

www.Oakhallbc.org  
Info@oakhallbc.org

1877 Old Hanover Rd.  
Sandston, VA 23150  
(804) 737-5812



Planted. Reaching. Growing.

**DECEMBER  
2017**

*Missio Dei*

**Your Advantage**

“I tell you the truth: it is to **your advantage** that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you” John 16:7

Advent means “the coming or arrival” of God. During this Advent season, we often reflect, as we should, upon how God humbly came to earth as a homeless refugee and was placed in an animal’s feeding trough. But during his earthly ministry, Jesus often spoke of his departure. I tend to think that believers have a “preference” when it comes to the Godhead.

Jesus declared that it would be to our advantage for him to leave. Even though Jesus restored sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf, healed myriads of sick, cast out demons, and fed thousands of homeless and hungry—he said that it is to **our advantage** that He go away.

Many of us would rather have Jesus instead of the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit’s role is imperative. The Spirit’s presence has three primary functions of conviction: of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

**Sin:** To have a relationship with Christ our eyes must be opened to the reality of our sin—without this vital ability, we cannot confess our rebellion against God. Jesus declares that the “Spirit of truth comes” (Jn. 16:13) to “convict the world of sin” (16.8). Conviction is beautiful. I’ve learned over the years to adore conviction because it leads, guides, and molds me into the example of Christ. The Gospel is not about making a better version of me—the Gospel is about transforming me to be like Christ (Eph. 5.1).

**Righteousness:** After conversion, the Holy Spirit’s work in sanctification is key. Sanctification means to be set apart as holy. Righteousness comes from Christ, it is accredited to us—given to us—by Christ (2 Cor. 5:21). But righteous living is based on loving Christ. The “Helper” guides us and directs us into king the right choices, to exalt Christ (16.14) and teaches us about the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit leads us and guides us in our sanctification—a continual process until Christ returns.

**Judgment:** Jesus stated the Holy Spirit convicts in judgment because “the ruler of this world is judged” (Jn. 16:11). When Jesus was crucified, conquering death and sin, a verdict was made—the sin of the world was judged. People don’t like judgment—neither does the evil one. The Spirit condemns evil, allowing the believer to follow good. Without the Holy Spirit leading us and guiding us away from evil, convicting our hearts, and teaching us about the Father and Son, we would have an extremely difficult time in our transformation and sanctification. But, knowing this, Jesus went to be with the Father and sent the Spirit, the Helper—thanks be to God! Therefore, embrace the Spirit’s prodding—listen for His voice.

~ *Missio Dei* ~ Pastor Matt

*His servant and yours!*



**Your Church Staff—Matt, Jackie, and Agnes wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!**

## MINISTRY UPDATES/REPORTS

### DEACON OF THE MONTH

David Perez      405-0697

### COMMUNITY DINNER

Monday: December 12, 2017, 6:30pm

Menu: Goulash  
Salad  
Bread  
Dessert

Can you help? If so, please contact  
Brenda Bass and Cindy Massengale.



PEACE  
IS NOT THE  
ABSENCE  
OF TROUBLE,  
BUT THE  
PRESENCE OF  
CHRIST.

—SHEILA WALSH

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance 11/19/2017

General	\$61,160.73
Church Planting	587.78
Missions	6,868.35

### *Notes from Agnes*

#### MUSIC Coming in DECEMBER!!!!

I could begin—and usually do—start listening to Christmas music in June! I just love it! Well, here are two opportunities for you to join in some fun and uplifting Christmas music.

#### DECEMBER 10—4:30—6:30pm

Our children will participate in a cute play. You will not want to miss them!

We will then enjoy some Christmas Cookies and punch, thanks to our Social Committee.

To close out the program, we will have folks participating with singing, playing instruments, etc. We can even have a time of Christmas carol requests from the audience.

If you would like to participate in any way, please let me know.

#### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

DECEMBER 17-2:00pm

Come join us in bringing a little bit of cheer to some of our homebound church friends and family. It is a lot of fun and quite a blessing to see the smiles on their faces.



## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION NEWS

### NEXT MEETING

The **Carolyn Grubbs Circle Group** will be meeting on Tuesday, **December 12th** at the home of Brenda Powell at 11:00. Please don't miss this meeting. Brenda will be providing us with a Christmas luncheon. Kym has the program. Also, bring a gift if you will be participating in the gift exchange.

### Mission Opportunities in November:

The final count for the **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** was **109**. Thank you to everyone who made the event a huge success and thanks to Bill and Agnes for delivering all the shoeboxes.

We **assisted a family in the Highland Springs area with their Thanksgiving meal.** Thank you to Cindy Massengale for making the delivery and also to all of her customers who helped with a canned food donation.

Our circle group assisted the OAK Sewing group with sorting and packing items for **Standing Rock Indian Reservation**. The items included hats, scarves, stuffed animals, school supplies, bookmarks, toys, blankets, hair accessories, toiletry items, purses, etc.

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions** will be our focus during the month of December. Lottie Moon was a dedicated missionary serving in China. Her health was compromised while serving without a break for 11 years, working so hard and giving away a great deal of her own food to others. She passed away from malnutrition on a boat returning home on Christmas Eve. **100% of funds raised** for the LMC Offering goes directly to the field to help missionaries share the love of the Lord. You will find offering envelopes in your bulletin.

**The Lottie Moon Post Office will be open November 26<sup>th</sup> through December 24<sup>th</sup>.** The cost per Christmas card is 25 cent. Just think, you are saving money and donating to missions all at the same time! Please remember to address cards **ONLY** to *active members and friends listed in the church directory*. Place funds in the collection container and place your cards in alphabetical order on the tables in the foyer. Please remember to pick up the Christmas cards that are addressed to you and enjoy.



Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering

**OAK HALL BAPTIST GOAL:**

**\$1,000.00**

**F. I. S. H.**

**Item for donation for month of December:**

**Spaghetti Sauce**

## MINISTRY UPDATES AND NEWS

### LIBRARY REPORT

#### **Merry Christmas!**

Once again, we wonder how time has passed us by since it is now the start of Advent season- what has happened in the previous months to get here so quickly.

As we glimpsed in Church Sunday, Christmas traditions have already taken place like trimming the tree with Christmons; plans are made for Children's programs; Caroling, and the Christmas Eve Service.

During this busy time of year, visit YOUR Church Library to choose a real book about the birth of Jesus or a story regarding a related subject. The library is located in the fellowship hall and is always available to you. The library committee members are Jackie Adams, Joyce Shaw, Sue Dean, Brenda Horton- glad to help in any way.

**Happy Birthday BABY JESUS !**

### LOVING LIBERIA

#### ***Prayer Request for November:***

**There are lots of people in Liberia who do not know about a holiday called "Christmas". If they do, they do not know about the 'real reason for the season'".**

**Pray that missionaries and local Christians can be bold in witnessing to others about the true meaning of Christmas.**

**This can also be a depressing time for missionaries a long way from home and family. Father, give them a special holiday this year. Help them to feel our prayers for them and are able to celebrate with other missionaries and Christian nationals.**



### OAK SEWING GROUP

The next OAK meeting will be December 19 at 9:30am. We will have a potluck lunch and enjoy some time of fellowship.

Our ladies have worked hard this year on several special mission opportunities. We will continue in December to complete throw size blankets for VCU's ICU.

In November, we completed, packed and delivered quite a number of items made by OAK (475) and items donated by our church family (202). These were all donated to Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

#### **We have been blessed this past month by 3 major donations:**

Approximately 600 Linen Napkins that will be made into baby bonnets (Thank you Brenda and Charlie Bass)

Large roll of quilt batting (Thank you to new member, Sheryl Bankston.)

Monetary donation to be used for any supplies we need. (Thank you Willie & Lloyd Hobson)

We look forward to 2018 and the opportunities to continue to minister in Jesus' name, to those in need.

Thank you for your support and we ask you to continue to pray for us that we may know items needed and opportunities to share.



## DECEMBER AT OAK HALL



**DECEMBER 9 -SANTA BREAKFAST—9:00 a.m.**  
Food, Games, Crafts, Christmas Story and time with Santa



**December 10—4:30pm Children's Christmas Program and Christmas Music Fellowship**

**Children portraying the first Christmas  
Cookies and Punch  
Christmas Sing-a-long**



**December 11—FREE COMMUNITY DINNER—6:30pm**

**Goulash, Salad, Bread, Dessert**



**December 17—CHRISTMAS CAROLING-  
2:00pm**

**Meet at church and car pool**



**December 24—CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE  
SERVICE—5:00pm**

# CHILDREN'S Ministries



## NURSERY

December 3	Jennifer Mitchell & Amanda Chitty
December 10	Tiffany Hertel & Cathy Barbee
December 17	Brenda Powell & Gary Massengale
December 24	Julia Fretwell & Keith Deane
December 31	Charles Powell & Hannah Seal



Brenda Powell	1
Margaret Jenkins	2
Adam Rhodes	2
Freddie Lyle	4
Kim Jeter	9
Cathy Barbee	11
Brenda Durham	11
Dane Grosz	11
Shelby Hardman	12
Dreama Lyle	13
Leah Seal	13
Haden Hertel	14
John Biange	15
Brandi Price	15
Jenny Brizendine	17
Dakoata Mayer	18
Misty Baynes	24
Holli Perez	24
Wendy Bangs	30
Skyler Lawton	31

## Children's Church



December 3	Kym Loyall
December 10	Holli and David Perez
December 17	Holli and David Perez
December 26	Holli and David Perez
December 31	Holli and David Perez



## Children's Mission Sunday

December

Children will be making Christmas presents for our shut-ins.

# Happy Birthday JESUS!



# December 2017

	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering For Int'l Missions December 3-10					1 Praise Team 6:30pm	2 Fellowship Hall Reserved 10-4
3		4 Deacon's Mtg. 7:00	5	6 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 Church Council 6:30	7 Sanctuary Reserved	8 Praise Team 6:30pm	9 Santa Breakfast 9:00am
10	Children's Christmas Program & Carol Sing 4:30pm	11 Community Dinner 6:30pm	12 WMU at Brenda Powell's 11:00am	13 Ladies Bible Study 10:00 Business Mtg. 7:00	14	15 Praise Team 6:30pm	16
17	Christmas Caroling 2:00pm	18	19 OAK Sewing 9:30	20 Ladies Bible Study 10:00	21	22 Praise Team 6:30pm	23
24	Morning Worship 10:30m Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26	27 Ladies Bible Study 10:00	28	29 NO Praise Team	30
31	New Year's Eve						