

THE LAMPLIGHTER – OCTOBER, 2018

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By: Todd Haley

Dear Friends and Family at Oak Grove,

What a great time to be living in East Tennessee. The fall color will soon be here. Football has started. Kids are in school. It is a great time to enjoy this life God has given us. I have lived several parts of the county, and I can tell you for sure... East Tennessee is where God lives. He may visit other parts, but I am convinced this is where He lives. My family and I are very excited to live here too.

I am also excited about what is happening in the church. If you have missed any services lately, you have lost some incredible blessings. Our choir and music have been remarkable. Every soloist seems to lift our services closer to the throne of God. Our children and youth choirs have begun to practice. We are looking forward to hearing them in our services very soon.

Music changes the mood and lifts the spirit when we worship. David saw this first hand as a young man playing his instruments for the king when the king was not well. Later he employed this idea when he became the leader of Israel. David was playing and dancing before the Arc of the

Covenant as it was moved into town. I get excited when I see people responding in worship by singing or closing their eyes or praying or raising their hands. There is something special about God's people coming together to worship God.

I look forward to seeing you soon. I look forward to worshiping God together. Service is better when you are there. Have a great day!!

Pastor Todd

Sunday school is a very important part of our spiritual life. It allows each of us to get to know a group of people and to learn about them and what is going on in their lives. We hear their needs and pray with them and they hear ours and pray for us too. Being part of a Sunday school class allows all of us to grow together in our relationship with Christ. In Thom Rainer's book *High Expectations*, he finds a correlation between church attendance and Sunday school attendance. One of the facts that he shares is that 83% of new Christians are still in church 5 years after accepting Christ as savior if they are active in Sunday school, while only 16% are still in church after 5 years if they are only active in the worship service. Being part of a Sunday school class helps you connect with a body of believers by providing fellowship, by learning God's word in depth, and by praying and being prayed for with your classmates. I hope that you will make every effort to come to Sunday school and grow your relationship with Jesus Christ by growing with fellow believers.

Blessings, Eric



Our Christian love & sympathy are extended to:

- *Ruth Taylor & family in the death of her husband, William "Willie" Taylor
- *Jim & Patricia Moore in the death of their sister-in-law, Elizabeth Pearcy
- *Whitney Witt and family in the death of her grandmother, Leola Wooten
- *Dee Davis & family in the death of her husband, Gary Davis
- *The family of Bonnie Reece



The outpouring of love, support, encouraging words, every act of kindness we have received during these difficult days is indescribable. Thanks for all the phone calls, text messages, cards, visits, food, and the Gideon Bibles in memory of Kade. We especially thank you for your prayers that have kept us going. What a wonderful church family we love and appreciate so much. We appreciate our pastor for visiting with us. May God richly bless each of you. Blessings and Love from the Whitmore/Jennings families

Dear Oak Grove,

Thank you so much for your love shown to us during Willie's illness and death. We are grateful for all the cards, calls, visits, prayers, and the Bibles donated in memory of Willie. For the meal provided after the service and for Pastor Todd, his help, and all he did during the service. Thanks also for the music provided by Doug, D.L. and Steve.

Ruth Taylor & Family

Thank you for the wonderful meal you prepared for our family. Everything was so good and I know it was prepared with love.

Dee Davis & Family



Dear Oak Grove Family,

Just a word of reminder that it's not too late for you or your child or youth to be a part of our choir program! Our youth began rehearsal last Sunday. There were 19 youth who came to the first rehearsal. Schedules are in the bulletin. We would love for you to be a part of our music program!

In Christian Love, Doug



Youth Choir kicked off this past Sunday. We had 19 students come out for choir. I want to thank Diane, Josh and Angela for investing their time and talents in these students. If you missed this past Sunday it is not too late to come and join youth choir.

Mark your calendars for upcoming youth events:

Sunday, September 23 - OGBC Youth will be worshipping with five other youth groups in the area. We will be going to Ridgeview Baptist Church at 6:00 for FUSION. This is an exciting event for our youth to invite friends and reach out to those who do not know Christ.

October 12-14 - The youth will be going to Carson Springs in Newport, Tennessee for a Fall Retreat. The cost of the trip is \$60.00. This includes lodging and meals. The youth will need to bring their Bible, sleeping bag, pillow, and towels.

Blessings,

Ramona



We would like to welcome Chad Crigger, our newest member at Oak Grove Baptist Church. We're glad to have you!!



THANK YOU

The Shoebox Ministry Team would like to thank everyone involved with the Shoebox Ministry this year.

Through your generosity, we have collected enough items to fill 250 shoeboxes, plus money to cover shipping costs! To God be the glory!

Although we are done collecting items, our job isn't finished yet. Prayer is an important part of Operation Christmas Child. Please pray for the children who will receive a shoe box gift, lift up ministry partners and volunteers that are involved in collecting, processing, transporting and delivering shoe box gifts. Most importantly, pray the doors will be opened for the Good News of Jesus to be shared around the world!



October is Pastor and Staff Appreciation month. This is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and ministerial staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. You can show your appreciation with a card, call, or text. A small gift or gift card is sure to be a blessing as well. Most importantly, remember to lift up Pastor Todd, Doug, Ramona, and Eric in their ministries.



We are currently collecting items for the victims of Hurricane Florence. You can help by bringing the following items: water, cleaning supplies, non-perishable foods, flashlights and batteries, sanitation and personal hygiene items. You may leave your donations outside of the library. We are also collecting goods for Hilda's Helping Hand Blessing Box: Canned tuna/chicken, macaroni & cheese, peanut butter, Rice-A-Roni, canned soup, cereal, paper towels, soap and toilet paper.



It's Harvest Festival time at OGBC! Make plans now to join us on **Wednesday, October 31st from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** We will have Trunk or Treat, games, food, and lots of FUN! This is one of our biggest outreach opportunities. We will need lots of volunteers to help with greeting guests, games, and food service. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Welcome Center. If you can donate an hour or two of your time, we would greatly appreciate it!













Registration for Upward Basketball and Cheerleading has begun. The mission of this program is to promote the discovery of Jesus through sports. Basketball (cost \$50) is open to boys and girls, grades K-9. Cheerleading (cost \$55) is open to girls, grades K-6. Upward Evaluations will be held on Thursday, November 1st, Monday, November 5th and Tuesday, November 6th. We hope to see your child there!



Trunk or Treat is a large part of our Harvest Festival. It provides a safe environment for families to bring their children. You can help by hosting a trunk, donating candy and inviting your neighbors to attend. Please drop off individually wrapped Halloween candy in the bin outside of the office. Thank you in advance for your support!

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>Every Sunday</u> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship, Children's Church 4:45 Children's Bible Drill 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 PM Worship</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>3 5:30 Church Council 6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p>
<p>7 8:00 Deacons' Meeting & Breakfast</p>	<p>8</p> 	<p>9 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>10 6:30 Business Meeting</p>	<p>11 10:30 Senior Adult Choir & Fellowship</p>	<p>12 13</p>  <p>October 12-14 Carson Springs</p>	
<p>14 World Hunger Day</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>17 6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> 	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> 	<p>22 4:30 HVBA Annual Meeting – Henard's Chapel (Rogersville)</p>	<p>23 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>24 6:30 Family Mission Night</p>	<p>25 4:30-8:30 Gym – Kacey Charles</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> 
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> 	<p>30 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>5:30-7:30</p>	<p>31</p> 	<p><u>Every Wednesday</u> 5:30 Youth Bible Drill 5:45 Preschool Choir, Children's Choir 6:30 Youth & College & Career Bible Study, RA's, GA's, MF's 7:15 Adult Choir</p>	