



MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

August 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

Wed. August 2: Family Night Meal, Provided by Group 2, 6:30 p.m.
RAs/GAs, Youth, Adult Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. August 4: Men's Campout Retreat with Light House Network

Mon. August 7: WMU Group 1 Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

Sat. August 12: Senior Adult Fellowship, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Sat. August 19: Game Night, 6:30 p.m.

Sun. August 20: Praise Team Practice, 5:00 p.m.

Sun. August 27: Deacons' Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
Choir Practice, 5:30 p.m.

Thurs. September 7: Sandy Creek Senior Adult Luncheon, 11:00 a.m.

Appalachian Backpack Focus for August: Shampoo, Conditioner, Hairbrushes, and Combs

August

BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES
	1	
Mike Jackson	2	
	3	
	4	
	5	Craig & Denise Dixon
	6	
	7	
	8	Shane & Melissa Gray
Caitlin Knepp Brown	9	Diz & Karen Lloyd
Lynn McPherson	10	
Ruth Ann Malpass	11	
Eli Zachary	12	
	13	
	14	
	15	Darith & Donna Andrews
Mason Braxton	16	
Greg Thomas	17	
	18	
	19	
	20	
	21	
Evangeline Andrews	22	
Jane Majors	23	
Dawn Lloyd	24	
Denise Dixon	25	
Emily Morris	26	
	27	
	28	
Will Thomas	29	
Keith Andrews	30	
	31	

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



August Happenings with Mt. Olive Youth

August already? It's time for back to school. The beginning of the school year can be fun! Make the best of it by thinking of relationships and friendships that going back to school comes with. As we return to school, think about this question: how can we represent Christ better? If we desire to represent Christ, it affects the way we speak to others, relate to others, and love others. The most loving thing we can do for others is to take time to listen to them, to understand them, and to show them the reality of the kingdom of God. The kingdom is here, but people don't know it. We have to show them and tell them to get ready!



Photo: Noble and his bio-sister, Anna, when they were in school!

Upcoming Events:

Trip to Carowinds! Date TBD but most likely the end of the month!

How to Consume God's Word

August Bible Reading Plan: 4 options/levels

- i. Basic (2 chapters): Read a Psalm which corresponds to the day of the month, and a chapter of the book of Mark which corresponds to the day of the month.

- ii. Intermediate (4 chapters): 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 Mark which corresponds to the day of the month.

- iii. Advanced (8 chapters): 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 Mark 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.

- iv. High Load/High Yield (12 Chapters): Read the five Psalms corresponding to the day of the month as previously described, and if desired Job A (1-31) and Ecc/Songs/Job B by day of the month and one more place in the OT. Additionally, read for this month a place in the prophets by day of the month, Corinthians (1 & 2) by day of the month, Rev/Thess by day of the month, Gal/Eph/Phil/Col by day of the month and work to break the remaining letters into 30 pieces for totality. The readings where books are grouped into units are sequential not simultaneous. To go EVEN quicker up the amounts where it says "a place."

Additional Note 1: "The LM Proverb of the Day"

Take the month from the calendar date, and add ten such that 1=11, 2=12, 3=13 etc. to get the chapter number for the book of Proverbs. Then, take the day of the month to get the verse. e.g.

June 4th = Proverbs 16:4

June 5th = Proverbs 16:5

June 18th = Proverbs 16:18

*For serious users, fill in missing slots from chapter 10 (in order; December 17 counts up from 10:17)

Additional Note 2: "Listening to the Bible vs. Reading"

Some individuals will find it is easier to listen to the Bible than to read it. I find the best way to take in God's word is to listen to it, but also to read it on a physical piece of paper. Electronic sources can be helpful, however I find it difficult to focus on the cell phone, though any source is better than none. Some parts of the Bible are much easier to listen to than others. For example, I recommend reading the Epistles but listening to History. A great way to listen to the History (Joshua-Esther) is a rate of maximum 8 chapters a day, with some wiggle to start the different book divisions on a single day.

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION

Faith: Signs All Around Us

Have you ever been going somewhere and noticed a church sign which had some saying that caught your attention? I imagine all of us have driven by churches and wonder “Who came up with that?” Recently, I have tried paying more attention to church signs as I travel around the state or search the internet, hoping to archive some of the messages to use when Mt. Olive is able to get a new sign out at Hwy. 87. Some messages are personal to the specific church, while others are messages which are general in nature. When I think of faith, I almost always think of signs that I see in the lives of his people. I remember my grandmothers, both of whom were Godly women of faith. I think of brother Dan Jones, who had as much faith as I can remember seeing in one person. What sets strong faithful people apart? Let’s look at the evidence and determine if we can grow our faith to rely on God.

When I was young, my parents were not big churchgoers. My mother went to church some, but never on a consistent basis. However, my parents always expected myself and my two siblings to go to church. My mother would make sure both Lisa and I were up on Sunday morning, dressed, fed, and ready to go to my grandmother Addie’s house in time to hitch a ride to church. I remember my grandmother driving the old Buick to church and NEVER, EVER being early. However, as we turned onto Mt. Olive Church Road, she would see other cars turning into the parking lot and exclaim, “we are in the lineup.” It wasn’t just a habit to go to church...it was expected. My grandmother would often say that no matter how busy she was, worshipping God and going to church were more important. That statement has stuck with me for years. I owe a lot to my grandmothers. My other grandmother, Mary, would make sure I went to church with her when I would visit for a couple weeks each summer. She was a dedicated servant of God and wanted us to be better Christians than she was (she was a saint). I owe my formative “Christian” years to my grandmothers’ love of the Lord and how strong their faith was.

Dan Jones lived a dedicated life to God, family, and church. Dan admitted that he wasn’t perfect, but his faith stood tall amid many challenges. I remember multiple conversations about his faith, especially during the last couple years. I once asked Dan to describe his conversion to following Christ, and he gladly provided his information for me to publish in our newsletter. His faith during his sickness is a testament to how he lived his life, always putting God first. His Bible was well-worn, being used to learn more about his creator and how to live his life. His love of family, friends, and church shows how faith affected his life. I thank God for putting Dan in my life as an example of a life well lived for Christ.

Some examples of signs which apply to these faithful Christians are next. “God wants full custody, not just weekend visits.” “Dust on your Bible leads to dirt in your life.” “Store the Bible in your heart, not on a shelf.” God expects all Christians to be regular attendees in church. He also expects us to read our Bible and make sure it is an integral part of our lives. We should all want to hear what these faithful Christians heard when they met Jesus... “Well done, my good and faithful servant.” Let us put God first and show the evidence in our lives. When you see a church sign, pay attention to it and study on it. It might come to mean something to you.

Have a fantastic August,

Joe Godfrey