

September 2025



# The Olive Branch

Olive Branch Baptist Church

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## From Your Associate Pastor of Youth & Families

September is upon us, and with that comes the changing of another season. We prepare to enter fall and to experience all the wonderful things that come with that. The beautiful fall colors, the cooler temperatures, and pumpkin spice being added to everything. Here at Olive Branch, we will also see many of our youth and children's ministries start back up such as our Lunch Buddies, Awana, God's Young Ladies, and our new D3 (6-12 grade) youth ministry. There is plenty to be excited about in the weeks ahead and I pray that you are looking for areas where you can jump in and serve. Many people look forward to the transition to fall and all the amazing things that come with it; however, not every seasonal transition is as exciting and finds itself to be a welcome change.

In Ecclesiastes 3, God tells us through King Solomon that there is a time for everything and that life will take us through many seasons. "For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 ESV) With the changing of these seasons, we sometimes experience things we enjoy and sometimes things we pray pass quickly. For example, many people look forward to spring as it brings warmer temperatures and new life; however, some people are not as excited about spring because we now must worry about insects, pollen, and mowing the grass. The different seasons in our lives can see us reach the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. Nevertheless, as we move through life and encounter all these season changes, we find solace in the fact that God is present and in control through them all.

This has been made all the clearer by the changes we have experienced here at Olive Branch. The month of August brought excitement as we began a new path in our youth ministry with Pastor Roger's vision for D3; but it also brought sadness and maybe even some anxiety as we said goodbye to our beloved Pastor Wayne. Olive Branch is undoubtedly entering a new season, and we will experience these changes together, with God at the forefront of every move. There will be moments we think things are heading in the right direction and moments we think could have been handled differently; however, it will be critical that we remain steadfast in our faith and united in our mission. As we navigate the months to come, let us remember who we are as a church. We exist to "worship God, teach the Bible, care for one another, and share the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone with our acts of love and words of truth."

September will begin a new church year and usher in a new season, not just the one we experience within nature, but one we will experience as a church family. Please be patient and intentional in your prayers for the leaders as they seek God in all their decisions, the congregation as they remain engaged and faithful, and for the new pastor whoever he may be, that he will hear and accept the call to join the OBBC family. "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9 ESV)

# SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>HAPPY LABOR DAY</b>	2 7:00pm Choir	3	4	5 5-9pm Children/Youth Kickoff Event	6
7 10:00 SS 11:00 One Worship Service	8 6:30pm Deacons Meeting	9 7:00pm Choir	10 6:30-8:00pm D3, Awana 7:00pm Prayer Gathering	11 11:00 - 1:00pm METS	12 6:30-8:30pm God's Young Ladies	13
14 2:00pm WOM in Fellowship Hall	15	16 7:00pm Choir/Cantata Practice	17 6:30-8:00pm D3, Awana 7:00pm Prayer Gathering	18 6:30 pm Men's Fellowship	19	20
21	22	23 7:00pm Choir/Cantata Practice	24 6:30-8:00pm D3, Awana 7:00pm Prayer Gathering	25	26 6:30-8:30pm God's Young Ladies	27
28	29	30 7:00pm Choir/Cantata Practice				

# OBBC NEWS



## **OBBC Welcomes Elizabeth Taylor as Contemporary Worship Leader**

At the quarterly business meeting on Monday, September 18, the church voted to hire Elizabeth Taylor as the worship leader for the contemporary service. Her employment began immediately. We say Welcome but Elizabeth has been with us volunteering and worshipping many years.

## *Worship Service*



**Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** there will only be one worship service which will be at 11:00 am. We will have a Deacon Ordination for Bill Wollenberg as well as the Lord's Supper! There will NOT be a 9:00 am service! Sunday School will be at the normal time of 10:00 am.



**The Constitution Committee** is currently taking recommendations for changes/revisions to the current Constitution and By Laws for OBBC. We know there are updates that need to be done and are open to recommendations. Please have these turned in to the church office no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>! Copies of the current one can be found in the Welcome Center or you can contact Sandra and she will get you a copy or email to you.

### ***Men's Christian Fellowship***

The Men's Christian Fellowship group will be having another fellowship on Thursday, September 18th starting at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Men, please plan to attend and bring a friend or family member with you for an evening of fellowship and good food. Dinner will be served. A sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center.

## ***Our 2025/2026 Deacons***

The following OBBC men will be serving as our Deacons for the 2025/2026 church year. Please pray for these men as they serve and minister to our OBBC members. Bill Wollenberg is one of our new Deacons and will be ordained on Sunday, September 7, 2025.

Steve Carroll  
Tim Ittner  
Will Gill

Denia Paquette  
Frank Seamster  
Daniel Thrasher

Ron George  
Wayne Paynter  
George Kidd

Bill Wollenberg  
Curtis Tyler  
Cheyenne Townsend

# OBBC NEWS



## **METS Senior Ministry!!**

Welcome back Young-at-Heart Seniors to our 5<sup>th</sup> year of METS! We have some new and exciting monthly gatherings and special events planned. We hope everyone will return and invite a friend, too! Our first gathering will be Thursday, September 11th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker this month will be Jason Winter who will speak to us about cyber/internet security. We will continue to meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month through May 2026.

Please join us each month for a time of being in God's Word, guest speaker, a delicious meal, and fellowship with each other! A sign-up sheet will be in the Welcome Center before each monthly gathering.



## **Special Called Business Meeting**

We will have our Special Called Business Meeting on **Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>** immediately after the second worship service in the sanctuary. This is meeting is for the purpose of voting on a Pastor Search Committee to begin the search for a senior pastor. If you are not able to attend, proxy forms are available in the Welcome Center.

Please turn these in to the church office by Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

## **Pastor Search Committee**

### **Nominations**

Pastor Search Nomination Forms are out for you to have returned on or before Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>! You can nominate up to 5 members, forms are in the bulletin or can be found in the Welcome Center.

## **Christmas Cantata Singers**

### **Needed**

OBBC will be having a Living Christmas Tree "One Small Child" on Sunday, December 14th at 10:30 am and 5:00 pm. Rehearsals will begin Tuesday, September 16th at 7:00 pm. ALL are welcome to join us!!

### **BELL Ringers**

We will also begin practicing the bells which will start practice on Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the Annex.

The sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center!

## **Worship Attendance**

7/27	132
8/3	124 - 1 Service
8/10	107 - 1 Service
8/18	130
8/25	146

## **Sunday School Attendance**

7/27	71
8/3	58 - 1 Service
8/10	65 - 1 Service
8/18	65
8/25	91



## We have Sunday School classes for all ages!!

All classes meet at 10:00am each Sunday in the main church building.

We hope you will find one to join!

**Pre K-K** (Room 8 ) and **1st - 5th Grade** (Room 5) are learning about Jesus thru Bible Studies for Life. We rotate teachers so kids have a variety of interesting and fun activities as they learn about God!

**Middle thru High School** students meet in Room 12 with rotating teachers who teach and discuss Christian principles that apply to the everyday life of a teenager.

**Truth Seekers** (Young and Middle-Aged Adults) meet in Room 11. This class studies Biblical books and topics.

**Woman to Woman** are adult women of all ages. these ladies meet in Room 2/4 and study the Bible using the Explore the Bible Series. You'll get a woman's perspective and discussion.

**Man to Man** are adult men of all ages. They meet in Room 10 and studying the Bible using Explore the Bible series.

**Joy Class** are men and women of all ages and meet in Room 7/9. this group also studies the Bible using the Explore the Bible series.

**Fishers of Men** are adult men and women of all ages. They meet in the Fellowship Hall.

## Women On Missions Updates

### Women On Missions

All women and teenage girls are invited.

Our March meeting will be held on

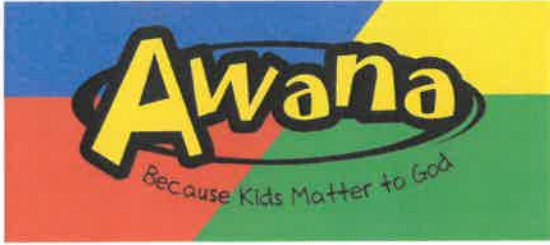
**Sunday, September 14, 2025 and**  
**will meet in the church Fellowship**  
**Hall at 2:00 pm.**



Beginning in September and for the entire month of September, we will be collecting for the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions. Their theme for this year is "Living Faith" and every dollar goes directly to support missions.

Our church goal for this offering is \$1,200.

# Children's & YC (6th-12th grades) News



Awana for K - 5<sup>th</sup> graders will start back up Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm!! If you are willing to volunteer as a teacher or helper please see Michael Smith for more details!



Come join us on Friday, September 5th from 5 pm - 9 pm for some food, fun and fellowship to kick off the new year of youth and children's ministries here at OBBC. The evening will begin with a picnic style BBQ featuring hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring your favorite side or dessert to share. During our time of food and fellowship some games and activities will be available for the kids. We will cap the evening off with an outdoor family movie night so be sure to bring your blankets and chairs to relax in the yard and enjoy the show.



D3 Youth Ministry will start back up on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm!!

## God's Young Ladies

All young ladies, 5th - 12th grade are invited to join in our God's Young Ladies group that meets every other Friday evening from 6:30pm - 8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Their first meeting will be Friday, September 12th. Led by Becky Aleman, they have a lesson and a time of sharing, prayer, crafts, and a snack. They focus on issues that girls face and what the Bible says about dealing with them. For more information contact Becky Aleman at 434-447-6231.



# Missions Opportunities



## Genesis Ministry Lunch Buddy Program

The 2025-2026 school year is here! We plan to start the program on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, we need more Lunch Buddies to represent each class. This school year will mark the 17<sup>th</sup> year of serving the children and staff at La Crosse Elementary School through this program. Many of you have served as a Lunch Buddy over the past years and know how rewarding it is. The love from the children and staff is immeasurable. Your commitment to join the children for lunch on Wednesdays during the school year and, if possible, visit them in their classroom to read a book or oversee an activity is welcomed with many smiling faces and lots of love-filled hugs from the children! If you're ready to be a Lunch Buddy and receive the love that comes from the children, we need you!

**Please contact Dale Bradley @ 434-636-3785 or email her at [dalenmikebradley@gmail.com](mailto:dalenmikebradley@gmail.com) for more information!**

## CD Ministry at OBBC

Olive Branch Baptist Church has an outreach ministry that places cd's of sermons at various locations around the area. We have display cases in place with free cd's for the public.

The cd's also have vital church information like pastor's names, church address & phone number, hours/times of services and website address. Started in 2008, we have distributed 35,500 sermon cd's. We are looking for a couple of dedicated volunteers to help copy and distribute cd's bi-weekly. If you would like to help, please contact Steve Carroll, Missions Director, at 434-247-9930.

## Local Events



YOU ARE INVITED TO

*Living Proof*  
LIVE

2025 SIMULCAST WITH  
BETH MOORE  
WORSHIP WITH  
TRAVIS COTTRELL

JOIN US AT CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18**  
9AM - 2PM

11650 HWY 47, CHASE CITY, VA 23924

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY  
(OR UNTIL TICKETS ARE SOLD OUT)

BOXED  
LUNCH  
INCLUDED

TICKETS AVAILABLE  
AT CHURCH

**\$15 THRU SEPT**

**\$20 OCTOBER**

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE  
at [www.tinyurl.com/b4v4psfw](http://www.tinyurl.com/b4v4psfw)  
(or scan the QR code below)

**\$16 THRU SEPT**

**\$20 OCTOBER**

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFO, CALL 434-774-6386  
OR EMAIL [BRENDA.MCDOWELL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BRENDA.MCDOWELL@GMAIL.COM)



Light the Night will be having their annual Fall Gathering on September 25<sup>th</sup> at New Hope Baptist Church in South Hill, VA.

**Light the NIGHT PRIME**  
not evening with  
**KAREN PECK AND NEW RIVER**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14 2025**  
6:00 PM • DOORS OPEN 5:30 PM

with special guest  
**Rick Hollowell Music**

**New Hope Baptist Church | South Hill, VA**

**GA \$20 | VIP \$30**  
VIP INCLUDES MEET & GREET  
PHOTO OP • LIGHT RECEPTION

**REFUEL** **KIDS**

Tickets and More Info? // [www.lightthenight.net/ltn-prime](http://www.lightthenight.net/ltn-prime)

# Happy Birthday



- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Teresa Robinson  | 21 Becky Aleman    |
| 2 Conner Franck    | 24 Chris Brown     |
| 3 Monte Aleman     | 26 Aleisha Jones   |
| 4 Tyler Sykes      | 27 Kory Brown      |
| 5 Annie Wall       | 27 Wanda Townsend  |
| 6 Rachel Stanley   | 28 Hannah Vaughan  |
| 6 Van Sykes III    | 29 Dustin Anderson |
| 8 Cindy Clevinger  | 30 Jackson Tyler   |
| 15 Linda Gage      |                    |
| 16 Dora Belcher    |                    |
| 17 Marjorie Newton |                    |
| 18 Rodney Bledsoe  |                    |
| 19 Shirley Clark   |                    |
| 20 Debbie Wilson   |                    |
| 20 Sandra Ittner   |                    |

# Happy Anniversary

- |    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 2  | Ed & Frances Baron      |
| 5  | Sam & Donna Coleman     |
| 5  | Owen & Joane Toler      |
| 14 | Mike & Dora Smith       |
| 16 | TJ & Deanna Nichols     |
| 17 | Allen & Holly Robinson  |
| 20 | Michael & Lindsey Smith |
| 21 | Carl & Jean Bagley      |
| 29 | Roger & Rachel Stanley  |



## Baby Nursery Volunteer Schedule

Date	9 AM	SUNDAY SCHOOL	11 AM
September 7	-	McKayla Tiller	McKayla Tiler
	-	Cindy Clevinger	Lynn Paquette
September 14	Megan Ittner	Megan Ittner	Megan Ittner
	Julia Braddy	Cheryl Parrish	Wanda Watson
September 21	Megan Ittner	Megan Ittner	Megan Ittner
	Elizabeth Powell	Laurie Wright	Vance Wright
September 28	Sandra Ittner	Jessie Kennedy	Jessie Kennedy
	Elizabeth Powell	Sarah Ittner	Brittney Hensley

## Staff & Officers

### Associate Pastor of Youth and Families

Rev. Roger Stanley  
[pastorroger@obbcbblackridge.com](mailto:pastorroger@obbcbblackridge.com)

### Church Secretary & Treasurer

Mrs. Sandra Ittner  
[office@obbcbblackridge.com](mailto:office@obbcbblackridge.com)  
[finance@obbcbblackridge.com](mailto:finance@obbcbblackridge.com)

### Choir Director/Pianist

Mrs. Jan Vaughan

### Worship Leader

Ms. Elizabeth Taylor

### Custodian/Maintenance

Mr. George Kidd

### Chairman of Deacons

Mr. Steve Carroll

### Personnel Officer

Mr. Michael Smith

### Financial Officer

Mr. Jay Eubanks