

Pastor:
Tim Harvey

**Minister of Nurture
and Music:**
Carol Elmore

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(540) 774-3217

**DEADLINE FOR
APRIL
MARCH 15**

**NEWSLETTER
COMMITTEE:**

Rena' Brown
Carolyn Broyles
Nancy Hylton
Josephine Keller
Bryana Lackey
Emily Nelson

**CHURCH OFFICE
SECRETARY HOURS:**
Monday-Friday
9:00-2:00 p.m.

THE VISITOR

MARCH 2024

Published by:

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren

2138 McVitty Road, SW
Roanoke, VA 24018



*Join us on Sundays
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m.*

March Sermon and Scripture

March 3 Third Sunday of Lent
Sinners in the hands of a loving God. Galatians 3:10-14

March 10 Fourth Sunday of Lent
The cross and the lynching tree. John 18:18 – 19:16

March 17 Fifth Sunday of Lent
Do it again, and get it right this time. Romans 5:15-17

March 24 Sixth Sunday of Lent/Passion Sunday
Three trees. Two sinners. One confession.
Matthew 27:15-23; Luke 23:39-43

March 28 Maundy Thursday (6:00 p.m.)
Blessed if you do them. John 13:1-17

March 29 Good Friday (6:00 p.m.)
What's Good about Good Friday?
John 19:17-30

March 31 Easter Sunrise (7:00 a.m.)
Graves to Gardens. John 20:14-15
Easter Morning (11:00 a.m.)
Raised! John 20:1-10

*More
Easter
services info
on page 5!*

Church News

Prayer concerns since the last Visitor:

- ...*Jane Grisso*, recovering from a virus
- ...*Joyce Bolender*, breathing problems
- ...*Wilma Twigg*, recovering from leg injury

I wish to express my thanks to the Oak Grove Church family for the support shown to me and my family at the time of death of my sister, Thelma Gilmore. The cards, calls, food, prayers and many other expressions of support so generously bestowed on us were a comfort at this challenging time.

Garland Brown Family

I was just writing to the church to thank the Seekers Class for their love gift we received not long ago. We've been through some rough times and I just wanted to share that with the church that gift was very appreciated.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Duncan

Lois Sowder’s new information:

Terra Bella
4435 Pheasant Ridge Rd. Room 323
Roanoke, VA 24014

Phone: (540) 566-4847

Dennis and Beth Shearer’s zip code is wrong in the 2024 Directory.

Please change it to 24019.



**When you leave the church,
please make sure the doors
are locked and lights are off
in the area you used.
Thank you!**

Happy Birthday

- 1– Eulaela Craighead
- 2– Olivia Hawkins
- 5– Emily Bender
- 9– Elaine Thompson
- 10– Tanya Pizzullo
- 11– Pat Wright
- 15– Bill Broyles
- 17– Steve Shumate
- 18– Phoebe Hart
- 20– Todd Marcum
- 23– Josh Eakin
- 29– Logan Pullen

Happy Anniversary

- 5– Bill & Carolyn Broyles





Join the Peace & Justice group for a viewing of the documentary *13th* on March 2, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This film is a follow up to the *Just Mercy* movie event in February. Light refreshments will be served, and a brief discussion will follow. You may want to bring a camp chair for added comfort.

13th is an Emmy-award winning documentary that spells out the reason the prison system in the United States is the largest in the World due to a clause in the 13th Amendment in the U.S. Constitution. The 13th Amendment states that “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, EXCEPT AS A PUNISHMENT FOR CRIME whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.” This film examines how this particular clause set the foundation for the evolution of discriminatory policies that have impacted African Americans. It connects the dots from slavery and the convict leasing system to Jim Crow laws, the War on Drugs, and ultimately leading to the mass incarceration crisis in the U.S. This documentary addresses mature and complex problems related to racial injustices in the U.S. criminal justice system.

Oak Grove's 2024 Youth Yard Sale will be held Friday, March 15, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., and Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

There will be breakfast sausage biscuits on Friday only, and on Saturday, lunch of hot dogs and chips will be available. Also on Saturday we will have a Bake Sale. Rhonda Marcum and Clara Micolupo will be organizing the baked goods.

Youth and helpers will set up in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 3, 2024. This is also the day donations of items for the sale can start to be placed on, or in front of, the stage. There will be many tables and chairs to be moved. Pizza and drinks will be provided for the volunteers.





SUNDAY, MARCH 17:

"WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?" - **JOHN 1:29-42**

MONDAY, MARCH 18:

"COME AND FOLLOW" - **MATTHEW 4:12-23**

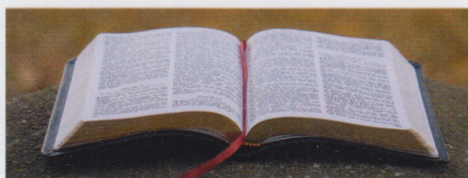
TUESDAY, MARCH 19:

"THE GOOD AND NOT SO GOOD NEWS OF #BLESSED"
 - **MATTHEW 5:1-12**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20:

"BE THE GOOD NEWS" - **MATTHEW 5:13-20**

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY
 9 AM - 11 AM EACH DAY



MONDAY: "ON BEING FAMILY" - PHILEMON 1:1-21 - HOLLINS ROAD COB

TUESDAY: "THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING" - 1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17 - BLUE RIDGE COB

WEDNESDAY: "HELD TOGETHER IN LOVE" - 1 CORINTHIANS 13 - BOONES MILL COB

BETH JARRETT, Pastor
 Staunton Church of the Brethren
 Moderator





March 24, 2024
 Palm Sunday
Sunday School
9:45 a.m.
Worship
11:00 a.m.

 Maundy Thursday
Love Feast
March 28, 2024
6:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service
March 29, 2024
6:00 p.m.

Click [here](#) for more info!



Join us for this combined service with Windsor Hills UMC and Covenant Presbyterian held at Oak Grove.

Easter Sunrise Service
March 31, 2024
7 a.m.
HE IS Risen

This is a combined service with Windsor Hills UMC held at the Oak Grove Outdoor Sanctuary.

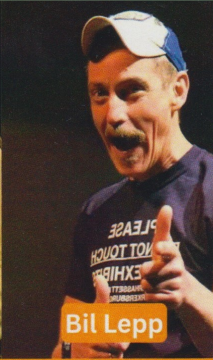
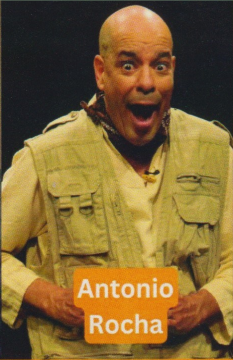
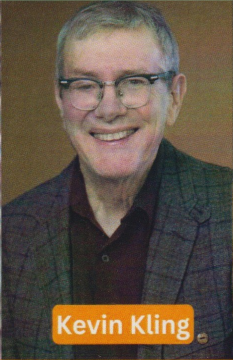

Easter Sunday  DUCK DONUTS
March 31, 2024
Easter Egg Hunt and Duck Donuts
9:45 a.m.
Easter Worship
11:00 a.m.

Camp Bethel News



Click [here](#) for more Summer Camp information!

Camp Bethel 2024 Summer Camps					
	<u>Younger Elementary</u> ages 5-8	<u>Older Elementary</u> ages 8-12	<u>Middle School Resident</u> ages 12-15	<u>Middle School Adventures</u> ages 12-15	<u>High School Resident & Adv.</u> ages 15-18
Week 1 June 9-14	Mini Camp 1A (Sun-Tue) Mini Camp 1B (Wed-Fri)	Elm Resident 1 Elm Resident + Tube 1 Elm 3-Day 1 (Wed-Fri)	MS Resident 1 MS Resident + Tube 1	MS AdvWWRaft Tube 1 MS Adventure Tube 1 River Adv Program 1	HS Adv WWRaft Tube 1 River Adv Program 1
Week 2 June 16-21	Knee-High Day Camp 2	Elm Resident 2 Elm Resident + Eques 2 Elm Adventure 2	MS Resident 2 MS Resident + Eques 2	MS Adv Canoe Cave Climb 2	HS Resident 2 HS Resident + Tube 2 HS Resident + Eques 2 HS Adv Canoe Cave Climb 2
Week 3 June 23-28	Knee-High Day Camp 3	Elm Resident 3 Elm Resident + Tube 3 Elm Day Camp 3	MS Resident 3	MS Adv Climbing Combo 3 MS Adv Bike Canoe Climb 3 MS Adv Paddlesports 3	HS Adv Climbing Combo 3 HS Adv Bike Canoe Climb 3 HS Adv Paddlesports 3 Backpacking Trip 3
Week 4 June 30- July 5	Mini Camp 4 A (Sun-Tue) Mini Camp 4 B (Wed-Fri)	Elm Resident 4 Elm Resident + Eques 4 Elm 3-Day 4 (Wed-Fri)	MS Resident 4 MS Resident + Tube 4	MS Adv Cave Climb Tube 4	Mtns-Beach-Bay Trip 4
Week 5 July 7-12	Knee-High Day Camp 5	Elem Resident 5 Camp Too Sweet 5	MS Resident 5 Camp Too Sweet 5	MS Adv Canoe Tube 5	Camp Too Sweet 5
Week 6 July 14-19	Mini Camp 5 A (Sun-Tue) Mini Camp 5 B (Wed-Fri)	Elm Resident 6 Elm Resident + Eques 6 Elm Resident + Tube 6 Elm Adventure + Tube 6 Elm 3-Day 6 (Wed-Fri)	MS Resident 6 MS Resident + Eques 6	MS Adv Bike Canoe Tube 6 MS Adventure Tube 6	HS Adv Bike CanoeTube 6
Week 7 July 21-26				MS Moonrise Adv 7 MS Adv Bike WWRaft 7 MS Adv Canoe Climb 7	HS Moonrise Adv 7 HS Adv Bike WWRaft 7 HS Adv Canoe Climb 7 Backpacking Trip 7



**Sounds of the Mountains
Storytelling Festival**

April 12-13, 2024 at Camp Bethel in Fincastle, VA

www.SoundsoftheMountains.org

Camp Bethel
Spring Work Day
April 6, 2024
7:30 a.m.
Click [here](#) for more information.



Pastor's Column

One of the last things we learn about Jesus prior to his resurrection is that a guard was posted at his tomb. One unique aspect of Jesus' death was, in fact, his burial. In most crucifixions, the victim would linger near death for a day or two, after which their body would be left hanging for weeks before someone would come along and throw what was left into a barely covered grave. Cruelty, public humiliation, and erasure from history was the whole point of crucifixion, all designed to communicate to the masses that Roman dominance would not be challenged.

Those who opposed Jesus, however, remained concerned. The only thing more dangerous than a rebel is a martyr; if Jesus' body were to disappear, his followers would be able to continue his work.

This is, of course, exactly what happened. But in posting a guard at the tomb, we see that those in authority are afraid. They do not want to lose their position, their power, or their place within the world. Jesus' message to his followers was to take up their cross and follow him into kingdom living. In order to do so, we must be willing to lose those things we deem most valuable.

We spend a lot of time and money guarding those things we deem most valuable. Once we live in the fullness of the Kingdom of God, our locks and keys shall be needless. There is no need to fear in a community of perfect love.

For now, Jesus bids us to lay down those things most precious to us and pick up the one thing that promises eternal life. Take a look at your hands? What is hard for you to lay at Jesus' feet?

Pastor Tim

February Outreach

- Six individuals assisted through our Good Samaritan Fund.
- Food for two families through our Food Pantry.
- Split and delivered wood with Project WARM.
- Backpack Ministry is now distributing 23 backpacks weekly!
- Helped build 20 beds with Sleep in Heavenly Peace.



