

AUGUST 2026

OAK GROVE CHURCH
A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH



THE OLD IS NEW NEWS

KEEPING OUR CHURCH FAMILY CONNECTED AND INFORMED.

...A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...

“The Gospel That Changes Everything”

I thought I’d give a little preview of our upcoming sermon series and Bible study on the book of Romans. First of all, let’s acknowledge this book as Paul’s masterpiece — a sweeping explanation of the gospel and its power to reshape a human life. In just a few chapters, Paul takes us from our deepest need to God’s greatest gift, and then shows us what a transformed life looks like. Romans doesn’t just tell us *what* to believe; it shows us *who* we become when Christ takes hold of us.

Paul begins with a declaration in chapter 1 vs. 16–17 that *the gospel is the power of God for salvation*. Not a suggestion. Not a philosophy. But power. Power strong enough to break chains, heal hearts, and rewrite destinies. So what does this tell us? It says that if the gospel is indeed God’s power, then my weakness is not a barrier — it’s the very place His strength begins.

Paul then confronts us with a truth we often try to avoid: that *all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*. (Romans 3:23) He levels the playing field for humanity, declaring that no one is righteous on their own. But not as a form of condemnation, rather as clarification, driving home the point that we can’t fix ourselves. We need a Savior, and honesty before God is the doorway to being healed. Grace meets us where we truly are, not where we so often pretend to be.

Shifting our eyes to the cross, Paul gives us the foundation of our beliefs as protestants in the doctrine of justification by faith alone. (Romans 5:1–2) He shows us that our peace with God is not earned — it’s received, and Christ’s righteousness becomes ours as we stand in grace before the throne of God. It’s the idea that we don’t live *for* acceptance — we live *from* acceptance. The gospel frees us from striving and invites us into rest.

Chapter 8 is both the center of the book and the central most part of our faith, asserting our new life in the Spirit as the heartbeat of Christian confidence. Romans 8:1–2 and 14–16 make it clear that there is no condemnation for those in Christ. The Spirit sets us free, empowers us, and reminds us we are God’s children. We are assured that we don’t walk alone; that we walk with the Spirit who leads, strengthens, and assures us. Every battle we face is fought with the Spirit beside us, within us, and for us.

And finally, after explaining the gospel, in chapter 12 Paul turns to its result: Offer your bodies as living sacrifices. Be transformed by the renewing of your minds. The gospel doesn’t just save — it reshapes. It produces humility, love, service, and unity. The gospel changes our eternity along with our everyday lives. Our worship becomes more than just what we say; it’s how we live every minute of every day.

The end result is a book that teaches that the gospel is not a moment — it’s a movement. It begins with God’s power, it meets our need, it gives us new life, and it transforms us from the inside out. This is the gospel that changes everything. And this is what we are going to be living, learning, and growing through for the next 12 weeks. I hope you will join us on the journey.



Prayer

May the God of grace strengthen your faith, renew your mind, and empower your steps. May the Spirit remind you daily that you are loved, forgiven, and free. And may the gospel of Christ continue its transforming work in you, today and always. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

...IN THE KNOW...

CHURCHWIDE CLEANUP DAY

On Saturday, August 1, 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!

MEN'S CLUB

All men are invited to Men's Club on Monday, August 3 at 6 pm in the FLC.

SECOND SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Join us for breakfast, compliments of Men's Club, on Sunday, August 9 from 8-9:45 am in the FLC. Enjoy a delicious

breakfast and fellowship before Sunday School and Worship.

CANCER COMPANIONS

Cancer Companions (CC) is an OGC support group tailored specifically for cancer patients and their caregivers. CC meets on the second and fourth Friday at 10:30 am in the church parlor. August meetings are the 14th and 28th.

NURSING HOME VISITATION

Congregational Care will be visiting the area nursing homes on Saturday,

August 15. They invite you to join them at the church at 9:30 am to go.

5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK

Join us for a potluck lunch on Sunday, August 30 following worship. Bring your favorite dish to share. The youth beach vacation winning raffle ticket will be drawn at the meal.

MES CIRCLE

All ladies are invited to MES Circle on Monday, August 31 at 6 pm in the FLC.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
BIBLE STUDY**
BEGINS AUGUST 5
6:30 PM
CHURCH PARLOR
Books available for \$20

THE M.E.S. CIRCLE OF OAK GROVE CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A

Bridal Shower

HONORING

Hayley O'Donnell

BRIDE-ELECT OF BOWEN TERRILL

Saturday, August 15, 2026
2:00 -3:30 pm
Oak Grove Church Parlor

REGISTERED AT ZOLA.COM,
ACCENTS AND TARGET

OAK GROVE CHURCH
August 8
8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Learn essential disaster response skills with hands-on training with Delvin Foret. No experience necessary! Register Today!

www.TheFaithResponders.org/events
info@thefaithresponders.org
850-363-6799

#MightyFine

Fuel to Fight

October 17, 2026

5 Mile. 5K. 2 Mile

Join the OGC Cancer Companions Team in the Fuel to Fight Walk on Saturday, October 17 at the Forrest General Cancer Center. Registration Fee is \$35. Sign up in the foyer or church office beginning August 16. Registration deadline thru the church is September 20.

Fuel to Fight would like to honor Valerie Fine at the event this year by dedicating the race in her memory, recognizing the impact she made on so many lives and the inspiration she continues to provide. As part of this tribute, a special remembrance will be on all race t-shirts using #MightyFine.

The Fuel to Fight Cancer Fund supports the travel needs of patients as they travel to and from the Forrest General Cancer Center for treatments.



...YOUTH...

Youth Leadership Team meets August 9 at 5 pm.

AUGUST EVENTS

- 2 Back to School Bash
- 5 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 9 Youth 5:30P
- 12 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 16 Youth 5:30P
- 19 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 21-23 High School Girls Beach Retreat
- 26 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 30 Youth Sunday/5th Sunday Potluck/
Drawing for Beach House Vacation



...COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULTS...

- 2 Back to School Bash
- 5 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 9 9A Class/ 10A Worship
- 12 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 16 9A Class/ 10A Worship
- 19 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 23 9A Class/10A Worship
- 26 Wed Night Dinner/Bible Study
- 30 8:30A Kickoff Breakfast @ Hairston Home
- 30 5th Sunday Potluck after Worship
- 31 7P Coffee Shop Group @ Mo'Bay

...CHILDREN...

Growing in Faith, Friendship, and Fun!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST MONTH

- The Blessing of the backpacks was a genuine time of prayer to help our students and teachers tackle this upcoming school year. Thanks to all who were here!



- Our Children's Council, parents, and teachers had a great meeting to plan for the fall!

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:

- It's time for back to school! This can be an exciting time but can also bring up some big feelings! Make sure that you take a moment each day to reflect with your child!
- Put church on your to-do list! Making it a regular habit of attending Sunday School each week!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- August 2: Annual Back to School Bash
- August 5: All Wednesday Night Activities resume

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! Every bit of participation brings us closer together and enriches our program.



Wednesday Night Meals and Activities Resume August 5!

5:30—6:15 pm

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

August 5, 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/Woody Gammel
Servers: Nancy Amacker, Laura Baird, Betty Entrekin
Dishcloths: Server
Desserts: Nancy Amacker, Janice Armstrong, Esther Attkisson, Laura Baird, Jess Banes, Beth Bankston

August 12, 2026

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, LaNita Fisher
Dishcloths: Server
Desserts: Pat Bennett, Jane Boudreaux, Trista Boudreaux, April Brewer, Judy Brown, Peggy Bullion

August 19, 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: Kaycee Hairston, Julie McDonald, Susan McQueen
Dishcloths: Server
Desserts: Joann Burks, Gloria Bynum, M.J. Cain, Suzell Cain, Chris Camacho, Felecia Carpenter

August 26, 2026

Menu: Loaded Baked Potatoes, Chili, Garden Salad, French Bread, Assorted Desserts
Children's Menu: Pizza and Salad
Shoppers: Susan McQueen/Debbie Tyrone/Bobo Terrill
Servers: Self Serve
Dishcloths: Server
Desserts: Mary Ann Cox, Grace Dickerson, Noel Dickerson, Paula Duren, Betty Entrekin, Candice Entrekin



ANNIVERSARIES...

4 Matt and Jess Banes
 5 Cliff and Elaine Callaway
 6 Rod and Kathy Courtney
 18 Lath and Kaycee Hairston
 19 Jimmy and Felecia Carpenter
 22 David and 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
 21 Shelton Lott
 21 Bobo Terrill
 22 Jason Phillips
 26 Connor Hammond
 29 Susan Farris



God Bless America Celebrating 250 years



ALL MEN'S CHOIR



BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC
 Jonah Mathias/Micah Ingram

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