

OAK GROVE CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER 2025



# THE OLD IS NEW NEWS

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

## *A Word from our Pastor*

My Grandmother used to have a framed piece of a quilt her mother brought over with her on the ship as they immigrated from Sweden. Sharing the story behind it was a way of reminding the family of our roots. The act of telling and retelling that story had the power of shaping our family identity and weaving together memories and values that transcend the generations.

Family reunions and extended family gatherings provide opportunities for family members to connect with cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and others that they may not have seen in a while. They are also occasions for telling those common stories of heritage we share and remembering that we are always connected by our family ties.

Like family stories, personal testimony plays a crucial role in the church family, especially in worship. They recount stories of God's grace, His provisions, and faithfulness that is steadfast and perfect. The church bears witness through these testimonies to God's ongoing work in our lives, shining a light on personal transformations that have taken place in the community, and reminding us that God is always at work in our lives.

Later this month we will begin a four-week sermon series I felt led to preach (*The Puzzle of Family*) where we will look at the intricacies of navigating family life. We will be weaving into that narrative the importance of the wider church family as a unit that carries its own importance to the life of believers. In the Old Testament, storytelling was central to nurturing the faith of God's people, often describing God in terms of His liberating actions within the community: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery." (Exodus 2:2) The people would retell these stories during family time and especially at the Passover celebration each year to remember God's deliverance, repeating them as a way of shaping the Israelites as a people who represented the family of God.

As a believer in Christ, I am a child of God—and so is every other believer—so are you. This means all of us are spiritual brothers and sisters—no matter where we are throughout the world! And although we may be different from one another, sometimes in significant ways, we have a common heritage—we are rooted together in Christ and have the same heavenly Father and the same ultimate goal: to do the Father's will. As part of God's forever family, we share in the same eternal inheritance that Jesus has secured for us through His death and resurrection.

It's often said that biological family bonds are stronger than any other relationships. But Jesus said, "*Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.*" (Matthew 12:50) Which means that all who follow the Lord are part of his family and share in a relationship that lasts forever. In a culture as divided as ours, it's good to be reminded of the family connections we have in Christ. It's also good to remember that we are called to serve God together, for we will be living in eternity with these family members from all nations and all places!

What are the stories in your family or community that remind you of who you are? What stories of God's faithfulness need to be retold to help reinforce your identity as a person of faith in Christ?

<sup>31</sup> They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord <sup>33</sup> to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>34</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>35</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God." (Acts 16:31-34)

Pastor Ted

## In The Know

### LABOR DAY

The Church Office will be closed Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.

### 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 (September 5) at OGC from 9:30-11:00 am. Childcare is provided. For more information, contact Tish Edwards or April Brewer.

### MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, September 8 at 5:30 pm in the FLC. Note the date change due to Labor Day.

### 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 September we will

meet September 12 and 26. 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 September 14 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

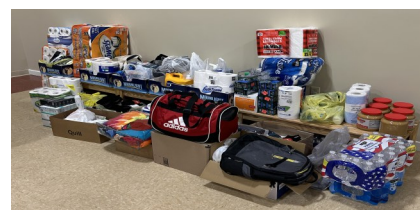
Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday, September 20. They invite you to join them at the church at 9:30 am to go.

### MES CIRCLE

All ladies are invited to MES Circle on Monday, September 29 at 6 pm in the FLC. Our guest speaker will be Julia Johnson who will tell about her recent mission trip to Honduras.

MES would like to thank Billy McDonald who came to our August meeting and talked to

us about safety and security. He emphasized to us how important it is for us to be aware of our surroundings and to take precautionary measures such as having a flashlight and cell phone with us at all times, especially when going to our cars at night. He talked about how our view of "safety" has changed through the years and how we need to always be cautious especially if we have our children and grandchildren with us. We would also like to thank all of you who brought items for the homeless shelter, The Fieldhouse. They were very appreciative.



## FUEL TO FIGHT

We, the Oak Grove Church Family, want to honor and support those who are fighting cancer and to celebrate the survivors.

Join the OGC Cancer Companions Team for the Fuel to Fight Walk/Run on Saturday, October 18 at the Forrest General Cancer Center. The event begins at 7:30 am. Registration Fee is \$35 through the church until September 21. After September 21, registration must be done online through the Cancer Center. Sign up in the church office or in the church foyer on Sundays. We will also have T-Shirts for \$20 available to wear for the walk/run. These are the same as last year. Order your T-Shirt in the church office or in the foyer on Sundays.



### 5K & 2 MILE WALK

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

### JOIN THE OGC CANCER COMPANIONS TEAM

SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH OFFICE OR THE CHURCH FOYER ON SUNDAY

The Fuel to Fight Cancer Fund was established to support the travel needs of cancer patients as they travel to and from the Forrest General Cancer Center for treatments. The frequent trips required for treatment can often create both a financial and logistical burden for the patients and their families. All proceeds will be used to provide transportation assistance for cancer patients in need.



## Children

### Growing in Faith, Friendship, and Fun!

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

- The back-to-school bash was on August 3 and we had a wonderful turnout! Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy fellowship and fun!
- Wednesday nights are officially back, and we are so excited to have our children back here learning about Jesus!



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 month:

- Morning prayers: Start each morning before school with a family breakfast and devotional. This doesn't have to be long, but a few minutes with Jesus can make all the world of difference in our children's day.
- Put church on your to-do list! Making it a regular habit of attending Sunday school each week can set children up for healthy habits of attending church regularly into adulthood.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

There's always something fun on the horizon! Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- September 19 Family Game Night! Join us in the FLC with your favorite board game and finger food to share!

#### HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Our Children's Ministry thrives with the help and support of our families and church members. If you're interested in helping, please email [children@ogchurch.life](mailto:children@ogchurch.life) or contact KayCee after Sunday service. Every bit of participation brings us closer together and enriches our program!

## Youth

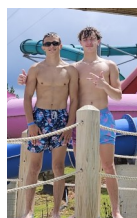
3rd	6:30-7:30	Youth Bible Study
7th	5:30-7:00	Youth Meeting
10th	6:30-7:30	Youth Bible Study
14th	5:30-7:00	Youth Meeting
17th	6:30-7:30	Youth Bible Study
21st	5:30-7:00	Youth Meeting
24th	6:30-7:30	Youth Bible Study
28th	5:30-7:00	Youth Meeting



#### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



#### GRAND PARADISE



### Oak Grove Church family game night

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH

Join us from 6pm-8pm in the FLC for a fun night of laughs, fellowship and games! All ages are welcome!!



Bring your favorite game & finger food to share!

### Oak Grove Student Ministry

## BEACH VACATION RAFFLE



#### DETAILS

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

**TICKETS \$10**

See Youth for Tickets

Drawing August 31, 2025

## Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal

5:30-6:15 pm

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

### September 3, 2025

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

Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad

Shoppers: Tish Edwards/Susan McQueen

Servers: Self Serve

Desserts: Noel Dickerson, Paula Duren, Tish Edwards, Betty Entrekin, Candice Entrekin, LaNita Fisher

### September 10, 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: Susan McQueen, Kathy Neese, Dawn Nuss

Desserts: Kaycee Hairston, Tess Hammond, Laura Hojem, Jessie Holmes, Sharon Schamber Jones, Penny Kochtitzky

### September 17, 2025

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

Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad

Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux

Servers: Cindy Oubre, Kathryn Phillips, Adelia Powe

Desserts: Melinda Lucas, B.J. Mathias, Julie McDonald, Susan McQueen, Kim Morgan, Dawn Nuss

### September 24, 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: Molly Reynolds, Heather Richardson, Cindy Smith

Desserts: Jamie O'Quinn, Cindy Oubre, Cindy Pace, Judy Parker, Kathryn Phillips, Adelia Powe

## Thank You

Oak Grove Church Family,

Thank you so much for your donation to Cancer Companions in memory of Glenn. Cancer Companions was the reason we started coming to this church.

The love shown, the kindness of each member, and compassion given to us means everything.

Love,

Debbie Tyrone

Oak Grove Church Family,

We are truly blessed to be part of this church family.

Thank you for the food, the beautiful plant, the calls and texts, and the many prayers. We are so grateful for those who took me, brought me home, and prayed with me.

God continues to bless this wonderful church family.

John and Laura Hojem



The Church Office will be closed  
Monday, September 1 for Labor Day.

## September Anniversaries and Birthdays

### ANNIVERSARIES

24 Ray and Cindy Pace

3 Brennen Terrill

5 Tish Edwards

5 Aida McDaniel

8 Bobby Sterling

9 Kay Arnold

10 Audrey Boudreaux

11 Dawn Nuss

12 Isaac Boudreaux

12 Judy Brown

12 Paula Duren

15 Janice Armstrong

15 Perry Arnold

15 Donna Langford

16 Josh Mathias

17 Larry Bullion

19 Mandy Kelly

20 Tess Hammond

21 Olivia Dickerson

21 Houston Ladner

22 Linda McDaniel

22 Laura Lee Standland

24 Shannon Sterling

29 Mary Farmer

30 Chuck Langley

### BIRTHDAYS

1 LaNita Fisher

1 Debbie Tyrone

3 Felecia Carpenter

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