



JULY 2020 CHALLENGER

OAKGROVEBC.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/OAKGROVEBAPTISTCHURCH. GRAY. TN

CONTACT

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Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday 9AM-2PM

STAFF

Pastor
Sherrel Nave

Minister of Music
Jonathan Casteel

Minister of Students
Joe Baker

Director of Children's Ministry
Tonya Coleman

Financial Secretary/Custodian
Tammy Yarber

Ministry Assistant
Pam Parker

SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

"Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD *are* upon the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their cry. The face of the LORD *is* against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth."

~Psalm 34:14-16

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SHERREL

Dear Oak Grove Family,

I greet you all in the loving and merciful name of Jesus Christ. I hope everyone is well and healthy. I have been very pleased with how well our regathering process has gone. I want to thank you for your patience and understanding as we seek to navigate this new and awkward reality. Things will get easier as we go along and hopefully, we can resume our full schedule soon. I would also like to thank everyone for their faithful and generous financial giving. It has been such a blessing to all of the staff, and I know that God will reward you richly for your sacrifice.

The July schedule will continue to be the same with onsite Sunday morning services only. We will continue to practice social distancing along with our other health and safety measures. The wellbeing of our congregation continues to be a priority so thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

I wanted to take a moment and thank all of our AWANA leaders and workers for their tireless labor and commitment this past year. I want to especially thank Patricia Deel for her wonderful leadership. She always goes above and beyond, and we are so blessed to have her! Even though the pandemic shortened our year and we didn't get to recognize our workers properly, I want all of you to know how grateful we are for your efforts on behalf of our children.

There is an old song called "Jesus is coming soon". Some of the lyrics are, "Troublesome times are here, filling men's hearts with fear, freedom we all hold dear now is at stake". These words aptly describe the times in which we now live. The enemy is assaulting the Body of Christ and our Biblical worldview at every turn. Causing fear and confusion in the hearts of God's people is one of his chief strategies. Fear is a terrible thing, but I truly believe that fear cannot stand in the face of TRUTH! Dear friends, in Christ we have the way, the truth and the life! Fear or any other weapon of the devil cannot overcome us! The verse of that old song continues with these words, "Humbling your hearts to God saves from the chastening rod, seek the way pilgrims trod, Christians awake"! In these troublesome times we must humble ourselves, pray, seek God's face, and turn from our wicked ways. Christians must indeed wake up! It is time for us to stand upon the truth, speak up with the truth and look up for the truth and know that God will see us through. So just remember the song's title, "Jesus is coming soon". I agree with the aged apostle John when he prayed, "Even so come quickly Lord Jesus".

I love you all and I'll see you in church!

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Sherrel



Welcome, Leo Micah Head Simon!

Born Monday, June 1, 2020 at 5:00 AM

Proud parents, Brittani Head Simon and Sam Simon

Proud grandparents, Terry and Teresa Head

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

The summer months are now upon us, and the months of spring were really unusual with all that has taken place within our country. The Covid-19 with all its extreme issues such as stay at home, wear a mask or not, do social distancing as needed and millions losing their jobs or many working from home. So much more such as schools not in session, churches canceling services and many businesses and restaurants closed and, of course, the effect on our economy and then when to reopen with guidelines to abide by. We have witnessed the BLM movement and all the protesting and rioting and now some city leaders wanting to defund their police department and govern in a way that WILL not work and is nonsensical. And now with current rulings from the Supreme Court and state legislatures trying to change laws for better or worse. No wonder fear and anxiety are on the minds of millions of people whether they be Christian or non-believers. As one of our Sunday School teachers recently said, we must stay focused on the main thing. Our hope and happiness depend on us staying steadfast serving God first and then others in a godlike manner allowing the Bible to direct our pathway to sacrificial service.

We all are affected in different ways especially with these many issues our country is faced with lately. Certainly, fear can cause anxiety and worry and can cause stressful times if we allow it. I have tried to live by the motto of Faith over Fear. Of course, this calls for a strong faith in the promises of God. I personally like the part of Galatians 3:14 where it says we can receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Of course, it took our faith and repentance (convicted by the Holy Spirit) to become a believer in Jesus Christ. God is always faithful and true to meet our every need. His grace and mercy are sufficient, but we must have a reverential fear and glorify God in our daily lives.

After much prayer and consideration, I have decided not to retain my position as Sunday School director beginning in September. This was not an easy decision for me, but I think the time is right, and sometimes change can be a good thing. So, if anyone would like to serve in this capacity please talk with Pastor Sherrel, me, or a member of the Nominating Committee which will be meeting soon. I would like to thank Frankie Harlan for helping me as my assistant director and Carolyn Wells for serving faithfully as secretary as well as Donna Ledford for serving as assistant to the secretary. And certainly, I am abundantly grateful for the faithfulness of all teachers that have taught many years and the new teachers that have been teaching this past year. Sunday School is a vital ministry that reaches out to our community and we all grow spiritually, and the fellowship enhances relationships and unity in our church body. So, I encourage class members to remain faithful to their individual class so that we may advance the cause of Christ. Please remember Facebook Live Sunday School on Saturdays until we resume at church.

For the Cause of Christ,
Jesse



DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4 – Independence Day
- 15 – Quarterly Business Meeting
- 22 – Newsletter Articles Due
- 26 – Deacons' Meeting

• *Living With Hope in a Broken World*

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| July 5 | The Joy Arising from Our Hope | 1 Peter 4:1-2, 12-19 |
| July 12 | The Culmination of Our Hope | 1 Peter 5:5b-11 |

- July 19 *How Should I Respond to Politics?* Romans 13:1-10

• *Why Do I Need the Church?*

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| July 26 | We are Joined Together | Ephesians 1:20-23; 2:8-10, 19-22 |
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<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 7:00 PM Facebook Live Bible Study & Prayer	2	3  Benny and Linda Gardner	4  11:00 AM Facebook Live Saturday "Sunday" School
5 11:00 AM Morning Worship	6	7	8 7:00 PM Facebook Live Bible Study & Prayer	9	10  Mike and Barbara Dixon	11 11:00 AM Facebook Live Saturday "Sunday" School
12 11:00 AM Morning Worship	13	14	15 7:00 PM Facebook Live Bible Study & Prayer Quarterly Business Meeting	16	17  Ralph and Brenda McDaniel	18 11:00 AM Facebook Live Saturday "Sunday" School
19 11:00 AM Morning Worship	20	21	22 7:00 PM Facebook Live Bible Study & Prayer Newsletter Articles Due	23	24  Emory Deel and Gerald Fields	25 11:00 AM Facebook Live Saturday "Sunday" School
26 11:00 AM Morning Worship Deacons' Meeting	27	28	29 7:00 PM Facebook Live Bible Study & Prayer	30	31  Rodney Hale and Vergil Stout	

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Return services requested