

Oak Grove Baptist Church

22870 Dominion Lane
Sterling, VA 20166-4325

Rev. Dr. Alvin Thomas
Interim Pastor

Church Office - 703-437-7310

Church FAX – 703-437-4630

<http://www.ogbc-sterling.org>

**Church Officers**

Deacon John W. Diggs Sr.
Chair, Deacon Ministry

Trustee Lucinda B. Gormes
Church Clerk

Trustee Sandra V. Eggleston
Chair, Trustee Ministry

Trustee Yvonne P. Baker
Treasurer

March 7, 2010

Dear Oak Grove Baptist Church Member:

Deacons have a rich and noble heritage in family ministry. It was a family-related need which called this office into being, namely, the economic needs of widows in the early church (Acts 6: 1-7). These seven laymen, who worked with the apostles in meeting this need, were the first deacons.

A Deacon Family Ministry was implemented in Oak Grove a few years ago. The "Deacon Family Ministry Plan" is a plan through which the deacons can join the pastor in ministering to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of each church member and family. Please see the attached "How Can a Deacon Help You?"

All of our Deacons are involved in our Deacon Family Ministry Plan. Each member and family unit has been assigned to a deacon, who accepts the responsibility for ministering to them. This plan is designated to help church members develop and maintain a healthy relationship to the church so they may grow in their faith and commitment.

In 2010, we the deacons of Oak Grove Baptist Church pledge to rededicate ourselves to the Deacon Family Ministry Plan. If you are ill, your deacon would appreciate a call from you. If some tragedy comes to your family, your deacon would like to know about it. If there is some joy that comes to you and your family and you would like to share it, your deacon would be happy to rejoice with you. As deacons we ask for your prayer support as we covenant with you to pray for you regularly and we ask that you would keep us informed of your prayer needs. If you have questions concerning our church, we would be happy to find the answers for you if we can.

We look forward to visiting with you and getting to know you better in 2010. If you do not know who your family deacon is, please contact me or Deacon Artie Brown.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Diggs". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Diggs
Chairman, OGBC Deacon Ministry

Deacon Family Ministry

How Can A Deacon Help You?

Because we care for you and your family, the pastor and deacons of Oak Grove Baptist Church are committed to the Deacon Family Ministry Plan. We want to make certain that every member and family in our church experience the love and support of the whole congregation. We want to be known throughout our community as a loving and caring church.

What is the Deacon Family Ministry Plan? It is a plan through which the deacons can join the pastor and church staff in ministering to the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of each church member and family. The resident church families are divided into groups of ten or more families. Each group of families is then assigned to a deacon who will minister to them over a period of time.

A part of each deacon's meeting is spent praying about specific needs of families and in rejoicing over needs met and victories won. Another part of the meeting may be used in developing deacon's skills in ministering to family needs.

How can a deacon help you? Of course, you are the only one who can answer that question. However, there are some specific ways your deacon wants to try to help.

- *Visiting you.* – The first visit will be a get acquainted visit with you and your family. However, your deacon will make other visits throughout the year when someone in your family is in the hospital or you have sorrow or sickness in the home.
- *Witnessing to unsaved family members.* – One of your deacon's chief concerns is that every member of your family knows Christ as Savior.
- *Rejoicing with you and your family.* – Your deacon will share your joy when you celebrate important events or accomplishments in your life.
- *Being a friend.* – As your deacon listens to your troubles and concerns, you will know someone who cares.
- *Giving support in times of crisis.* – Sometimes your deacon can help you through the crisis by listening and giving support. Other times, your deacon will know someone else or a community agency that can help.
- *Answering questions about your faith or about your church or denomination.* – Your deacon will try to find the answers for you.
- *Helping you know and have fellowship with other members and families in the church.* - Your deacon will encourage you to participate in social occasions when families in the assigned group or other church members get together for fun and fellowship.

Deacon Family Ministry

- *Helping you find ways to serve in and through the church.* – Your deacon will watch for opportunities for you to use the talents, skills, and abilities God has given you.
- *Praying for you and with you.* – Believing that you are important and believing in the power of prayer, your deacon will join with the pastor and other deacons in praying for you and each member of your family.

In the Deacon Family Ministry Plan, every member and every family have a deacon. The more effectively the plan works in our church, the closer our church will come to being a real family in Christ. Your cooperation will help make the plan work. Feel free to call your deacon. Your deacon will seek to help you or link you to another helping person.

Don't know who your deacon is? You can find out by calling Deacon Artie Brown.

Oak Grove Baptist Church
22870 Dominion Lane, Sterling, VA 20166
Contact us at (703) 437-6537



Oak Grove Baptist Church Deacon Ministry

J. Henry Ambrose, Jesse Smith, Artie Brown, William Stewart,
Merritt Poole, Danny Knight, Robert West, Chairman John Diggs, Calvin Britt