Interim Pastor: J. D. Glick

Minister of Nurture and Music:

Carol Elmore

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DEADLINE FOR

MAY

VISITOR:

APRIL 15

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Rena' Brown

Carolyn Broyles

Jonna Detweiler

Rita Evans

Nancy Hylton

Josephine Keller

Sarah King

Carla McCauley

Emily Nelson

THE VISITOR

Published by:

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren 2138 McVitty Road, SW

Roanoke, VA 24018

Holy Week Services

Love Feast

On Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m., we will observe

our Love Feast. It is one of the four important observances during Holy Week. The others are Palm Sunday, the Service of Darkness on Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

You may come to observe or to participate fully. For those who may have difficulty kneeling to wash feet, we offer the option of washing hands. All who claim Christ as Lord and Savior are invited. Childcare will be provided.



Friday April 3 7:00 p.m.

Sunrise Service April 5

Join us to celebrate our risen Lord at our Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. on Allstate's front steps.

If you like, you may bring a lawn chair or a cushion for the steps. Some folding chairs will be provided. The rain location is our sanctuary.

Breakfast afterward is at the church, furnished by the Disciples Class.

Easter Sunday Worship Service

April 5, 11:00 a.m.

Sermon:
Finishing the Easter Story
Mark 16:1-8



Spring Bible Study April 22 and 29 May 6, 13, & 20

Mark you calendars for these five Wednesdays. Pastor Tim Harvey will lead us in a study that will focus on grace.

The evenings will begin with dinner at 5:45 p.m., and our study will follow at 6:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed for setup for the meal and cleanup afterward. If you can help in this way, contact Teresa Broyles.

Installation Service for Tim Harvey

Tim Harvey will begin as our new pastor on Monday, April 13. This will be his first day in the office.

On Sunday, April 19, the Virlina District Executive Minister, David Shumate, will be preaching during morning worship. During this service, Tim will be installed as our pastor. David will preside over the installation service. A reception will follow during the after church fellowship time.

We want to welcome Tim and his wife, Lynette, and their children, Emily, Zach, and Rose to our church family.

Welcome New Members!!



Bill Cianelli by Mike Hanger

When longtime Oak Grove attendee Bill Cianelli officially joined the congregation on March 8, by transfer of letter, it was more than just a formality.

"It felt very comforting and I could feel the presence of the congregation and see how welcoming, kind and loving they were to me," he says. "It seemed like the entire congregation came up afterwards to wish me well, and that really meant a great deal to me."

Bill and his family members have been contributors in many ways at Oak Grove for decades, and several years ago Bill took the Exploration Classes for membership while Ed Woodard was still pastor.

"Both Ed and J.D. speak the truth and speak from the heart, and that has always impressed me about both of them," he says.

Speaking of making an impression, Bill's wife Laurie did just that back in the 1980s. Bill had spent his first three years of college at Shepherd College in West Virginia before transferring to Bridgewater for his senior year. He arrived on campus during the summer before his fall semester and one day noticed a coed named Laurie Pugh in the college's yearbook.

"I found out where she lived in the fall and called her up," he says. "I remember one of the girls who answered the phone told Laurie that there was a man on the phone wanting to speak to her because my voice was so deep. I just started talking to her from my heart, and she was just someone I was able to relate to and get along with from the start," he says.

Bill grew up in Hagerstown, Maryland, but his grandparents had a farm in Wythe County, Virginia and he spent a lot of time there as a youngster. He did a lot of farm work, hunting and fishing and loved riding his grandfather's horses.

"My least favorite part was bailing hay because I had really bad allergies, and that used to tear me up," he says.

He also learned a great deal about cooking around the farm from his mother's side of the family. His mom, grandmother, and great-grandmother all inspired him, taught him, and gave him the confidence to cook anything from a recipe and to branch out and make his own creations.

'I would say my spaghetti sauce is probably my specialty," he says.

Spaghetti might be his specialty, but his daughter, Madison, is without a doubt one of his favorites.

"Madison is just amazing, and I love her to death," he says. "She is so special and very wise and mature for her age."

Madison became a member by baptism in 2013, joining her mom and grandparents, Bill and Bennie Pugh, as Oak Grove members.



Doug Craighead

by Joan Simpson

Doug was baptized at Oak Grove on Sunday, March 8, surrounded by his wife and family. He is no stranger to Oak Grove, as he has been attending with his wife, Robin.

I asked, "Why now?" He said he had been thinking about it for some time and told Robin the next time J.D. had an exploration class, he was going to join it. The NEXT Sunday, J.D. announced that another class would be starting, and Doug knew that it was meant for him to be in it. He wants to thank J.D., who was very instrumental in making this important decision in his life.

Doug works at Blue Ridge Color Company and lives in Salem. He and Robin have two children, Hollie and Michael, and four wonderful grandchildren. His mother, Violet Craighead, was a long-time member of Oak Grove. His mother-in-law, Jane Wertz, is also a member.

When not working, Doug enjoys doing yard work, playing golf, and playing with Kylie, Maggie, Eli, and Eulaela. He and Michael love working on their '65 Mustang together.

Let's all welcome Doug to our faith community. May God bless you!!



Bernard Morgenstern

By Bernard Morgenstern

Bernard Morgenstern was born April 19, 1954. It was immediately apparent that he was a peculiar infant. He became a very peculiar child, a very, very peculiar

teen, and a very, very, very peculiar adult. He says the condition has only gotten worse as he has aged.

Bernard is a retired teacher. He taught English and history to middle and high school students in Prince Edward County and Montgomery County as an at-risk instructor. He also helped found a school at the Virginia Baptist Children's Home and taught at Minnick Education Center. "I loved teaching while I was doing it, but you would have to nail me to a chair and chain me to the floor to get me back into a classroom today," he says.

Marlene Morgenstern and Bernard have been married for 36 years. Marlene is a psychiatric nurse at the VA Hospital in Salem. Bernard says he is convinced she is not a very good nurse, because she has been married to him so long and has not helped him at all. He says the hardest thing he had to learn in marriage is to say "yes, dear" with a poker face. Bernard and Marlene have two sons, Joshua and David. Josh is an aero-space engineer, and David is head of security at GE in Salem.

"I became a Christian when I was 14 years old on a church retreat. I was full of zeal for a while but, as happens to many people, I became a part-time Christian most of the time and an in-name-only Christian the rest of the time. Five years ago I had a come-to-Jesus moment and have been steadfast since then. The most important thing for me now is to seek personal right-eousness and share the GRACE of God with others. I want to be a good example of what walking with Christ really looks like." Bernard says.

A year ago, Bernard took up woodworking as a hobby in a "man cave" in his back yard. He makes toys for children and donates them to the church, the Rescue Mission, Goodwill, and the Salvation Army, and he plans to donate to children's hospitals in the near future. "I only sell toys when I need lumber to make more toys. It is not a business venture," Bernard noted. "It is my tithe and offering to God."

"I love God and His beautiful creations, my wife, and my sons, in that order," he said. "On March 18, I added Oak Grove CoB to my list of loves. I have found a church home. I hope you will not find me too peculiar."



Jack Thomas by Rena' Brown

We welcomed Jack Thomas as a new member on March 8, 2015. He is an active member of the Fellowship Sunday School class and has served at Oak Grove in various ways.

Jack was born in Galax, VA on August 23, 1937 and remembers World War II very well, especially D-Day. He graduated from Woodlawn High School in Carroll County and came to Roanoke to attend National Business College. Following graduation in January of 1957, he continued to live in Roanoke. He retired from Pitzer Transfer and Storage where he had worked for 50 years.

Jack was originally baptized in Mill Creek while attending Gladeville Methodist Church and was baptized again at First Christian Church in Galax. He was a member of Calvary Baptist and later Virginia Heights Baptist (Heights Community Church) from where he transferred his letter to Oak Grove.

He was married to Elizabeth Sue Counts for 49 years before she succumbed to cancer. Jack has two daughters, one son, and six grandchildren. He came to Oak Grove after his wife died, because his daughter, Sara King, is a member. Her sons, Matthew, Andrew, and Phillip are known at Oak Grove as the "Three Kings" in our Christmas plays.

Jack is a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge and the Edgewood Lions Club.

Easter Cor Egg Hunt

by Martha Gregory

All of the children, toddlers through 5th graders, are invited to our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday morning, April 4. We will gather in the fellowship hall at 11:00 a.m. Please invite your

friends and family to join with you as we share an Easter story and hunt eggs.

If you are bringing children to the event, we ask you to bring a dozen eggs filled with age-appropriate candy or treats. The more eggs we have to hunt, the more fun for all the kids. We invite anyone in the church to also donate filled eggs. They can be left in the kitchen on Friday or early Saturday morning.

The senior high youth will be gathering at the church at 10:00 a.m. to hide the eggs. Children should bring baskets or bags to hold their found eggs. After the hunting, we will hop into the fellowship hall again, and those with prize eggs can make their choices.

We're all hoping for beautiful springtime weather and lots of fun for everyone.

Joyful Hearts, Please Line Up!



by Jane Grisso

On Thursday, April 23, please join us for a tour of the Homestead Creamery (Booker T. Washington Highway in Franklin County). For a bargain price of \$5 each, we will begin our tour at 10:00 a.m. This will also include samples of milk and a cup of ice cream.

Lunch will follow. Copies of the menu will be available closer to our date. It appears to offer great choices at very reasonable prices. In the afternoon, persons who wish can journey to the nearby Booker T. Washington monument and Boone's Country Store.

Carpooling from the church will be available.



Red Cross Blood Drive Saturday, April 25 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

You may sign up by going to their website, www.redcross.org, or call Karin Musselman.

Bridgewater College Concert Choir At Oak Grove CoB Saturday, April 25 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Oak Grove member, Jon Wilson, is a part of this choir, as is a friend of Oak Grove, Adam Kelly!

Housing is needed for students on Saturday evening. Also, you would need to provide breakfast and transportation to the church on Sunday morning. Contact Carol Elmore if you can help.

Pastor J.D.

by Martha Gregory

Sunday, April 12, will be J. D. Glick's last Sunday of service as Oak Grove's interim pastor. His year here has passed quickly, and he has blessed us each week through our worship services and his ministry of supportive kindness and caring.

God heard our prayers and met our needs when he led J.D. to Oak Grove. He seamlessly became a part of our church family from his introduction to the congregation — the perfect pastor for our transition period. As he and Carol Elmore have shared their love of music and corporate worship, our congregation has been blessed with meaningful Sunday morning services, communions, and Love Feasts. J.D. has delivered God's message to us through thoughtful, learned, encouraging, and challenging sermons.

He has baptized new members and accepted others through transfer of letter. Our attendance and our stewardship of time, talent, and service have not faltered. He has ministered to us in times of personal crisis, illness, and sorrow He shared in our joys and celebration of God's blessings. J.D. has supported and encouraged Oak Grove's congregation as we celebrate God's blessings through our outreach ministries and service to our congregation, district, and denomination. He and Carol have partnered well to answer God's call to ministry here at Oak Grove.

We have enjoyed meeting J.D.'s daughter and grandsons and looked forward to visits from his wife, Becky. Becky has served as music leader and shared her lovely, sweet voice with us on several occasions. She has also shared J.D. with us for at least three days of each week, and for that we are most grateful.

While J.D. will only be making the weekly drive from his home in Bridgewater to Roanoke for another two weeks, he knows the way, and we hope he will make more trips in the future. J.D.'s place in Oak Grove's family as pastor and shepherd is changing, but his place in our hearts and prayers as a brother in Christ and caring friend will remain the same. While we will miss the warm handshakes and hugs and the wonderful laughter, his knowledge shared, encouragement, and caring will always be a part of Oak Grove. We look forward to visits in the future, maybe on occasions as pastor, and always as good friend. We as individuals, and Oak Grove as a congregation, are most thankful for his positive and outstanding answer to our call.

On Sunday, April 12, there will be a reception for J.D. and his family immediately following the worship service. Everyone is invited to join us as we share our appreciation and love with him and his family.

NOAC 2015

"Then Jesus Told Them a Story"

by Carolyn Broyles

Mark your calendars now for September 7-11, 2015 and plan to attend our Church of the Brethren **National Older Adult Conference** to be held at Lake Junaluska, NC. We Brethren are blessed that our denomination values ministry by, for, and with adults age 50+.

NOAC is a Spirit-filled gathering of adults who love learning and discerning together, exploring God's call for their lives and living out that call by sharing their energy,

insight, and legacy with their families, communities, and the world

The registration fee is \$169.00 if postmarked on or before July 15; after July 15 the fee is \$199.00. This **does not** include transportation, lodging, or meals. A scholarship of \$84.50 per person will be offered to our church members after attending conference.

For questions please contact Carolyn Broyles (774-2759) or visit www.Brethren.org/NOAC for more NOAC 2015 information.

Church Board Update

by Rhonda Marcum, Church Clerk

- Tim Harvey would like to have a Spring Wednesday night Bible study. The dates are April 22 & 29, May 6, 13, & 20.
- Neighborhood outreach three new neighbors have been visited with fruit baskets.
- Easter Sunrise Service will be on the Allstate front steps.
- Virlina Ministry & Mission will be May 2 at Cloverdale CoB.
- "The Daniel Plan" women's group plans to meet on Saturdays.
- Bridgewater choir will be here April 25 at 7:30 p.m.
- April 12 will be J.D.'s last day.
- April 19 will be Tim's installation.
- July 12 Annual Conference will live stream at Oak Grove.
- Church service/picnic will be July 19 at Camp Bethel. A service will be held at the church, also.
- January blood drive was successful 29 donors. Next blood drive is April 25.
- Two (2) air pots for coffee have been purchased for the kitchen.
- Knives to replace dull ones are being priced.
- Hoping to find someone in Disciples class to coordinate Sunrise Service breakfast.
- Working on extending stairwell in foyer.
- Continuing installation of new gas furnaces and A/C replacement in the sanctuary.
- Mounted electric projector screen in the fellowship hall.
- Working on fellowship hall furnace replacement.

Roanoke College Jazz and Wind Ensembles Concert



Thursday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. Olin Hall Theater

Under the direction of Dr. Joseph Blaha

The concert is free to the public. Come and enjoy the beautiful music!



Rescue Mission Wish List for April:

Disposable razors, shaving cream, deodorant



Virlina District News

Camp Bethel Spring Workday Saturday, April 4, 7:30 a.m.

RSVP for free meals and free Friday lodging 992-2940 or campbetheloffice@gmail.com.



Summer Staff 2015

Male Counselors are needed at Camp Bethel this summer. Paid and volunteer positions are filled on a first-hired, first-filled basis. For information on serving as a senior or volunteer counselor, go to www.campbethelvirginia.org/summerstaff.htm.

Summer Kitchen Staff

Camp Bethel is looking for ministry-minded individuals to help prepare and serve meals for 1,080 campers this summer. They prefer staff who are able to serve for all ten weeks of summer camp, June 14 through August 22, plus additional training days during the weeks of May 31 through June 13.

For position descriptions, pay, and shift schedules, email Brigitte Burton at CampBethelArk@gmail.com or call 992-2940. Apply at www.CampBethelVirginia.org/jobs.htm.

District Women's Rally

All district women are invited to a rally at Mount Hermon Church of the Brethren (144 Mount Hermon Church Road, Bassett, Virginia) on Saturday, April 25. Registration will be at 9:30 a.m., and worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. The Program will be *The Well-Dressed Godly Woman: Fashion Dos and Don'ts*.

The offering will go to the Martinsville Citizens Against Family Violence. Donations of gently used clothing will also be accepted.

Ministry and Mission in Virlina

Our annual Ministry and Mission in Virlina event will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015, at Cloverdale CoB.

The theme will be "Let Your Light Shine" (2015 District Conference theme). Angela Carr, Pastor of the Laurel Branch CoB, will be the preacher for morning worship.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., and worship will be at 9:00 a.m. Following worship the four commissions and committees of the District Board will host workshops. Continuing education credit (CEU's) will be available for ministers. The workshops are:

- · Churches Don't Need to Die
- Group Games: Making Fun out of Nothing at All
- Is Orange the New Black? What's Real About Prisons?
- Everyone Has One ... What Will You Do With Yours?

Lunch will be provided by Cloverdale CoB. After lunch the Annual Conference delegate briefing will take place. This event will conclude by 3:00 p.m.

Latino Sunday

Come enjoy a Latino lunch with the people of Iglesia Renacer Cristiana after your worship service on Sunday, May 3. Lunch will be served from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Please register your participation in order that we may better serve you.

Your donations will benefit the ministry of Iglesia Renacer Cristiana, located at 2001 Carroll Avenue, NW in Roanoke. For more information or to register, please contact Pastor Daniel D'Oleo at 892-8791 or send him an email to renacer.dan@gmail.com.

Would you like District updates by email? For those who desire more frequent updates of District news and happenings, we offer the EHeadliner by email. If you wish to be added to the emailing list,

Youth News!

April Middle School Events

Sat. April 4

10:15 a.m. — Hide eggs, then help children at Easter Egg Hunt

Sat. April 11

9:00 a.m. — Breakfast at IHOP (at Lakeside)

Wed., April 22

5:45 p.m. — Meal

6:30 p.m. — Youth - Backpack Ministry, then Bible Study with Pastor Tim Harvey

Wed., April 29

5:45 p.m. — Meal

6:30 p.m. — Youth - Backpack Ministry and Youth Group

April High School Events

Sat. April 4

10:15 a.m. — Hide eggs, then help children at Easter Egg Hunt

Fri. - Sun., April 10-12

FaithQuest at Camp Bethel (MUST pre-register)

Wed., April 22

5:45 p.m. — Meal

6:30 p.m. — Youth - Backpack Ministry, then Bible Study with Pastor Tim Harvey

Wed., April 29

5:45 p.m. — Meal

6:30 p.m. — Youth - Backpack Ministry and Youth Group



Looking Ahead . . .

May 3, 8:30 a.m. — Pastors' breakfast with the graduating seniors at Famous Anthony's (SW Plaza)

June 7, 9:45 a.m. — Practice for worship

11:00 a.m. — Senior High/Graduation Sunday

June 19-21 — National Junior High Conference, Elizabethtown College, PA

June 21-25 — Junior High Workcamp, John Kline Homestead



Chidren's News

April is going to be a busy month for the children of Oak Grove CoB. Our Family Ministries events for the month are:

Home Depot Workshop Saturday, April 4

The workshop time is between 9:00 a.m. and noon and takes about 30 to 45 minutes to complete. (This can be done prior to coming to the Easter Egg Hunt.) All materials are furnished by Home Depot on 220.

Saturday, April 4 Easter Egg Hunt

We will meet at the church at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall, where we will hear a story and hunt Easter Eggs (more about this on page 2).

Sunday, April 19 Bowling at Lee-Hi Lanes 1:00—3:00 p.m.

What is an Acolyte? by Martha Gregory



The word acolyte comes from a word meaning "helper". In our church, the acolytes serve as helpers during the worship service. They help minister to their church family by carrying the light of Christ into worship at the beginning of Sunday morning service to light the candles on the altar and by carrying the light of Christ back out into the world at the close of the service. Jesus is for people everywhere, and we are to help share God's light with the people of the world.

If you are at least eight years old, you are welcomed and encouraged to serve as an acolyte. It only takes about 15 minutes to show you all you need to know to help in this way. Most of you have watched your friends be acolytes and have a good idea of what you need to do. I will be glad to teach you and let you practice as many times as you need until you feel comfortable serving. You may continue to be an acolyte through your high school years.

Please let me know if you are interested. Remember, at Oak Grove an acolyte ministers by lighting candles during worship and bringing the light of Jesus into the sanctuary and back out into the world.

Sunday Morning Statistics

Date	Sunday School	Worship	Budget	Special Gifts
March 1	71	134	\$11,259	\$69
March 8	75	178	\$7,255	\$253
March 15	75	138	\$3,291	\$50
March 22	72	156	\$3,052	\$1,122
March 29	77	155	\$7,775	\$330



April 5 Easter Sunday — "Finishing the Easter Story" — Mark 16:1-8

April 12 "The Benefit of the Doubt" — John 20:19-29

April 19 Installation of Pastor Tim Harvey — David Shumate Speaking

A Word from Our Interim Pastor:

On April 12, I will complete a year and two weeks serving as your Interim Pastor. In this, my last article for the newsletter, I would like to share a few reflections on the past year.

- Both worship attendance and giving to the budget have remained steady and have even showed a slight increase over the previous year.
- We have received thirteen (13) new members—four (4) by baptism and nine (9) by transfer of letter and reaffirmation of faith.
- I will have preached forty-four (44) sermons and planned the worship for those Sundays.
- Thank you for your acceptance of the changes I have brought to our order of worship and for allowing me to plan a worship format which is patterned after the biblical model set forth in the experience of the prophet Isaiah in the temple (Isaiah 6).
- I will have planned and conducted three (3) Love Feasts and two (2) bread and cup communions during the morning worship.
- I have conducted one (1) memorial service and am very appreciative of Ed Woodward who picked up that responsibility on several occasions.
- I have learned to know many members of the congregation. I have enjoyed sharing the Sunday noon meal with many of you, as well as visiting in your homes.
- I have attempted to provide pastoral care, especially by visiting the hospitalized, while in Roanoke on the weekend. I am very appreciative of Carol Elmore and the Deacons who have picked up those responsibilities during the week.
- I have regularly attended Sunday meetings of the Executive Committee, Church Board, and Deacons.
- I have been blessed by the music at Oak Grove. Thanks to Randall (organist), Joe (pianist), the choirs (both adult and youth), Diane (handbells), and to Carol for coordinating both vocal and instrumental groups.

I feel the transition from your long-time pastor to this time of interim has gone smoothly, and I am committed to doing what I can to make the transition from my time with you to your new pastor go smoothly as well. Thank you for the ways you have welcomed me into your lives. I have been blessed by my time with you.

J. D. Glick

April 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 5:30 pm — Property 7:00 pm — Choir	2 12:30 pm — Backpack Ministry 7:00 pm — Love Feast	3 7:00 pm — Service of Darkness	7:30 am — Camp Bethel Workday 9:00 am — Children's Home Depot Workshop 11:00 am — Easter Egg Hunt	
5 6:30 am — Easter Sun- rise Service followed by breakfast 11:00 am — Worship	6 5:30 pm — Evangelism & Membership	7 5:30 pm — Handbells	8	9	10	9:00 am — Jr. Highs Breakfast at IHOP 9:45 am — Staunton Ave. Food Distribution	
					Senior Highs — Faith	nior Highs — FaithQuest at Camp Bethel	
12:15 pm — Reception for JD following worship	13 6:00 pm — Christian Education	14 5:30 pm — Handbells	15 Newsletter Deadline!! 7:00 pm — Choir	16 12:30 pm — Backpack Ministry 7:30 pm — Jazz & Wind Concert at	17	18	
FaithQuest				Roanoke College	Sounds of the Mountains		
19 11:00 am — Installation of Tim Harvey 1:00 pm — Oak Grove Family Ministries Bowling	20	21 5:30 pm — Handbells	5:45 pm — Church Dinner 6:30 pm — Bible Study 6:30 pm — Backpack Ministry (Youth)	23 10:00 am — Joyful Hearts	24	25 9:00 am — Red Cross Blood Drive 7:30 pm — Bridgewater College Choir Concert	
26 6:30 pm — Executive	27 7:00 pm — Ministry &	28 5:30 pm — Handbells	29 5:45 pm — <i>C</i> hurch	30			
Committee 7:30 pm — Church Board	Worship		Dinner 6:30 pm — Bible Study 6:30 pm — Backpack Ministry (Youth) 7:30 pm — Choir		Coming in May May 3 — Graduating Senior May 6, 13, & 20 — Spring Bi May 14 — Koffee Klatch		
PLEASE TAKE NOTE!!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2015 — JULY 20-23					May 17 — Church Council May 22-25 — Family Weekend at Camp Bethel		