

The Lamplighter – September 2022

311 Cypress Street – Mt. Carmel, Tennessee 37645 - 423-357-7241 – www.ogbchurch.org



John 6

24 when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. 25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You come here?”

26 Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

28 Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?”

29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”

In this passage, people seeking Jesus in Capernaum were part of the 5,000 men fed the day before. They wanted to make Jesus king, but for the wrong reasons. The next day, they confront Jesus and behave as though they are surprised Jesus has moved to a new place. Jesus knows their hearts are after the free meal. The meal was an opportunity to meet a need so they could hear the life-changing message of God’s redemption. Unfortunately, they liked the idea of free food more than actually being free.

Why does a person come to Church? We sometimes become enamored with the music, the coffee, the food, and the words of encouragement from others. We become like those who enjoyed the free meal. We forget the real purpose of the Church and focus on the wrong things.

The truth is, we should look forward to attending Church so we can be in a place that helps us grow as Christians. Churches should be in the disciple-making business. We should seek to win people to Jesus, help them grow as Christians, so they can be sent out to win others. This purpose should be the focus of the Church and the direction of the members.

So this week, if you find yourself struggling with the idea of whether or not to attend Church, ask yourself, “Am I going for the trimmings, or am I going to help me grow?” When we focus on the trimmings, we find ourselves not feeling like Church is as important anymore. But when we focus on the food that helps us to grow, the Church becomes a place we want to be. There is no other place in this world where you will find the nourishment that you will find at Church.

Come, let us grow together. I look forward to seeing you soon!

With love,
Pastor Todd



Our Christian love & sympathy to:

- *David, Leigh Ann, Alex & Ben Tucker in the death of David's mother, Sharon Long
- *Amy, Larry & Grant Snyder in the death of Amy's father, Clarence Carpenter



We would like to extend a special welcome to our newest members!

We're so glad to have you!

Nikki Gregg, Ethan Roberts, Fey Saepfen, Dustin Scarbrough



New Baby!

Congratulations to Opal Stephens on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Addison Rigley Fontenot, born August 12, 2022 weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz.



Thank you for your kindness during our time of loss. Thank you for the three Bibles that were donated.

Sincerely, Betty Parker & family

Oak Grove would like to say a great big "Thank You" to all of our teachers who work so hard thoughtfully preparing to lead their classes. Thank you for your dedication to this church, and more importantly, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



September is here and we have some exciting things going on in Sunday school beginning this month. First, we will be starting a new class for young adults (25-35) that will be taught upstairs in the Adult Sunday School class department. This will be a great place for our young adults who are starting out on their own. It will be a co-ed class for both singles and adults.

Second, we will be starting a study of the Minor Prophets Amos, Jonah, Hosea, and Micah. This would be a great time to join a Sunday school class if you are not already a part of one. We have so many wonderful adult classes for every age. I hope that you will join us each Sunday morning at 9:45.

Blessings,
Eric

After a nice, long summer break, it is time for Children's Choirs to resume. On Wednesday, September 7th at 5:45 p.m. Sunbeam Singers (ages 3 years – Kindergarten) and Children's Choir (grades 1-6) will begin meeting again for the 2022-23 church year. Joan Ingram is the director of the Sunbeam Singers and Diane Holcomb is the director of the Children's Choir. Both ladies do a fantastic job leading these choirs.

On Sunday evening, September 25th we will have a church-wide cookout and music night. Lighthouse will be providing music that evening, along with a few others from our church. It's sure to be a great time of fellowship and worship! I am also hoping to bring Thankful Baptist Church Men's Choir back to Oak Grove this fall. More information will be coming soon.

I would like to say thank you for the wonderful congregational singing the last several weeks. I love to see everyone involved in worship!

In Christian Love, Doug





I would like to welcome the upcoming 7th graders to Youth: Dixon Armstrong, Tony Bullock, and Bella Smith.

Mark your calendars for the following events:

- *November 18-20- Hearts on Fire – Pigeon Forge, TN
- *December- We are planning a High School Trip to Pigeon Forge. I will have the dates ASAP.

We have a youth meal each Wednesday Night after Youth Bible Study. This is a time for families and the youth to eat together. If you have not joined us, I hope you will soon.

Menu:

- Sept. 7-Hamburger and Hot Dogs
- Sept. 14- Taco Salads
- Sept. 21 – Loaded Baked Potatoes
- Sept. 28 – Pizza

Ramona



Sunday, September 4 - Promotion Sunday

It's the start of a new church year and with that comes Promotion Sunday. Children from preschool to high school will step up to their new age/grade level class.

Saturday, September 17 – Men's Big Eat

It has been a while since we have had the Men's Big Eat, but we're so excited to be bringing it back this September. All men are invited to this time of fellowship and FOOD. This is always a big display of different types of meat, and maybe a few vegetables thrown in there somewhere. If you would like to help cook, please contact John Murnane. The Big Eat will start at 6:00 and the men will meet outside of the gym. Invite someone to attend with you!

Sunday, September 25 – Cookout & Music Night

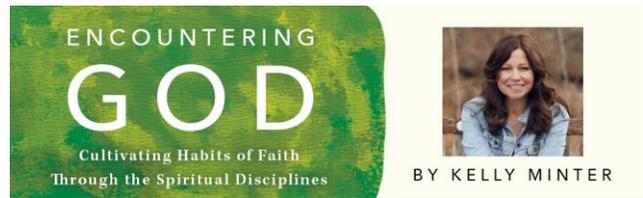
We will welcome the autumn season with a church-wide cookout and music night beginning at 5:00 p.m. The church will furnish hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and drinks. You are asked to bring your lawn chair and a dessert to share. After the meal, we will have music from Lighthouse, along with others from our congregation. This is a great time to visit together, have a great meal, and worship the Lord through song. We hope you will make plans to attend!



Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19

The Golden Offering is the annual state missions offering that provides invaluable financial support for ministries that help reach Tennesseans for Christ. This year's theme is "Do a New Thing". It's all about the new: A new heart, a new vision, a new challenge, a new year, a new believer, a new church, a new hope. The Week of Prayer for the Golden Offering is September 11th – 18th. Tennessee Baptists are praying for God to do a new thing in this state.



New Women's Bible Study Beginning Tuesday, September 20th 9:45 am & 6:00 pm

Join Kelly Minter in this 7-session Bible study as she unpacks the biblical foundations for disciplines like prayer, study, worship, rest, simplicity, generosity, celebration, and many more. Instead of being just one more thing on your to-do list, you'll find these habits of faith can actually create more margin in your life – providing peace and rest as you walk closer with Jesus.



Learning from Autumn Leaves

Every fall, I marvel at the beautiful leaves, studying the intricate shapes and God's creative, colorful displays. Despite its deterioration, the foliage reveals splendor — mere months after bursting out in spring and providing summer shade.

I often think I'm like an autumn leaf. Through many seasons, God has transformed me from a self-absorbed person to one who trusts his steadfast promises. Winter is approaching for me too. Yet the Holy Spirit keeps molding me to reflect God's goodness and beauty. During the autumn of my life, I pray that God helps me embrace changing seasons while reflecting his love and light to all.
—MaryAnn Sundby

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p>Every Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship, Jericho Junction, Children's Church, Nursery</p>	<p>Every Wednesday 5:45 Sunbeam Singers, Children's Choir 6:30 Youth Bible Study, RA's, GA's, Mission Friends 7:15 Adult Choir</p>			<p>1 7:00</p> 	2	3	
<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p>  <p>Church Office Closed</p>	6	<p>7 5:45</p>  <p>Children's Choirs Resume</p> <p>6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	8	9	10	 <p>RA Camporee (At Camp Hope)</p>
<p>11 Patriot Day</p> <p>8:00 Deacons' Meeting 1:00 – FH P. Byerley 5:30 Church Council</p>	<p>12 5:00-9:00 – Gym L. Hicks</p>	13	<p>14 6:30 Business Meeting</p>	<p>15 6:00 Caring Card Ministry</p>	16	<p>17 6:00</p> 	
<p>18 5:00 Deacon Confirmation 6:00 Deacon Ordination</p>	<p>19 5:00-9:00 – Gym L. Hicks</p>	<p>20 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>21 6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>22</p> 	23	24	
<p>25 5:00</p> 	<p>26 5:00-9:00 – Gym L. Hicks</p>	<p>27 9:45 & 6:00 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>28 6:30 Prayer Meeting</p>	29	30		