



# ZION'S PATH

Volume 14, Issue 2 - March/April 2018

Since 2005, a publication of the

**Church of Jesus Christ**

**Oak Grove Restoration Branch**

*"... and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths ..."* Isaiah 2:3

## MARCH-APRIL PREACHING SERIES

Beginning March 11, OGRB will conduct a preaching series on Sunday mornings through March and April. The themes for the series will be as follows:

**March** - The Life and Ministry of Christ, Passion Week, and Crucifixion

**April** - The Resurrection of Christ

\*\*\*Please come in the spirit of preparation through prayer and fasting. There will be standing and guest ministry.\*\*\*

## EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

On Easter morning, April 1, we will be having a sunrise service beginning at 6:30 am on the east side of the church.

All are welcome to come to this service of remembrance and celebration.

After the sunrise service, we will move inside for our sacrament service at 8:30 am, which will include the bell choir and adult choir.

\*\*\*Please come in the spirit of preparation through prayer and fasting.\*\*\*

*"Keep all the commandments and covenants by which ye are bound, and I will cause the heavens to shake for your good, and Satan shall tremble, and Zion shall rejoice upon the hills, and flourish; and Israel shall be saved in mine own due time. And by the keys which I have given shall they be led, and no more be confounded at all. Lift up your hearts and be glad; your redemption draweth nigh. Fear not, little flock, the kingdom is yours until I come. Behold, I come quickly. Even so. Amen." (D&C 34: 6a-d)*

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# The Life and Ministry of Christ

--- by Elder Bill Jones, Associate Pastor

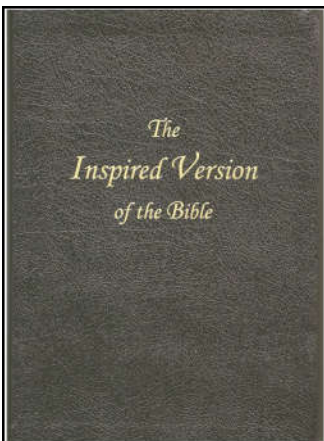
Our theme for the months of March and April will seek to center our thoughts on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice and love for us brought the gift of immortality and eternal life.

We should think upon the fact God sent His Son into the world. His life was truly a sacrifice because of who He was.

The Book of John bears record of who Christ was. *"In the beginning [He] was with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made which was made. In Him was the gospel and the gospel was the life, and the life was the light of men . . . the gospel was preached through Him [from the beginning] . . . [and] as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons [and daughters] of God; only to those who believe on His name."* (John 1:1-4, 12)

He brought us the more abundant life. He appealed to our higher moral values. He taught us repentance through our love for Him and our obedience to His laws.

At one time, Apostle Oakman said, "The success of Christ's ministry was not because of the miracles He worked or the great love He professed for mankind or the beauty of His doctrine or the persecutions or martyrdom He endured. It was because all those things were done in unity. He walked among men as though He were one of them. It was His combination of greatness and self-sacrifice that won their hearts."



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**Mark  
Your Calendar!**

**CMRB  
REUNION**

**June 9-16**

## Ordination of Craig Hill to Elder

On Sunday evening, January 28, Craig Hill was ordained to the office of Elder by his father-in-law, Elder Bill Jones, and Elder Eric English.

*“Wherefore, now let every man learn his duty, and to act in the office in which he is appointed, in all diligence. He that is slothful shall not be counted worthy to stand, and he that learns not his duty and shows himself not approved, shall not be counted worthy to stand. Even so, Amen.”*  
(D&C 104:44)



At the January 28th ordination service for Craig Hill, the men pictured above offered special music. From left: Charlie Booth, Aaron Smith, Mike Lidberg, Karl Anderson, Bill Jones and Mark Griffin.



## Senior Adult Luncheon — by Susan Booth

On Saturday, February 10, 2015, 11am to 1pm, Oak Grove Restoration Branch Senior Adults (age 55 to ???), enjoyed a delightful meal with sweet, heart decorations to signify the love of God in our lives, games and entertainment planned by the Women's Department. This annual event is designed to honor our seniors and their years of service.

The delicious lunch was prepared by loving hands, and included a Caesar salad, roasted turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, green beans and butter-sauce-glazed carrot cake for dessert.

A Scripture trivia game was played and everyone enjoyed the competition. Hal Chadwick designed and built the buzzer system and kept score. Pat Chadwick and Connie Spivey read trivia questions to the contestants. Sherrie Smith and David Spivey won first place in their respective games and Edie Cutshall and Ron Sheldon placed second respectively.

Charlie and Susan Booth provided the program on the subject of "God's Love," which included humorous as well as meaningful stories and testimonies. They also played violin and guitar music, and sang some songs written by Charlie and his family members.

Attendees included Hal and Pat Chadwick, David and Connie Spivey, Charlie and Susan Booth, Lyle and Sherrie Smith, Delores Champ, Glen Friend, Ed and Flossie Geiersbach,

Don and Edie Cutshall, Mark and Sherri Nunn, Jim Cawley, Chuck Edwards, Howard and Wilma Rash, Larry Wheeler, Duane and Charlotte Anderson, Shirley Goins, Ron and Julie Sheldon, and Dennis Heater.

Kitchen staff and helpers included Pat Allen, Chris Allen, Rachel Hedrick, Sheila Lidberg, and Lisa Postlethwait.

Everyone pitched in afterwards and assisted with clean-up, which made it a very pleasant event indeed!



# Adult Church School Class Highlights -- by Charlie Booth

I have been privileged to attend the Sunday morning OGRB Adult Class being taught by Elder Bill Jones for the past year. Brother Bill prepares very thoroughly, sharing from the heart, and leads us through topics relating mainly to the cause of Zion and what we—as individuals and a Church—should be doing.

Using the writings of Arthur Oakman, Evan Fry, and others, Bill has been carefully laying the groundwork for us to have a better understanding of the concept of Zion in these latter days.

Following are some of the notes I have scribbled down during the past year of classes. I hope they serve to enlighten and challenge you!

*“It is the nature of the Kingdom to be the center of life, the point of reference by which we measure all things. It loses something vital when it is reduced to a special interest or moved to the edge of our thoughts.”*

*“God has created us with purpose. His goal for us is participation in His Kingdom. It is only by the promises of God that we are made partakers of His power. Apart from His promises, there is no authority or power, there is no way we can partake in or achieve the ideals and the hopes He has placed in our souls.”*

*“A humble spirit allows the Holy Spirit to teach us.”*

*“The Lord seeks to come into human life by the power of His Spirit through the Church. As we accept membership in the Church, He then expects us to spread the gospel to others. He needs us and we need Him to need us.”*

*“We must look beyond our trite attempts to define Zion and gaze into the heart of God. There we will find answers to all the longings of our soul—longings placed there by Him in the first place.”*

*“We need to look for opportunities to seek out others to share this enlightenment we have. We must remember there’s no automatic salvation through baptism. Enlightenment is a process.”*

*“Without tapping into the source of power, we cannot have the fullness of the light.”*

*“The light from God is always there and full of maximum intensity. The light we allow through determines our own illumination.”*

*“There is a difference between reflecting the light and being filled with the light.”*

*“I hope our class has spurred in you the desire for adventure—the adventure of learning and searching out the understanding of God and His purposes, for He wants us to ascertain them.”*

**Come to class and learn!**

## Upcoming Events

**Mar 2-3** Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner  
**Mar 4** Combined Communion Service at Waldo Restoration Branch  
**Mar 6** OGRB Women’s Homemaker Class  
**Mar 9-11** Sr. High Retreat at Odessa Hills  
**Mar 14** Spiritual Stewardship Groups meet  
**Mar 15** Senior Adult Potluck 12:30pm  
**Mar 16-18** Jr. High Retreat at Odessa Hills  
**Mar 17** OGRB Women’s Retreat 8:30am-12:30pm  
**Mar 18** Spiritual Stewardship Group #2/3 at Butler  
**Mar 23-25** Older Youth Retreat at Odessa Hills

**Apr 1** **Easter Sunrise Service 6:30am**  
**Sacrament Service & Choirs 8:30am**  
**Apr 7-8** Junior Retreat at Odessa Hills  
**Apr 14** Women’s Spring Retreat at Atherton RB (Restoration Women’s Council)  
**Apr 15** Spiritual Stewardship Group #4 at Butler  
**Apr 28** OGRB Women’s Prayer Breakfast at the Home of Pat Allen 9:00-11:00am  
**June 9-16** CMRB Reunion at Odessa Hills  
**July 30-Aug 3** OGRB Vacation Church School  
**Sep 22-23** Women’s Fall Retreat at Odessa Hills

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## Women's Department News --- by Pat Chadwick

### Do You Have Your New Calendar?

Ladies, the new 2018 calendar is out so be sure and pick yours up at the church. Remember that the bulletin inserts you get on communion Sunday are connected to the calendar page of that month and are to keep us focused on our goal of becoming chosen vessels for His Kingdom. Please be sure and look at the back of the calendar where we have listed some important aspects of becoming chosen vessels. Also don't miss the letters from Don Cutshall and our Patriarch Mike Ballantyne, which are inside the front cover.

### Coming Up

We have a lot coming up. Don't forget the **"Homemakers Meetings"** — the next one is Tuesday, March 6th. Then on Saturday March 17 we will have our **Women's Retreat for our Oak Grove Women**. It will run from 8:30 to 1:00. Pat Chadwick and Bonnie Anderson have the classes. There will be a brunch served between classes. Please be watching for the poster and the flyer in your church bulletin.

On April 28 we will have a **Prayer Breakfast** at the home of Pat Allen. Mark your calendars for all these events and come and fellowship and worship with your sisters in Christ. By coming together we can strengthen, encourage, and be a blessing to each other, as well as draw closer to our Lord and Savior. It is important to be a part of the body of Christ and come together often. **[Note: You may have noticed that there is no mother/daughter luncheon this year. We are planning to have them every other year.]**

### Visiting Program

We are starting a visiting program! This is an important ministry and there is a great need for us to be visiting the elderly who cannot get out to church and others who may be house bound. We'll be meeting at the church once a month to go out and visit. Our first visits will be **Tuesday, March 20, at 9:30**, so mark your calendars! Please let Pat Chadwick or Connie Spivey know if you are planning on taking part

in this ministry. We need a count so we know how many visits to set up. (We will go out by two's.)

### A Thank You

Just want to thank everyone for the lovely wood plaque with the tree of life given to me last fall. There is no way to thank you individually so wanted to do it in the newsletter, where it reaches everyone. The plaque is hanging in my study where I can see it often, and it is very meaningful to me. When I look at all the leaves/thumbprints I am humbled and want you to know that I love all the women here at Oak Grove. God has placed you on my heart and you really are my sisters in Christ. Thank you and I love you!!

### Last but Not Least

During the last few weeks, with the school shooting in Florida, once again I am reminded of the scriptures that counsel us to be about building God's Kingdom — Zion. It is my hope that the programs we have laid out for you, during the coming year, will help us all to grow spiritually and truly become those chosen vessels God has called us to be.

Dark clouds of hate and evil are all around us; let us not delay in our spiritual preparation. We need the Kingdom! Let us work hard to have oil in our lamps and grow spiritually that the kingdom may become a reality. If we will prepare ourselves, God will bring it forth quickly. Keep the vision of Zion in your hearts!





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## The Freeze Point --- by Susan Freeze

Several years ago, a friend at church gave a testimony on Wednesday night. She shared that she had her infant grandson for the day. It was the first time she had watched him at her house and all day he had been fussy and irritable. She said as they brought him to church that night and walked up the sidewalk and through the door, his whole body relaxed. Having been at church many times before, he recognized where he was and felt secure.

That testimony has been like a word picture to me. Church is like a shelter.

After my brother-in-law was killed in a work accident, our whole family was devastated. During that time, I stood with my sister while they told her that her husband died. I stood by again when she told her children, and sat with her while they planned the funeral. We had one visitation in Independence, then traveled to Iowa for a second visitation and the funeral.

I remember walking into church that first time after the accident, feeling weak, worn and exhausted. I remember the great concern for us that I saw on your faces. Danny Hight was the first one that talked to me and I literally cried on his shoulder. Before the service started that day, a special prayer was said for our family.

Going to church or anywhere can be hard when your emotions are so raw, but I was glad that we made it back, for the love and support were much needed.

When my friend brought her grandson that day, he seemed soothed by entering into the building. But the church is really not a building; it is the people and the salvation that Jesus offers that make up the Church. The church should be a refuge, wherein the Spirit of God resides to warm and comfort those that enter in.

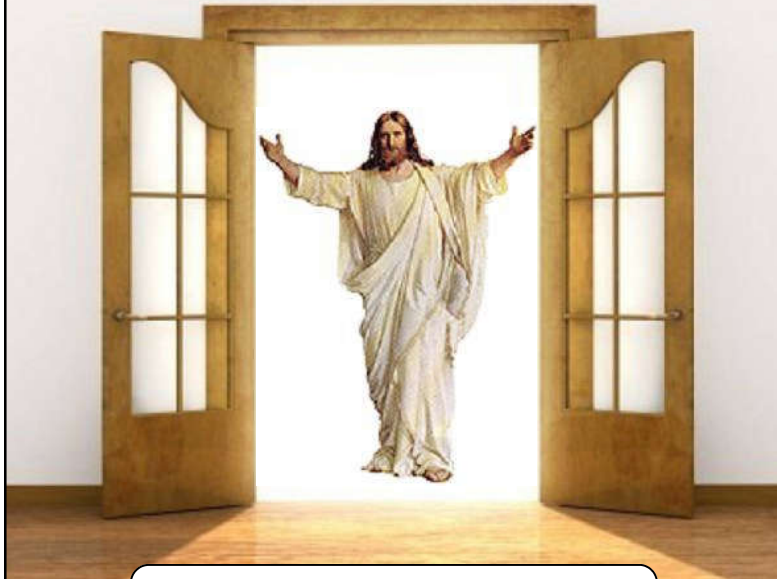
When I was younger, I thought I went to church for God. As I have gotten older, I realize that I go to church for myself. Church is a gift that God wants to give us.

There is a Christian song by Al Denson that pulls my thoughts together. It talks about a Dad that tells his young daughter the way home is the cross. Later in life she loses her way but she remembers what her dad taught her. The chorus is, **“Take me to the cross, high on a steeple, the one where Jesus died for all the lost people. If you can’t find home, know you’re not alone. Take me to the cross.”**

My prayer is that we can all find the cross this season.



*Church of Jesus Christ - Oak Grove Restoration Branch*



*"I was glad when they said unto me,  
Let us go into the house of the Lord."  
(Psalm 122:1)*

Church Phone: (816) 690-6996

CD's available for many Worship Services.

*Watch most Sunday morning services live by going to our church website! (Click on "Video")*

Worship Times		Sacrament Service (1st Sunday)
Sunday Early Worship	9:00 am	Priesthood Prayer Service 9:00 am
Sunday Church School	9:15 am	
Sacrament Sunday Prayer Service and Sacrament Service		10:00 am
Sunday eve Worship	6:30 pm	6:30 pm
Wednesday eve Prayer and Testimony	7:00 pm	

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ON OUR CHURCH WEBSITE.**

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