

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*



November 2023

The Oak Grove Link

First Church of God ~ Oak Grove, LA

To contact us: website ogfcog.com
Church office 318-428-2438 Fax 428-5378
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Pastor, Jonathan Williams 318-341-2105

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
 Philippians 1:3-6 *[NIV]*

As you have probably heard me say before, there is something about Paul and his words that often resonates in my spirit. Paul had a pastor's heart for his people. He had traveled widely starting many churches, but after starting them he didn't just move on and forget about them. They held a special place in his heart and he was filled with joy when he saw them answering the call to join him in the work of the gospel. He didn't view them as lesser than himself, but instead he saw them as partners in the gospel. It was God who had begun the work in them and he was confident that God would carry it on to completion. This is the heart of a pastor for those he is called to serve, and it is my heart for you. I thank the Lord for you and for the opportunity to partner with you in the ministry of the gospel. My heart is filled with joy when I hear about the ministry you are doing. Let us strive to always be prepared to give an answer for the hope that lies within us and have eyes that are open for opportunities to share his truth.

This month has been pastor appreciation month and Elizabeth, Jonas, Anna, and I want to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, and words of encouragement. Your outpouring of love and support is overwhelming. We are so blessed to serve the Lord and love serving here in Oak Grove.

Our annual Harvest Day celebration will be Sunday, November 12th. Our harvest offering will go to support various ministries and programs as well as a special projects fund. The board is looking to replace some exterior doors and windows around the facility. We will also have a potluck meal following the service that day.

In Christ,
 Bro. Jonathan

Hope you're packing those Operation Christmas Child boxes!

Our goal for FCOG is 400 boxes
 Collected to date: 304



If you need boxes, they can be picked up at the church.
 Packed boxes can be brought to the church office any time.

In order for your shoeboxes to count toward our FCOG goal of 400, they need to be turned in by Sunday, Nov 12.

Drop off week for boxes from other churches or individuals is **Nov. 13-20.**

Volunteers are needed to help with paperwork & packing boxes into large cartons. A sign up sheet will be available Sunday.

Collection Hours:

Monday - Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 12 noon
Sunday	2 - 4 p.m.
Monday (Nov 20)	8 - 10 a.m.



Bd. of Directors Meetings

Sunday, November 19 == following potluck meal



Children's Christmas Choir
 Practice for the Christmas Musical
 Wed, 6:30 p.m. / Sun, 5:30 p.m.



Exercise Class in FLC ~ ~ Thursdays ~ ~ 3 p.m.



ANNUAL REPORTS

Team leaders, please turn your annual reports in to church office by **Thurs, Nov 16**

Holiday Schedule -- In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, we will have no meetings on Wed, Nov. 22.

Church Office closed for Thanksgiving
 Wed - Fri. ~ ~ Nov. 22-24



Hanging of the Greens Service

Sunday, November 26 ~ ~ 6 p.m.

Anyone who can help decorate the church for the Christmas season, is asked to meet at the church on Mon/Tues, Nov 20 & 21 @ 5:30 p.m. Soup or a simple meal will be served each night.

PRAYER NEEDS

New Converts
The Lost
Our Missionaries
Our Pastors & Staff
Our Troops
Unspoken Requests

Noel & Ron Haynes
Belinda Hill
Dot Hunter
Larry Jackson
Jerry Jeane
Bonnie Lynch
Baby Kase McElveen
Gaye McIntyre
Ruby Moore
Connie Morgan
Jimmy Dale Newell
Paul Ninemire
Terry O'Neal
Bruce Patterson
Cathy Paul
Johnnie Pearson
Shea Pennock
Myrtle Phillips
Janice Poland
James Prewitt
Don Riley
Eddie Robian
Linda Sanchez
Eli & Will Springer
Jamee Stampley
Ronnie Taylor
Maddox Thompson
Ruth & David Thornberg
Tommie Jo Wilson

***TNT Ministries*
***WC Retreats Ministry*

New This Week

David Carr
Becky Crowe
Louise & Doll Gunter
Carolyn Albritton Family

Kathy Allen
Mike Allen
Kim Allred
David Bennett
Odell Bennett
Cecil Boyte
Terry Breed
Debra Brown
Ray Brumley
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
Mark & Carma Davis
Betty & Ron Elkins
Peggy Franks
Michael Gorden
Joe Griffin
Danny Gunter
Dena Gunter
Mike Hamilton
Wayne Hancock
Brenda Haverkampf
Deborah Hayman
Mildred & Charles Hayman

YOUTH NEWS

STATE YOUTH CONVENTION

Lake Charles ~ Nov. 17-19

Any youth wishing to go need to contact Neal Kelly
or the church office.

Please keep this important event in your prayers.



October 29

ATTENDANCE

Sunday School 59
Morning Worship 125

OFFERING

Weekly Needs	4,559.52
Tithes	5,526.00
Sunday School	12.00
Children	50.00
Youth	50.00
OCC boxes [shipping]	500.00
Missions	300.00
Total	6,438.00



Thanksgiving Break for W C Parish Schools November 20-24

BABY SHOWERS

for Lauren & Doug Vest

Sat, Nov 4 @ Trinity Baptist Church ~10 a.m. ~ It's a boy!
registered @ www.amazon.com/baby-reg/lauren-vest-doug-vest-january-2024-oakgrove



for Haley & Chandler Easterling

Sunday, November 5 @ FLC ~ 2 p.m. ~ It's a girl!
registered @ www.babylist.com/list/haley-easterling-baby-reg



Sunday Schedule: November 5, 2023

MUSIC - Pianist: Denise Boyte **Digital Piano:** Bonnie Gregory
LEADER - Ricky Allen
WORSHIP TEAM - Lee Sanders, Karen Dooley, Peggy Hankins
SPECIAL MUSIC - Peggy Hankins
GREETERS - Costello Family
CHILDREN'S CHURCH - Elizabeth Williams



TRUNK or TREAT 2023

Thanks SO much to everyone who helped with Trunk or Treat!!!
It was a huge success! Our best estimate is that we were blessed
to host more than 600 children! We had a fantastic turnout of workers and gave
away LOTS of treats and toys. Thanks so much for your faithfulness. This is a
wonderful opportunity for ministry and we appreciate your willingness to help!

We extend our deepest sympathy to
Mack Albritton and his family in the recent
loss of his sister-in-law, Carolyn Albritton.



Ministry Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 14th @ 6:30 p.m.



Sat, Nov. 11 [observed Fri, Nov 10]
Celebrate by thanking a veteran!!!



Daylight Savings Time ends

Be sure to set your clocks back one hour
Saturday night, November 4



Choir Practice

Wed @ 5:30 p.m. / Sun @ 4 p.m.



Harvest Day Celebration & Offering Sunday, November 12th

2023 Harvest Offering Goal:

Mary Biggs - \$2,400	Hope Hill Children's Home - \$1,800
TNT Ministries - \$2,500	Children of Promise - \$2,300
Mid-America Christian University - \$2,000	Special Projects Fund - \$14,000
Total Harvest Offering Goal - \$25,000	

We will have a potluck meal to celebrate our many
blessings following our morning worship service.



Bethlehem Experience

@ Lingo Center ~ Sat, Nov 11
6 - 9 p.m.
Free admission

