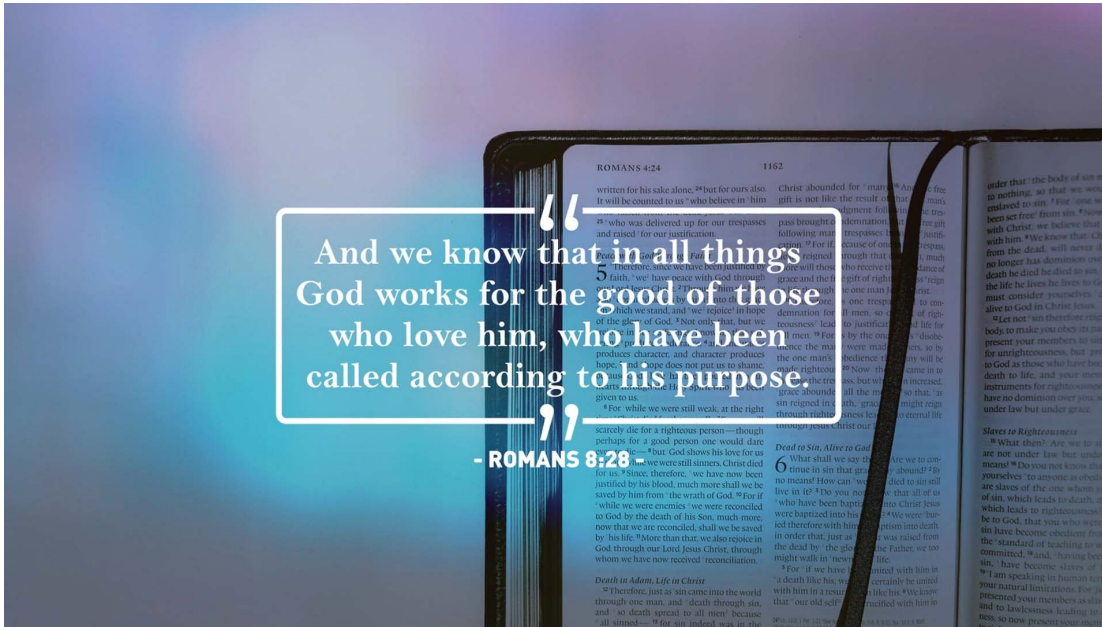




# MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

## March 2023

## Church News



“And we know that in all things  
God works for the good of those  
who love him, who have been  
called according to his purpose.”

- ROMANS 8:28

### Upcoming Events

- 3/6: WMU Group 1 Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 3/15: Rise Up Ladies Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 3/17: Youth Trip to Winter Jam and Lock-in, 4:30 p.m.
- 3/18: Game Night, 6:30 p.m.
- 3/19: Praise Team Practice, 5:00 p.m.
- 3/26: Deacons Meeting, 4:30 p.m.  
Adult Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.
- 4/8: Easter Egg Hunt, 2:00 p.m.
- 4/21: Youth Campout, 5:30 p.m.



Mt. Olive,

This week I was reminded of the need for kindness. Kindness it's one of those virtues that doesn't always get a lot of press; it isn't something that we talk a lot about and isn't something that men especially want to talk that much about. Yet this concept is a core concept to Christianity. In kindness our savior served God the Father; in kindness he came down and put on human flesh; in kindness he spoke those solemn words: Father forgive them, for they know not what they do. Kindness is important. Jesus taught us it's value through the example of his perfect life and sinless death. I think sometimes we skip how powerful it is that Jesus died a torturous sinless death. He didn't scream at the people who beat him, nor did he curse the people who nailed him to the tree. But served his death sentence with grace, integrity, and kindness. I write kindness because even as he was dying he gave grace to the thief on the cross. "You'll be with me today in paradise." Grace even unto the bitter end; kindness in human form.

We strive for kindness because he showed us the significance of this virtue. But we also value it because God blatantly and clearly told us that it was worthy of our attention. Ephesians 4:32: "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." So because Jesus forgive us, he need to be forgiving to each. Forgiveness is a kindness. It is a virtue that Christians of maturity pursue. May we all pursue kindness, seeking ways to actively live it out and embody it in our daily lives.

Dr. Josh Peeler

Would you look at that we are now halfway through the semester as we traverse March. May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us. I like to think of the month of March as missions month, since one of greatest missionaries of history, St. Patrick, has a whole day for himself! Like Paul, Patrick sacrificed a lot of comfort to bring the gospel to people, enduring much hardship. How do we capture this same spirit, and spend our lives to bring the gospel to the nations and to our neighbors? “that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!” Psalm 67:2-3



St. Patrick was a historic person with humble beginnings from the 4<sup>th</sup> century. God used him to bring the gospel to Ireland.

When we praise God with our hearts and also when we give our time, talent, and treasure to further God’s mission, more people will be saved. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

This month on March 17<sup>th</sup> Winterjam is coming to Raleigh. We plan to leave for it from the church in the afternoon. We will be staying at the church afterwards for a LOCKIN! Even ends Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> around 11am. Winterjam is an annual Christian concert and experience featuring popular CCM bands. See the flyer below. Please bring \$10 for admission and money for gear (if desired.) A more detailed list of things to bring for the lockin will be sent out. You can start listening to the music on Spotify to get hype for the event; scan the QR code for Spotify.



March 17<sup>th</sup> – Winterjam and Lockin (\$10)  
 March – Workday on the property, TBA. All ages welcome!

# March

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES
	1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	
Fred Maness	6	
Steve Jones	7	
Andy Lloyd		
	8	
Will Brewer	9	
	10	
Dina Lloyd	11	
Brandon Jackson	12	
Laurie Jones	13	
Suzanne Jones		
	14	
	15	
Will Hadley	16	
Drew Lloyd		
Noah McGlothlin		
Carol Pickard		
Ray Morris	17	
Carson Aldridge	18	
Ray Fuller		
Gail Thomas		
	19	
Kim Andrews	20	
Phillip Thomas		
Adam Godfrey	21	
Ricky Morris		
Judy Thomas		
	22	
	23	
	24	
	25	
Samantha Norwood	26	Dan & Laurie Jones
Joe Godfrey	27	
Shane Gray		
	28	
Ronnie Vaughn	29	
	30	
	31	

If you have any corrections/additions to this listing, please email [christina@mtolivebaptist.com](mailto:christina@mtolivebaptist.com).



# MINISTRY IN ACTION

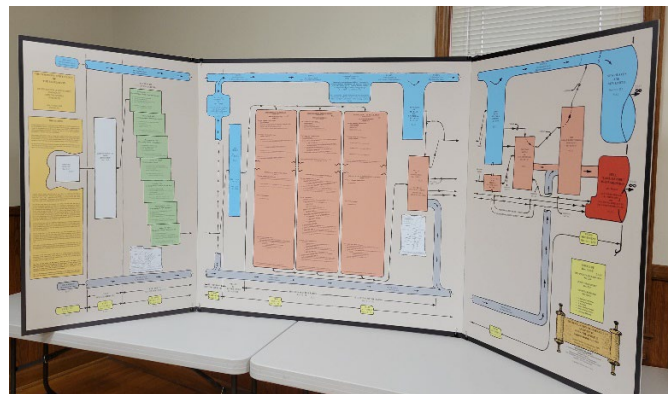
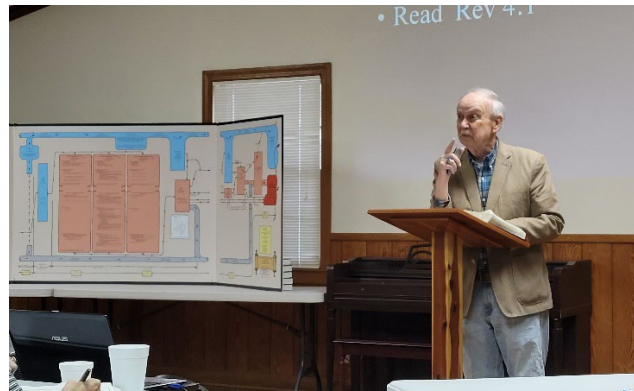
“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace”  
(1 Peter 4:10)

## Ham and Egg Supper





# The Revelation Study



# STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION

“For nothing will be impossible with God.” (Luke 1:37)

## **Faith—Jesus Revolution**

I had originally planned to publish a person’s faith story but decided this past weekend that I wanted to publish something else this month. Many of you are aware of the new movie...Jesus Revolution. I thought it would be important to look at the movement which sparked the revolution and look at how the movie could impact our country today.

The movie essentially describes the time when a minister named Chuck Smith presided over a traditional church named Calvary Chapel. Smith’s daughter persuades him to reach out to Lonnie Frisbee, a long haired “hippie.” Even though Smith is hesitant at first, he eventually forms a relationship with Frisbee. Frisbee tells Smith that he can reach the “hippies” with the message that God is the answer to their life’s problems. It’s not the drugs or the strained relationships with their parents that matter. Small giveaway here...when hippies are brought into the church, some of the congregation leave in disgust, while others welcome them. A spiritual awakening took place because one minister decided to take a chance on some “hippies.” He spent time caring for the lost souls and helped many determine Jesus Christ was the answer to all of life’s questions.

I often wonder...if the Holy Spirit started moving in our midst, and more than a few “different” people started showing up for our worship services, how would we react? I can imagine that some of us might be encouraged and welcome the “newcomers,” while others might be disgusted at the dirtiness and brokenness of the people. Human beings are not perfect. Pastors aren’t perfect, Deacons aren’t perfect, and no one in the congregation is perfect. That fact has been the case throughout the history of the church. When “different” people come to our church or homes, shouldn’t we remember that Jesus invited all to him? Matthew 11:28 states, “Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Everyone has to labor, and everyone has a burden. I would like to think that people would find our churches welcoming for all. The message of the Gospel is for those who haven’t made the decision to follow Christ. Are our churches, including Mt. Olive, prepared to welcome everyone who might need the truth?

Our country could very well be experiencing a revival and spiritual awakening at this time. The Jesus Revolution movie is sparking new interest in Jesus. College campuses around the country are overflowing with people experiencing revival and spiritual new birth. There seems to be a fervor in our country for something besides political and cultural animosity. I sincerely hope that our churches open their doors to be more receptive to every person, because Jesus has very long arms. He is able to give everyone rest and wants all to come to him. Let’s decide today...are WE going to open our arms to everyone no matter their need? Have faith that Jesus will help us make bold decisions that allow others to see Jesus in us...become part of the Revolution.

In Jesus’ Name,  
Joe Godfrey