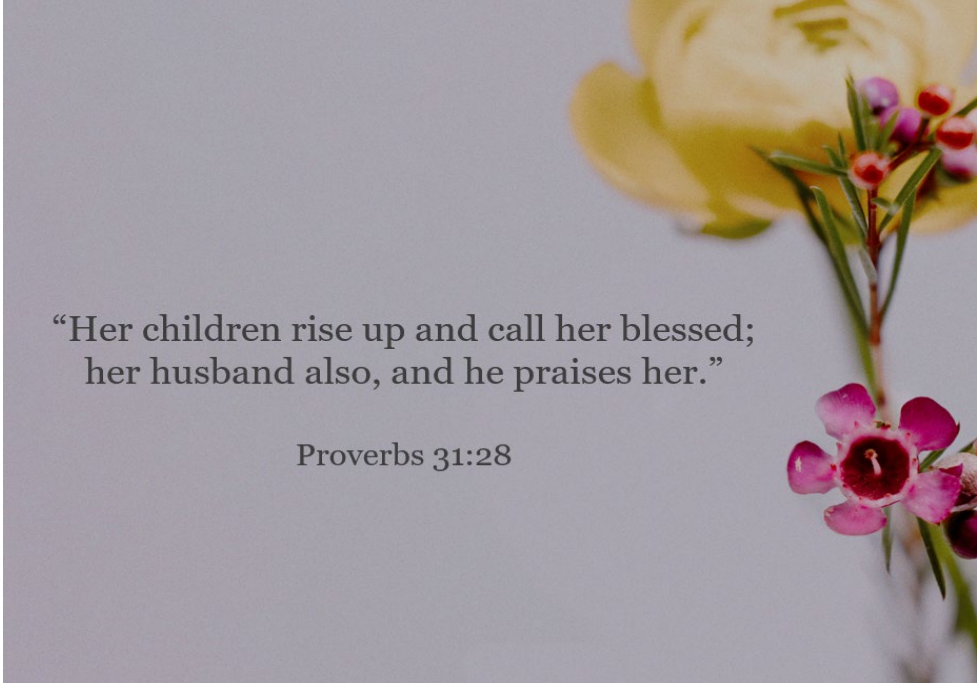




MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

May 2023



“Her children rise up and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her.”

Proverbs 31:28

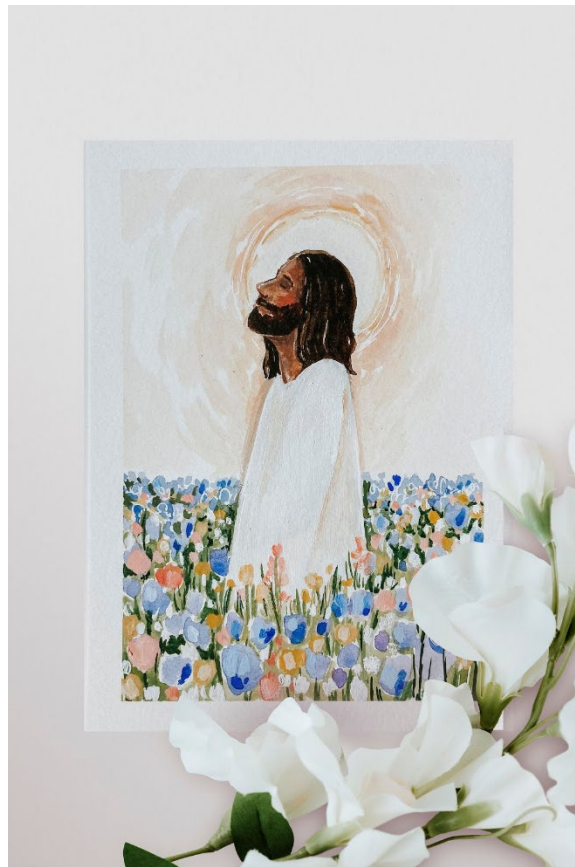
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. - Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Nights: RAs/GAs, Youth, and Adult Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

- 5/3: Family Night Meal, 6:45 p.m.
- 5/7: Church Conference & VBS Meeting, after worship
Leadership Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
- 5/8: WMU Group 1 Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- 5/20: Game Night, 6:30 p.m.



This May as we get used to warm weather I am reminded of God's creative work in his natural world. This May do not simply look at the created things, but slow down and think about how they work, what are their complexities, and what kind of wisdom did it take to bring it forth? Is God's design everywhere? When we meditate on his general revelation, we tap into seeing his glory (Explore Psalm 19.)



"My Savior in Flowers" by Paige Payne

I have decided to start including a Monthly Bible reading plan for believers (of all ages!) I generally recommend consuming 4 chapters a day as a base level for all people. I have given three levels of difficulty for beginning, intermediate, and advanced readers on the Bible plan! The best Bible plan is not the one with the most chapters, but always is the one you can complete consistently. Reading Psalms is something you can complete with your family, or other friends you are beside!

📖 May Bible Reading Plan: 3 options/levels

- I. Read a Psalm which corresponds to the day of the month, and a chapter of the book of John which corresponds to the day of the month.
- II. Read a Psalm at each meal (e.g. morning, midday, and afternoon) corresponding to the day of the month (morning: 1-30; midday: 30-60; afternoon 60-90) and read one chapter of the book of John which corresponds to the day of the month.
- III. Read a Psalm at each meal and night (i.e. morning, midday, afternoon, evening, and night) corresponding to the day of the month (morning: 1-30; midday: 30-60; afternoon 60-90; evening 90-120; night 120-150) and read one chapter of the book of John which corresponds to the day of the month. Additionally read one more chapter in the New Testament in an epistle/letter. More developed readers may want to add an additional chapter of the Old Testament from a book of their choice too.

Additional Note: The youth know I always go over a proverb of the day corresponding to the day of the year. I also recommend exploring proverbs daily!

This May we are almost to the end of the school year! We will continue youth into summertime and will be doing some fun events.

Schedule:

FRIDAY MAY 26TH: Our one-night campout on the Church Farm Property for youth is going to be a blast Lord willing!

TBD: I am planning a time when the youth guys can get together for a discipleship time. I am excited for this and hope we can pull it off and will reach out.

SPONTANEOUS: Weather depending, would like to go to the River Access this month! (and a beach day trip 🏖️) but I will reach out directly. Stay tuned! More aquatic adventures coming in June.

CAMP UPCOMING: Camp Living Water!

Saturday July 1st - Friday July 7th

Subsidized Price: \$250 (Some Scholarship Available)

Location: Bryson City, NC

On the Web: www.camplivingwater.com

May

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

Peyton Zachary	1	
	2	
	3	
Patricia Williams	4	Ray and Donna Fuller
Leigh Evans	5	
	6	
Danielle Doss	7	
Randy Thomas		
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	Rex & Kristina Zachary
Brian Aldridge	12	
	13	Joe & Renee Godfrey
	14	
	15	
	16	
	17	
	18	
	19	
Maria Wilske	20	
Ray Glosson	21	Fred & Frances Maness
Mickey Vaughn		
Baylee Morris	22	Steve & Christina Wilkins
Faith Williams	23	
	24	
	25	
	26	
	27	
Diane Taylor	28	
	29	
Donna Fuller	30	Bryan & Amy Foushee
Keith Marshall	31	

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

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6)

Faith—Pray Now

Pray without ceasing. Pray before meals. Pray in good times and in bad times. These are just some of the statements that we have heard about prayer over the years. We are commanded to pray, but many of us do not do it as regularly as we should. There is an example in Luke 16:19-31 which shows us how NOT to pray. This example should help us understand how important prayer really is.

The story of Lazarus and the rich man is not a true parable but a historical story. Lazarus was a poor beggar covered with sores who longed to eat the crumbs from the rich man’s table. There is little doubt that the rich man entertained often and had the ability to eat well. The rich man lived in luxury every day. The poor beggar just wanted to eat something and was willing to wait until the rich man finished his meals to get what was left.

Eventually, both men died. Lazarus was carried up to heaven by angels and rested beside Abraham. The rich man went to hell and was tormented with fire. Because of this endless torment, the rich man called out to Abraham and asked him to send Lazarus with one drop of water to cool his tongue. Abraham told the rich man that no one could come because of the “great gulf” between heaven and hell. The rich man then asked Abraham to send Lazarus to witness to his family because they were unbelievers. Abraham correctly told the rich man that his family had Moses and the Prophets to listen to. The rich man believed that if a dead man went to see his family, the family would believe. Abraham corrected the rich man again, telling him that they would not believe Lazarus if they wouldn’t believe Moses and the Prophets.

Why is this prayer request from the rich man so wrong? There are three reasons. First, the rich man was calling on Abraham and not the name of God. Second, he prayed for mercy...not realizing that there is no mercy in hell. Third, and perhaps most important, the rich man waited until it was too late to pray.

It is important to remember that prayer, God’s word, and biblical preaching/teaching allow faith to prevail in our world. We need all those things to counteract the unbiblical culture of today. Prayer should never be the last resort, but our first resort. The rich man waited too long to call out to God in prayer. God doesn’t want anyone to perish and spend eternity in hell. God never sends anyone to hell; people choose to go to hell when they reject Jesus Christ. If you haven’t chosen Jesus as your Lord and Savior, pray that forgiveness of sin and confess that you want Christ to change your life today. Don’t be like the rich man and wait until it is too late.

In Christ’s Name,

Joe Godfrey