

THE OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH MESSENGER

June, 2026

Rev. John Alexander – Pastor
Norma Lewis – Worship Leader
Anna Taylor – Pianist
Christie Rhom – Secretary
828-274-3221

From the
rising of the sun
to its going down
the LORD's name is
to be praised.

Psalm 113:3, NKJV



THE PASTOR'S PEN

How do we achieve success? The world tells us we can achieve success by having a “successful” career, a lot of money, a luxurious house, or perhaps a high social status. Although there is nothing wrong with these in themselves, attaining one or all of these doesn't allow us to achieve success in the eyes of the Lord. The Lord tells us how we can have success in Joshua 1:8 which says, “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Moses had just died, and Joshua was replacing him as God's appointed leader for the people of Israel. God had ordained Joshua to lead the people of Israel into the promised land, and He shared with Joshua what he needs to do to have success. First of all, we must define what the word “success” means in this context. Success in this context is behaving wisely and having Godly wisdom, and this is the kind of success that counts in life.

God gave Joshua three commands for him to do that will allow him to achieve success, and it all has to do with the Word of God: 1.) The book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, 2.) Meditate therein day and night, and 3.) That thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein. In other words, we must continuously read the Word of God and have it in our conversations; study (meditate) God's Word continuously and get it in our hearts and minds; and we must keep His Word (observe) and apply it to our lives.

The Key to Joshua's success in reading, studying, and observing God's Word comes from God being with him (Joshua 1:5). You may say to yourselves, “I don't know a lot about the Bible and I don't know how to study the Bible.” If you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then the Holy Spirit lives inside of you, and He will help you to learn His Word. There are also good study Bibles and commentaries (books) that can help you as well. If you have any questions about how to study the Bible, please come to me and I will be glad to help you.

When we study God's Holy Word, we grow closer to Him, and we are more in tune with what He wants us to do. God's will for our lives is to seek and serve Him, and we will be able to do that if we are spending time in the Bible. May we seek the Lord each and every day!

Pastor John

LISTENING HEARTS

Our WMU met on Saturday, May 9th at 2:00 p.m.

In honor of six of our mothers who are not able to attend church, we put together treat bags and cards and delivered the bags to them. They were so happy to receive them.

Thank you to all who contributed to our Annie Armstrong offering. A check was sent and gift cards were purchased by the Buncombe Baptist Association and sent to the Baptist Children's Home Food Round Up offering, this mission has been completed.

On Thursday, May 21st our Seniors attended a patriotic banquet at Biltmore Church. We had 12 in attendance. It was wonderful fellowship.

To honor our fathers at Oakley Baptist Church, the WMU will make a \$100.00 donation to Baptist Men on Missions.

Next WMU meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 6th at 2:00 p.m.

Love to all,
Sherry and the Women of
Listening Hearts



Grief Share continues Tuesday's from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the conference room, and will continue at the same time each Tuesday through June 16th. Make plans to join. Everyone is welcome.

Jo Ann Young and Sherry Dotson

MUSIC CORNER

Worship Leader:

Galatians 4:22-23 *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."*

Larry and I are so thankful and appreciate the love you have shown us through cards and such a beautiful reception. We are so very blessed to be part of the family.

As we look forward to June, 45+ will meet on June 19th at 6:30 in the Welcome Center and we will be in Daniel 2. It is a time of Bible study, great fellowship, food, and games.

It truly is a fun time to enjoy being together and having lots of laughs.

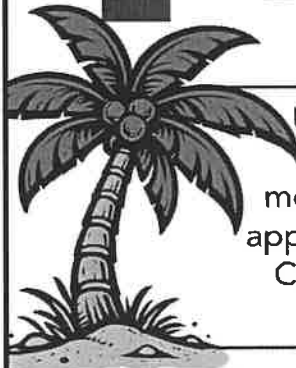
As we serve God together, I want to thank the Praise Team, everyone doing special music, John Fauerbach, David and CJ-in the sound booth and Anna doing such a wonderful job serving at the piano. God is so good and I get to work with the best every Sunday.

I look forward to seeing you every Sunday and know you are missed when you cannot come.

Much love in Christ,
Norma



Puzzle!



Use the Scripture verses below to locate the places in the puzzle. (If a verse mentions more than one place, only one appears in the puzzle, so choose carefully.) Circle each place as you find it.

Answers go: → ↓ ↘

Genesis 2:15	Isaiah 23:1	Luke 24:13
Genesis 11:9	Isaiah 23:2	John 2:1
Genesis 35:1	Isaiah 23:3	Acts 8:5
Exodus 13:18	Jonah 1:2	Acts 11:22
Ruth 1:1	Matthew 3:6	Acts 17:16
1 Kings 18:19	Matthew 4:18	Romans 1:15
1 Chronicles 11:4	Matthew 26:36	

S	I	D	O	N	G	N	I	L	E	S	O
J	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R
E	S	G	A	A	R	C	A	N	A	A	M
R	A	E	T	B	D	C	D	B	E	O	O
U	M	T	H	B	E	T	H	E	L	F	U
S	A	H	E	T	N	E	A	T	N	G	N
A	R	S	N	Y	O	M	N	H	I	A	T
L	I	E	S	R	F	M	T	L	N	L	C
E	A	M	D	E	E	A	I	E	E	I	A
M	F	A	R	S	D	U	O	H	V	L	R
G	H	N	O	A	E	S	C	E	E	E	M
I	J	E	M	B	N	A	H	M	H	E	E
T	O	W	E	R	O	F	B	A	B	E	L

Answers: Garden of Eden, Tower of Babel, Bethel, Red Sea, Bethlehem, Mount Carmel, Jerusalem, Tyre, Sidon, Nile, Nineveh, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, Emmaus, Cana, Samaria, Antioch, Athens, Rome

2026

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