



MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

July 2023



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

- July 1 – 7: Youth Summer Camp
- July 4: Cookout, 6:00 p.m.
- July 9: Choir Practice, 5:00 p.m.
- July 10-14: Vacation Bible School, 6:30 – 8:30, Monday – Thursday
(6:00 p.m. program and cookout on Friday)
- July 15: Game Night, 6:30 p.m.
- July 16: Praise Team Practice, 5:00 p.m.
- July 23: Deacons' Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
- July 30: Choir Practice, 5:00 p.m.
- August 12: Senior Adult Fellowship, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Appalachian Backpack Focus for July: Backpacks and Full-Size Youth Edition Bibles

July

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

Caleb Godfrey	1	
Kelsey Bombard	2	
Heather Vaughn		
Jeremy "Catfish" Vaughn		
	3	
	4	
	5	
Dan Jones	6	Brian & Tina Vaughn
Brack Lewis	7	
Willie Thomas		
Johnnie Moore	8	
Matt Wallace		
Dianne Santa	9	Steve & Suzanne Jones
	10	
	11	
	12	
Al Wells	13	
	14	
Angela Williams	15	
	16	
	17	
	18	
Elijah Evans	19	Andy & Casey Allred
	20	
	21	
	22	
	23	
	24	
Dorian James	25	
Tracy Lawson	26	
Doris Marshall		
	27	
Brittany Jackson Love	28	
	29	
	30	Mickey & Deanne Vaughn
	31	

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

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience” (Colossians 3:12)

Faith--- Patience Pays Dividends

Do we consider ourselves to be patient? I have worked very hard over the last several years to be more patient. I will admit that my journey is not an easy one. There are days when I must take a deep breath and hold on to the steering wheel or delete the email I have started to write because I am upset. How do we handle stress? Are we able to take the worst of a situation and make the best of it? What does the Bible say about patience? I think you will see by the following story that it pays to be patient.

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light he was approaching turned yellow. The man did the right thing and stopped at the crosswalk, even though he possibly could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screamed in frustration, and shot the man a signal that we have probably all seen before. She had missed her chance to get through the long stoplight, dropped her makeup and cell phone, and would be late to work. As the lady was in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit the car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was read her rights, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, “I’m very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak. I noticed the ‘What Would Jesus Do’ bumper sticker, the ‘Choose Life’ license plate holder, the ‘Follow Me to Sunday School’ bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car.”

However legitimate this story is, I have had times in my life when people have blown their horn, or I have blown the horn at them. As Christians, we are encouraged to be patient even when it is not easy. Philippians 4:6 states, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Romans 12:12 says, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” Proverbs 14:29 states, “Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who has a hasty temper exalts folly.” We should learn to exercise self-control and not expect to always get our way. When we can take a deep breath and act as Christians should act, others will take note. Our lives should be filled with generosity and love, and we should try to practice those qualities daily. Once others see us acting patiently, they may want to know how we can act that way. The door may then be open to telling them about our relationship with Jesus, and it may pay dividends which last a lifetime.

Have a great July,

Joe Godfrey