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Find Us On Facebook! 

[Weekday Childcare](#)

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 **akleaves**
May 2017
The Oakhill Baptist Church Newsletter

PASTOR'S POINTS



Alan D. Scott

Lead Pastor

ascott@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

I love you! I mean that with all my heart. I love my church family! Every single one of you! I never want you to doubt that. Ever! For almost eleven years I have been at this church as pastor and I have signed every letter by ending with... "I love you and I love being your pastor." And, that has been true every time I have written it. You know love for one another is key for a church to be vibrant, growing, and healthy. It is not optional for me to love you. It is not optional for you to love me. We must make it our aim to show and give love to all those who are in our church family, as well as those we are trying to reach.

This week I was reading a devotional by James Mac Donald and in it he shared these words...

"I did not feel loved in the church that I grew up in. Not at all. Oh, there might have been one or two exceptions. But most of the time, I felt inspected, I felt measured, I felt judged, I felt sometimes excluded, but I did not feel loved in the church when I was young. I could quote verses like, **"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one**

another" (John 13:34-35), but I wasn't seeing it or feeling it. Now before you conclude I'm piling on my childhood church, let me confess they didn't get a lot of love from me either. It took me a lot of years—I mean, I learned to love God, I learned to love God's Word, but I did not learn how to love people in the church that I grew up in. It doesn't surprise me that there are many people that feel that way. Now, that is an awful tragedy. Jesus says this is like the big deal—loving one another. You've got to have this! It's a rough world out there. Church must be a place where I come and feel loved by people with authentic love."

Mac Donald then shares his heart for his church when he writes this...

"I want to declare this. Our church is going hard after loving one another. You are loved here—not perfectly, but permanently you are loved here. Not 100% faithfully, okay, because we're all sinners, but you are loved *fervently* here. We want Jesus' words to come true and be true among us! I believe with all my heart, we must embrace this as job-number-one, horizontally speaking. People need to *see* and they need to *experience* directly the way we love one another! That's the first step in the second part of the great commandment: **Love the Lord your God with all your heart, love your neighbor as yourself.**"

And I want to declare this for our church as well! May our love grow for our God and for one another so we can fulfill what God has for us to do!!

I love you and I love being you pastor!!!

Pastor A

THE STATS

	Apr 2	Apr 9	Apr 16	Apr 23	Apr 30
8:00 AM Worship	110	117	126	126	102
9:30 AM Worship	99	108	360	139	106
11:00 AM Worship	240	248	228	257	262
Total Worship	449	473	714	522	470
Life Groups	241	302	n/a	289	267
Oakhill Budget Offering	\$16,588.90	\$17,218.14	\$16,807.80	\$16,313.90	\$16,272.34
Greater Things	\$1,917.00	\$884.00	\$2,802.00	\$1,267.00	\$2,017.00
Mission Club	\$160.00	\$395.00	\$165.00	\$210.00	\$170.00

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)

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



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



*Please join us for a time of food, fellowship, and fun!
Invite your Friends and Family*



BABY SHOWER

honoring

Annaclaire Mitchell

Who: All ladies of Oakhill

When: Saturday, June 17th, 2-4 pm

Where: Oakhill Baptist Church

RSVP: By Saturday, June 10th, by calling the church office

or by emailing Melissa.Scott@kw.com with "Baby Shower" in the subject line

Jared & Annaclaire are registered at Target & Babylist.com

Bring a package of diapers or wipes to be entered into a drawing

Come celebrate with Annaclaire as we look forward to the arrival of Presley Ann



WOMEN ON MISSION

A Missionary’s Story from Mission Mosaic Magazine

David Petro
Zambia

David Petro was in a new area of Zambia the day he met a man named Zulu.

“He asked us to pray for him, that the evil spirits that prevented him from going to church would leave him. We prayed with him, and a few days later he prayed to receive Christ,” David said.

“When the small church there started meeting in the school a couple of weeks later, he was there with his whole family wanting to learn more about the Bible.”

Zulu’s struggle to get God isn’t uncommon there, he said. “Ancestor worship and witchcraft are prevalent here, and the people are enslaved to it. They live in constant fear of someone ‘witching’ them or being cursed by a dead ancestor who is not happy with them. There is a lot of pressure on believers here by their families to participate in witchcraft to please their ancestors.”

Because of that, it is hard for believers to break away from their culture and trust Christ fully, David said.

But even though they are slow to choose Christ, they are open to hearing the gospel– and some like Zulu are choosing to walk away.

David asked for prayer to know whom God wants him to pour into. “Please pray for wisdom of where to invest my time and efforts. Many people are open to the gospel, but few are ready to truly give their life to Christ,” he said. “It can be difficult to know who is serious about pursuing the Lord and those who are just saying they want to.”

Women on Mission will meet Monday, May 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the church. All our ladies are invited to be with us.

\$PARE ¢HANGE



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

I Get Depressed Too: 5 Ways to Cope with Depression

It may shock you, but I get depressed sometimes. Sometimes there is an apparent reason and sometimes there isn’t. Sometimes life is going great, but it still happens. Now my depression would be considered mild, I don’t need doctors or medications to help. Some people do and I don’t begrudge anyone for getting help from trained professionals or counselors for depression. This issue is a common issue that affects many people. Statistics say one in five people suffer from some form of depression. In my personal experience, I would say it is much, much higher. For me it is a part of life, it comes and goes. There is no telling when it will come or how long it will last. However, I have discovered some important things that have helped me to cope and, in many cases, get over bouts of depression. These five things can help Christians struggling with depression:

1. Identify the Cause – 1 Peter 1:6-9

As I said before, sometimes there is a cause and sometimes there isn’t and sometimes I just haven’t discovered it yet. I have found myself getting down in the dumps for no apparent reason only to be shown the reason later. Often for me the reasons are stress and self-worth issues. I am the kind of person that needs to stay busy and to have a purpose, but that also gets me in trouble with saying yes to too many things and getting stressed out. So, for me, balance is very important (we will talk more about that in a moment). Often if I look hard enough and ask the Holy Spirit to show me, I can determine the cause, which means I can begin to heal. If you frequently find yourself depressed, start to examine your life and ask God to help reveal the cause to you.

2. Turn It Back to the Lord – Col. 3:2, Heb. 4:16

One of the really bad things depression does is it turns everything inward. It makes you think about yourself...a lot. That is not healthy. You must get out of your head and turn your mind back to the Lord. When we focus internally we forget that our Lord is walking through life with us. He cares about our feelings and He cares that we feel bad. I begin with prayer and ask God to help me to refocus on Him. I like to journal or listen to worship music. These things help me to put the focus back on God. Sometimes that is all it takes. The point is, depression is not wrong or sinful but having a me-focused attitude is. Jesus wants to us bring glory to Him, to think about others needs first and to serve those around us. We can’t do that if we constantly think about ourselves.

3. Refocus on Spiritual Disciplines – Prov. 3:5-8, Psalm 119:105

Spiritual disciplines are huge! My Bible study and prayer time are essential to my spiritual, as well as my mental health. Please consider your time and how you spend it. I am sure you can carve out some time for the Lord. It really helps bring balance to your life and balance is the key.

4. Seek Balance in Life – Mark 12:29-31

As I said, we need balance. When we focus too much on work, or too much on entertainment, or too much on our kids, or too much on ourselves we get out of balance. We need to have a healthy balance in life. We need to make sure we work hard, spend time with our family, serve in our church, get plenty of sleep, etc. How do you do all of that? By planning your time carefully. Remember, you control your time or your time will control you. Don’t say yes to everything. Family is essential, church is essential, work is essential. Everything else is optional.

5. Don’t Be Afraid to Talk About It – James 5:16, Eccl. 4:9-12

There is a stigma, especially with men, that we can’t talk about feelings. Now I am not advocating we all go around talking like we are on a Dr. Phil episode. But we all need one or two close Christian brothers (or sisters if you are a woman) that we can talk to about this stuff. Sometimes just admitting you are depressed and you need someone to pray for you is all you need to kick it. We also don’t need to be afraid to talk to trained biblical counselors. This is a big deal, we all need help from time to time on a variety of issues. Biblical counseling can and does help. Don’t be afraid to talk to a counselor.

The bottom-line for me is, depression is not always a bad thing. It helps me grow close to God and depend on Him more. It also makes my heart tender so I can see others that are hurting around me. So, don’t look at it as a complete waste, maybe the Lord wants to use it in your life to teach you. Finally, I will leave you with one last encouragement, 2 Cor. 7:6 tells us “God comforts the downcast”. The next time you feel the dark shadow of depression creeping in turn to the Lord for comfort.

STUDENT MINISTRY



Brian Van Doren
Student Pastor
bvandoren@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

One thing that I have noticed in student ministry is how unique our place in history is. We live in a season of time where the younger generation and the older generation have virtually distinct experiences of life growing up. The older generation can remember a time when social media consisted of note passing in class. The younger generation thinks that notes is an app on the Iphone. We are in a unique place in time where human interaction and everyday life looks completely different for one generation than it did for the other. This makes raising children complicated. It is difficult for a person to identify with the issues their child is going through when their life experiences growing up were of a completely different nature than that of their child. But, it is not because the issues are actually different. It is because the issues simply look different and are much more prevalent.

What I mean by this is not that the human heart has changed from one generation to the next. People are still born with a nature and inclination towards sin. But, the ways that sin can be achieved has changed drastically. Such much so that it almost seems like the youth of our time are experiencing life in a completely different way. The way this life is lived is through entertainment. Think about how much time this generation spends being entertained. In fact, I would argue that all the generations currently living are surrounded by and being overcome by a culture dedicated to entertainment. From young to old, who does not have a smart phone with a facebook account and youtube? There are a few, but the vast majority of us are overwhelmed by entertainment.

But why is that bad? Well, entertainment itself is not bad, but what is being communicated through so much media and entertainment is. Consider the access to ungodly things that such high quantities of media grants to anyone with a smart phone or TV. Consider these statistics from BBC, (<http://www.bbc.com/news/education-36527681>):

The researchers questioned 1,001 children aged 11 to 16 and found 65% of 15- to 16-year-olds reported seeing pornography, as did 28% of 11- to 12-year-olds. They also discovered that it was more likely for the youngsters to find material accidentally (28%), for example via a pop-up advertisement, than to specifically seek it out (19%).

This is not to mention the worldviews that are being expressed and triumphed in almost every popular TV show and youtuber there is. What does this mean? Entertainment is discipling our students. And not in a good way, but rather it is teaching them how to be more and more like the world, and less and less like Christ.

So what does this mean for a parent? Throw away all access to any media? No! Well, not necessarily. Do what it takes to help your student fight against sin. If they need entertainment taken away for the sake of their eternal soul; well I think the decision is obvious, even though it may not be easy. But really what this means for a parent is that you need to know what your student is watching, reading, looking at, and posting. They may not be doing anything unhealthy for them; but if they are, they will need your help to overcome it. If you know how they are being entertained, then you can talk with them about what is Christ honoring and what is not. You may have to restrict some things! But that is just like keeping a toddler from touching a hot stove. Parenting has not ended just because they are older. It just looks more like conversations than the word “no.” Finally, do not assume that your student is not being enculturated by media. From middle school and up, if they spend any time with people their age, then they are certainly being exposed to worldviews and content that is competing with their devotion to Christ. But with this knowledge and with Christ on our side, we can make disciples of this generation who will be well prepared to reach the lost in their own and in the next generation.

In Christ, Brian Van Doren

WORSHIP



Jared Mitchell
Pastor of Worship
jmittell@oakhillbc.org

Church Family,

The past month has been a great time of worship and fellowship for our Church Family, as we had a very powerful Easter weekend of worship, and it was a great time that I will not forget anytime soon! We had a powerful night of worship on Good Friday, and I am so thankful for the efforts of everyone who made this event happen. Our musicians, praise band members, childcare workers, and many more contributed to this worship event. I could not be more thankful.

Every year when Easter is over, someone always comes to me and says, “I love Easter music and I’m going to miss singing Easter songs.” Though I am always encouraged that Easter is a powerful time of worship, I want to remind us all that we will never stop singing “Easter” songs, because there will never be a day that we aren’t celebrating the resurrection of Jesus! The resurrection of Jesus is the reason we gather on Sundays, and it’s the reason we have hope every morning when we wake up. The resurrection will never lose its power and singing resurrection songs will never get old. Every Sunday, we will consider Christ together, and what he did for us on the cross. Every Sunday, we will contemplate the cross. Every Sunday, we will celebrate the resurrection and God’s love for us.

A song we have been singing together recently, “Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”, sings these words:

“Come behold the wondrous mystery

Slain by death the God of life

But no grave could e’er restrain Him

Praise the Lord; He is alive!

What a foretaste of deliverance

How unwavering our hope

Christ in power resurrected

As we will be when he comes”

I pray that we will never grow weary of these words, as they are filled with the truth of what Jesus did for us on the Cross. And we will sing these praises for eternity. He is our savior, and that will always be worth singing about! I love you all, and I will see you Sunday!

In Christ,
Jared

Spiritual Development



Nick Scott
Pastor of Spiritual
Development

Ten Questions to Ask to Turn a Conversation Toward the Gospel

by Dr. Donald Whitney

Many Christians suffer with unnecessary fears about sharing their faith. Once they finally get a conversation turned to the subject of the Gospel, however, most believers find that they're able to manage quite well. Much of the time the biggest problem is simply moving a conversation from small talk to "big" talk, the biggest subject of all—the Gospel. Here's a list of questions that can help. Some of them aren't original with me, though I don't recall where years ago I first heard the ones I've borrowed. I've found that the last one opens more doors for the Gospel in the widest variety of situations.

- When you die, if God says to you, "Why should I let you into Heaven?", what would you say? Are you interested in what the Bible says about your answer?
- If you were to die tonight, where do you think you would spend eternity? Why? Are you interested in what the Bible says about this?
- Do you think much about spiritual things?
- How is God involved in your life?
- How important is your faith to you?
- What has been your most meaningful spiritual experience?
- Do you find that your religious heritage answers your questions about life?
- Do you have any kind of spiritual beliefs? If what you believe were not true, would you want to know it? Well, the Bible says
- To you, who is Jesus?
- I often like to pray for people I meet; how can I pray for you?

It may seem awkward at first to ask these types of questions, but it is more loving to ask someone a question that leads to a presentation of the gospel, than it is to save them an awkward moment at the expense of their eternity. Ask for God to make you faithful and bold in your confidence in the truth of the gospel and to give you opportunities to begin conversations with people about the most valuable gift they could ever receive.

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,

Mark 9:35: "And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." Mark 10:45, Jesus said: "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Scripture shows that we are called to serve and to put others before us. I pray that we don't come to church to be served or arrive to ask, "what does this church have to offer me and my family", but instead we come to church with an attitude of, "where can I be the hands and feet and make a difference in the life of the church." When we choose to be obedient to Gods commands for us, we will have much to gain.

As our children's ministry is working towards a new format starting in August. We will have many opportunities for everyone to be involved that has a heart for children. I, along with our current teachers, am excited about the new experience our children will have on Sunday mornings. We know that it takes commitment from our congregation to say that they will serve our children and their families by teaching, assisting, or helping with music. This isn't something that will happen on its own. It takes each person to search their heart and decide if they would be willing to sacrifice their time and commit to serving our church. If you are interested in knowing more about ways you can plug in and help in our children's ministry please contact me. I would love to talk about the exciting opportunities for you and for our children starting in August. Please refer to the needs below to help understand what we are working towards this summer. Thank you for allowing me to love on your children.

God Bless,

April Sharp



JUNE 26TH-30TH 6-8:30PM

Vacation Bible School
Pre-register your child!
@ Oakhillbc.org



Kids Camp

July 24th—27th

(completed grades 2nd-5th)

\$260

Register online
gocrossings.org/kidscamp2017/

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

May 2017 Ministry Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	2 VBS Decorating Team Meeting 5:30 p.m.	3 Regular Wednesday Schedule Deacon’s Meeting 6:00 p.m.	4	5	6
7 Regular Sunday Schedule CHURCH PICNIC 3:00 PM Activities & Inflatables 5:00 PM Dinner *NO SUNDAY EVENING OR STUDENT LIFE GROUPS*	8 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	9	10 Regular Wednesday Schedule AWANA CELEBRATION 6 - 7:30 PM	11	12 WOMEN’S SPRING EVENT 6:00 PM	13 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. State Hospital Engage Event 9:45 a.m.
14 Regular Sunday Schedule MOTHER’S DAY *NO STUDENT LIFE GROUPS*	15 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. KID’S 2:42 FELLOWSHIP @ THE SHARP’S HOUSE 6 - 8 PM	16 LLL SENIOR ADULT BREAKFAST @ CAROUSEL RESTAURANT 8:30 AM	17 Regular Wednesday Schedule DISCOVER OAKHILL 6:00 PM	18	19	20 Food Pantry 9:00 a.m. STUDENT MINISTRY BBQ SALE FUNDRAISER
21 Regular Sunday Schedule GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY	22 Open Gym Basketball 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	23	24 Regular Wednesday Schedule M3 MEETING 6:00 PM	25	26	27
28 Regular Sunday Schedule PARENT/CHILD DEDICATION	29 MEMORIAL DAY **Church Office Closed ** Childcare Closed	30	31 Regular Wednesday Schedule WALTHER’S GOLF & FUN	Sunday Schedule 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Life Groups (Bible Study) 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Life Groups (Bible Study) 5:00 p.m. Student Life Groups - Jr. & Sr. High Wednesday Schedule 12:00 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study Luncheon 6:00 p.m. AWANA 7:30 p.m. Student Midweek - Jr. & Sr. High School Worship Team Practice		



A class for new members and those interested in membership

May 17th • 6:00 pm • Fellowship Hall

Dinner and Childcare Will Be Provided.

RSVP by May 10th.

Sign up in the foyer or email: bgotcher@oakhillbc.org



STUDENT MINISTRY
BARBECUE SALE FUNDRAISER
MAY 20TH
(LOCATION & TIME TO BE DETERMINED)



Senior Recognition Sunday

On Sunday May 21st we will be recognizing our graduates. If you or your graduate would like to be recognized, please contact the church office by May 14th.
Phone: 812-476-3450



Members' Meeting

Mission, Ministry, & Money

Wednesday, May 24th 6:00 PM

THE GROWTH INITIATIVE

Habits for Highly Effective Christians

June 2nd & 3rd

- Friday 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Childcare Provided.
- Sat. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - Kids Praise Practice & Activities.

Sign up in the lobby or register online - oakhillbc.org/events



OHBC BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, June 11th

2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sign up in the foyer.

Student Summer Camp

Dates: June 12-16
Cost: \$290
Registration Now Open!
www.ohbc.org OR
registration forms located

FUGE CAMPS PRESENTS

THE CONVERGENCE

TWO PATHS. CHOOSE ONE.

