

OAKHILL BAPTIST CHURCH
4615 OAK HILL ROAD
EVANSVILLE, IN 47711-2943

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February 2019



OakhillBC.org
— a family for life —

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 akleaves

The Oakhill Baptist Church Newsletter

PASTOR'S POINTS



Alan D. Scott

Lead Pastor

ascott@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

Throughout my years of ministry, I have been puzzled at why so many people have an aversion to the spiritual discipline of prayer. Most all believers believe in the importance of prayer. They believe that communication to our God is important. They believe in the power of prayer. They believe that God hears and that prayer matters. But there is a disconnect somewhere along the way because so many believers do not have a vibrant regular prayer life.

I am reading a book called Prayer: How Praying Together Shapes the Church by John Onwuchekwa. In it the author shares a quote about the importance of prayer. **“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.”** This quote reminds us that prayer is essential for our very existence. The author goes on to share... “breathing is necessary for everything we do. It enables every activity. Likewise, prayer is basic and vital. It is tied to our present existence and perpetual endurance. Prayer is breathing. There’s no better metaphor of what prayer should be for the Christian.” I am convinced that we as a church family need to be “breathing” prayer on a much more regular and consistent basis. Yes, we need to “breathe” individually, but as the body of Christ we need to “breathe” together in the spiritual discipline of prayer. Prayer is the oxygen that we need to sustain us in all that God has planned for us as a local body of believers.

But for us to “breathe” together in prayer, we have got to know how to pray. The simple acrostic A.C.T.S. helps us to understand four types of prayer found in scripture. Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. **Adoration** is a prayer of praise to the God whom we cry out to. By praising Him we show that we understand that it is an honor to be able to cry out to God prayer. We recognize in our prayer of adoration who God is in all His perfection and greatness. Adoration is foundational to our prayer life because it helps remind us who we are praying to, and the great privilege that it is. **Confession** is a prayer that should naturally come from us if we take the time to praise God for who He is and all He has done for us. As we reflect on God’s grace and forgiveness through Christ, we’re led to confess. Prayers of **Thanksgiving** should easily flow from our lips after considering all the greatness and goodness of God and his willingness to forgive us of all our sin. We have so much to be thankful for, especially if we keep in mind that all that we have comes from God and not ourselves. And finally, **Supplication** is that prayer that we offer to God that declares our absolute need for Him. As we cry out to God to intercede in our lives or in the lives of others, we are recognizing His care for those that make him their refuge.

Over the course of this year we are going to “breathe” out these prayers together as the body of Christ. I know that God will be glorified, and we will be edified if we prioritize prayer in our church family. I am excited to see how God moves among us as we heighten the sense of urgency to pray together in our church! I desire for our church to be alive, and to be alive we must “breathe” out these prayers to our great God!!

I love you and I love being your pastor,

Pastor A

THE STATS

Jan 6

Jan 13

Jan 20

Jan 27

8:00 AM Worship	82	73	Services Cancelled	87
9:30 AM Worship	250	234		245
11:00 AM Worship	289	324		281
Total Worship	621	631		613
Oakhill Budget Offering	\$24,113.84	\$11,505.22	\$3,826.00	\$26,942.31
Mission Club	\$270.00	\$210.00	\$0	\$260.00

Food Pantry Restock

Help feed our community by restocking the OHBC Food Pantry. Pick up a brown bag from the Welcome Desk, fill it up with any non-perishable food or personal care item. Bring it back to church on February 24th. All of the bags will be presented at the altar and prayed over during the worship services. Each bag will have the potential to help someone not only have physical needs met but to hear the life changing truth of the gospel.

Items Needed:

- canned fruit
- peanut butter
- breakfast bars
- canned soup
- canned ravioli
- canned spaghetti
- canned tuna
- boxed mac & cheese
- regular sized rolls of toilet paper
- Toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, etc.)

WOMEN ON MISSION

Thank you for your generous support of Missions.
Here are the Oakhill Mission Receipts for 2018

	Mission Club	Special Offerings	Total
North American Missions (Annie Armstrong)	\$2,906.29	\$5,906.71	\$8,813.00
International Missions (Lottie Moon)	\$7,651.25	\$6,898.27	\$14,549.52
State Missions (C E Wiley)	\$1,482.80		\$1,482.80
Life Change Central (Oakhill Projects)	\$1,482.80		\$1,482.80
Highland Lakes Camp	\$1,304.86		\$1,304.86
International Seafarers Center		\$500.00	\$500.00
	Combined Mission Giving		\$28,132.98

In addition, \$63,305.21 was given through the Cooperative Program to the Southern Baptist Convention, the majority of which goes to the support of missions, as well as our seminaries and other entities.

Women on Mission will not meet in February.



February Birthdays

- 1st - Jordan O'Brien, Mark Schmitz

2nd - Pam Bates, Olivia Hudson, Trae Ommart

4th - Robert Jackson, Mitchell Johnson

5th - Gladys Mason, Livvie Olsen

6th - Dayton Durham, Angela Pressley, Kathleen Qualkenbush

7th - Dalton Cobb, Jennifer Cronch, Teresa Thomas

9th - Max Baumburger, Brooklin Shoulders

10th - Brian Wild

11th - Michelle Luttrell, Sadie Thornton, Wayne Treberg

12th - Abby Fegan

13th - Gloria Lee

14th - Rocco Cayzedo, Angie Hall, Kenzie Holland, Raina Kessner, Roger Nix, Marcia Vandiver

15th - Beth Ruston

17th - Taylor George, Gina Young
- 18th - Fran Dockery, Kathy Flowers

19th - Connie Beavers, Brandon Broshears, Tommy Cohoon, Donovan Eastham, Troy Greenwell, Jennifer Mummert, Heather Reed

20th - Doug Russell

21st - Karl Fark, Ubi Ntewo, Heather Russell

22nd - Katherine Painter, Gracie Swenson

23rd - Azalea Ice, Zayden Nalley, Ron Stricklen, Heather Weatherford

24th - Levi Colacecchi

25th - Sherry Minor, Alexandra O'Brien, Theresa Rabold, Brayden Ruston, Bryan Scott, Caylen Scott, Kayla Van Doren

26th - Jane Jett, Ethan Schmitt

27th - Carson Boulware, Sandy Falls, Emily Phebus, Peggy Pressley

28th - Alice Deluca, Chad Mehne, Amy Olsen,

29th - Barbara Robbins

\$PARE \$CHANGE



Bryan R. Gotcher
Pastor of Children & Missions
bgotcher@oakhillbc.org
Blog: bryangotcher.wordpress.com

I am writing this article in my new role as the pastor of Children and Missions. It is an honor to serve in this capacity. I joked the other day that I have served in almost every way on staff except for worship pastor. Tragically, the only musical ability I have is music appreciation, so that won't be an option for me; but children's ministry is something that I have grown to love over the past few years. I started in youth ministry and have missed working with kids. I love being able to help young people to get to know and love Christ. It is one of the greatest joys of my life, to be able to return to that is really a blessing.

I began working with the Children's Ministry as my kids have grown and become more involved. Kristi and I have both served in various roles in Upward, AWANA, Kids' Camp, nursery, VBS, and Kids' Life Groups. We have grown to love the kids' ministry at Oakhill. As I began to pray about this possible transition it felt natural. I knew the programming, the systems, and the volunteers; however, I did not take this job out of convenience. I took it because God impressed upon Kristi and I that it was time to return to working with kids in a greater capacity.

My desire is to build upon the foundation of our great children's ministry. The kids' ministry at Oakhill has always been a hallmark of the church, and I want to continue that tradition. I want to continue our great programs that teach and disciple kids. I also want to connect with parents, so I can support and encourage them. I know, as a parent, how hard it can be to desire to disciple your kid but not knowing how. I want the church to undergird the

family. I want to help parents to know how to lead their children in knowing and loving Christ. It is tougher than ever before out in the world, our kids face challenges that we could never have even dreamed about when we were kids. They need to know Jesus more than ever today. They need to learn to love Him and learn what it means to follow Him.

I am so excited for the future of the kids' ministry, it's going to be fun and very rewarding. This great ministry is only possible because of our great volunteer base. We have the best, most loving volunteers. The last couple of weeks I have been learning the behind the scenes part of the ministry. The volunteers have impressed me immensely. They really love the ministry. I am so fortunate to be able to work with them and I look forward to serving alongside of them. On that note, we are always looking for people to join the ministry. Let me know if you have a heart for kids.

I, of course, will continue to oversee the missions ministry of our church. I love the community outreach that we do with Harwood, our food pantry, and State Hospital. I am looking forward to expanding our mission trips and partnerships in the coming year. I desire for our church to have a passion for evangelism and missions like never before.

It is clear to me that God has brought me to this place, in my life and in life of the church. I am so excited about what He will do in and through us as our church family continues to grow. Thank you for your support and love for the past 12 years, I look forward to many more years of ministry together.

STUDENT MINISTRY



Brian Van Doren
Pastor of Students
bvandoren@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

One of my philosophies for ministry to students is that of all the individuals in student’s life parents and grandparents have the most important impact by far. This is an obvious reality when you think about the amount of time students spend with their parents versus the other individuals in their lives. Many parents may like to think that their children are with their friends incessantly. But the truth remains that even their best friends make a smaller impact on their lives than their parents do.

The implication of this reality for student ministry can be challenging, but often it is a great blessing. Many parents are eager to teach their children the gospel and to see them grow in love for the Lord. This is exactly what God would have parents do! (Deuteronomy 6:6-7) My calling as a Student Ministry Pastor is to invest in our families and come along side parents and grandparents as your support and ally for the gospel and against the ungodly aspects of our students’ culture. I want to encourage grandparents and parents to double down and take ownership of the spiritual development of their children and grandchildren, knowing that I am here with you and for you. It can make all the difference in the world. Let me explain.

I am writing this article while my family is preparing to bury my grandfather. This is one of the most difficult things I have experienced. He meant so much to me that my son’s middle name comes from his great-granddaddy. I spent so much time hunting, fishing, going on vacations, visiting, and talking with him that I can’t even distinguish one event from another in my memory. But through all those times, granddaddy always made it a point to talk to me about the Lord. One time when I was around 12 we went on vacation to the beach. He sat me in his camper for several hours and explained to me how the gospel works. I was annoyed at first, because we were at the beach. What was he thinking!? But when we were finished, I had a much deeper understanding of what I believed and a much deeper connection with my granddaddy.

I still have the little New Testament Bible that he gave me with all the verses he explained to me that day. I want to leave them here for you. Take some time to read these passages and let the gospel encourage you again. Then make a plan to teach theses verses to your children or grandchildren. This has the potential to become a defining part of your relationship with them. It was for granddaddy and me.

Who is good or deserving of heaven? Rom. 3:10	Reason none are good. Rom.3:23
Reason all are sinners. Rom. 5:12	Penalty for sin. Rom. 6:23
We can know that we have eternal life. 1 John 5:13	Jesus is Lord- God in flesh. John 1:1,14
Jesus is Savior- Our way out. John 3:16	How to be saved. Rom. 10:9-13
Grace- Unmerited (unearned) favor. Ephesians 2:8-9	Our way out. Rom. 5:12

Sincerely,

Brian Van Doren

WORSHIP



Jared Mitchell
Pastor of Worship
jmittell@oakhillbc.org

Church Family,

I pray this month finds you well! This month, I’d like to leave you with an article from Gavin Ortland, a worship leader and writer from Deerfield, Illinois. I pray we read his article and apply these truths to our hearts and lives!

“Three Ways to Guard Joy on Sundays”

Sometimes we are so exhausted from our week that we simply “let go” when the weekend comes. I can understand that, but I also have found that a little intentionality on the weekends can go a long way. During this season, we’ve discovered a few simple changes that have helped our church attendance, and the whole Sunday experience, be more fruitful.

1. Sanctify your Saturday nights.

If you treat Saturday night as a time to start preparing, Sunday mornings go much better. Are there ways you can make Saturday evenings special? Can you go to bed a little earlier? Even something as simple as talking with your kids about church the next day over dinner, and then praying about corporate worship before going to bed, can make a huge difference. A joyful Sunday morning often begins the night before.

2. Prepare for the inevitable fight or spilled milk.

I am amazed at how often something goes wrong on the car ride to church! I believe this is often Satan’s strategy. He needles us in the car on the way there, or on our way out the door — whatever he can do to get us grumpy and discombobulated by the time we walk into the sanctuary. If we prepare for this in advance, we can catch him in the act, “for we are not ignorant of his designs” (2 Corinthians 2:11).

So, when you climb into your minivan, tell yourself in advance, Someone is probably going to spill their milk in the van, or pull their sister’s hair, or chuck their Bible out the window on the interstate. When that happens, I will pray rather than yell.

3. Find creative ways to make Sundays a delight.

There is no reason why Sundays should be austere rather than a delight. We might associate “holy” with “somber,” but that is not how the Bible talks. Notice, for example, the language Nehemiah and Ezra use when they lead the people in covenant renewal:

“This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep. . . . Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. . . . This day is holy; do not be grieved.” (Nehemiah 8:9–11). In this context, holiness is celebratory. The logic goes like this: “today is holy, so stop crying and drink some wine.”

We also should pursue cultivating an atmosphere of joy and celebration on Sundays. Is there a favorite restaurant you can make your Sunday tradition, or a favorite breakfast food you can make on Sundays? What other Sunday traditions might help the day be enjoyable? When your kids think back twenty years from now, what memories and associations do you want them to have with Sundays and church?

God is our greatest joy and we want him to be our children’s greatest joy, and Sundays are a unique weekly opportunity to worship and enjoy God together. Let’s strive to make Sundays a delight for our children, not a burden.

In Christ,

Jared

Spiritual Development

“Why You Should Be Praying the Psalms” by Don Whitney

While you can pray through any part of the Bible, some books and chapters are much easier to pray through than others. Overall, I believe the book of Psalms is the best place in Scripture from which to pray Scripture. In part, that’s because Psalms is the only book of the Bible inspired by God for the expressed purpose of being reflected to God. God inspired them as songs, songs for use in both individual and corporate worship. The Psalms also work well in prayer because there’s a psalm for every sigh of the soul. You’ll never go through anything in life in which the root emotion is not found in one or more of the Psalms. Thus the Psalms put into expression that which is looking for expression in our hearts. Christian, here’s how you’ll benefit from praying the Psalms.

1. You’ll pray more biblically-faithful prayers.

The Bible will guide your prayers, helping you to speak to God with words that have come from the mind and heart of God. This also means you’ll be praying more in accordance with the will of God. Can you have any greater assurance that you’re praying the will of God than when you’re praying the Word of God?

2. You’ll be freed from the boredom of saying the same old things about the same old things.

One way this will happen is that the psalm will prompt you to pray about things you normally wouldn’t think to pray. You’ll find yourself praying about people and situations that you’d never think to put on a prayer list. What’s more, even though you also continue to pray about the same things—family, church, job, etc.—you’ll pray about them in new ways.

3. You’ll pray more God-centered prayers.

When you use a God-focused guide like the psalms to prompt your prayers, you’ll pray less selfishly and with more attention to the ways, the will, and the attributes of God. Prayer becomes less about what you want God to do for you—though that’s always a part of biblical praying—and more about the concerns of God and his kingdom.

4. You’ll enjoy more focus in prayer.

When you say the same old things in prayer every day, it’s easy for your mind to wander. You find yourself praying auto-pilot prayers—repeating words without thinking either about either them or the God to whom you offer them. But when you pray the Bible, your mind has a place to focus. And when your thoughts do begin to wander, you have a place to return to—the next verse.

5. You’ll find that prayer becomes more like a real conversation with a real Person.

Isn’t that what prayer should be? Prayer is talking with a Person, the Person of God himself. Prayer is not a monologue spoken in the direction of God. Yet somehow, many people assume that when they meet with the Lord he should remain silent and they should do all the talking. But when we pray the psalms, our monologue to God becomes conversation with God.

I’m not alluding to the perception of some spiritual impression or hearing an inner voice, imagining God saying things to us—away with that sort of mysticism. Instead, I’m referring to the Bible as the means by which God participates in the conversation, for the Bible is God speaking. God speaks in the Bible, and you respond to his speaking in prayer. That’s why people who try this often report, “The pressure was off. I didn’t have to think about what to say next, and the whole experience just kind of flowed.”

Want to experience these benefits for yourself? How about right now? Pick a psalm, read what God says there, and talk with him about it.

Nick Scott

Pastor of Spiritual

Development

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Recommended Resource— *Your Future Self Will Thank You* by Drew Dyck

Self-control isn’t very popular these days. We tend to think of it as boring, confining, the cop that shows up and shuts down the party. But the truth is that people who cultivate this vital virtue lead freer, happier, and more meaningful lives. After all, our bad habits—from the slight to the serious—bring a host of painful consequences. Ultimately, they keep us from becoming the people God created us to be. *Your Future Self Will Thank You* is a compassionate and humorous guide to breaking bad habits and growing your willpower. It explores Scripture’s teachings on how to live a disciplined life while offering practical strategies for growth based on the science of self-control. Whether you want to deepen your spiritual life, conquer an addiction, or kick your nail-biting habit, this book will help you get motivated, stay on track, and achieve your goals

A GUIDE FOR SINNERS, QUITTERS & PROCRASTINATORS

**Your Future Self
Will Thank You**
Secrets to
Self-Control
from the Bible
& Brain Science
Drew Dyck



A WOMAN'S HEART



GOD'S DWELLING PLACE

BETH MOORE

**Thrive Women's
Bible Study**
**Thursdays at
10:00 am**
**Begins February 7th
for 11 weeks**
**Sign-up at the
Welcome Desk**



Discover Oakhill
Wednesday, February 27th at 6:00 pm

A class for new members and those interested in membership.
Dinner and childcare provided.
Sign up at the Welcome Desk or by emailing Shirlene Kilgore
at skilgore@oakhillbc.org

February 2019 Ministry Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 11:00 am Contemporary Worship 5:00 pm Student Life Groups		Wednesday Schedule 12:00 pm Prayer & Bible Study Luncheon 6:00 pm Student Gathering & AWANA			1 Upward Games	2 Upward Games
3 Regular Sunday Schedule	4 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	5 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	6 Regular Wednesday Schedule Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm	7 Thrive Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	8 Upward Games	9 Food Pantry 9:00 am State Hospital Ministry 9:45 am Upward Games
10 Regular Sunday Schedule Parent/Child Dedication Valentine Banquet 6:00 pm	11 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	12 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	13 Regular Wednesday Schedule M3 Meeting 6:00 pm	14 Thrive Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	15 Upward Games	16 Food Pantry 9:00 am Upward Games
17 Regular Sunday Schedule	18 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	19 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	20 Regular Wednesday Activities	21 Thrive Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	22 Upward Games	23 Upward Games
24 Regular Sunday Schedule Food Pantry Re-Stock Sunday	25 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	26 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	27 Regular Wednesday Activities Discover Oakhill 6:00 pm	28 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm Thrive Women's Bible Study 10:00 am		

Serving Others at Oakhill

February 3	February 10	February 17	February 24
Deacon of the Week Brad Ditter (812) 897-1197 Matt Schloss (812) 483-1778 Chair Set-Up Team Mitchell/N.Scott Life Groups	Deacon of the Week Lucus Pettigrew (812) 319-9971 Chair Set-Up Team Deckman Life Group	Deacon of the Week Steve Comer (812) 437-2922 Chair Set-Up Team Kessler/Pettigrew Life Groups	Deacon of the Week Jeff Thornton (812) 746-8739 Ty Nixon (812) 518-8759 Chair Set-Up Team Schloss/A.Scott Life Groups
8:00 AM Service			
Nursery Shaun & Robin Hudson Greeters Jerry & Shirley Guinn Welcome Center Shirlene Kilgore	Nursery Shannon Wild & Kalyn Greeters Bill & Sondra Bottoms Welcome Center Dawn Ommart	Nursery Larry & Bonnie Beckham Greeters Bonnie Beckham, April Helm Welcome Center Amanda Washburn	Nursery Mary Gamblin & Daniel Bannister Greeters Bob & Angela Pressley Welcome Center Mary Gamblin
9:30 AM Service			
Nursery Melissa & Megan Laurence Greeters Brett & Tammy Creamer, April Helm, Cheri Koberstein Welcome Center Robert Jackson	Nursery Sean & Audrey McDonald Greeters Ryan & Wynter Deckman, Tom & Fong Stofleth Welcome Center Deann Moss	Nursery Steve & Deanna Comer Greeters Sandy Dierlam, Ty Nixon, Tom Stofeth Welcome Center John & Pam Schultz	Nursery Dave & Kristie Swenson Greeters April Helm, Jeff & Janice Hostetler Welcome Center Deann Moss
11:00 AM Service			
Nursery Matt & Libby Schloss Toddlers & 3yrs Will & Christy Baumberger, Lucas & Leigha Pettigrew Greeters Jim & Barb Burns Welcome Center Kathleen Qualkenbush Van Driver Ryan David	Nursery Kathy Masterson & Ella Thornton Toddlers & 3yrs Isaac & Jessica Principe, Dana & Vanessa Bates Greeters Sandy Jackson, Ralph Rode Welcome Center Jacob & Gina Townsend Van Driver Steve Comer	Nursery Cheri Koberstein & Amy Olsen Toddlers & 3yrs Tracy Monyhan & Samantha Thompson, Bryan & Amanda Bishop Greeters Brett Creamer, Shirley Williams Welcome Center Becky Cosby Van Driver Stan Fory	Nursery Valerie Luttrell & Jennifer Mummert Toddlers & 3yrs Melissa Owen & Lucy Thornton, Jeff & Lindsay Beck Greeters Nancy Andrews, Curtis Cronch Welcome Center Darrell Ommart Van Driver Duke Dockery