



THE OLD IS NEW NEWS

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

A Word from our Pastor

The Bible describes Jesus's followers in a number of ways. We are called forgiven sinners, adopted sons and daughters, beloved members of the body of Christ, and many others. All of these are key aspects of who we are in Christ. One of the most important identities we have as Christians is being a "sent people." Just as Jesus was sent into the world to show God's love, so He now sends us to do the same. After Jesus's resurrection, his followers received the Holy Spirit to empower them for that mission. Today, your and I are called to share in that task by the words we use and our actions in the world as we invite people to place their faith in Jesus just as we have.

Too often, churches become wrapped up in their own concerns, spending so much time running programs and dealing with internal conflicts that they have little energy left to build relationships with people outside the church. It's not surprising that many churches are shrinking or that a lot of church "growth" is more a result of Christians transferring from one congregation to another than it is the product of growing the kingdom on earth. Jesus's teaching makes it clear, however, that his followers are partners in God's mission of saving people who are lost in sin. It's not enough to simply talk about sharing our faith—it's part of our identity in being the people God calls us to be to reach out to the world around us.

Another important identity we claim as the church, and one that goes hand in hand with being a sent people, is community. There are a lot of ways a church lives into that identity. When we play together, we are building community. When we eat together, we are building community. When we study God's Word or talk about current events and how to apply our faith to them, we are building community. When we pray together, we are building community.

The early church as depicted in Acts 2 is the ultimate example of what it means for the Body of Christ to be in community. Whatever the believers did, they did together, learning about who they were and who God is at the same time. It's important to be part of a community because it gives us the opportunity to learn and grow alongside others as part of something bigger than ourselves. It also provides a nurturing venue for helping to build others up as we ourselves are being built up in the faith.

One of the realities of being human is that we allow ourselves to fall into routines. Those routines are meant to make life easier, but they can also distract us from living into our true identities in Christ. We habitually prepare the same way every morning going through the same motions, day in and day out. When we get home in the evening, we eat dinner, watch the same tv shows, and go to bed "religiously" at the same time. We come to church and sit in the same pews to offer the same ole' same ole' in our worship together. There's nothing inherently wrong with those things, unless they blind us to living into God's will for us.

In Christ we are new creations and adopted sons and daughters of God through our faith. We have been set free from the law of sin and death and made one people united through Jesus's sacrifice on the cross. God chose "US", you and me, to make known the riches of the glory we have through the blood of Christ shed for our hope and salvation. "Though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." (Romans 12:5)

Our society needs a church that is consistently manifesting these kinds of values and living into the destinies God wills for our lives. That's the very definition of holiness and the sole purpose for the Church's existence. The Body of Christ (the Church) is tasked with a mighty calling, and that calling makes a difference in the world. The Church is important and we as members of it are vital to its effectiveness in the world. It's time to start living like we believe that to be the case.

Though we are many,
we are one body in
Christ, and
individually members
of one another.

"In him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." — Ephesians 2:22

Pastor Ted

In The Know

CHURCHWIDE CLEANUP DAY

On Saturday, August 2, beginning at 9 am, we will have a churchwide cleanup day to spruce up our buildings and grounds. All hands on deck! All ages welcome!

FALL BLOOD DRIVE

The OGC Fall Blood Drive will be Sunday, August 3 from 8:30 am—12:30 pm. Sign up by scanning the QR Code.

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH AND ICE CREAM CHURN OFF

We will have a churchwide Potluck Picnic Churn Off End of Summer back to School Bash on Sunday, August 3 from 6:30—8 pm at the Pavilion. Bring your favorite dish to share and come enjoy some fellowship while listening to some great music from KenMoe. If you want to test your churning skills, bring a freezer of your best homemade ice cream. The winner will take home the Golden Ice Cream Scoop. Water Slides will be provided for the kids and youth and the young at heart!

MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, August 4 at 5:30 pm in the FLC.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Choir rehearsal will be Wednesday, August 6 at 6 pm. We will resume our regular schedule on August 13 after the fellowship meal.

CANCER COMPANIONS

Cancer Companions (CC) is a support group at 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 August we will meet August 8 and 22. If you know someone suffering from this awful disease, be sure and pass the word to join us.

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

The Men's Club is cooking breakfast on August 10 for Second Sunday Breakfast. Come to the FLC from 8—9:45 am for a delicious breakfast and some great fellowship before Sunday School and Worship.

NURSING HOME VISITATION

Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday, August 16. 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, August 25 at 6 pm in the FLC. Our guest speaker will be Billy McDonald who will be speaking to us on "safety."

5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK LUNCH

Sunday, August 31 is 5th Sunday Potluck lunch after worship. Bring your favorite dish to share and come for a great meal and fellowship.



SUMMER DINNER ON THE GROUNDS FOR BELLEVUE ASSISTED LIVING

On Thursday, August 14, our church will provide lunch for the residents of Bellevue Assisted Living. A sign up list for the food dishes needed is in the welcome center. Please bring the food to the church by 9:30 am on August 14. For more information, contact LaNita Fisher.

ITEMS FOR THE FIELDHOUSE

Until August 25, MES Circle is collecting items for the homeless shelter, The Fieldhouse.

Items needed include: Laundry detergent, paper towels, toilet tissue, garbage bags, bug spray, sunscreen, socks, bath towels, bar soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, gloves, beanie hats and bottled water.

If you are able to provide some of these items, please leave them in the FLC on the bench by the Food Pantry.

Jesus loves the
little children...



Archer Andrew Standland

June 28, 2025

Son of
Drew and Reagan Standland

Grandson of
Jamie and Carol Standland



5K & 2 MILE WALK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

JOIN THE OGC CANCER COMPANIONS TEAM

SIGN UP BEGINS AUGUST 10

Children

Growing in Faith, Friendship, and Fun!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

- Blessing of the backpacks: Thank you to everyone who participated in this event. We had a wonderful turnout of children, youth, parents, and teachers who received a blessing.



We recognize that faith grows strongest when nurtured both at church and at home. Here are a few simple ideas to help your child continue their journey of faith throughout the week:

- Bedtime Blessings: End each day by saying a short prayer of gratitude with your child. Thank God for the joys and lessons of the day.
- Acts of Kindness: Encourage your child to perform small acts of kindness—sharing, helping, or making a card for a friend. These actions build empathy and compassion.

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Our Children's Ministry thrives with the help and support of our families and church members. Here are a few ways you can contribute:

- Volunteer as a teacher, helper, or event organizer.
- Pray for our children, families, and leaders.

If you're interested in helping, please email children@ogchurch.life or contact KayCee after Sunday service. Every bit of participation brings us closer together and enriches our program!

Youth

August

- 1st Raffle Tickets for Beach house go on sale.
- 3rd Back to School Bash and Ice Cream Churn-off (bring a finger food to share, towel, and a change of clothes)
- 10th Grand Paradise Waterpark (meet right after church)
- 13th Wednesday Night Kickoff 5:30 Dinner 6:30-7:30 Youth
- 17 Youth Leadership Team meeting (right after church in FLC)
- 17th Youth Meeting 5:30-7
- 24th Youth Meeting 5:30-7
- 31st Youth Sunday/Potluck (winner for beach house drawing)



THANK YOU

On behalf of the entire youth group, I want to express our deepest gratitude, for your unwavering support, encouragement, and generosity. The youth have had a very busy summer. We sorted and bagged things for the food pantry, took an amazing trip to Lake Junaluska, where we worshiped, learned more about God, and grew in our relationship with each other and Christ. Thanks to the Phillips, we had a fun day swimming, boating, and playing volleyball. We had one youth get baptized at Lake Junaluska and 8 Confirmed and 4 baptized here at Lake Serene. God is moving amongst our youth and I am thankful to be a part of this journey with them. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in our lives. We look forward to continuing this journey together.

With grateful hearts,
Oak Grove Youth Group
April Brewer

Oak Grove Student Ministry

BEACH

VACATION RAFFLE



TICKETS \$10

See Youth for Tickets

DETAILS

- ✓ 6 Nights/7 Days
- ✓ Seagrove Beach, FL
- ✓ 4 bed/3 bath
- ✓ Heated Pool
- ✓ Close to Beach

Drawing August 31, 2025

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL AND ACTIVITIES RESUME AUGUST 13!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL

5:30-6:15 pm

ADULTS \$7 CHILDREN \$3 FAMILY PLAN \$20

August 13, 2025

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

Children's Menu: Sliders/Tater Tots

Shoppers: Laura Baird/Peggy Woodruff

Servers: Nancy Amacker, Laura Baird, Tish Edwards

Desserts: Nancy Amacker, Esther Attkisson,
Laura Baird, Beth Bankston, Pat Bennett, Jane Boudreaux

August 20, 2025

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

Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad

Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux

Servers: Jane Boudreaux, Fred Boudreaux, Betty Entrekin

Desserts: Trista Boudreaux, April Brewer, Judy Brown, Peggy Bullion, Joann Burks, Gloria Bynum

August 27, 2025

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

Children's Menu: Chicken Nuggets/FF

Shoppers: Kaycee Hairston/Lori Terrill

Servers: LaNita Fisher, Kaycee Hairston, Julie McDonald

Desserts: Suzell Cain, M.J. Cain, Chris Camacho, Felicia Carpenter, Mary Ann Cox, Grace Dickerson

ALL MEN'S CHOIR



TACOS AND TUNES



August Anniversaries and Birthdays

ANNIVERSARIES

5 Cliff & Elaine Callaway
6 Rod & Kathy Courtney
10 Matt & Ashley Lamar
18 Lath & Kaycee Hairston
19 Jimmy & Felecia Carpenter
22 David & Cindy Oubre

BIRTHDAYS

5 Ray Pace
6 Matthew O'Quinn
7 Tommy Burks
7 Adelia Powe
8 Mary Madison Howard
8 Kim Morgan
9 Mary Ann Cox
10 Chris Dickerson

10 Kim Napier
11 Gloria Bynum
11 Drew Standland
13 Christian Hammond
13 Alan Lucas
15 Aubrey Shrader
17 Katherine Shelton
18 Pat Bennett
18 Aubrey McDonald

20 Bill Custer
21 Shelton Lott
21 Bobo Terrill
22 Jason Phillips
26 Connor Hammond
29 Susan Farris

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