

THE OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH MESSENGER

August, 2026

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

Sunday, August 9th, 2026

10:45 a.m.

94th Homecoming



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Once again, Vacation Bible School was a week filled with a lot of fun, a lot of worship of the LORD, and an enjoyable time of opening the Word of God to learn and to grow closer to Him. This year the theme passage of Scripture was the famous Psalm 23, which is a Psalm of David. David learned throughout his life that the LORD was his Shepherd from the time he was anointed the next king of Israel (1 Samuel 16) and then faced Goliath (1 Samuel 17), through fleeing King Saul as Saul tried to kill him and chase after him (1 Samuel 18-26), even through David's sins (2 Samuel 11), and even when his own son Absalom tried to kill him and take his throne (2 Samuel 15).

Throughout David's life, the LORD protected David, guided him, forgave him, and provided for him and his family. Famously in Psalm 23:1 David said, "The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want (lack)." He did not lack anything he needed because the LORD provided the daily necessities for David. The LORD even provided David with the energy, power, and ability to go against his enemies, and He was with him every step of the way.

Such as it is for God's people and His church! If we trust the LORD and seek his guidance, He will guide us to where He wants us to be. If we put Him first in our lives, then He will provide us with everything we need to live. Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." What things? Everything we need physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

I personally want to thank everyone who helped and participated in Vacation Bible School from July 12th through the 16th. Your willingness to serve is very much seen and appreciated.

Pastor John

LISTENING HEARTS

WMU met on Saturday, July 11th.

Our next meeting is Saturday, August 8th at 2:00 p.m. Please plan to join us.

We are collecting items to help make welcome bags for the Veteran's Quarters. Sometimes these veterans come to ABCCM Quarters with nothing. We want to help by collecting hygiene items, etc. Here are some suggestions of items needed:

- Toothpaste and brush
- Puzzle books/Pencils/Pens
- Notebooks
- Soap/Shower Gel
- Deodorant
- Razors/ Shaving Cream/Gel
- Shampoo

A collection box will be in the back closet of the sanctuary for these items.

Mark your calendars. Homecoming is Sunday, August 9th. Following the morning service, we will have a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall. Bring your covered dish and join us to eat together. Also, let's all invite former church members to join us. It will be wonderful to see some of our "Ole" friends.

Love to all,
Sherry and the Women
of Listening Hearts

VBS NOTE



A few weeks ago we completed another year of Vacation Bible School. We journeyed through the green hills of Ireland as we studied Psalm 23. The kids and adults explored the life of King David and learned to cross from anxiety to peace. The week went smoothly and everyone worked hard. My most sincere thanks to each person involved with VBS. I truly appreciate everyone's willingness to serve the Lord through this powerful ministry!!

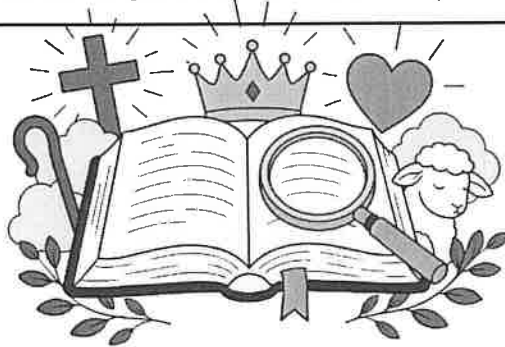
Sharon Fauerbach
VBS Director



Puzzle!

NAMES OF GOD

Every name of God tells us something about his power, love and care for his people. Use the Scripture clues to uncover just some of these special names.



F _____ (Matthew 6:9)

A _____ and O _____ (Revelation 1:8)

I A ____ (Exodus 3:14)

Y _____ (Exodus 6:2-3)

G _____ M _____ H _____ (Genesis 14:19)

G _____ A _____ (Genesis 17:1)

R _____ (Psalm 18:2)

J _____ (Psalm 75:7)

F _____ (Psalm 18:2)

H _____ O _____ (Isaiah 40:25)

Answer key: Father, Alpha and Omega, I AM, Yahweh, God Most High
God Almighty, Rock, Judge, Fortress, Holy One

2026

[illegible]