



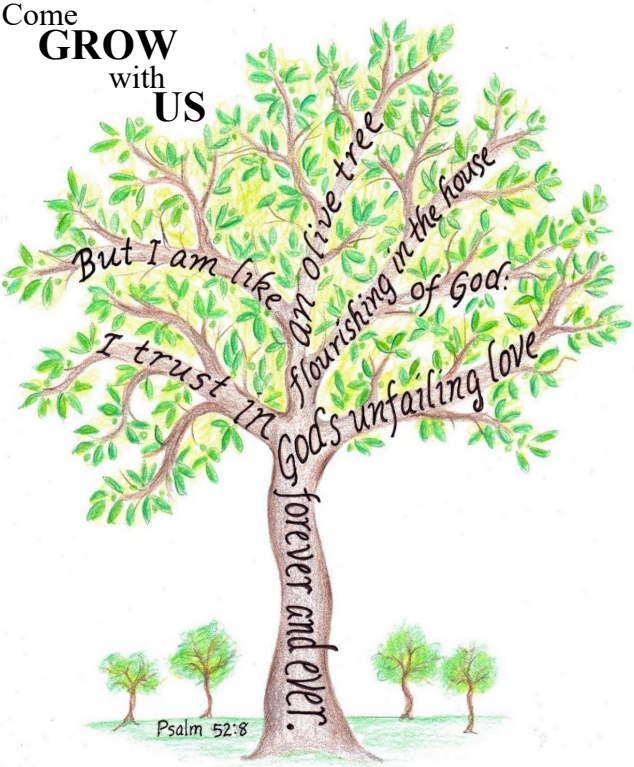
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January 2026: Verse of the Month



WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES  
AT OAKLAND

- Sunday** 9:00 AM Sunday School
- 10:00 AM Indoor Service (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 AM Worship Service Online (Facebook)
- Wednesday** 6:30 PM Wednesday Youth (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 PM Wednesday Worship Online (Facebook)



CONNECTING TO GOD & ONE ANOTHER

January 2026

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Pastor David's Corner

Connecting With God In the New Year

Do you make New Year's resolutions? Many of us start the New Year with a clean slate and want to change some of our not-so-great, unhealthy ways. It feels wonderful to have a fresh start, to put the past behind us, and to strive for new goals in the New Year! As we start the New Year, let's make sure we put the very best and most healthy goal at the top of our list! So, why not start off the year by renewing our efforts and desire to connect with God on a daily basis!

*Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2*

Grace And Mercy

Grace is when God gives us the good we don't deserve, and mercy is when God doesn't give us the bad we do deserve. Grace is God's blessing and favor on us. He pours His grace upon us for nothing we have done but for who HE is. Mercy is withholding punishment when we deserve it. God shows us mercy not because of who we are but because of who HE is.

Do Not Be Conformed

God wants us to be transformed, or changed from the inside out, by renewing our minds. And how do we do that? By studying His Word and following His Spirit. God wants us to know His will and do His will. He wants us to know what is good and acceptable and godly straight from His mouth. He wants us to grow spiritually and emotionally mature.

Make A Resolution

This is the time of year for fresh starts! For changing our lives for the better. Let's choose wisely to change our lives from the inside out. Will you resolve with me to read your Bible every day? To talk to God continually throughout the day? Connecting with God daily is more important to us than we may think. When we spend quality time with our Lord, we have the energy to live out His Word and share His Good News with those around us.

Will you resolve with me to connect with God every day?

# PRAY

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Eddie & Candy  
Anderson

Dianne Avery

Sue Bruce

Gary Clontz

Marlene Crider

Sam & Wanda  
Goodwin

Mike & Renee  
Helms & Family

Grady Hill's Family

Prayer requests  
continued on page 4.



### Christian Sympathy

Grady Hill, 87, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Wednesday, December 24th, 2025. Grady's funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 30th.

### Christian Sympathy

Wanda Thomas went to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, December 26th, 2025. Wanda's graveside service will be held on Saturday, January 17th at 3 PM at Lakeland Memorial Park.



**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**  
End of December: \$490.00



2026

### Happy New Year

May you shine with the light of Christ this New Year!

### December Attendance

Wednesday, December 3 (51 Online)

**Sunday, December 7 (46 Indoor + 284 Online)**

Wednesday, December 10 (74 Online)

**Sunday, December 14 (54 Indoor + 338 Online)**

Wednesday, December 17 (71 Online)

**Sunday, December 21 (53 Indoor + 339 Online)**

Wednesday, December 24 (No Online)

**Sunday, December 28 (51 Indoor + 293 Online)**

Wednesday, December 31 (No Online)



### Haley's Ministry Prayer Requests & Praises

- Please continue to pray for Haley's good friend going through cancer treatment. Pray for protection against any infections while her immune system is compromised.
- Matt & Haley are under contract for a house in Plano, TX! They are super excited about this. Please pray for ongoing inspections and other details to go smoothly. They will close in January. Pray that having more space would allow them to use their home for ministry and hospitality more often, and that they would get to know their neighbors quickly.



Check out Haley's Ministry Website: <https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/advVc7SEnW4NI>



### Living Streams Worship Center One-Year Anniversary

Sunday, February 2nd, 2025 was the first Sunday that Living Stream Worship Center met in our sanctuary!

Thank you for praying for Pastor Ron & LSWC.

You can learn more about Pastor Ron & his church plant at [thelivingstreams.com](http://thelivingstreams.com)

### Common Heart

Common Heart will be meeting on OBC's campus on Tuesday and Thursday nights starting in January as they hold their 19-session *Getting Ahead* Program.



The goal of the *Getting Ahead* Program is to prepare our neighbors from poverty to become Leaders for Change. They are the subject matter expert when it comes to poverty. They know what it's about. Their investigations during *Getting Ahead* help them to have a better understanding of poverty's effects on their lives and in our community. This innovative program has been used throughout the US and in other countries to empower folks in generational and situational poverty to move into stability and self-sustainability.

Common Heart's *Getting Ahead* Investigators work through learning experiences and investigations that prepare the participant to develop an 18-month individualized plan. It's their plan, based on their future story and goals. Learning takes place through discussions and shared investigations without one person being a teacher. The facilitation process brings out the wisdom of the group.

For more information on Common Heart, visit [commonheart.org](http://commonheart.org)





December 2025  
Offerings  
\$12,985.18

Budget Needs  
for January  
TBD

Update from OBC's Saving Grace Ministry

Saving Grace Mission: Our desire is to help our congregation by meeting immediate needs for food, meals, household goods, a listening ear and prayer. We are here.

Our mission is to help our church family when you need a hand.... We have now established a food pantry located in the Friendship class (classroom just before the choir room on the left). We have all experienced a time when the food or money runs out before the month does! This pantry is to help our church family with this need. Feel free to drop by anytime the church is open to get what you need to meet your need! (Pantry is on shelf behind the door)

Our Saving Grace team is here to partner with you!



- Nancy Chapman (704-221-5505)
- Carole Chionchio (724-518-2854)
- Mary Ann Clark (334-329-4403)
- Julie Cook (980-210-8277)
- Tina McSheehan (704-221-1236)
- Susan Wood (704-621-7408)
- Church Office (704-283-5656)

Spring Yard Sale

Coming This Spring 2026!

We are hosting a yard sale at the church on Saturday, April 25th, 2026. As you are cleaning out your homes over the next few months, please gather and save any items you would like to contribute, making sure your donations are clean and in good working order.

Please note...we are **NOT** ready to begin accepting donations! That will begin sometime during late March or early April.

As the date approaches, we will ask for volunteers to organize, price, and work during the yard sale. All proceeds will be used to purchase needed items or refresh areas within the church. Thank you for serving and supporting your church!



JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Office Closed 6:30 PM Living Streams (Sanctuary) Jail Ministry	2	3
4 Session 5: When Your Finances Fall Short 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	5	6 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	7 Online Worship 6:30 PM Youth 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	8 6:30 PM Living Streams (Sanctuary) Jail Ministry	9	10
11 Session 6: When Your Confidence Falls Short 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	12	13 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	14 Online Worship 6:30 PM Youth	15 6:30 PM Living Streams (Sanctuary) Jail Ministry	16	17
18 Special Focus: Compelled to Act 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	19 Office Closed	20 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	21 Online Worship 6:30 PM Youth	22 6:30 PM Living Streams (Sanctuary) Jail Ministry	23	24
25 Session 1: Truth Matters 9 AM SS 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Living Streams	26	27 6:30 PM Living Streams Bible Study	28 Online Worship 6:30 PM Youth	29 6:30 PM Living Streams (Sanctuary) Jail Ministry	30	31 Morning Kitchen/FH Reserved Living Streams



## PRAYER

## REQUESTS

Lillian Lewis

Pam Majewski

Debbie McKnight

Jennifer Price  
(Jeremy's Mom)

Carolyn Street

Kenny Street

Wanda Thomas's  
Family

Irene Welch

## Upcoming Sermon Series based on Bible Studies For Life

### LIMITED RESOURCES, LIMITLESS GOD

January 4: When Your Finances Fall Short

January 11: When Your Confidence Falls Short

### COMPELLED TO ACT

January 18: Compelled to Act

### SHARING JESUS IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD

January 25: Truth Matters



## Bible Studies For Life Summary

### *Compelled to Act*

Affirming the sanctity of human life has always been a high priority for maturing believers. When we take Jesus seriously, we're compelled to embrace His perspective regarding babies who haven't been born yet.

They're precious to Him. Therefore, they're precious to us as well. Our perspective gives way to our conviction that their little lives should be protected.

As we grow in our walk with Jesus, we come to nourish the same conviction about other people around us who are powerless. They may have become helpless because of choices, circumstances, or a combination of both reasons. When we see their needs through the eyes of Jesus, our hearts break for them.

Not only does Jesus nourish our conviction about the sanctity of human life, He also compels us to take action. As we study the Bible passage in this session, we'll encounter the truth about putting our conviction to work. We'll be prompted to seek

His guidance so we can get involved in protecting unborn babies. Also, we'll be urged to find our place in serving Him by looking out for powerless people who need us to help them.



## Ladies Painting

Thank you ladies for coming out to our Winter/Christmas-themed Painting Class on December 1st.



## Christmas Musical

Thank you to everyone who came out to worship with the choir on December 14th! Thank you to the choir for leading everyone in worship through music! You can rewatch the Christmas Musical on our public Facebook page.



## Just Married

Congratulations to Howard & Lela!  
They got married on Monday, December 15th!



## Thank You Letter

*From someone who was impacted by OBC's ministry.*

My family wanted to thank all the people involved with donating food to us so we could have a great Thanksgiving. My family is struggling and we didn't know where God was going to place someone's heart to feed us. We are so grateful for the donation of food. Thank you very much for listening to God and providing His work. We didn't go hungry because of it.

James 2:15-16



## Choir Rehearsal

The next choir rehearsal will be on Wednesday, January 7th at 7:30 PM.



## Mid-Week Communion

If you have the desire to take communion during the week (with or without the guidance of Pastor David), please reach out to the Church Office to schedule a time during office hours.

