



**OAK GROVE BAPTIST NEWSLETTER**  
**Sponsored by the Women’s Ministry**  
**October 2011**

**PASTOR’S CORNER**

**Rev. A. L. Downing**

What a powerful, blessed and anointed service we had on this past Sunday! The Choirs did a marvelous job. They sung with jubilation as the anointing of God was on them and it could be felt by all who was present. Then we rejoiced as SEVEN came to be united with us at Oak Grove. The Lord is doing marvelous things at Oak Grove and in front of our eyes. We had an anointed and on-time word from the Lord. But, still the BEST is yet to come, praise God!!

I want thank you for traveling to my hometown in Plymouth, NC. It really made me feel good to return home and not be alone. You came in great numbers and made a mark that will not be erased. The dance team and the M.I.M.E. did a superb job and they ministered in song and dance. Also, thanks to Rev Jones, Rev Goodwin and all who remained behind to carry on the services...thanks so much. I pray that you enjoyed yourself and look forward to going again, should they call and I accept.

OGBC you are precious in the eyes of the Lord and He wants nothing but the BEST for you. So, don’t allow the enemy to stop you from “Possessing Your Inheritance”, or reaching your destiny. I was reading from Acts for my devotion one day and the Lord

spoke to me about a scripture I want to share with you.

“While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, Lord Jesus received my spirit.” Then he fell on his KNEES and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep” (meaning he died). (Acts 7:59-60 NIV). Also, “Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” (Luke 23:34a NIV). The Lord asked me what was Stephen doing while they were stoning him....praying . And what was Jesus doing while they were crucifying Him...praying. Take this for yourself and Oak Grove, whenever, you feel like you’re being stone, persecuted or crucified, on your job or family or wherever, pray for them for they don’t know what they’re doing. He also let me know they received it physically so we ought to be able to endure it spiritually. Pray for them and don’t let that stop you or block you from receiving your inheritance from the Lord.

Don’t forget, October 30, at 4:00pm is Minister Martin’s ordination ceremony. Let’s come out and witness and celebrate with her this anointed occasion.

In October the A.L. Downing Ministries will host another Word Explosion at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center from October 13-15. The schedule is as follows:

- October 13, Thursday
- 7:00pm.....Kenneth Copeland
- October 14, Friday
- 9:00am.....Chaplain A.L. Downing
- October 14, Friday
- 10:00am.....Pastor Bill Winston
- October 14, Friday
- 7:00pm.....Kenneth Copeland

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October 15, Saturday  
9:00am.....Pastor Bill Winston  
October 15, Saturday  
10:00am.....Kenneth Copeland

Inza and I sincerely thank you and we're  
praying for you as you pray for us.  
REMEMBER, you are destined for GREAT  
things and Jesus is LORD!!!



*HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

Sis. Terry Davis 1  
Sis. Deborah Randolph 1  
Bro. Shaun Ball 2  
Sis. Barbara Harris 2  
Sis. Tiffany Holman 3  
Sis. Lisa Allen 3  
Sis. Ruby Williams 3  
Sis. Annette McCollum 3  
Sis. Sandra Billups 4  
Sis. Sonja Anderson 4  
Bro. Marlus Mitchell 4  
Bro. Stephen Banks 5  
Bro. Donnie Blanding, Jr. 5  
Bro. Joseph Guider 7  
Bro. Brian Hudson 8  
Bro. LLOYD Thomas 8  
Sis. Lillian Starks 10  
Bro. Roger Carr, Sr. 11  
Sis. Jacqueline Benjamin 11

Sis. Sade' Scott 12  
Bro. Eric LLOYD, Jr. 13  
Sis. Ashley Baylor 14  
Bro. Maurice Houston 14  
Sis. Demetria Hudson 15  
Sis. Lois Denson 16  
Min. Angelia Gibbs 17  
Sis. Geraldine Harris 18  
Bro. David Hammond 18  
Bro. Vernon Dean 18  
Sis. Shawntelle Hudson 18  
Sis. Karen Thomas 19  
Sis. Laura Lyles 19  
Sis. Wyvette Sutton 19  
Bro. Russell Davis 20  
Bro. Joel Guider 20  
Sis. Joretta Guider 21  
Sis. LaTiashia Hayes 21  
Sis. Myra Bull 22  
Bro. Darius Custard 22  
Sis. Zana Bradley 22  
Sis. Tiffany Jones 22  
Bro. Devon Milhouse 24  
Bro. Antonio Maxwell-Brown 28  
Bro. Justin Hudson 28  
Bro. Raymond Toarley 28  
Sis. Dianne Jennings 29  
Sis. Kwantwella Dreher 29  
Bro. Darius Anderson 29  
Sis. Sadie Lemons 30  
Sis. Tarsha Harrison 31

**Happy Anniversary** to all who were married in the month of October.

Brother and Sister Anthony Fredrick Oct 3

To add birthdays or anniversaries, give a note to Rev. Ball.

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### **We Must Forgive by Bishop A. Jones**

Did you know that forgiveness is something God requires of every Believer? To be a Christian but holds aught and unforgiveness in your heart toward anyone is in direct opposition to the Gospel message. Every day we have opportunities to yield to the spirit of unforgiveness and opportunities to walk in love. When we make a decision to choose God's way of handling difficult people and situations, we choose the love route. In doing so, we keep ourselves in a position where we are able to receive forgiveness from the Father.

The issue of forgiving others is critical when discussing the Christian life. Many Believers have deeply rooted bitterness in their hearts springing from an offense that was committed against them. Many times, it is something that happened long ago and they are still harboring it deep within.

Unforgiveness and bitterness are like spiritual poison. When we don't forgive others, we actually destroy ourselves on an emotional and spiritual level. Also, we put ourselves in danger of receiving God's judgment because He commands us to walk in love and forgive others.

In Matthew 18:21, 22, the Apostle Peter asks Jesus an interesting question. He says, "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?" Peter was being facetious in his line of questioning about forgiveness, and Jesus gave him an answer I am sure He wasn't

expecting: "Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven." Can you imagine forgiving someone who has wronged you 490 times a day? Some of us have a hard time releasing an offense and forgiving someone once, let alone 490 times.

However, the point Jesus was driving home was that we must be willing to forgive instantly, automatically, and as many times as necessary.

There is so much hinging on our decision to forgive, including God's willingness to forgive us. There are three daily necessities of every Christian: time spent in the Word of God, God's forgiveness, and His protection. We need these things every day! That's why we are to pray Matthew 6:11-13 daily, "**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.**"

**I don't know about you, but I need God's forgiveness every day of my life.** None of us is perfect, and we all need continual cleansing from sin, in its many forms. When we hold unforgiveness toward others, we are preventing God from releasing His forgiveness toward us, and put ourselves in danger of even going to hell when we die—because without God's forgiveness, we are doomed. We simply must forgive. When we embrace forgiveness instead of offense, **we open the door for God's continual blessings to flow into our lives.** Choose to forgive today! No matter what someone has done to you – I have made up in my heart to forgive. **Be sure to stop by our prayer request line to help you be victorious in every area of your life!**

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## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

An Obituary printed in the London Times - Interesting and sadly rather true..

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair; and
- Maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death, by his parents, Truth and Trust, by his wife, Discretion, by his daughter, Responsibility, and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers;

I Know My Rights

I Want It Now

Someone Else Is To Blame

I'm A Victim

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

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## **FALL CARNIVAL**

Mark your calendar for a day of fun and fellowship 10/29/11 at 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Some events include horse rides, bingo, cake walk, trivia, door prizes, candy apples hay rides. Fun for everyone! For suggestions or booth questions please contact any committee members. Committee members are Bro. Stamper, Sis. Stamper, Dea. Blanding, Bro Hudson, Sis. Gripper, Sis. Frasier, Sis. Holmes, Bro. Guider, and Dea. Levy.

**To Our Singles and Teens:**

**'A woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a man should have to seek Him first to find her.'**

**TO OUR YOUTH:**

*If you are in need, are you willing to ask others for help?*

Everyone has times in his or her life when he or she needs help. No one can live a completely independent life. But many of us try to live our lives as if we are independent. When we reach a point where we need someone's help, we sometimes find it difficult to reach out for help. Why is this: Is it pride? Or a fear of showing our weakness? The truth is we all have weaknesses, and they are nothing to be ashamed of. Instead of hiding weakness, we should reach out for help and hope that a brother's or sister's strength can help us.

“And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's **keeper?**” Genesis 2:9

Don't fail to ask for help with school lessons if you need it.

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**SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH**

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” 1 Corinthians 2:9

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**There will be no Joy Night Service in October.. The next Joy Night will be in January 2012.**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Breast Cancer walk and Banquet**

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> 8:30 am and 4:00 pm

**Big Give** (donation of food to the needy )

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 12-2 pm

**Church Meeting** Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**Healing Service** Oct 28<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm

**Men's Day** Oct 23, 3:00 p.m.

**Fall Carnival** Oct 29, TBA our alternative to Trick or Treat

**Ordination for Minister Martin** Oct 30 at 4:00 pm

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O.G.B.C. Parents,  
Reminder: Youth Conference October 8, 2011 9a.m. - 12 p.m.  
9:00 - 9:20 Praise and Worship  
9:30 - 10:20 Elementary - The Treasure Within - Rev. Ball  
Middle & High School - Prevention & Teen Pregnancy Adult -Abigail Rogers  
10:30 - 11:30 Chief Randy Scott  
11:30 - 12:30 Lunch

**WE MUST NOT ALLOW THE WORLD TO EDUCATE OUR YOUTH !!!**

**Please contact me if you have any questions**

*Be Bless,  
Sherrie Burroughs-Poole*