

## **Oakwoods Baptist Church**

**2007-2008**

Oakwoods Baptist Church received many blessings during the 2007-2008 year. In addition to an ever growing membership, ministries continued to flourish.

Scott Townsell was ordained as a minister on Sunday, November 11, 2007. The service was held at Baptist Home Church during the 7:00 pm worship hour. The service was officiated by Reverend Robert Duncan and Reverend Darrell Tate. Rev. Duncan delivered the charge to the church and Rev. Tate delivered the charge to the newly ordained Rev. Scott Townsell. The following ministers were on the ordination council: Rev. Jeff Blackburn of Baptist Home Baptist Church, Rev. Scott Church of Mt. Valley Baptist Church, Rev. Robert Duncan and Rev. Wayne Osborne of Oakwoods Baptist Church, Rev. Steve Smith of the Stone Mountain Association and Rev. Darrell Tate of Baptist Home Baptist Church.

Danny Johnson served as Chairman of the Deacons for the 2007-2008 year. Ed Ross was elected as a deacon in 2007 and was ordained October 14, 2007. Three new deacons were elected in August, 2008. Bruce Johnson, a previously ordained deacon was elected, and will be joined by Randy Gambill and Fletcher Reeves, both of which will be ordained at a later date.

Missions also continued to grow both at home and abroad. In January, 2008 a mission team traveled to Honduras. Rev. Robert Duncan, Dr. Steve Wessels, Dr. Pinkerton, Sharon Wilcox, and Angela Reins represented Oakwoods Baptist Church. During the summer of 2008 members of the church traveled to Kansas for missions. Additionally, 81 pocketbooks stuffed with lotions, tissue, toothbrushes and other personal items, were collected on Dec. 21, 2007. The Women's Missionary Union delivered the pocketbooks to Bradshaw, West Virginia. Within the church, the Stephen Ministry also continued.

The pictorial church directory was updated in 2008. Pictures were taken during March and April.

The church Treasurer and Budget and Finance Council was authorized by the church to borrow \$150,000.00 from First Citizens Bank to fund Phase 1 of the parking and land development project. This phase allowed land adjacent to the church to be cleared and graveled for additional parking.

Several special services were also held during the year. Revival was April 13-16. Reverend Rick Corum preached the 4 days of services. Homecoming was held on September 23, 2007. The message was delivered by Rev. Mike Hamby, a former member of Oakwoods Baptist Church. Sunrise Service was held on Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008. The service was held in the old cemetery located behind the church. A fellowship breakfast followed.

Staff changes also occurred during the year. On April 20 during the morning worship service, the church voted by secret ballot to make Rev. Scott Townsell the full time Associate Pastor/Minister of Youth. He had been serving on a part time basis.

During the year, three long time staff members retired or resigned. Rev. Carlton Waddell, Minister of Education, resigned from his position due to health concerns. The church voted to eliminate this position instead of filling the vacancy.

Mack and Gracetene Johnson retired as church custodians after twenty-three years of service. During the early 1960's, Gracetene Johnson and Sally Hayes cleaned the church as volunteers, before custodians became a paid position. A special service of appreciation was held August 31, 2008, followed by a covered dish meal in honor of Mack and Gracetene.

Sadly, eight church members died during the year. The eldest member of the church, Sally Walker Hayes died at age 95 on August 13, 2008. Royal Stroud died August 31, 2007. Nettie Presnell Anderson died September 15, 2007. Zane Gray Foster died November 15, 2007. Annie Lee Huffman died February 3, 2008. Douglas McArthur James died May 8, 2008. Claudine Church Adams died June 15, 2008. Genio Smithey died August 27, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phil and Linda Johnson Revis