My daddy, Smith Lassiter, has said so many times how he appreciates the love shared toward him by people he may or may not have ever even met. We feel such a humble honor, if there is such a thing, for having experienced the way you all "loved up on us" during this time. Our children appreciate this and have learned by watching you. Don't stop loving. Never cease praying. May God greatly bless you all as I believe you have glorified him in what you have done and that is why we exist as a church...GLORY TO GOD ON HIGH...do your works before men in a way that He might be glorified...MATT. 5:16.

Tony, Wayne, and all the Lassiter family

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Dear Oakdale Family,

I want to thank you all, from the bottom of my heart, for all that you have done for Shawn, the children, and myself during my recovery from back surgery. The meals that you prepared for us, the cards that you sent to cheer me, your visits and most of all your prayers were, and still are, so very much appreciated. We couldn't ask for a better family of people to be a part of. I love you all and I thank our Father for you every day just as Paul did when he wrote to all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi saying; *"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* (Phil. 1:3-6)

In Christ's Love,  
Susie Webb

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Words can't express the gratitude for your prayers, calls, cards and concern during my mother's illness and passing. A special thanks also for the food you brought and the meal you served my family. The Oakdale family is an awesome family and we are blessed to call it our own. Thank you, Linda Ruffin, Karen Murray and Susie Webb for allowing us to fulfill Helen's last wishes in song at her service. There is no doubt she was smiling upon us.

Thank you - Thomas and Kaye and families of Helen E. Bulluck (Walston)

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To each of you, my church family, for each time you thought of me, for each time you prayed for me, for your telephone calls & for your wonderful, cheery cards, thank you & thank you again! You all bless my heart & my life so much & I thank God for each of you. Love you all so very much!

Rochelle Clark

## Our Sympathy to:

Thomas Bulluck & Family in the passing of his mother,  
Helen Walston

Dear Oakdale family,

I would like to thank you for all the prayers, messages, and calls for my family during the loss of our nephew Ayden. We know God has a plan in this, and we may not know it, but we are trusting in Him right now! Thank you for the meal that was served after the memorial service for Ayden. It was very nice and my family really needed the time to be together after that. We have the best family at Oakdale and are so thankful God has put each and every one of you in our lives!

Love in Christ, David and Kim Wells & family

Dear Oakdale Family,

Thank you so much for the love and concern for me and Roy during these past few weeks. I am improving from the surgery. The Lord has been very kind and gracious to us these past few years. You as a church family have been very faithful to love on us during all these times. We appreciate the cards, phone calls, emails and random acts of kindness.

Thank you, carolers, for stopping by our house and singing to us. The music was beautiful and it was great to see each of you.

We are praying for you as you seek God's face and serve Him in the days to come.

Love,

Rosa and Roy Porter



## TREASURY REPORT NOVEMBER 2011

November 1, 2011

Balance	\$38,185.21
Receipts/Gen. Fund	\$22,626.50
Receipts/All Stars	\$ 2,309.00
Disbursements	<u>\$ 28,555.22</u>
	\$<3,619.72>

November 30, 2011 Balance \$35,279.93

Building Fund Balance \$4,077.84

**If 80 percent of the work gets done by 20 percent of the people, are you one of the 80 percent or the 20 percent?**



## 2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please pick up your box of offering envelopes from the front pew. These boxes can be a reminder to be faithful and obedient to the Lord's command. It is also an opportunity to teach your children the importance of tithing and to support the ministries of Oakdale Baptist Church. Using your envelope number will ensure you receive credit on your contribution statement.

# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

## SECURTIY FOR JANUARY

1/1 Kelly Holloman & Shawn Webb  
 1/8 Britt Medley & Wayne Walston  
 1/15 David Wells & Joe Williams  
 1/22 Deryl Lewis & Tim Engelking  
 1/29 Phil Wood & Stacey Nicholas

1/1 Mack Ruffin	1/16 Amanda Murray
1/2 Rachel Batts	1/16 James Sledge
1/4 Joella Webb	1/17 Velma Griffin
1/5 Joshua Calhoun	1/18 Ellen Ruffin
1/6 James Johnson	1/21 Emily Owens
1/6 Tammy Joyner	1/23 Angela Hill
1/6 Beverly Rhodes	1/23 Deryl Lewis
1/6 Becky Vester	1/23 James Walston
1/7 Kelly Bentley	1/24 Crystal Bell
1/7 Perry Jackson	1/24 Timothy Bell
1/7 Michael Pittman	1/24 Melissa Causey
1/8 Buie Holder	1/25 Tony Medley
1/9 Robert Van Scoik	1/26 Beverly Barnes
1/12 Maigon Joyner	1/26 Peggy Holloman
1/14 Marie Bell	1/28 Alex Batts
1/15 Susan Cobb	1/29 Mavis Bradshaw
1/15 William Smith	1/30 Lisa Manning
1/16 Heather Eason	1/30 Ruth Townsend
	1/31 Meghan Murray

## USHER TEAM FOR JANUARY

WAYNE LASSITER-HEAD USHER

BRUCE RHODES

SHAWN WEBB

BRENT GRIFFIN

STEVE STURGILL

## LIBRARY NEWS

Check out the following books that have been added to the Oakdale library cart: "There's A Lion Out There": An Introduction to Spiritual Warfare and "Hard Knocks": A Biblical Perspective on Brokenness. Both books are by Dr. Harold O'Chester, leader of the recent marriage conference held at Oakdale.



Angie Ruffin  
 Music Minister

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Christmas programs a success. I enjoyed each night - Dec. 4, Dec. 11, and Dec. 18. I believe each service had its own special nature of worship. Thanks also to all of you for the gracious gift you gave me. It is greatly appreciated.

**Newsflash!!** Children's choir will begin meeting at 6:15 on Wednesday nights starting January 11th. It will be for grades 2 - 5. We will be learning praise songs, traditional hymns, and music theory. We will also be looking at how music is used in the worship service. We will be presenting music from time to time in the evening worship service. I'm looking forward to this great new adventure.



## J.O.Y. GROUP NEWS

**January 14th**  
 Breakfast  
 8:00 AM

**January 26th**  
 Covered Dish  
 6:00 PM



# MISSIONS UPDATE



Local, National and International

## WMU News

Missions Extravaganza April 20 -22 @ Ridgecrest . The theme this year is Be Challenged...Prepared...Equipped based on Joshua 3:5. Phyllis Elvington will be leading General Session Bible Study, Bud & Barbara Lee will lead worship through music. Registration is now open – see Kim Wells for more information if you are interested in going.

GA's will start the GA Journey in January with Karen Murray.

Thank you all for supporting our Lottie Moon Christmas offering this year! We raised \$3,710.00

A special thank you to Karen Murray & Sue Lassiter for helping so much with Lottie Moon mail bags this month when I couldn't do it!

Praying you all have a great New Year & a wonderful 2012!

Love in Christ,  
Kim Wells

## BAPTIST MEN

Dear Faithful,

What a wonderful time of year! It is such a humbling thought to know that the King of Glory came to this earth to live and die for us. I have truly felt His Spirit at Oakdale this season through the work that has been done to His glory in our church. God has and He always will be faithful to us but are we to Him? I am reminded of the old hymn, "I am satisfied with Jesus. He has done so much for me. But the question comes to me as I think of Calvary. Is my master satisfied with me?" Please be in prayer for our Baptists men and seek ways that you may aid us in our service to the Lord. I urge all the men of our church to contact me and see where they might be used. There are so many opportunities to show God's love to our neighbors that we are missing the boat on because we do not have enough volunteers.

Thank you to all our men who have given of themselves through security service, RAs, or handyman work. I especially thank their families that sacrifice their time with these men and allow them to serve.

Merry Christmas to you all.

In His Service,  
Tim Hollifield



## HONDURAS MISSION UPDATE

The fruit arrived and probably has already been consumed by now. A special thanks to James and Marcia Walston, Bobby Brown, Jeremy Holloman and Thomas Bulluck for coming to my rescue and helping unload that truck and organize the delivery. This was a big success for us. This would not have been possible without the full support of the Oakdale family.

With the assistance of Honduras Team 1 and Team 2 our spaghetti supper was a success as well. It was a special occasion to have Mike and Ginger Greene, our missionaries from Honduras, join us. They also shared their experiences in Honduras and the lives touched by the teams like Oakdale bring. Please continue to pray for their work in Honduras.

**Oakdale Team 2 is growing - to God be the glory!** We now have 8 members who are committed to go. Kaye Bulluck, Thomas Bulluck, Dan Howell, Matt Sledge, Nate Mace, Caroline Pilgreen, Kelly Holloman and Britt Medley. There is still room for several more and we know God is dealing with the hearts of these individuals. Please continue to pray as the team members work out the financial aspects of this endeavor and seek to do His will.

Please continue to support Missions and pray for our team and Church.



## Missions Involvement

For the month of January, we will be collecting toothbrushes, tubes of toothpaste, wash cloths and bars of soap to put together hygiene kits for the people of Honduras. We will also be needing quart and gallon sized bags to put these in. All items will need to be placed in the missions box for our RA's & GA's to assemble at the end of the month.

**Give now & help those in need.**



## “Steppin’ Up, Divin’ In, and Reachin’ Out”

### 3 Objectives of Sunday School:

- Reach people for Christ and church membership
- Teach people God’s Word
- Minister to People’s Needs

A Sunday School class can be organized by the following in each class:

- **Class Administrator** – Coordinate the work of the class to assure accomplishment of the class objectives
- **Class Secretary** – Provide Ministry support through records maintenance
- **Teacher** – Teach God’s Word
- **Assistant Teacher** - Teach God’s Word
- **Outreach Leader** – Reach people for Bible Study
- **Care Group Leader** – Minister up to 5 People’s Needs

Ask your teacher or class administrator for more about these practical ministry roles that will empower you to fulfill the Great Commission, apply what you learn in Sunday School, and help care for your Sunday School classmates and new guests.

Arrive at 9:30am or earlier on Sunday and spend some time in fellowship with others before great Bible study starts.

FOR HIM,

Mark Ream, Sunday School Director



## UPWARD NEWS

Upward Basketball & Cheerleading is here among us. Practices resume on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our 1<sup>st</sup> game will be Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. We have 196 participants, a few more than last year-Praise God! Come out to watch the children play and encourage them, and come out for some great food also. Please pray for our coaches, referees, devotional speakers, and all volunteers. Help us share the love of Jesus Christ with EVERYONE. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, let me know or see a commissioner. Upward Sports is a world-wide ministry and we’re all in this together. Thanks to Oakdale for your support over the years (12). All honor & glory to Jesus Christ.

### Commissioners

**Prayer**-Bert Peele & May Howell

**Devotions**-James Walston

**Referee**-Dan Howell

**Score Table**-Linda Ruffin

**Clock**-Angie Ruffin

**Concessions**-Marcia Walston, Linda Davis, Ann Rhodes

Aaron Rhodes  
Upward Minister

Anyone interested in helping with score keeping at Upward, Please contact Linda Ruffin at 442-1400 or 904-5265, or Elaine Harris at 972-6750.

# January 2012

EVERY SUNDAY: SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM EVENING WORSHIP 6:00 PM

Upward Practices every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 <i>New Year's Day</i></p> <p><i>No Evening Activities</i></p>	<p>2 <i>Church Office Closed &amp; No After-School All-Stars</i></p>	<p>3 7-9:00 PM <i>Women's Bible Study Group</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p><i>Regular Schedule</i></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 <i>First Upward Games</i></p>
		COLLEGE	AGE	CONFERENCE		
<p>8</p> <p><i>7:00 PM Deacons</i></p>	<p>9 6:30 PM <i>WMU Current Mission Group</i></p> <p><i>7:00 PM WMU Bible Study Group</i></p> <p><i>7:00 PM Honduras Team</i></p>	<p>10 10:00 AM <i>WMU Prayer Group</i></p> <p><b>6:00 PM Stuart Davis Class</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Party</b></p> <p><i>7:00 PM-9:00 PM Women's Bible Study Group</i></p> <p><b>7:00 PM Children's Ministry Team</b></p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>7:00 PM Regular Schedule</i></p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 8:00 AM <i>JOY Group Breakfast</i></p> <p><i>Upward Games</i></p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>7:00 PM Constitution &amp; By-Laws</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p><i>7:00 PM-9:00 PM Women's Bible Study Group</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p><i>7:00 PM Regular Schedule</i></p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 <i>Upward Games</i></p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>7:00 PM-9:00 PM Women's Bible Study Group</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>7:00 PM Regular Schedule</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p><i>6:00 PM JOY Group Covered Dish</i></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 <i>Upward Games</i></p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>7:00 PM-9:00 PM Women's Bible Study Group</i></p>				
				<p><b>NURSING HOME MINISTRY</b></p> <p>1/3 Brekenridge 10:30 AM</p> <p>1/4 Somerset 10:00 AM</p> <p>1/6 The Albemarle 10:30 AM</p>		

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**Oakdale Staff**  
  
**Interim Senior Pastor: Dr. Larry Purcell**  
**Youth/Associate Pastor: Rev. Nate Mace**  
**Children's Minister: Mrs. Jennifer Engelking**  
**Music Minister: Ms. Angie Ruffin**  
**Upward Director: Mr. Aaron Rhodes**  
**Secretary: Mrs. Sharon Lynch**



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

Oakdale Family,

We have just had an incredible season of celebrating the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ! Oh what a Gift! It is completely unimaginable for me to think that the King of Glory would come to this place that we call Earth and leave the majesty of Heaven! Oh what a Friend! It completely blows my mind to think...not only did He come, but He knew that a brutal, gruesome, axe chiseled tree awaited Him in the form of a Roman cross! Oh what a Savior!

Our very best in life often times gives us reason to boast, maybe not vocally or outwardly, but we find ourselves relishing in our accomplishments...but our best still cannot save us! God calls us through His Sons example to humble ourselves and become servants....Christ did something for you that no one else could do, He came "to seek that which was lost" and to serve as a "slave, ...even to death on a cross". Most of us will never be asked to die for someone else, but will we at least serve, by His example? There are people all around us that are going to die and spend an eternity in Hell unless we serve... We are His hands, we are His feet... Oakdale, will you go? Or, will we let them go to Hell!

Please pray daily for our Mission team preparing to go to Honduras...many will stay behind and 'hold the rope' as the team 'goes into the hole'. Pray that hearts are being prepared for our team's return to the mission field in Honduras. Pray that their labor will bring honor and glory to the Lord.

Pray for the mission field of Upward basketball...the field is ready for the harvest, please show up to be a part of the ministry. Saturdays in January are an incredible opportunity to share the love of Jesus with those who may never see Him any other way.

We are so encouraged to have Dr. Larry Purcell coming to be our Intentional Interim Pastor. Dr. Purcell has already been an encouragement to many of us and we look forward to his leadership in the weeks and months to come. Please pray for Dr. Purcell and his wife Terri as they minister according to God's purpose for their lives.

Oakdale, your deacons thank you for your prayers and words of encouragement in the past several weeks. We are praying for God's will to be at the forefront of everything that we do in the days and weeks to come and desire to serve His church through the deacon ministry. Please contact the deacon of the week, or any deacon for that matter, if we can ever be of service to you.

In His Service,  
Tim