

The Old Is New News

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

...A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...

King Solomon, the son of arguably the most revered King in the history of the world, a great king in his own rite (at least for a time), once wrote that “without counsel, plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.” (Proverbs 15:22) If there is one thing I’ve learned as a Pastor and a leader, it’s that wisdom rarely blossoms and thrives in isolation. Even Solomon, widely touted to have been the wisest man who ever lived, eventually fell into the trappings of the world. Why? With all that wisdom you’d think he would be immune to making bad decisions, right? I can’t help but think his demise was largely due to the isolation his wisdom trapped him in. I mean, think about it: who does the wisest person alive seek counsel from? You see the problem. Of course, it probably didn’t help that Solomon had over five hundred wives. Don’t you know that part of his life had to have sucked a lot of the wisdom right out of him. But I digress...(probably unwisely so ..)

Why am I telling you this? Because I wanted to share with you an essential part of my faith and talk about something we all need...and that’s accountability. The Apostle Paul wrote that “no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.” (Hebrews 4:13) Now, Paul was referring to Christ, and everyone knows they can’t hide anything from Him, right? I mean, we pretend He doesn’t know everything, or try our darndest to forget it. But at the end of the day, I think we all know better.

Solomon left us some strong wisdom on this topic, writing that “Whoever conceals their transgressions will not prosper, but the one who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.” (Proverbs 28:13) Paul put it a little more eloquently when he said that “when anything is exposed to the light, it becomes visible.” (Ephesians 5:13) Human beings exist in a state of needing to expose their dark sides and seek counsel from trusted friends and/or advisors. The Bible tells us straight up that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23)

The fact is, we all need to be mindful of our relationships with God, and that’s hard to do when we are less than honest with Him about our lives. Yeh, yeh, I know, He knows everything already, so how can anyone think they are lying to Him? Short answer: if you lie to your brothers and sisters in Christ, worse yet, if you lie to yourself, you are in a sense lying to God. And let me tell you, there is no better feeling than relieving yourself of the burdens hidden in unrepented sin.

But its not the hidden sin I want to focus on. I want to talk about covenants, specifically covenantal formation as Christians. When we form covenantal relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ, we put ourselves in a better position to experience God’s loving and guiding presence. Why? Because that’s where the kind of counsel King Solomon was talking about is found; counsel that leads to success. I’m actually in multiple covenantal groups, and I treasure all of them more than I will ever be able to properly express. I can’t tell you how many times I have benefitted from the wise counsel they have given me over the years.

As valuable as a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is (and it is valuable beyond measure), it will flounder and fail if it’s not experienced in community. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, is famous for having declared that “There is no holiness apart from social holiness.” What he meant is that as much as we Americans love to tout our independence and toughness as individuals, God didn’t make us to be lone rangers. He made us to be social creatures, which even Jesus modeled for us in so many ways. If you were to ask me what I think a good New Year’s resolution would be, I would advise that you resolve to seek out a group where you can be in covenantal relationships with others, and like the original disciples, like so many Christians throughout history, find wise counsel where you can grow in your relationships with God.

May this be a happy and blessed year ahead for you all!

Pastor Ted



...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 meets the first Friday of each month at OGC from 9:30-11:00 am. Due to the holidays, MoMS will meet Friday, January 9. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact Tish Edwards or April Brewer.

CANCER COMPANIONS

Cancer Companions (CC) is an OGC support group tailored specifically for cancer patients and their caregivers. CC meets twice a month on the second and fourth Friday at 10:30 am. In January we will meet on the 9th and 23rd. If you know someone suffering from this awful disease, be sure and pass the word to join us.

MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, January 12 at 5:30 pm in the FLC.

NURSING HOME VISITATION

Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday, January 17. They invite you to join them at the church at 9:30 am to go.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Administrative Council will meet Sunday, January 18 at 11 am.

MES CIRCLE

All ladies are invited to MES Circle on Monday, January 26 at 6 pm in the Family Life Center. Danny McDaniel will be our guest speaker.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Donnie & April Brewer Barksdale
- 23 Jamie & Carol Standland
- 29 Troy & Judy Parker

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Meredith Lucas Parker
- 6 Valerie Fine
Jack Howard
- 7 Kaycee Hairston
Rich Nuss
Jackie Shelton
- 9 Grace Dickerson
- 11 Gabriel Barber
- 15 Henry Stokes
- 18 Madeleine Dickerson
- 19 Shane Napier
- 20 Jason Burger
Susan McQueen
- 21 Jack Shelton
- 22 Billy McDonald
- 23 Emma Hammond
- 24 Craig Boudreaux
- 25 Anne Claire Adams
B.J. Evans
- 26 Lucy Mathias
Lisa Shelton
- 30 Josh Hammond
- 31 RaDonna Frazier



THANK YOU

*Dear Church Family,

Our Birthday Party for Jesus was a tremendous success thanks to your amazing generosity. We were able to bless 47 families and 108 children of our Food Pantry recipients. Not only did the children receive gifts from the wish list but were also treated to a wonderful breakfast buffet, story time about the meaning of candy canes and made their own Christmas ornaments. They also received all the ingredients to bake a cake and have their own celebration at home honoring Jesus' birthday. There were many smiles and hugs. Thank you church members for your generosity and continued support for the Mission project. Thank you Youth for all your help and support.

Missions Committee

*OGC,

Thank you for the food, cards, visits and most of all your prayers during my knee replacement. It is truly a blessing to have such a caring church family. Please continue to remember me in your prayers as I am not 100% yet.

Love in Christ,

Lanita and John Fisher

*Dear Church family,

Thank you for the contribution you made to The Asbury Hospice House in memory of my mother, Frances Long. How fortunate we are to have Asbury House in our community.

Also, thank you for the years of visits to my mom from the Congregational Care group! What a special ministry and those that serve in it.

Your prayers were also valued and appreciated for my mom and us as she drew closer to going home to her Savior.

In His love,

Lisa Vickers

* To everyone at Oak Grove Church,

We want to thank you for the contribution in memory of my mom, Mary Farmer. The church meant so much to her.

Thank you for everything you did for my parents.

Francis and Leslie Farmer

*OGC,

Thank you for your kind donation to the OGC Food Pantry in memory of Tommy Graham. His Family

*OGC Family,

Thank you for your generosity at Christmas. The Christmas bonus was very much appreciated. We are so blessed to be a part of Oak Grove Church.

Ted, Jamie, Alison, , April, KayCee, Gloria, Eva, Emma, and Charlotte

Princess Ball

Saturday, February 7, 2026

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 3

Oak Grove Church
4915 Old Hwy 11



...YOUTH...

JANUARY

11	5:30-7 pm:	Youth
14	5:30 pm:	Dinner and Youth
18	5:30-7 pm:	Youth
21	5:30 pm:	Dinner and Youth
25	5:00 pm:	Parent, Youth, and Youth Leadership Team Meeting
28	5:30 pm:	Dinner and Youth

...CHILDREN...

Growing in Faith, Friendship, and Fun!
Highlights from the Past Month

- We supported the community and participated in the Angel tree program making Christmas brighter for our adopted family.
- Our children worked hard and put on a wonderful Christmas program!

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:

- Find ways to connect to Jesus this season! Some ideas are: pick a family and invite them for worship, host a Bible challenge for your family, start the Bible in a year challenge.
- 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:

- In the month of January, we will host a planning meeting for all parents, teachers, and anyone interested in volunteering for our spring activities! Date will be announced soon!

How You Can Get Involved

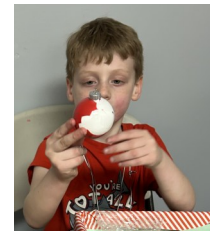
Our Children's Ministry thrives with the help and support of our families and church members. If you're interested in helping, please email children@ogchurch.life or contact KayCee after Sunday service. Every bit of participation brings us closer together and enriches our program!

Thank you so much to the Lucas, Carpenter, and Boudreaux families for opening their homes to our youth group for a wonderful and fun night. We had an awesome time and made lots of wonderful memories for the youth Christmas progressive dinner.

The evening was a huge success, and the students had a wonderful time enjoying delicious food and fellowship in each location. Your hospitality and support are invaluable to our youth ministry, providing a fun and safe environment for our young people to connect and grow together.

We truly appreciate your generosity and willingness to serve. These events would not be possible without dedicated church members like you!

With sincere gratitude,
April Brewer and Oak Grove Youth Group



WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL AND ACTIVITIES RESUME JANUARY 14!
MEAL 5:30 PM / ADULTS \$7 CHILDREN \$3 FAMILY PLAN \$20 / CLASSES AND CHOIR 6:30 PM

January 14, 2026

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: Adelia Powe, Molly Reynolds, Heather Richardson
Desserts: Debbie Tyrone, Teresa Viehweg, Brenda Walker, Gloria Watkins, Sarah Wilkerson, Peggy Woodruff

January 21, 2026

Menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Texas Toast, Assorted Desserts
Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad
Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux
Servers: Cindy Smith, Hagan Smith, Lori Terrill
Desserts: Nancy Amacker, Esther Attkisson, Laura Baird, Beth Bankston, Pat Bennett, Jane Boudreaux

January 28, 2026

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: Brenda Walker, Gloria Watkins, Nancy Amacker
Desserts: Trista Boudreaux, April Brewer, Judy Brown, Peggy Bullion, Joann Burks, Gloria Bynum

February 4, 2026

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: M.J. Cain, Suzell Cain, Elaine Callaway, Chris Camacho, Felicia Carpenter, Mary Ann Cox

February 11, 2026

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: Laura Baird, Jane Boudreaux, Fred Boudreaux
Desserts: Grace Dickerson, Noel Dickerson, Paula Duren, Tish Edwards, Betty Entrekin, Candice Entrekin

February 18, 2026

Menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Texas Toast, Assorted Desserts
Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad
Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux
Servers: Elaine Callaway, Tish Edwards, Betty Entrekin
Desserts: LaNita Fisher, Kaycee Hairston, Tess Hammond, Laura Hojem, Jessie Holmes, Sharon Schamber Jones

February 25, 2026

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: Penny Kochtitzky, Melinda Lucas, B.J. Mathias, Julie McDonald, Susan McQueen, Kim Morgan

March 4, 2026

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: Dawn Nuss, Jamie O'Quinn, Cindy Oubre, Cindy Pace, Judy Parker, Kathryn Phillips

March 11, 2026

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: Adelia Powe, Eva Ratliff, Molly Reynolds, Heather Richardson, KayCee Schielder, Cindy Smith

March 18, 2026

Menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Texas Toast, Assorted Desserts
Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad
Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux
Servers: Youth
Desserts: Hagan Smith, Carol Standland, Shannon Sterling, Lori Terrill, Debbie Tyrone, Teresa Viehweg

March 25, 2026

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: Cindy Oubre, Kathryn Phillips, Adelia Powe
Desserts: Brenda Walker, Gloria Watkins, Sarah Wilkerson, Peggy Woodruff, Nancy Amacker, Esther Attkisson

April 1, 2026

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: Laura Baird, Beth Bankston, Pat Bennett, Jane Boudreaux, Trista Boudreaux, April Brewer

April 8, 2026

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: Molly Reynolds, Heather Richardson, Cindy Smith
Desserts: Judy Brown, Peggy Bullion, Joann Burks, Gloria Bynum, M.J. Cain, Suzell Cain

April 15, 2026

Menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Broccoli, Garden Salad, Texas Toast, Assorted Desserts
Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad
Shoppers: Fred/Jane Boudreaux
Servers: Hagan Smith, Lori Terrill, Brenda Walker
Desserts: Elaine Callaway, Chris Camacho, Felicia Carpenter, Mary Ann Cox, Grace Dickerson, Noel Dickerson

April 22, 2026

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: Gloria Watkins, Nancy Amacker, Laura Baird
Desserts: Paula Duren, Tish Edwards, Betty Entrekin, Candice Entrekin, LaNita Fisher, Kaycee Hairston

April 29, 2026

Menu: Breakfast at Night
Children's Menu: Same
Shoppers: Gloria Bynum
Servers: Jane Boudreaux, Fred Boudreaux, Elaine Callaway
Desserts: Tess Hammond, Laura Hojem, Jessie Holmes, Sharon Schamber Jones, Penny Kochtitzky, Melinda Lucas

May 6, 2026

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

May 13, 2026

Senior Recognition Night
More Info to Come
Servers: Tish Edwards, Betty Entrekin, LaNita Fisher
Desserts: MES Circle



Oak Grove Church

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Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8AM-2PM