

Oakwoods Baptist Church

2006-2007

As the membership at Oakwoods Baptist Church continued to grow in 2006 and 2007, the deacon board increased from seven members to nine. The nine deacons voted into service by the membership of the church were: Keith Miller, Chair, Bruce Johnson, Vice Chair, Phillip Johnson, Tony Bailey, Danny Johnson, William Joines, Jerry Smithey, Kenny Owens and Michael Goodman.

Oakwoods Baptist continued the strong tradition of supporting missions with several endeavors throughout the year. In September 2006 Oakwoods became a host site for the national mission program, Angel Food Ministries. This mission program allows members of the community to purchase staple food items at a fraction of their retail cost once a month. Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief to communities throughout the United States. Angel Food works through churches and community organizations in over 32 states. Angel Food Ministries donates \$1 per regular unit sold to the host churches benevolent fund. Since its inception, Angel Food Ministries has contributed over \$12 million into host benevolence funds. Oakwoods Baptist is fortunate to be a host site.

In the spring of 2007, Rev. Robert Duncan led a team of church members on a mission trip to Brazil. This is in continued support of the Brazilian church the Oakwoods contingent helped established several years ago.

Revival has always been an integral part of the Baptist faith. Oakwoods held two revival services this past year. In October, revival kicked off on October 15th with Rev. Tim Pruitt. The uplifting service continued through October 18th with messages from Rev. Dean Crane, Phil Hoskins and Ronnie Milsaps. Rev. Lawrence Goodman, whose has deep roots at Oakwoods and in Wilkes County, preached revival in May 2007.

For decades a historical cemetery has been neglected and overgrown on property adjacent to Oakwoods Baptist. Following the acquisition of the property, church members renovated the cemetery. Long forgotten graves date back to the ante bellum period. The cemetery is now clear of underbrush and debris, as well as neatly manicured grass and clean grave markers.

As God blessed Oakwoods with membership growth, a need for more parking arose. With the purchase of adjacent property, construction began on a new parking lot. A total \$197,044.00 constructed the new lot, including the engineering and other applicable permits.

Oakwoods is proud to have nurtured the spiritual journey for several ministers over the years. This year Rev. Eddie Tharpe was licensed as a preacher of God's word by Oakwoods Baptist Church. His ordination will be scheduled at a later date.

Rev. Scott Townsell was hired as the part time youth minister beginning September 1, 2007. Scott is a Wilkes County native who grew up in Boomer. He comes to Oakwoods with his wife Melanie, their two daughters and one on the way.

This past year Oawoods lost several members to death. They were James Cicero (JC) Anderson (a deacon) on October 2, 2006, Rev. William Clifford Johnson on November 23, 2006, Teddie Gray Cassell on February 13, 2007, Mrs. Betty Soots Smithey on April 14, 2007 and Mrs. Nellie Johnson Hayes on June 17, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil and Linda Johnson Revis

JoAnn Call