

A REAL CHURCH for REAL PEOPLE

R	eaching the Lost	John 3:16-17
E	quipping for good works	II Timothy 3:17
A	ctive in ministry	Colossians 3:17
L	oving each other	I John 3:17



September 2023

The Oak Grove Link

First Church of God ~ Oak Grove, LA

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Pastor, Jonathan Williams 318-428-2455 or
318-341-2105

That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day.

2 Timothy 1:12 (NIV)

Do you ever get discouraged? With all the difficulties we see on what seems like a daily basis, it is easy to respond with fear and discouragement. Whether it is a natural disaster or some tragedy caused by people, you don't have to look too hard to see that we live in a broken world. But in the midst of the turmoil, we have a sure foundation. As Paul considered the suffering he faced, he recognized that his trials were a direct result of God's call on his life. But this realization didn't stop him from pushing on. Paul recognized that his trust in God went far beyond today. Paul had entrusted the Lord with his very soul and was confident in His promises for the future. In Matthew 10, as Jesus was preparing to send his disciples out to minister on their own, he reminded them that they would not be alone. If the Father was aware of and cared about a common sparrow falling to the ground, how much more would he care about them. These words of Jesus are the inspiration of the hymn "His Eye is on the Sparrow", words that we can remember as we too face the difficulties of this life.

*Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.*

In Christ,
Bro. Jonathan



NO SCHOOL -- Labor Day
Monday, September 4



WC Retreats Ministry hosting events

Registration is open now: wcretreats.com

*Women's Event ~ Oct 5-7
Men's Event ~ Oct 12-14*



Everyone is invited to
CELEBRATE RECOVERY
Friday night each week @ Unity Baptist Church
Meal ~ 6 p.m.

Worship and lesson ~ 7 p.m.

CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED FOR

Monday, September 4



Happy 22nd Anniversary
to
Pastor Jonathan Williams

September 21, 2023 marks 22 years since Bro. Jonathan began his ministry at FCOG.

We thank God for his dedication & ministry with our church!

Youth Fundraiser Meal
Sunday, September 10

Following the morning worship service, a meal of baked potatoes, soup, salad, and dessert will be served for a donation.

The money raised will be used for fall retreat & convention.

Please plan to stay after church and support our youth program!



PRAYER NEEDS

New Converts The Lost Our Missionaries Our Pastors & Staff Our Troops Unspoken Requests Deanna Bell David Bennett Odell Bonnett Cecil Boyte Junior Boyte Gene Broom Sybil Brumley David Byrd Tommy Joe Carter Connie Clack Marie Costello Bobbie Nell Creech Estelle Creech Juanice Crosby Debbie Crowe Mary Lois Crowe Nicky Curtis Betty & Ron Elkins Peggy Franks Michael Gorden Joe Griffin Danny Gunter Louise & Doll Gunter Wayne Hancock Brenda Haverkamp Deborah Hayman Mildred & Charles Hayman Noel & Ron Haynes Phillip Howlin Dot Hunter Verne Irving Larry Jackson Jerry Jeane Michelle & Debbie Kharuf Kathy LeBeau	Bonnie Lynch Ronnie Martin Baby Kase McElveen Gaye McIntyre Joe Mercer Ruby Moore Connie Morgan Jimmy Dale Newell Robert Overby Bruce Patterson Cathy Paul Johnnie Pearson Shea Pennock Myrtle Phillips Audrey Poland Janice Poland James Prewitt Don Riley Eddie Robian Linda Sanchez Jared Seamans Eli & Will Springer Jamie Stampley Ronnie Taylor Maddox Thompson Ruth & David Thornberg Tommie Jo Wilson **TNT Ministries **WC Retreats Ministry <u>New This Week</u> Mike Allen Debra Brown Ray Brumley James Criswell Vicky Dettenhaim Mike Griffis Wayne Holley ~~~~~ Chuck Calvert Family
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<u>August 27</u>	<u>OFFERING</u>
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	Weekly Needs 4,559.52
Sunday School 54	Tithes 3,066.00
Morning Worship 83	Sunday School 16.00
	Youth 50.00
	Missions 545.00
	3,677.00

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday Activities
 Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.
 Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.
 Group meetings for all ages @ 5:30 p.m.

View at www.facebook.com/ogfcog or on YouTube

Wednesday Activities
 Youth Class in FLC @ 6:30 p.m.
 Kids Christmas Musical Kickoff Party in Kidztown @ 6:30 p.m.
 Adult Meetings @ 6:30 p.m.

Sunday Schedule: September 3, 2023

MUSIC - Pianist: Robyn Creech **Digital Piano:** Denise Boyte
LEADER - Angela Griffis
WORSHIP TEAM - Cassie Stanley, Lana Kelly, Paula & Don Riley
SPECIAL MUSIC - Worship Team
GREETERS - Brenda Kelly & Debbie Yates
CHILDREN'S CHURCH - Christy Ostrowski

*Please continue packing your
Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes*

They will be collected November 13-20

*Every shoebox is an opportunity to reach
a child with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!*

Goal for 2023: 400 boxes
Collected to date: 164

Exercise Class in FLC
Thursdays ~ 3 pm

**Everyone invited to play
Pickleball @ the FLC**
Mon @ 6 p.m. ~ ~ Thurs @ 6 p.m.

C. E. Team & Bd. of Directors Meetings
Sunday, September 17 == following a.m. worship

Children's Christmas Choir
Practice for the Christmas Musical begins next week.
Kick-off Party -- Wednesday, Sept 6 at 6:30 p.m.
First Practice - Sunday, Sept 10 at 5:30 p.m.

GOODBYE

A Farewell Brunch honoring
Rita Ainsworth is planned for
Saturday, September 9 @ 10 a.m.
We'll be meeting @ the Kelly home
[737 S. Old Kilbourne Rd]
Please bring a brunch dish
to share in the meal.