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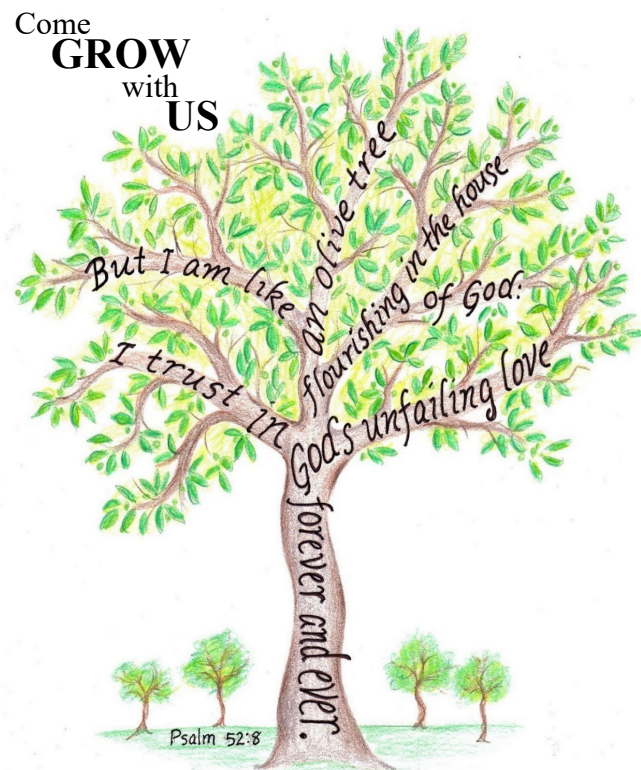
May 2025: Verse of the Month



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES AT OAKLAND

Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday School
 10:00 AM Indoor Service (Sanctuary)
 10:00 AM Worship Service Online (Facebook)

Wednesday 6:30 PM Wednesday Youth (Fellowship Hall)
 6:30 PM Wednesday Worship Online (Facebook)



CONNECTING TO GOD & ONE ANOTHER

May 2025

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Pastor David's Corner

Faith Maturity

Faith maturity, in a Christian context, refers to the process of growing in one's relationship with God, characterized by a deeper, more vibrant, and life-changing faith. It's not just about acquiring knowledge or adherence to rules, but being transformed in one's way of life, led by the Holy Spirit & the Word to reflect the Lord's character and teachings, to be more like God's Son, Jesus.

KEY ASPECTS OF FAITH MATURITY:

- **Moving beyond basic beliefs:** Mature faith involves a deeper understanding of God's character and a more active pursuit of God's will in daily life.
- **Living out faith:** It's about demonstrating faith through actions, such as loving others, forgiving, and showing humility.
- **Seeking God's guidance:** Mature individuals cultivate a close relationship with God through prayer, Bible study, and seeking His guidance in decision-making.
- **Embracing challenges:** We view difficulties as opportunities for growth and trust in God's plan even in the face of adversity.
- **Living a life of service:** We are motivated by a desire to serve others and to bring glory to God.
- **Becoming like Christ:** Mature faith is characterized by a growing resemblance to the character of Jesus, including humility, love, compassion, and self-sacrifice.

EXAMPLES OF FAITH MATURITY IN ACTION:

- **Trusting God in hard times:** When faced with difficulties, a mature believer will trust in God's plan and seek His strength and guidance rather than dwelling on our own struggles.
- **Serving others:** We become proactive in helping those in need, demonstrating love and compassion in our actions.
- **Practicing forgiveness:** Mature individuals are able to forgive others, even when it's difficult, reflecting God's grace and forgiveness.
- **Embracing humility:** We understand our own limitations and seek God's wisdom rather than relying on our own judgment.
- **Living a life of purpose:** We strive to live a life that honors God and makes a positive impact on the world around us.

PRAY

PRAYER REQUESTS

Eddie & Candy Anderson

The Bradley Family

Sam & Wanda Goodwin

Mike & Renee Helms

Rodney Johnson (Renee Helms' Son)

Prayer requests continued on page 4.



Christian Sympathy

Lorraine McClellan, 86, went to be with her Lord and Savior on April 12th, 2025.

A life celebration service was held on Wednesday, April 16th at 2:00 PM in the Chapel of Gordon Funeral Service.

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Lives are being changed both now and for eternity through the impact of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.



Church Membership



For those who desire to join Oakland Baptist Church, please fill out a church membership card, located on the front row of chairs in the sanctuary. Ask an usher or Pastor David for guidance.

April Attendance

Wednesday, April 2 (84 Online)

Sunday, April 6 (55 Indoor + 108 Online)

Wednesday, April 9 (73 Online)

Sunday, April 13 (55 Indoor + 146 Online)

Wednesday, April 16 (131 Online Funeral)

Sunday, April 20 (63 Indoor + 159 Online)

Wednesday, April 23 (51 Online)

Sunday, April 27 (46 Indoor + 88 Online)

Wednesday, April 30 (42 Online)



Haley's Ministry Prayer Requests & Praises

- Pray that the Lord would teach Haley what it looks like to truly delight in and rely on Him in everything.
- Thank you for praying for the Guatemala team—the team is now full! Pray for unity and a successful trip in June. Pray for Haley and her co-leader, Scott, as they get all the details figured out.
- Please pray for Matt and Haley as Matt applies for a new role within Toyota. Pray for wisdom and alignment with God's will for them in this season.



Celebrating Baptisms

Pastor Ron & Living Streams Worship Center held their second baptism service on Sunday, April 27th!

Thank you for your continued prayers for Pastor Ron & this church plant.

You can learn more about Pastor Ron & the Living Streams Worship Center at thelivingstreams.com

Bible Event in the Bible App

A QR code for each Sunday's Bible event in the Bible app is now in the church bulletin. To access the Bible event in the Bible app, just open the camera on your smartphone and aim it at the QR code as if you were focusing in to take a picture. A link should pop up on your phone that you can click on and go straight to the

Bible event in the Bible app.

Each Bible event contains the Scripture for that Sunday, as well as links to the bulletin, newsletter, and webpage.



Entrance for Housing Development

Mattamy Homes, the developer of the subdivision(s) coming behind Oakland, is presently talking to Oakland's leaders about purchasing a strip of land to use as an entrance to the subdivision. The strip of land is located between OBC and the Mormon church.

Here is a **near-to-scale** picture of the land that Mattamy Homes is potentially looking to purchase from OBC:



National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 1st

500 W. Crowell Street



Join others at 6 PM in downtown Monroe for the National Day of Prayer where the group will pray for our country and our leaders.

Treasure Hunt Yard Sale

Wellspring Preparatory School is holding a yard sale on Saturday, May 3rd from 8 AM-4 PM in our front parking lot.



MAY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
BSFL Session: God's Hand in...				1 Jail Ministry	2	3 8 AM-4 PM Wellspring Prep Yard Sale FH/Kitchen Reserved (Evening) Hispanic Church
4 Session 2: ...Meeting Our Needs 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	5	6 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	7 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	8 Sanctuary Reserved (Evening) Living Streams Jail Ministry	9	10
11 Session 3: ...Meeting Others' Needs 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	12	13 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	14 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	15 Jail Ministry	16	17
18 Session 4: ...Restoring Lives 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	19	20 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	21 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	22 Jail Ministry	23	24
25 Session 5: ...Facing Opposition 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	26 Office Closed	27 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	28 6:30 PM Youth 6:30 PM Online Worship	29 Jail Ministry	30	31

April 2025
Offerings
\$12,214.00

Budget Needs
for May
\$17,571.84



PRAY

**Upcoming Sermon Series based on
Bible Studies For Life**

**ELISHA: SEEING THE HAND
OF GOD AT WORK**

- May 4: God's Hand in Meeting Our Needs
- May 11: God's Hand in Meeting Others' Needs
- May 18: God's Hand in Restoring Lives
- May 25: God's Hand in Facing Opposition

**BIBLE
STUDIES
FOR LIFE**

Bible Studies For Life Summary

Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work

I am a less-than-average guitar player but dream of becoming a guitar virtuoso. Recently, I had the opportunity to play an electric guitar that had been endorsed by one of the best guitar players in the world, Eric Clapton.

It was an exact copy of the one he uses on tour. When I strapped it on and plugged it in, it felt awesome. I couldn't believe I was getting a chance to play it! I played a few chords, hoping to sound like Clapton, but was disappointed by what I heard. Once again, I was reminded that it's not the guitar that makes the music, it's the hands.

In our study, *Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work*, each session includes a miracle. In each instance, it was God's hand at work through Elisha. This might cause us to wonder how ordinary people like you and me could be used by God. In this study, we'll discover that when we're in God's hands, He can do amazing things. We're like the guitar; in the right hands, great things can happen. Let this study encourage you to make yourself available to God and watch His hands at work in your life.



Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work
Robert Peay

PRAYER

REQUESTS

Pam Majewski

Lorraine McClellan's
Family

Louise Parker

Irene Welch

Ladies Bible Study
The Spring Ladies Bible Study concluded in early April. Thank you for coming out to this Bible Study!



Wreath-Making Event

Ladies, you are all invited to the wreath-making event on Monday, May 12th at 6:30 PM. Please sign up to bring a snack to share (sign-up sheet is located in the sanctuary).

Car Detailing

Luke Adams (Barbara Gamble's grandson) is a founder of Genuine Aura Elite Detailing, a mobile detailing company based out of Indian Trail serving the Charlotte area. They can work with any schedule or situation and they even offer valet services in most circumstances.

Prices: Cars - \$125; SUV's - \$150; Trucks - \$175; Hand Wax - \$25
Contact Info: 704-877-5897 GenuineAuraElite@gmail.com

Youth Activities

The youth group was busy in April. The group picked up litter around Oakland's campus and along Oakland Road, decorated the cross for Easter, and tidied up the prayer path.

