

OAKHILL BAPTIST CHURCH
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 **akleaves** **April 2017**
The Oakhill Baptist Church Newsletter

PASTOR'S POINTS



Alan D. Scott

Lead Pastor

ascott@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

I hope you are doing great and looking forward to celebrating our risen Savior this Easter! This is such an awesome time of the year because it reminds us of how much we as Christians must be thankful for. This year we are going to celebrate the fact of how worthy our risen Savior is!! Jesus is Worthy for many reasons, but this year we are going to celebrate three of those reasons in a sermon series simply entitled "Worthy." He is the Lamb of God, Suffering Servant, and Risen King!! This series is going to help remind believers of how thankful we should be, and it is going to help non-believers to consider the reality of their lives and how they can be changed for all of eternity! Please make sure to be in worship as we consider the fact this Easter season that Jesus is... "Worthy."

As you come I want to encourage you to reach out to your friends and family and invite them to attend as well. We will have three services Easter Sunday morning at 8:00am, 9:30am, and 11:00am. Also, this year on Good Friday we are having a special service at 6:30pm where we will consider the Cross and exactly what Jesus was doing on that cross for all who would believe in Him. As James MacDonald has shared, Jesus was doing at least four things that we need to consider...

He Was Substituting

To understand the gospel, you must first understand this idea of substitution. Jesus died first for Barabbas and then for every other human who has ever lived. I am in that line. You are, too. I deserve to die that death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ. That's substitution.

He Was Scandalizing

The Jews, rejecting Christ, called out for His crucifixion, the most shameful, painful, awful death a person could experience. And they wanted it for Jesus. The cross of Jesus Christ has always been an outrageous scandal. What's Jesus doing on that cross? He's fighting for the souls of men. He's seeking to redeem them from their own hatred. Hear the soldiers laughing as the Savior gives up His life for them. Two thousand years later, people still scream and mock the cross of Jesus. It's a scandal!

He Was Suffering

Unlike modern ones, first-century executions did not seek a quick, painless death or the preservation of any measure of dignity. On the contrary, they sought an agonizing torture that completely humiliated the victim. To fully appreciate the meaning of the cross of Christ, you must comprehend the extent to which He suffered for our sin. A holy God poured out His wrath on His Innocent Son so that we could be forgiven. When Jesus said, "It is finished," God said, "Paid in full." Sin has been put away now. The cross of Jesus Christ satisfied the requirements of a holy God.

He Was Satisfying

The gospel of Jesus Christ is only a concept until we comprehend the way Jesus' death on the cross satisfied God's wrath. A holy God poured out His wrath on His Innocent Son so that we could be forgiven. When Jesus said, "It is finished," God said, "Paid in full." Sin has been put away now. The cross of Jesus Christ satisfied the requirements of a holy God. I cannot wait to celebrate our "worthy" Savior with you this Easter season!!!

I love you and I love being your pastor!!

THE STATS

	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19	Mar 26
8:00 AM Worship	78	93	92	82
9:30 AM Worship	101	86	113	109
11:00 AM Worship	248	294	255	208
Total Worship	427	473	460	399
Life Groups	315	295	290	224
Oakhill Budget Offering	\$19,485.98	\$16,131.54	\$15,690.02	\$13,286.59
Greater Things	\$1,542.00	\$3,302.00	\$4,541.71	\$901.00
Mission Club	\$210.00	\$195.00	\$165.00	\$210.00



YOU'RE INVITED

**To the Women's Spring Event at Oakhill Baptist Church
Friday, May 12th at 6:00 pm**

Women of the Word: Writing God's Word on our Hearts

Guest Speaker: Raina Clark

Worship Led by Madi Wuebben (Boyce College)

Raina (Louisville, KY) will share Truth from God's Word and what it means to write His Word on our hearts. The Bible is the lens through which we see all of life, and it is the guide to help us know how to respond to whatever the future may hold. Women will leave this event encouraged to seek the Truth of God's Word and to keep His Word continually before us and in our hearts.

Invite your Friends and Family



Come ready to laugh a lot and have a good time with your sisters in Christ



Tickets will be on sale April 30th and May 7th at the Welcome Center
Ladies 11 & up \$10.00
Lil' Ladies 4-10 \$ 5.00
Girls 3 & under Free



Please join us for a time of food, fellowship, and fun!

BOYCE VOCAL BAND is coming to lead our church in worship all three services on Sunday, April 23rd!



Boyce Vocal Band is a traveling worship team from Boyce College, the college at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. Boyce Vocal Band consists of nine students from 6 different states who are preparing for ministry at Boyce College. The team sings and plays a wide variety of music from traditional hymns to a cappella arrangements to modern worship songs. Boyce College is training the next generation of ministers for the local church and mission fields around the world. Students can major in a wide range of degrees that include Music and Worship, Biblical Counseling, Elementary Education, Missions, Pastoral Ministry, Business Administration and a new degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. For more information about Boyce College visit www.BoyceCollege.com.

WOMEN ON MISSION

Time-Travel Prayer Testimony from a Missionary

“When we were on the missions field, it did cross my mind that the time difference meant that probably a lot of prayers from folks back home were being prayed ‘after the fact.’ But at the same time, I had a peace that God is not limited by time, so I should not worry about it. Having said that... there are times when both John* and I were in situations where we could sense people praying (what seemed like ‘real time’) for us. For John, the times he was out in the villages on food distributions (typically the most dangerous time for him) he sensed prayers for his safety being given on his behalf [and] also during surgeries at the hospital.

“Both of us recall times when we were sure that folks were praying for us when we were able to communicate a spiritual thought despite our language skills. We will probably never know for sure when those prayers were being prayed (‘real time’ or ‘after the fact’), so my thought is...we will take all the prayers we can get whenever we can get them.

“There were many, many nights that we would, individually and as a couple, find ourselves awakened or unable to sleep at night. We fell into a pattern of believing that meant God was wanting us to pray. Many of those prayers were for our families and friends in the United States. Perhaps some of those prayers corresponded with something going on in the US. I do know that it brought us peace to be able to trust God to take care of our families and friends when we were too far away to help in any other way.”

**Name Changed*

If you have not yet given to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, please do so right away. Our goal is \$10,000.

Women on Mission will meet Monday, April 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the church. All our ladies are invited to join us.

\$PARE ϕ HANGE



Bryan R. Gotcher

**Pastor of Missions &
Administration**

bgotcher@oakhillbc.org

Blog: bryangotcher.wordpress.com

“All for the Sake of the Gospel”

The past political season has been brutal for our country. We have seen more displays of disunity recently and they have even made their way into Christian circles. Lately, Southern Baptist leaders have been at odds. Most of the tension revolved around support for Trump. Some leaders were saying it was not right for Christians to support a man like Trump, others were saying it was not right to not vote for a candidate that supported pro-life agendas and religious freedom. This has caused a rift between some that even caught the attention of the Washington Post. Eventually, the Executive Director of the SBC, Frank Page, stepped into it to try and bring harmony to the situation and it seems to have calmed down for now.

However, once again Southern Baptists are known for something other than the gospel. Things like disagreements over politics get us off track and keep us from focusing on the most important thing – Jesus. I recently have been studying 1 Corinthians. I get the sense from Paul that he doesn’t want anything to take the focus off the gospel. Throughout the entire book he is advocating for unity in the church for two reasons-- to build-up the church and advance the gospel.

He deals with issues of sin and sexual immorality for the sake of the church. He addresses the issue of laying down rights for a weaker brother through the context of eating meat sacrificed to pagan idols. He encourages the church to not let spiritual gifts divide them, rather focus on loving each other in spite of differences. He even rebukes the Corinthian believers creating a division over who baptized them. All of this is to build up the body of Christ, he is so concerned about the unity of the church.

But not just in church-- Paul writes about his willingness to lay down his personal rights and preferences for the sake of the gospel. He says in 1 Cor. 9:20-21 that when he is with Jews he takes up the customs of Jews, but when he is with gentiles he acts like a gentile (not in a sinful way, rather referring to their manners and customs). He brings all this to a point in verses 22 and 23, “I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessing.”

What if our attitude was like Paul’s? What if we were primarily concerned about unity in the body and the advancing of the gospel? This should be our attitude in all things, even politics. I don’t mean that we shouldn’t have political views, but if we are known more for our politics than we are for the gospel then we have a problem. The banner we carry in our lives as Christians should not be one of republican or democrat, or Trump or Clinton, it should be of Jesus Christ. We must remember whose kingdom we are building; it isn’t a kingdom of a political view, it isn’t even a kingdom of America, it’s the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is where we will spend eternity, it is our true home. Brothers and Sisters, we are just sojourners in this world, let’s not get so tied down that we forget our primary mission – to build up the kingdom of God.

Consider how people perceive you, when they look at you do they see Christ or do they see a political party? In the past, I have been very vocal of my political views; however, after seeing how it has divided the SBC recently, I have been convicted. I don’t want my politics to cloud people’s view of Christ in me. I want to become all things to all people that by all means I might save some!

STUDENT MINISTRY



Brian Van Doren
Student Pastor
bvandoren@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

The Student Ministry just got back from our retreat this year, and it was a blast! We spent much of our time just hanging out and playing games. We played some archery-tag in the mud and played some extreme capture-the-flag! And the lip-sync battle was an amazing show! I loved how fully our students threw themselves into this weekend. And it wasn't only for the games. During our worship sessions, they were very responsive and were taking notes the entire time. Their small-group times at night showed us leaders that the Lord was definitely working.

Our theme was "The Fulcrum." Our sessions focused on Jesus being the center, or fulcrum, of our lives (Psalm 119:165-166), our universe (Colossians 1:17), our identity (Romans 8:1-4), and our hope (John 15:4-5). Jesus is the one who balances our lives for us by paying for our sin and inability to keep the law and saving us, making us "not-condemned" before God. We are new people who walk through this life in the power of the Spirit, blameless before God because of Christ's righteousness in us! And our hope is abiding in Christ. I think this weekend was a turning point in some of our student's lives, and I am so excited to see what the Lord will do in and through them. But with all of the positives about this weekend, there is a potential danger for which I want to be on the look-out.

My prayer is that the things that happened this weekend would not simply be seed scattered on rocky ground, which immediately springs up, but is then scorched by the sun. I am overwhelmingly thankful for the fruit that can already be witnessed in our students' lives, but I want to see long-lasting fruit. We must not turn away from the plow, but we must continue to preach the gospel and abide in Christ. That was our last session; that they would abide in Christ, and He in them, and He will grow the fruit in their lives! Abiding in Christ is a spiritual and physical battle. It requires one to reject the distractions of this world and carve out time to spend with the Lord and His people. It requires that the Lord be protecting us and helping and guiding us back to Him daily. With these things being true, I have some requests to make of you, our church family:

Please pray for our students. They need your prayers. Pray that God would churn their hearts and sink the gospel deep down into them. That He would protect them from the world and from the distractions keeping them from growing in their faith. Pray that they would strive to abide in Christ, and that He would abide in them when they fail. Please pray for our students.

Please talk to them about their relationships with God. They need people asking them how they are doing in their walk now that they are back from a retreat. They need encouragement and accountability to stay on track and keep Christ at the center. Please talk to them about their relationships with God.

Finally, thank the Lord for what He has done. Ultimately, I am abundantly thankful for what He has done and is doing in our youth group. He is certainly working, which is very good, because "unless the Lord builds, the builder builds in vain." Ask the Lord to continue working in and through our church. That is the best thing you can do for our students.

Sincerely,
Brian Van Doren

WORSHIP



Jared Mitchell
Pastor of Worship
jmitchell@oakhillbc.org

Church Family,

It's hard to believe that the spring time is already here and Easter is right around the corner! I for one, am thankful that the cold weather is making it's way out, and the warm weather is making it's way in. With that in mind, as we move further into the Easter Season, I want you to be aware of a worship event that we have coming up, which is our Good Friday Night of Worship. On Friday night, April 14th, at 6:30pm, our entire church family will be coming together for a night of worship, centered around the Cross. Together, we will reflect on the Cross on which Jesus died, and we will worship in response to it. Our team is already preparing for this night and we want you to be a part of it. Childcare will be available, so we strongly encourage you and your family to make plans to be part of this night. It will be a powerful time, and you do not want to miss out!

That very same weekend, we will gather on Sunday morning, April 16th to celebrate our Risen Savior! Jesus went to the Cross and died for our sins. However, the good news that

we believe and know to be true, is that Jesus was resurrected three days later! He did not stay in the grave, but he rose again, and that truth is worth celebrating! So make plans to join us on Easter Sunday, and invite your friends. The gospel is for everyone to hear, and we want as many people to hear it as possible. I pray that we invite our friends and family. I pray that we invite the lost people around us to hear the good news of the Gospel. Our theme for the Easter Season is this: Jesus is worthy. He is worthy for so many reasons. He died on the cross, in our place, for our sins, so that we would no longer be subject to death, but we can now have eternal life in Christ as we put our faith and trust in Him. He is our Savior. He is our Maker. He is our Helper. He is our God and we are His people. He is worthy of our worship and He is worthy of our lives. I pray that this truth would rest in our hearts, starting today, as we reflect on Christ this Easter season. I love you all, and I love worshipping with you!

See you Sunday!

In Christ,

Jared

Spiritual Development



Nick Scott
Pastor of Spiritual
Development

Spiritual development is hard work! The process of daily denying ourselves, taking up our crosses, and following Jesus (Mark 8:34) requires us to lay down those things that we naturally want to hold on to. This process is also described in Ephesians 4:19-22 as “putting off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires” and “putting on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

I have recently begun the process of becoming certified by the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors, which has required me to attend a few weekend seminars. During one of the sessions we were taught about spiritual growth and how to encourage people to pursue Jesus more faithfully in their walk of faith. One of the main points that was made is that sanctification, the process of growing spiritually, is a life-long commitment. We should be continually developing as Christians. We should be able to look back each year and see the ways that God has grown us as we participate through the power of the Spirit. God instructs us at many points throughout the Bible of how we can develop spiritually. I wanted to share a few that I learned from attending these seminars.

1. Spiritual growth equips you to overcome joyfully the trials of this present life. (James 1:2-4)
2. Spiritual growth is a process that enables you to "grow up" in Christ. (Eph. 4:15)
3. You must constantly examine yourself in accordance with God's Word. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)
4. You must consistently examine yourself in light of God's Word instead of comparing yourself with the lives or expectations of others. (2 Cor. 10:12; Gal. 6:3-6)
5. Spiritual growth entails learning to accurately handle the Word of God. (2 Tim. 2:15)
6. Spiritual growth requires continual hearing of God's Word and practicing it. (James 1:19-27)
7. You must deny yourself by putting off your natural self-centeredness to follow Christ. (Matt 10:38-39; Luke 9:23-24)
8. You must seek to please God in all things. (2 Cor. 5:9; Eph. 6:6-7; Col. 1:10; 1 Thess. 4:1; Heb. 13:21)
9. Spiritual growth requires continual prayer with thanksgiving. (Phil 4:6-7; 1 Thess. 5:17-18)
10. Spiritual growth entails placing the welfare of others ahead of your own, following the example of Christ. (Phil 2:3-8)
11. You must love others in biblical ways. (1 Cor. 13:4-8a)
12. You must faithfully use your spiritual gift(s) for God's glory and for the benefit of others. (Rom. 12:3-8; Eph. 4:1-16; 1 Pet. 4:10-11)
13. You are to regularly worship the Lord, remaining in fellowship and in ministry with other believers. (Ps. 29:1-2, 122:1; John 4:23-24; Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Pet. 2:5; 1 John 1:7)

Kids Happenings



April Sharp - asharp@oakhillbc.org
Children's Ministry Director

Proverbs 22:6

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.



Hello Church Family,

I am so excited for the month of April in the life of our children's ministry. First, we get to give praise to our Lord who was resurrected and overcame death. What an exciting time to teach our children of God's promise and blessing to us. Second, we get to be out in the community during our annual Easter Eggstravaganza. We will be showing the love of Jesus to so many and be able to take in all the blessings of seeing children laugh and have fun. Third, Vacation Bible School "Vision Casting" (this is my new name for our volunteers meeting). There will be SEVERAL changes this year. New timeframes, rotations, donation incentives for the kids and much, much more. If you signed up for helping, please do your best to be present for this "Vision Casting" event. You won't want to miss it! And fourth, it's my name so it makes it a pretty special month for me. LOL. See I told you we have exciting things happening!

I also would like for you to check out the ads below regarding "volunteers needed." I, along with so many others, are anxiously awaiting our new children's ministry format starting in August. Is God calling you to pour into the lives of our children? If so, please contact me to discuss how you, with God's help, can make a difference in our children's ministry on Sunday mornings.

Thank you for allowing me to love on your children. God Bless,

April Sharp

Easter Eggstravaganza
EGG FILLING PARTY!
April 5th 9:30-11am & April 12th 6-7:30pm
GALACTIC STARVEYORS
JUNE 26TH-30TH 6-8:30PM
Volunteers Save-the-Date
"Vision Casting"
April 25th 6-7:30pm
Learn the details and changes to this year's VBS.
Games, Snacks, & Free Stuff

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Amazing Opportunities to Pour Into Children
During 9:30 & 11am service times starting in August

- **One year Commitment to teach children. This is age specific. (Lifeway curriculum provided "Bible Studies for Life")**
* You choose your service time to serve.
- **Adult & Youth Worship Leaders and Musicians during Kids Praise for mixed ages. (4 yr-2nd gr. & 3rd-5th gr.)**
* You choose your service time to serve.

If interested please email asharp@oakhillbc.org

April 2017 Ministry Calendar

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Sunday Schedule		Wednesday Schedule		Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship		12:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study Luncheon				1 STUDENT RETREAT
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship		6:00 p.m. AWANA				
Life Groups (Bible Study)		Student Midweek - Jr. & Sr. High School				
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship		7:30 p.m. Worship Team Practice				
Life Groups (Bible Study)						
5:00 p.m. Student Life Groups - Jr. & Sr. High						
2 Regular Sunday Schedule Worship Rehearsal 3:00 p.m.	3 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	4	5 Regular Wednesday Schedule EGG FILLING 9:30 - 11:00 PM Deacon's Meeting 6:00 p.m.	6	7	8 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. State Hospital Engage Event 9:45 a.m.
9 Regular Sunday Schedule Worship Rehearsal 3:00 p.m.	10 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	11	12 Regular Wednesday Schedule EGG FILLING 6:00 - 7:30 PM	13 Worship Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.	14 **Church Office Closed **Childcare Closed GOOD FRIDAY NIGHT OF WORSHIP 6:30 PM	15 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA 1:00 - 3:00 PM Located behind : 6621 Whetstone Road
16 Regular Sunday Schedule EASTER SUNDAY **(NO LIFE GROUPS)**	17 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	18 LLL Senior Adult Breakfast 8:30 a.m.	19 Regular Wednesday Schedule	20	21	22 CHILDCARE SPAGHETTI DINNER & AUCTION 5:00 PM
23 Regular Sunday Schedule BOYCE VOCAL BAND ALL THREE SERVICES	24 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	25 VBS Volunteer Training 6:00 p.m.	26 Regular Wednesday Schedule Health Ministry Meeting 6:15 p.m.	27	28	29 AWANA T&T QUIZZING 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
30 Regular Sunday Schedule						

GOOD FRIDAY
NIGHT OF
WORSHIP
April 14th • 6:30pm
A Night Of Contemplation On The Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 15TH
1:00 - 3:00 PM
Easter EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Ages: Walking - 5th Grade
Located behind 6621 Whetstone Road
Enjoy Inflatables, Games, & FREE Treats!
Over 6,000 Filled Eggs!

CELEBRATE EASTER
Jesus is... Worthy
April 16th
Worship: 8, 9:30, & 11 am
(No Life Groups)
Pick up some invite cards at the welcome center!

7th Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Auction
To Benefit The OHBC Weekday Childcare
Saturday, April 22nd @ 5:00 p.m.
OHBC Fellowship Hall/Gym
\$10.00 per person
FREE childcare ages 12 and under
Secure your reservation at the welcome center today!
Donations for the auction are always welcome!

CHURCH GOAL: \$10,000
Together For His Kingdom
PICK UP A GIVING ENVELOPE AT THE WELCOME CENTER OR GIVE USING PUSHPAY
ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING