

The Lamplighter – August 2021

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1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 3 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." 4 So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. 5 But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" 6 And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life." 7 So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. 8 And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes. 9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" 10 But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Job 2:1-10

Friends and Family of Oak Grove,

First, let me thank you for the prayers, calls, texts, and cards of encouragement many of you shared with Rhonda and me as we face this newest adversity. Your encouragement means more than you could ever know. **Rhonda especially treasures the cards that she can read multiple times for encouragement on tough days.**

Sometimes people have a false impression that some Christians have it easy. After more than 30 years in ministry, I will tell you the one absolute truth is that there is no "easy" life. Everyone faces troubles of one kind or the other. As Christians, we understand God never promised an easy life on this earth. **Putting your faith in Christ is not a quick fix for every ailment. It simply means you are never alone.**

Knowing that God is with us may seem a small thing to some people, but for me, it means everything. When he was 120 years old, Moses told Joshua in front of the children of Israel, "And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. **He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.**" Deuteronomy 31:8. Paul quotes from this verse in Hebrews 13:5 "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, **"I will never leave you nor forsake you."** These men shared a tremendous, powerful promise with us: We are never alone; we are never forgotten.

So today, I want to encourage you. You have a Great God who never leaves you in times of trial or distress. Go boldly into the new day, excited about the miracle God is about to perform right before your eyes. We should not live fearful of what could happen but rejoice in the knowledge that we will never face one day alone. We serve a God who is there when we reach out into the light of a new day! There are great days ahead for you, my family, and this church. It is exciting to be part of the Kingdom of God.

Pastor Todd and Rhonda Haley



Our Christian love & sympathy are extended to:

- *Randy, Tammy & Meisha Ball in the death of Tammy's mother, Phyllis Dockery
- *Dinah DeFord & family in the death of her stepfather, Ray Poland
- *Andy & Melissa Caldwell in the death of Melissa's father, Paul Rogers



Dearest Oak Grove Family,

Thanks for all your love and comfort during Hubert's passing. The great meal that was served, Todd's visit to our home several times, and Doug... the choir was awesome! The best we ever heard. Thanks also for the good message from Todd and Benny. We know Hubert was pleased! We love all our church family and may God bless you with his loving grace and peace.

Forever our Love,

Ruby & Wayne Goins, Kathy & David Salyer & family

Thank you for the food you brought after the passing of our mom.

The Strickler Family

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen

Matthew 28:18-20



The Ocoee Mission Team will be leaving Sunday, July, 25 for Cleveland Tennessee. We will be doing work on two houses and doing a block party while we are there. When we go we are not only putting on roofs and painting homes we are impacting the lives of the homeowners and their neighbors. They wonder why someone would want to give up a week of their summer to come down and help them. We are the hands and feet of Christ and we are called to go outside the walls of the church and share the gospel with others. Please pray for our team and for the people we will encounter while at Ocoee. Pray for lives to be changed.

Please continue to Pray for Tony Ritz. The mission team will miss him being with us this year. We praise the Lord for Tony and his family. We give praise to the Lord for Tony's new heart and for answered prayers.

Ramona Adams



It is unbelievable that it's time for another newsletter as we are heading into August. What a wonderful summer it has been! I am grateful to the Adult Choir for the way they have been leading in worship. Thanks also to the many soloists, groups, sound and audiovisual personnel, and anyone that has been involved in the worship aspects of our services.

We had Music Night on July 18th. It was a wonderful night of worship! Everyone involved did a great job! Thanks also to our congregation for coming out to show your support.

On Sunday, August 8th we will have a concert featuring Lighthouse at our Church Cookout. We are looking forward to this special evening. School will begin soon, and shortly after that, our age-grouped choirs will begin. We have choirs available for our preschoolers (Sunbeam Singers) and for children grades 1-6 (Children's Choir). We hope you will make plans for your child to be a part. Lastly, we are always looking for new adults that would like to be a part of our Sanctuary Choir. Now is a great time to join as we begin preparing music for Thanksgiving.

In Christian Love,
Doug



Over the last two months, we have been blessed to have such an incredible study through the book of Job. Now we begin a study in the book of Ecclesiastes. This study promises to be a great one as we look through some of the wisdom of Solomon throughout this book. I hope that you will join us during the Sunday School hour which begins at 9:45 on Sunday morning. If you are unable to make it to our in person service, remember that we have our Sunday school lessons on video and you can find it on our Facebook page and a link to it on our web site.

Blessings,
Eric Counts



**Sunday, August 8th
5:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendars now for our church-wide cookout on Sunday, August 8th. The church will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks. You are asked to bring sides and desserts. Lighthouse is scheduled to give an outdoor concert that evening. It's sure to be a great time, so bring your appetite and a lawn chair and come ready for food, fun and fellowship!



School Supplies

Our Baptist Women's Group is collecting "Wish List" school supply items to benefit teachers at Mt Carmel Elementary School. Items needed include: dry erase markers, tissues, disinfecting wipes, paper towels, Lysol spray, zipper baggies (gallon & sandwich), colored copy paper. Donations may be left in the bin outside of the library. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope "WMU Mission Project".

The following school supplies are also being asked for to benefit our Shoebox Ministry: crayons, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, scissors, and pencil pouches.



We are looking forward to this very special day! Begin inviting family, friends, and former members of Oak Grove to be a part of this service.

If you were a member of the "One Way Singers" – Oak Grove's youth choir from 1974-1985, you are invited to participate in a reunion at the Homecoming Service. Alumni will have time to gather and reminisce and will also participate in the service. Ms. Pearl Frazier, wife of former pastor, Clay Frazier is planning to be here that day.

After morning worship, we will have a covered-dish luncheon in the gym. The church is providing ham, chicken tenders, rolls, and drinks. Please bring sides, salads, and desserts for your family, plus extra for our guests. There will be no evening worship service on this day.

A cheerful what?

Guideposts editor Mary Ann O'Roark recalls hearing the phrase "cheerful liver" so often in church as a girl that she asked her grandmother what a liver is. "It's a part inside you, like your stomach or your heart," Grandma replied.








Rather confused, O'Roark tried to figure out how to be cheerful from the inside out. Then during Sunday school one week, a classmate explained that God loves a cheerful giver, not liver. Years later, however, O'Roark realized that her younger self wasn't too far off the mark. After all, God does indeed love someone who lives cheerfully, spreading the hope and joy that he longs for all people to know!

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
John 10:10



There will be a drop-in Wedding Shower in honor of Ashley Vaughn and Tyler Kleiboer on Saturday, August 14th from 3:00 -5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p>  <p>After AM Worship</p>	2	3	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 Church Council 6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00</p> 	6	7
<p>8</p> <p>5:00</p>  <p>Lighthouse concert to follow</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 Business Meeting (Elect Trustee, Vote on Committees, Officers & Teachers)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 - FH</p> 	13	<p>14</p>  <p>Wedding Shower 3:00-5:00 FH Vaughn & Kleiboer</p>
15	16	17	<p>18</p> <p>6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	19	20	21
<p>22</p> <p>6:00</p> 	23	24	<p>25</p> <p>6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	26	27	<p>28</p> <p>12:30-5:00 – Gym R. Manis</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>WE LOVE OUR TEACHERS! Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day</p>	30	31	