



MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

September 2021 Church News



September 12:
Building Dedication
Covered Dish
Luncheon

Calendars Mark Your Calendars Mark Your

September 12: Fill
the Tank Day

September 18: Family Fun/Community Outreach Day



Live broadcast of Sun. & Wed. services can be heard on 88.3 FM from your vehicle in church parking areas.



Mt. Olive,

In August we started a new series on spiritual warfare. In the past month, we have been without water from a leaky pipe, waited for the VA to get me a knee appointment (still waiting), had my computer randomly stop working while I am typing sermons, had bad dreams, no sleep, baby struggles, and our water heater died. Now some of these problems are normal issues we all have to deal with-yet some are spiritual warfare; demonic payback for preaching directly about how little power Satan and his demons have over of lives. But how can we tell what problems are spiritual and what is just “bad luck”?

First, we must be balanced. Sometimes it’s impossible to know if a problem is simply bad timing or demonic warfare. We must accept our own limitations, because our understanding of warfare is limited this side of heaven; therefore, we must be careful not to blame demons for everything and not to ignore their presence.

Second, be aware of yourself and your surroundings. For instance, the day and timing of how our water heater went out leads me to believe it’s an attack. It could have gone out at anytime-yet it waited until the baby desperately needed a bath and laundry day!

Third, know your options. There is power in the name of Jesus. Satan is a defeated foe who is already going to lose. His only hope is to bug us and like mosquitoes in the summer he is annoying at times. But the authority, testimony, and prayer life of a believer defeats our foe.

Dr. Josh Peeler



Mt. Olive,

It is hard to believe that we are in September already. In just 4 months, it will be 2022. This year had flown by fast. With the COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, there is much uncertainty in the world today. Fear and worry are abundant. Over the past year and a half, many in the world have lost hope. 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 Paul says, “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair, persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;” We as Christians have a hope that the rest of the world does not—Christ lives in us. He is our hope He is there with us to get through the uncertain times in our lives. We may face suffering, trials, and other issues that we deal with, but we have God with us. He is there to come along side of us and carry us through these times in our lives. When we focus on God and what He has done for us, we can get through any situation. Paul faced much suffering during his ministry, yet persevered. Let’s focus on God when we face suffering in our lives.

We are in need of people to help us with our children’s ministry. We are in need of several people to help with children’s church on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays. The GAs/RAs are now meeting every Wednesday month. We need someone to be willing to lead them on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights. If you are willing to help in any of these areas, please reach out. This is a vital age to learn about Christ. The foundation is being set for the rest of their life. Thank you for those that are helping and those that will help.

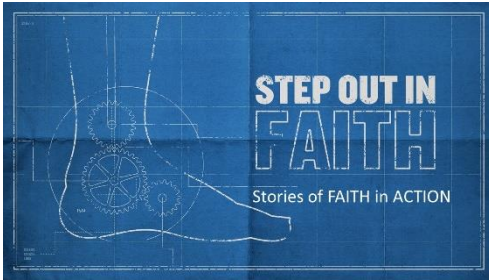
Rev. Josh Connor

September

BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
Viola Miller	1
Rhonda Nunn	
Austin Palone	2
Brittany Brewer	4
Tanya Palone	5
Jacob Underwood	6
Katie Copeland	7
Russell Foushee	
Shannon White	
Linda Jones	11
Stacey Vaughn McGlothlin	
Hallie Morris	
Christy Morris	14
Steve Wilkins	
Rick Morris	17
Teresa Garner	18
Diz Lloyd	
Beverly Braxton	19
Frances Maness	24
Pearl Hathcote	26
Ricky Garner	28
Renee Godfrey	30
Melissa Gray	

If you have any corrections/additions to this listing, please email suzanne@mtolivebaptist.com.

Stories of Faith



Finding Faith Through Fear

August was an eventful month. Our nation dealt with an uptick in COVID

cases brought on by the Delta variant. More and more businesses and local governments started mandating shots and some employees were walking away from their jobs. Families and friends were still learning to deal with differences of opinion on how best to manage the COVID nightmare. Leaders decided to move forward with a badly planned withdrawal from Afghanistan, potentially costing hundreds of lives (including some amazing service members). A very powerful Hurricane Ida caused untold destruction in Louisiana and Mississippi and other parts of the country. Flash flooding caused many deaths and property damage in NC and Tennessee. In the midst of these challenging issues, we had a lot of positive things to highlight. Our church started having Sunday School classes again for the first time since March 2020. We ordained a new Deacon. We added a couple of new church members. More and more people were able to return to work. Children returned to in person learning at both school and church. Our economy seemed to be rebounding if we can avoid another shutdown. These things add to our anxiety and cause us to examine our faith. How do we as Christians learn to manage our fear and find faith in a chaotic world? Where do we go for our answers?

Jesus knew how much power fear could have in our lives. He is not surprised by anything that we deal with daily. Jesus constantly reminded the disciples and those following him to use their faith to conquer fear. In Matthew 14, the disciples found themselves in the middle of the lake after Jesus had fed the five thousand plus on the mountain. Shortly before dawn, Jesus came to them walking on water.

He told them “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” Peter stepped out of the boat, walked on water, and came toward Jesus. However, Peter took his eyes off Jesus and saw the wind. He began to sink and asked Jesus to save him. When Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter, he said, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” You see, Peter allowed fear to creep into his life at that moment of time. Jesus had to teach Peter to have courage to conquer his fear. In the same way, many have allowed fear to creep into their lives. How can we conquer our fear?

Comfort comes from many things in our society today. Most comfort is temporary. Drug and alcohol highs do wear off. “Play” money runs out. Shopping eventually gets old (for me at least). Sports are seasonal and eventually end. Gardens slow and gradually disappear with the end of summer. Bodies eventually get old. Lasting comfort can only be found in Jesus Christ. Our faith in him alone can ease our pain and comfort us during times of loss. When we question how to keep going, we can look to God for our motivation. He makes the sun come up every day. He provides that little whisper when we need it. He provides the gentle breeze when the storms around us are raging. God is in control and knows what will happen before we do.

Are you struggling with fear and worry today? Fear doesn’t stop death. It stops life. Worrying doesn’t take away tomorrow’s troubles. It takes away today’s peace. I read something last week that is very true today. It stated, “Ships don’t sink because of the water around them. Ships sink because of the water that gets in them. Don’t let what’s happening around you get inside you and weigh you down.” Don’t miss out on your joy today. Have faith in Jesus Christ. He can conquer any fear, and he is the master of this world. Go to him in prayer and he will make all things work together for good. Instead of putting our comfort and faith in worldly things, turn to God.

Sincerely,

Joe Godfrey

P.S. Thanks to Dan Jones for providing his testimony of faith last month. What an inspiration to read his story and see how his faith has carried him through life.



We are still in need of volunteers to work in the nursery during Sunday School and Worship Service. If you are interested, please email suzanne@mtolivebaptist.com

To volunteer with Children's Church, please email Rev. Josh Connor at josh@mtolivebaptist.com

Deacon Board for 2021-2022

Joe Godfrey, Chairman

Mike Jackson, Vice-Chairman

Rex Zachary, Secretary

Phillip Thomas, Assistant Secretary

Craig Dixon

Dan Jones

Larry Norwood

Charles Nunn

Glenn Williams

Johnny Glosson

Chris Norwood

Steve Wilkins