



**OAK GROVE BAPTIST
NEWSLETTER
Sponsored by the Women's Ministry
September 2011**

**PASTOR'S CORNER
Rev. Albert Downing**

**Greeting in the name of our lord and
Savior Jesus the Christ!!!**

We are seeing the Lord do great and awesome things at Oak Grove! We had powerful and anointed testimonies from Sis Allen as she talked about her husband being in a coma, but how God brought him out! And we saw him sitting in church. We had the powerful testimony from Sister Denson, as she talked about her husband and how the doctors were considering pulling the plug on his life. But, thanks God she was praying for him. He walked into church and shared his testimony. Both of them are alive because of Oak Grove and others interceding to God with prayers on their behalf. We have others with powerful testimonies, but I wanted to share those two so you can see the mighty miracles God is doing in our midst.

The next few months will be just as busy and exciting. We are preparing to travel to Udenominational Revival Center, Plymouth, NC (the church is in Roper) for their Family and Friends Day. We will depart from Oak Grove on September 10 at 6:00am. I'm looking forward them seeing Oak Grove and hearing the choir and the mime team. I'm looking for an anointed and

rich experience in the Lord on that Sunday, September 11th. We should be back in Columbia, SC by 7:00pm. Then in October there's the Word Explosion Conference at the Convention Center (October 13-15) with Kenneth Copeland, Pastor Bill Winston and myself (A.L. Downing). In November we be looking at having our one day single's retreat in Charleston, SC and in December, our Christmas Dinner. So, we still have a lot to do, but it's exciting and very rewarding.

However, I realize that there are a lot of people going through a lot of things and having some very difficult and challenging times. As I'm typing this letter the Lord has given me these scriptures for you:

"He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth (Psalms 46:10).

"Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again (Exodus 14:13).

Therefore, wherever you feel anxious or you feel like you're at your "red sea" stand still, be still and know that God is there for and with you.

"Throughout the week I want you to read and meditate on those verses, especially when you are confronted with challenges. And watch the Lord move in your life and on your behalf.

**Oak Grove, "YOU ARE BLESSED AND
HIGHLY FAVORED OF THE LORD"!!**

Inza and I love you and are praying for you.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sis. Angela M. Scott	1
Bro. Aaron Lyles	5
Sis. Annie Stewart	5
Bro. James McPhall	8
Bro. Shawn Jones	9
Bro. Ronnie Branch	10
Bro. Reginald Allen	10
Sis. Mamie McCoy	10
Sis. Rosa Samuel	12
Sis. Inza Downing	12
Sis. Priscilla Bush	15
Sis. Erica Gray	15
Sis. Courtney Stewart	15
Bro. Kenneth Blanding	17
Bro. Vincent Herbert	18
Bro. Robert Dinkins Jr.	20
Bro. William Hipps	20
Sis. April Stewart	21
Sis. Loutha Bostick	22
Rev. Willie J. Thompson	22
Sis. Terrica Randolph Norman	22
Sis. Clarissa Benson	23
Sis. Loretta Goodwin	23
Sis. Juanita Stewart	23
Sis. Linda Faye Dollar	25
Sis. Sherry Gibbs	27
Sis. Wanda Herbert	30
Sis. Annie Scott	30
Sis. Tianna Randolph	31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bro. & Sis. Lindsey Ross	18th
Bro. & Sis. George Denson	21 th
Bro. & Sis. Nelson Jones	23 nd

Welcome to all our new members. If you would like your birthday or anniversary to appear in the Newsletter, please write it on a sheet of paper and pass it to Rev. Ball

If there is something you would like places in the Newsletter let Rev. Ball know.

God's Wings

After a forest fire in Yellowstone National Park , forest rangers began their trek up a mountain to assess the inferno's damage. One ranger found a bird literally petrified in ashes, perched statuesquely on the ground at the base of a tree. Somewhat sickened by the eerie sight, he knocked over the bird with a stick. When he gently struck it, three tiny chicks scurried from under their dead mother's wings. The loving mother, keenly aware of impending disaster, had carried her offspring to the base of the tree and had gathered them under her wings, instinctively knowing that the toxic smoke would rise. She could have flown to safety but had refused to abandon her babies. Then the blaze had arrived and the heat had scorched her small body, the mother had remained steadfast...because she had been willing to die, so those under the cover of her wings would live.

'He will cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you will find refuge.'
(Psalm 91:4)

TO OUR YOUTH

LET GOD DEFINE YOU

By Rick Warren

“Jesus spoke to the people once more and said, “I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life.” John 8:12 NLT

Jesus faced constant demands, dangerous opposition and little privacy. Yet he never allowed others to define him.

What does that teach us?

Know who you are (John 8:12)- There was no doubt in Jesus’ mind as to who he was. He knew he came from God, and he knew he had a unique mission to fulfill. As believers, we can know we belong to God and that God defines who we are and what we are meant to do on this earth. Trying to be someone God never intended you to be causes stress!

Know whom you want to please

(John 5:30) - Jesus never let the fear of rejection manipulate him. No one can pressure you without your permission. You can’t please everyone; even God can’t!

Know what goals you need to reach

(John 8:14) – Jesus said, “I know where I came from and where I am going.” Preparation prevents pressure, but procrastination produces it. You work by either priorities or pressures.

Know how to maintain your priorities

(Luke 4:42-44) – Jesus knew how to handle interruptions without being distracted from his primary goal.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE

4TH Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Breast Cancer Walk Oct 1, downtown, registration on going now deadline Sept 12th
See Rev. Ball

OGBC Breast Cancer Banquet Oct 1 (TBA)

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, “Because I bore *him* in pain.” And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep *me* from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested. 1 Chronicles 4:9-10

Review of August 2011

August 6th we had a first that will become an annual event. The Women’s Ministry hosted a Rainbow Tea. There were 6 colors of the rainbow and white teams. Each team invited guess who wore the team colors. Research was done on the biblical meaning of the colors and these meanings were presented at the tea along with a candle lighting ceremony. The praise and worship was truly anointed. The food was colorful and tasty. The event was well attended. The Tea was more than we imagined, isn’t that the way God work.

We welcome you articles and other input.