

February 2025

OAK GROVE CHURCH  
A Global Methodist Church

# *The Old Is New News*

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

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

So this is it! We have finally come to the time Garrett has relentlessly promised for the past three months. It seems like it's been longer, doesn't it? That he has been promising more to come with regards to *The Grove* forever and a day? Well, as Garrett himself noted, he may be many things, but a liar he is not. We are officially kicking off our class meeting style small group ministry, and we're doing so with no less than five small group offerings out of the gate.

For those of you new to the church, we went through an 8 week sermon series back in the summer on the history, current state of, and efficacy of small group formation in the Methodist tradition. I followed the basic structure as laid out in a book by Keven Watson called *The Class Meeting* (copies are available upon request). A group of us then began meeting in September following the sermon series to experience what these groups are like first hand and to be a seed group for training small group leaders in preparation for this launch.

The time is here and everyone is invited. But to what, some of you may ask. For those who may have forgotten what these small groups are all about, in essence, they are safe havens where everyone has a place to belong and share their experiences of our Holy God in daily life without judgement or unsolicited advice or any worries that what they share will go beyond their group. The Grove Small Groups are not Bible studies, though Scripture and biblical topics and discussions are certainly welcome. They are also not gossip groups or complaint departments. They exist as places for getting to know ourselves and our brothers and sisters in Christ more deeply and intimately for the explicit purpose of growing our faith and discipling one another as we ourselves are disciplined.

The Grove is also a place where you will never be lost in the crowd. No group will have more than 8 to 12 members. When they grow beyond those numbers it's time to split off and start a new group. Besides facilitating and leading gatherings, group leaders are charged with caring for their members by checking up on them whenever they are absent from a gathering or when life has become a challenge. In other words, our small groups and their leaders are there to "BE" the church and make sure no one slips through the cracks.

There is no requirement of membership or even attendance at our church in order to take part in The Grove. As Christians, we "encourage" participation in certain specific Christian practices we call "The Means of Grace," including but not necessarily limited to, church attendance (somewhere), prayer, reading and studying the Bible, Holy Communion, and more. But our main focus is to grow our relationships with Jesus Christ together.

**YOU** are invited to pray about joining one of these groups and becoming part of this new ministry sooner rather than later. Our ideal is for everyone who attends this church to be a member of one of *The Grove* small groups. At the very least we are hoping it becomes part of our core culture and a catalyst for inspiring spiritual first, and numeric growth to follow at OGC.

I know some of you are hesitant to give this ministry a try for various reasons, not the least of which are concerns about confidentiality. What I can offer is this: One of the most important rules of the small group is that *what's shared there, stays there*. Give it a try. You can be cautious about what you share as you build trust with the group, but you will never know what you're missing if you don't give them a chance. God is moving in our midst and it's time for us to embrace this proven method of Christian formation, if for no other reason than to help others by helping to make disciples for the transformation of the world.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Ted

If you have questions or want more information, please contact the church office ([office@ogchurch.life](mailto:office@ogchurch.life)), or the pastor directly ([revted@ogchurch.life](mailto:revted@ogchurch.life)). Everyone is welcome!!





## ...IN THE KNOW...



### SCOUTING SUNDAY

Sunday, February 2 is Scouting Sunday. We welcome Troop 97 as they worship with us and join us in leading worship.

### FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The Men's Club invites you to a complimentary breakfast the first Sunday of each month from 8-9:45 am in the Family Life Center. February 2 is the first Sunday, so come enjoy a delicious breakfast and fellowship before Sunday School and Worship.

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee will meet Sunday, February 2 at 11 am.

### MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, February 3 at 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center.

### 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 meets the first Friday of each month (February 7) at OGC from 9:30-11:00 am. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact Tish Edwards or April Brewer.

### PRINCESS BALL

MES Circle is sponsoring a Princess Ball for young ladies ages 2-16 on Saturday, February 8 from 6-8 pm in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$15. For each additional young lady in the same family, tickets are \$5. Young ladies may be escorted by father, grandfather, uncle or special friend. Escorts do not need a ticket. Tickets are available until February 4 from one of the MES ladies or in the church office.

### CANCER COMPANIONS

Cancer Companions (CC) is a brand new support group to OGC tailored specifically for cancer patients and their caregivers. CC will meet twice a month on the second and fourth Friday at 10:30 am. In February we will meet February 14 and 28. If you know someone suffering from this awful disease, be sure and pass the word to join us.



### VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

The Men's Club is hosting a Valentine's Day Luncheon for Widows, Widowers, Divorcees, Never Marrieds and Singles on Friday, February 14 in the Family Life Center. We will gather at 11 am, have a blessing at 11:30 am and then enjoy a delicious meal together. If you know of someone who should be invited, please extend an invitation to them and then let Jimmy Carpenter know.

### NURSING HOME VISITATION

Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday, February 15. They invite you to join them at the church at 9:30 am to go.

### MES CIRCLE

All ladies are invited to MES Circle on Monday, February 24 at 6 pm in the Family Life Center. Debbie Pimm will present our program "Painting on Glass: Winter Birch & Red Cardinal." Each of us will have a fun time learning to paint a beautiful picture on glass. All materials are provided!

### KYM GARRAWAY SPEAKS TO MES CIRCLE

On Monday, January 27, local artist, Kym Garraway was the guest speaker at the monthly MES Circle meeting.

Kym encouraged and inspired the ladies as she told how some clay made all the difference for a group of children in Honduras.



She told the story of how she felt led to go on a mission trip to Honduras and that she was asked to do art with the children. There were no art materials, bibles or even chairs for the children to sit on. They had nothing. She did not even speak their language, so she questioned how she could teach them about Jonah and the whale or Daniel in the lion's den. She did her best and the next year before going on the trip, she began to pray and to ask God how she could reach these children. The Holy Spirit led her to start from the beginning. So that is what she did. With her art she began to teach the children starting with the creation story.

Before the next trip, she began to think about how she could show these children what Jesus had done for them on the cross. She had taken some clay with her and added some mud to the clay. There were a few musicians there, so she told them to start playing and she would sit in the chair and try to create a visual for the children so they could "see" Jesus and what he had done for them. The bust of Jesus was the product of her work. **THEY GOT IT!**



All the things they had heard about Jesus finally made sense.

Kym urged each of us to use our gifts and talents to spread the gospel of Jesus wherever the Lord places us.

### THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,  
I am so thankful for all your prayers, emails, texts, and phone calls that kept me going. The prayers were answered twice: Once with the good news that there was no sign of cancer and the other when my organs started functioning normally.

I am so grateful to have a church family as loving as you.

*Woody Gammell*

# Princess Ball

Saturday, February 8, 2025

6:00- 8:00 pm

Tickets \$15  
\$5 for additional young lady in family  
Ages 2-16  
Young lady may be escorted by father, grandfather, uncle or special friend  
Tickets available until February 4

**Oak Grove Church**  
4915 Old Hwy 11



## ...CHILDREN...

*Thank you thank you thank you*  
I cannot thank all of you enough for your generosity in supporting the new playground. The big play structure is here and the kids love it! There is still some more to come but we are off to a great start and hope to wrap this project up in the near future. Your love, support, dedication and commitment to the children of this church is greatly appreciated by our children and will be appreciated by the future children of Oak Grove Church for many years to come.

Oak Grove Church Men's Club  
cordially invites you to a

## VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCHEON

Friday, February 14  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm  
Family Life Center

A Special time for Widows, Widowers,  
Divorcees, Never Married and Singles

rsvp: church office  
601-264-8850 or office@ogchurch.life



Attention Church Family: The Children's Ministry is looking for some OGC talent...and the term talent can be used loosely. We will be having our Annual Pancake Fundraiser on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>. As part of the event this year, we will be hosting an **OGC Has Talent??** Talent Show, where we are hoping that some of you good fun loving folks will volunteer to share some of your "talents" with us. The audience will vote for the best talent act by giving money in support of their favorite participant/participants. The participant/participants who collect the most money will receive the OGC Most Talented Award! So see Kaycee to sign up and join the fun. Everyone will want to come out and enjoy this night of good food, fun and fellowship in support of sending our kids to Camp Wesley Pines! Tickets will be available towards the end of February.

## ...YOUTH...

### FEBRUARY

- 2 5:30-7:00 pm Youth Meeting
- 5 5:30-7:30 pm Dinner (5:30-6:15) Youth Meeting (6:20-7:30)
- 9 5:30-7:00 pm Youth Meeting
- 12 5:30-7:30 pm Dinner (5:30-6:15) Youth Meeting (6:20-7:30)
- 16 5:30-7:00 pm Youth Meeting
- 19 5:30-7:30 pm Dinner (5:30-6:15) Youth Meeting (6:20-7:30)
- 23 5:30-7:00 pm Youth Meeting
- 26 5:30-7:30 pm Dinner (5:30-6:15) Youth Meeting (6:20-7:30)



In His Service,  
Kaycee

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
MEAL 5:30 PM  
ADULTS \$7 CHILDREN \$3 FAMILY PLAN \$20  
CLASSES AND CHOIR 6:30 PM**



**February 5**

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

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

**Shoppers:** Tish Edwards/Susan McQueen

**Class to Serve:** Friendship/Young Adult

Seekers

**Desserts:** LaNita Fisher, Kaycee Hairston, Tess Hammond, Laura Hojem, Penny Kochtitzky, Melinda Lucas

**February 12**

**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:** Friendship/Young Adult

Seekers

**Desserts:** B.J. Mathias, Julie McDonald, Susan McQueen, Kim Morgan, Dawn Nuss, Jamie O'Quinn

**February 19**

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

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

**Shoppers:** Fred/Jane Boudreaux

**Class to Serve:** Friendship/Young Adult

Seekers

**Desserts:** Cindy Oubre, Cindy Pace, Judy Parker, Kathryn Phillips, Adelia Powe, Eva Ratliff

**February 26**

**Menu:** Beef Tips w/rice, English Peas, Carrots, Garden Salad, Biscuits, Assorted Desserts

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

**Shoppers:** Kaycee Hairston/Lori Terrill

**Class to Serve:** Friendship/Young Adult

Seekers

**Desserts:** Molly Reynolds, Heather Richardson, Gayle Shearer, Cindy Smith, Hagan Smith, Carol Standland

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Jackie & Lisa Shelton
- 9 Bud & Kay West
- 14 Keith & Cindy Mercer
- 25 Hoppy & Pat Bennett

- 6 Caroline Burnett
- 7 Andrew Lott
- 13 Elizabeth Lucas
- Mary Lou Powell
- 15 Matt Lamar
- Rayleigh Shelton

- 18 Jace Holmes
- 19 Isla McDaniel
- 20 Dean Smith
- 21 Jim Ratliff
- 22 Tommy Thomas
- 25 Molly Entrekin
- 27 Esther Attkisson
- 28 Susie Barefield

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Becky Shelton
- 2 Jessie Holmes

- 16 Jonah Mathias
- 17 M.J. Cain
- 18 Laura Baird

*Madison Methodist Women's Ministry  
presents*

Saturday, February 22  
9:00-2:00  
Madison Methodist Church Sanctuary  
Breakfast will begin at 8:30  
Lunch Is Included  
\$25 Registration Fee due by February 3

*A day filled with devotion, worship and fellowship*

welcoming  
*Sharon Jaynes*

Sharon Jaynes has been encouraging women through ministry for over twenty-five years. From the time she met Christ as a teenager, she fell in love with God's Word and has had a passion to equip women to live fully and free (John 8:32; John 10:10). Her mission is to help women have a better story with Jesus as the hero.

**CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND  
SO WE CAN CARPOOL.**



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