

THE VISITOR

FEBRUARY 2026

Pastor:
Tim Harvey

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

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(540) 774-3217

**DEADLINE FOR
MARCH
FEBRUARY 15**

**NEWSLETTER
COMMITTEE:**

Rena' Brown

Carolyn Broyles

Nancy Hylton

Josephine Keller

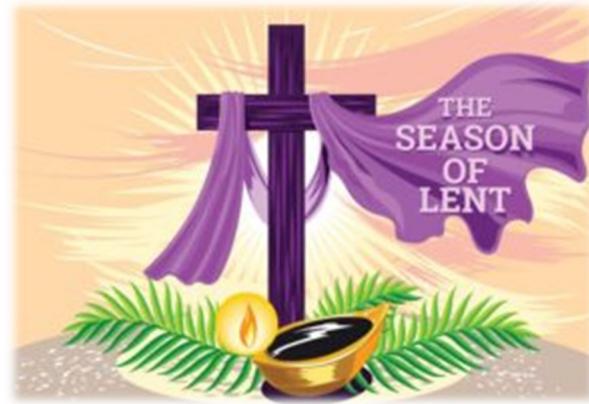
Bryana Lackey

Emily Nelson

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

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.

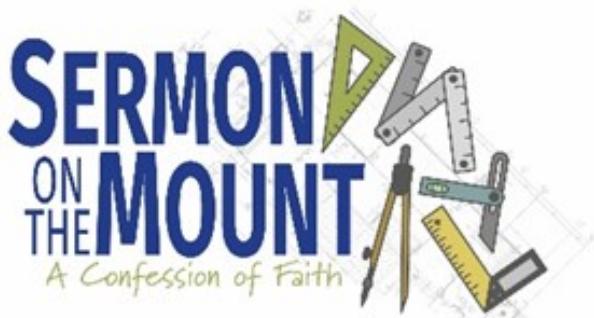
February Sermon Schedule

February 1 **Sermon on the Mount 4: *Poor in Spirit***
Matthew 5:3

February 8 **Sermon on the Mount 5: *Mourn***
Matthew 5:4

February 15 **Sermon on the Mount 6: *Meek***
Matthew 5:5

February 22 **Sermon on the Mount 7 *Hunger and thirst for righteousness***
Matthew 5:6 (First Sunday of Lent)



Church News

Prayer concerns since the last Visitor:

- ...Betty Wills, *Brandon Oaks Rehab*
- ...Jake Keating, *recovering from surgery*
- ...John Phillips, *Friendship North Rehab*

*Sympathy and prayers to the family of Gladis Lehman.
Gladis passed away on January 23, 2026.*

Monica Rich and John King

*Together with their families joyfully
Invite you to their wedding celebration*

*Saturday, February 28, 2026
Five O'clock in the evening*

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren

The Peace and Justice group will meet on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. with both in person and Zoom options. Our speaker will be Pastor Marla Biber Abe, pastor of the Lynchburg Church of the Brethren. She will speak on her current experiences with U.S. Immigration policy, and how that impacts persons and congregations in the Lynchburg area.

You are invited to join us. Contact the church office or our convener, Ellen Phillips, for more info or to receive the Zoom link.

January Outreach

- Three individuals assisted through our Good Samaritan Fund.
- Food for two families through our Food Pantry.
- Backpack is delivering 16 bags weekly!
- Project WARM splitting and delivering wood!

Happy Birthday

- 2- Rhonda Marcum
- 2- Carol Leddy
- 5- Norm Pullen
- 6- Sam Phillips
- 7- Mark Detweiler
- 10- Rose Harvey
- 11- Vicki Turner
- 12- Sylvia Shepherd
- 14- Clark Goodman
- 15- Nelson Musselman
- 17- Ben Phillips
- 18- Lincoln Yingling
- 19- Kathie Robinson
- 20- Gabriel Wimmer
- 24- Jamie Knox
- 24- Carol Hambleton
- 28- Lucy Pullen

Happy Anniversary

- 19- David & Eowyn Hernandez
- 20- Brent & Sherrie White

Virlina District Youth Pizza and Hockey Game

**February 7, 2026
5:30 p.m.**

Meet at Hollins Road CoB (2404 Hollins Rd.) for pizza then carpool to a Rail Yard Dawgs hockey game!

Contact
Carol Elmore
if you are
interested.

\$10/youth.



Oak Grove Church of the Brethren's



February Happenings



February 2026 Highlights

- 7-District Youth Pizza and Hockey at 5:30 p.m.
- 8-Leadership Team meeting at 12:30 p.m.
- 8-Brethren Bowl at 2:00 p.m.
- 15-Peace and Justice Movie at 12:45 p.m.
- 18-Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00 p.m.
- 27-Roundtable at Bridgewater through March 1.

Camp Bethel News



Click here for more info!

Matthew 18 Conflict Transformation Workshop Registration Form

The Virlina District Discipleship and Reconciliation Committee and the On Earth Peace Assembly will be sponsoring a Matthew 18 Healthy Conflict and Communication Workshop on **Saturday, February 7, 2026 at Camp Bethel**. Led by Andrew Duffy (conflict transformation expert, not Pastor Andy Duffey of Antioch COB) and Ewun Benjamin. The Matthew 18 workshop is a beginning - a first step - a starting place toward understanding the conflicts in our lives and how to work through them in healthy ways. The different parts of Matthew 18 work together. Throughout the workshop, we try to see how each section helps us to understand how to live together as a "church", particularly when there's conflict or brokenness.

What to expect:

- Consider conflict in Biblical perspective, especially related to teachings from Matthew 18
- Reflect on your approach to conflict and communication
- Consider how power, reconciliation, and dignity help build healthy relationships
- Learn and practice tools for healthy communication and conflict, immediately applicable in family, church, work, or community settings

Where: Camp Bethel

When: Saturday February 7, 2026 from 9am to 5pm

Cost: \$55/participant (*Congregations sending 5 or more participants will receive a discounted price of \$45 per participant.*)

Black History Month Film & Lunch

The Peace & Justice Group invites you to join us on Sunday, February 15, 2026 following worship at 12:45 p.m., for a special Black History Month gathering. We will watch *The Six Triple Eight*, a film that tells the inspiring true story of the only all-Black, all-female U.S. Army battalion to serve overseas during World War II, highlighting their perseverance, service, and commitment to excellence in the face of discrimination. (Rated PG-13 | runtime varies by version)

The film includes historically accurate portrayals of discrimination that may be challenging for some viewers. Parents are encouraged to use their discretion.

Pizza will be provided as we gather to eat, watch, and reflect together. To help with planning for the lunch, please let [Ellen Phillips](#) know if you plan to attend.



Pastor's Column

One sign of a healthy decision making process is the ability to distinguish between *the way things have always been done* and *the way things can most meaningfully be done*. Sometimes these are the same thing. Our ability to maintain meaningful traditions while working toward important goals provides much of the comfort, peace, and stability we need to grow in faith and in love for Christ and the church.

The difficulty comes when our ability or interest in maintaining traditions changes. I sometimes hear people say, “I don’t like change; I wish things could be the way they once were.” It’s easy to be sympathetic to this view. What it overlooks, though, is that change is constant. People age. Beloved church members who have served the congregation for decades die. New members join the congregation, eager to use their gifts, talents, and interests to bless us all.

Change is hard and navigating it successfully is a challenge that opens the door to conflict. And yet it is possible to **both** delight in new growth **and** struggle with new ideas at the same time. Joy and conflict make for unexpected—and contentious—traveling companions.

In times like these, an effective way forward can be to ask, “How can we do the things we want to do in a way that makes sense for where we are now?” It is a choice to honor the traditions that mean so much to so many, while utilizing the talents and ideas of the congregation we currently have. Such thinking honors the past and recognizes the present, enabling us to helpfully prepare for the future.

Pastor Tim

Men's Bible Study Schedule

THE PRAYERS OF JESUS

February 4 Jesus prays at strategic times

Matthew 14:19, 15:36; Mark 7:33-34; Luke 3:21- 22, 6:12-16, 9:29, 22:31-34; John 11:41-42

February 11 Jesus as a model of prayer

Matthew 6:1-18; Luke 11:1-4

February 18 Ash Wednesday service

February 25 Dinner and devotions

February 2026



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|--------|---|
| 1 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship | 2 9 a.m.- Crafts | 3 6 p.m.-Peace & Justice (more info on pg. 2) | 4 10 a.m.- Handbells 6 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.-Choir | 5 9:30 a.m.-Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.-Games 5:30 p.m.- Evening Commissions 6:30 p.m.- Christian Education | 6 | 7 8 a.m.-Project WARM 5:30 p.m.- District Youth Pizza and Hockey Game |
| 8 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship 12:30 p.m.- Leadership Team 2 p.m.- Brethren Bowl | 9 9 a.m.-Crafts 12:30 p.m.- Backpack | 10 | 11 10 a.m.- Handbells 6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study 7 p.m.-Choir | 12 9:30 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.-Games | 13 | 14 8 a.m.-Project WARM  |
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| 22 9:45 a.m.- Sunday School 11:00 a.m.- Worship | 23 9 a.m.-Crafts 12:30 p.m.- Backpack | 24 | 25 10 a.m.- Handbells 5:30 p.m.- Men's Dinner & Devotions 7 p.m.-Choir | 26 9:30 a.m.- Women's Faith Study Group 2 p.m.-Games | 27 | 28 8 a.m.-Project WARM <i>Roundtable at Bridgewater February 27-March 1.</i> |