

October 2024



OAK GROVE CHURCH  
A Global Methodist Church

# The Old Is New News

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

## ..... A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR .....

Hello everyone!! By the time you are reading this Valerie and I will be on an exciting adventure to see our youngest child married, followed by an East Coast bucket list trip that will include stops in Charleston, SC and Savannah, GA. The first thing I want to do is thank everyone in the church for the encouragement and affirmation for us taking this much needed time together. We are grateful and know that you will be in good hands while we are gone. I can also predict with a great amount of certainty that we will be missing you all terribly and anxious to be home by the time our adventure comes to an end.

The second thing I want to do is address a matter that has weighed heavily on my heart in recent days. That is the state of our country and the venomous nature of our political engagement as the elections grow nearer. First of all, let me stress the fact that as a pastor I don't like to spend a lot of time on politics in the public forum. Why? Because politics are for the most part made up of opinions (hopefully educated opinions) and you know what they say about opinions... everyone has one.

Having said that, there are some things that ought to be said in the midst of the awful rhetoric and multiple attempts to assassinate a former president. I don't

care which candidate or party someone associates with, if you are a Christian, murder is not in your wheelhouse...period. That's true regardless of whether it is by way of a personal act or something you affirm as ok either passively or outspokenly. IT IS NOT OK! There are extremely few situations in which assassination "might" be considered acceptable. Deitrich Bonhoeffer concluded it was necessary for Adolf Hitler and the merits of that decision have been debated ever since.

Likewise, it is not ok for the Christian to denigrate others who think differently from them politically. You may not like it, and you may try and find a loophole in it, but the Bible tells us that we are to "be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God." (Romans 13:1) The Bible also tells us to "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:2)

We Christians are the people of God, and as such, we are held to a higher standard in life than the world's ways of doing things. I can assure you that I struggle with my secular views on political matters and the ways I am called to live as a born-again Christian. My status as

having been reborn necessitates loving tolerance and passivity, while at the same time calling for boldness and surety in proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. That same Good News and Word of God leaves no doubt as to how people "ought" to live out their lives, but it only holds power over those who claim the banner of Christianity.

The reality is that Christian faith creates conundrums for believers. We are to be bold with the Word and passive with the world, aggressive with sharing the Good News of the kingdom of God and peaceful in how we present the image of Christ through the example of our lives. These can be difficult dualities to navigate, and in fact impossible apart from the presence of God in us. But that doesn't change the fact that it's what we are called to as Christians. By the time the next newsletter rolls around we will be on the cusp of the elections. Let's be the people of God the world needs to see and an example of true faith and trust in God almighty who allays all fears (Psalm 34:4) and wipes away all tears (Revelation 7:17) when we fully trust in Him.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Ted



### BETHANY MISSION SOCIETY

We are grateful for the opportunity we had to visit with Bro. Paul and to hear from him in our worship service. There is a great need to bring the Gospel to the children of India. If you would like to give a one time gift or set up a recurring monthly gift to Bethany Mission Society, go to our giving page on our website [www.ogchurch.life](http://www.ogchurch.life) and click the Bethany Mission Society button.

## .. IN THE KNOW ..

### THE GROVE @ OGC MOMS GROUP

Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MoMs) is a ministry that offers friendship and support to all mothers through praying, faithsharing, wonderful conversations, and support. A MoMs group will begin meeting at OGC on the first Friday of each month beginning on October 4 from 9:30-11:00 am. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact Tish Edwards or April Brewer.

### FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFAST

On the first Sunday in October, October 6, the Men's Club invites you to a complimentary breakfast in the Family Life Center from 8 am until 9:45 am. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast prepared by the men and share some early morning fellowship before Sunday School and Worship.

### MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, October 7 at 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center.

### NURSING HOME VISITATION

Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday, October 12. They invite you to join them at the church at 9:30 am to go.

### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Admin Council will meet Sunday, October 13 at 11 am.

### FUEL TO FIGHT

Join the OGC Cancer Companions Team in the Fuel to Fight 5K and 2 Mile Walk on Saturday, October 19 at 7:30 am at the Forrest General Cancer Center. You can register through the church office until Sunday, October 6. Registration is \$30. We will have T-Shirts for

\$20 available to wear for the walk. T-Shirt orders will be taken until Sunday, October 6 in the church foyer on Sunday or in the church office. All proceeds will be used to provide transportation assistance for cancer patients in need.

### BLOOD DRIVE

The OGC fall Blood Drive is Sunday, October 20 from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm. Sign up will begin soon.

### PRAISE AND WORSHIP

OGC invites you for a night of Praise and Worship on Sunday, October 20 at 6 pm. Join us to hear MSU National Champion and former outfielder for the Miami Marlins, Tanner Allen, as he shares his amazing testimony. The USM Wesley Foundation Worship Team will lead us in worship.

### MES CIRCLE CORNBREAD CRUMBLING

All ladies are invited to MES Circle on Monday, October 21 at 6 pm in the Family Life Center for our "cornbread crumbling" as we prepare the ingredients for the dressing for our annual Thanksgiving Meal on November 10. Lots of cornbread is needed!

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

OGC appreciates all our volunteers for being the hands and feet of Jesus. We want to recognize you at the Wednesday Night Meal on October 30. Join Us.

### POINSETTIAS

October is the time to order poinsettias to be placed in the sanctuary at Christmas in memory or in honor of someone. Order forms will be available beginning Sunday, October 6. Poinsettias are \$15 each. Please make checks to MES Circle.

## THE GROVE @ OGC MOMS GROUP

### Ministry of Mothers Sharing

Ministry that offers friendship and support to all mothers through praying, faithsharing, wonderful conversations, and support.



### WHAT OGC MOMS GROUP OFFERS:

- support
- community involvement opportunities
- Mom's Morning Out
- playdates/ outings
- childcare is provided for meetings
- and much more

First Friday  
starting  
Oct 4, 2024  
9:30-11:00



## FUEL TO FIGHT 5K AND 2 MILE WALK

OCTOBER 19, 2024

JOIN THE TEAM!

### OAK GROVE CHURCH CANCER COMPANIONS

START TIME 7:30 AM  
FORREST GENERAL CANCER CENTER

Register and Sign up for a T-Shirt in the Church Foyer on Sunday or the Church Office.

## OAK GROVE CHURCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20  
6 PM

# PRAISE & Worship



Join us to hear  
MSU National Champion and former  
Outfielder for the Miami Marlins

## TANNER ALLEN

as he shares his amazing testimony

FEATURING  
USM WESLEY FOUNDATION WORSHIP TEAM

Oak Grove Church . 4915 Old Hwy 11 . Hattiesburg . MS . 39402

**...YOUTH...** On behalf of myself and the youth I would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets or donated money to the youth group's Beech Vacation Raffle Fundraiser. I want to say a special thank you to Tom Thompson for graciously donating his vacation home for the week for the vacation raffle. The money raised will go to the youth missions and summer camp. The youth have continued to grow closer as a group and in relationship with Christ and that is due to the wonderful love that Oak Grove church has poured on them.

The winner of the 6 night 7 day Vacation is Jimmy Carpenter.

Thank you to those that helped with lock out and for all Oak Grove Church for demonstrating to the youth how we love, encourage, and help one another. "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2

Sincerely,

April Brewer



**OCTOBER CALENDAR**

- 2 Dinner 5:30 pm: Youth Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm
- 6 Youth Meeting 5:30-7:00 pm
- 9 Dinner 5:30 pm: Youth Meeting 6:30-7:30 pm
- 13 Youth Meeting 5:30-7:30 pm
- 19 Fuel to Fight Cancer Walk 7:00 am until (We have some youth walking and some youth There to cheer and support.)
- 20 Youth 5:30 pm (Tanner Allen)
- 27 Trunk or Treat

OAK GROVE CHURCH

JOIN US FOR -  
**games**  
**FUN** AND  
**prizes!**

Please see Kaycee to volunteer or sign up for a trunk!

# trunk or TREAT

OCT 27  
3:00pm - 4:30pm

Lots of candy needed!  
Drop off in office!



4915 Old Hwy 11  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
601-264-8850

**...CHILDREN...** I can't believe it is October! You know what that means...Trunk or Treat is just around the corner. There will be a sign-up sheet for those who are willing to decorate a trunk. If you have never participated before, it is lots of fun! Don't miss out on this opportunity to shine God's light into our community! So don't be shy, find a friend and sign up! If you don't want to decorate a trunk, I still need volunteers to help with other things. Of course, we will be collecting candy & treats to give out.

Anyone who wants to donate can drop it off in the office or in the grocery basket that will be located either in the foyer or the FLC. I will also be happy to take monetary donations and go purchase for you if you don't want to shop. Our kids' choirs are up and running. Thanks so much to Cindy Smith and Rodger Banes for giving of their time and talents to work with our children. We have already begun getting ready for Christmas. If your child hasn't been yet it is not too late to join the fun. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us too!

Sundays from 5:30-6:30. The playground has been officially closed until renovations are complete. This will take a while so please, please be careful driving through the back parking lot. Most Wednesday nights we will block part of it off to give the kids an area to play in. So please proceed with caution if you drive behind the building. Thanks to all, for all, you do for our kids and remember to keep our children, parents, teachers, and ministry in your prayers!  
In His Service,  
Kaycee



### Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

5:30-6:15 pm

Adults: \$7 Children: \$3 Family Plan: \$20

#### October 2

**Menu:** Chicken and Wild Rice Casserole, Creamed Corn, Seasoned Green Beans, Garden Salad, Rolls, Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu:** Chicken Nuggets/FF

**Shoppers:** Susan/Mike McQueen

**Class to Serve:** Youth

**Desserts:** Heather Richardson, Gayle Shearer, Cindy Smith, Hagan Smith, Carol Standland, Shannon Sterling

#### October 9

**Menu:** Hamburger Steak w/Onions & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu:** Hamburgers/Tater Tots

**Shoppers:** Laura Baird/Peggy Woodruff

**Class to Serve:** Youth

**Desserts:** Lori Terrill, Brenda Walker, Gloria Watkins, Peggy Woodruff, Nancy Amacker, Esther Attkisson

#### October 16

**Menu:** Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Texas Toast, Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu:** Pizza and Salad

**Shoppers:** Fred/Jane Boudreaux

**Class to Serve:** Youth

**Desserts:** Beth Bankston, Pat Bennett, Jane Boudreaux, Trista Boudreaux, April Brewer, Judy Brown

#### October 23

**Menu:** Beef Tips w/rice, Whole Green Beans, Garden Salad, Biscuits, Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu:** Fish Sticks/FF

**Shoppers:** Kaycee Hairston/Lori Terrill

**Class to Serve:** Youth

**Desserts:** Peggy Bullion, JoAnn Burks, Gloria Bynum, Suzell Cain, M.J. Cain, Felecia Carpenter

#### October 30

**Menu:** Loaded Baked Potatoes, Chili, Garden Salad, French Bread, Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu:** Pizza and Salad

**Shoppers:** Fred/Jane Boudreaux

**Class to Serve:** Youth

**Desserts:** Chris Camacho, Mary Ann Cox, Grace Dickerson, Noel Dickerson, Paula Duren, Tish Edwards

# Thank You!



Dear Oak Grove Church Family,  
Your contribution to the OGC Prison Ministry in memory of George was really meaningful. When God laid that ministry on his heart, he put us all to work!! It was special to see God working there.

George was so excited to know that the ministry is still ongoing. We miss those days in Hattiesburg. I am hoping to get back for a visit in the coming months.

God Bless and love,  
*Mary Jo Green and family*

Dear OG Church Family,  
Once again I am humbled by my church family. Thank you for your love and support, your flowers and cards of congratulations for my 90th birthday. With friends like you, 90 is not so bad after all.

I love all of you dearly and am blessed to be a part of this amazing church family.

In Christian Love,  
*Mary Ann Cox*

To our Friends and Fellow Church Members,  
It is with our deepest gratitude that we would like to say Thank You for all your kindness and generosity as we went through my seven week regimen of radiation treatments for prostate cancer and subsequent hospital stay. Thank you for your calls, visits, food, cards, words of encouragement, and most of all, your prayers. They are still working. We never felt alone, we felt like you were with us. Thank you so much.

*Bobby and Judy Brown*

## OCTOBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

### ANNIVERSARIES

4 Brynlee Zeigler	26 John David Oubre	
7 Danny/Linda McDaniel	6 Penny Kochtitzky	28 Raymond Watkins
14 Henry/Martha Stokes	15 Jason Wesley	30 Melinda Lucas
17 Kirk/RaDonna Frazier	19 Landen Smith	30 Brian Richardson

### BIRTHDAYS

23 Martha Stokes	31 Jimmy Burger
1 Paxton Bell	24 Gabby Brewer
3 Darcy Farmer	25 Johnny Fisher

Please contact the church office to add an anniversary or birthday!

Oak Grove Church  
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Youtube: Oak Grove Church MS Worship  
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8AM-2PM