September 2018

Senior Pastor
Dr. Wayne Guynn

Associate Pastor
Rev. Brandon Minter

Pastor Emeritus
Dr. Doug Willett

Church Secretary
Mrs. Debbie Wilson

Financial Secretary
Mrs. Sandra Ittner

Choir Director/Pianist
Mrs. Jan Vaughan

Chairman of Deacons
Mr. Steve Carroll

Christian Leadership Director
Mrs. Betty Woodlief

Children's Ministry Coordinator
Mr. Jack Griffin

The Year of Partying

"Go out into the highways and hedges and make them come in, so that my house may be filled."

Luke 14:23

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The Olive Branch

From Your Pastor

It's been the precedent of Olive Branch to have a theme for each church year and a theme verse. Last year's theme was "Year of Refreshing" and our verse was Psalm 85:6, "Why not help us make a fresh start – a resurrection life? Then your people will laugh and sing!" It was a fitting theme because in some ways we were making a fresh start. Last September I was still getting use to my new heart and was making a fresh start. We were also looking for a new Associate Pastor, who ended up being Pastor Brandon, who came in January. It was a new start for him and Ashley and for Olive Branch. Some of the things we did were more focused on our facilities and making them fresher (although we still have some work to do here). For example, the welcome center, a new church bus, and an upgraded internet network.

Now that we have two healthy pastors and some upgrades to our ministry tools, I want us to focus more this year on ministry. I want to especially focus on increasing the number of people to whom we minister rather than on our ministry tools. Having a nice welcome center is inviting, but not worth much if new people aren't being welcomed in it. A new bus is awesome to ride in, but not worth much if it's empty. So I want us to focus on bringing more people to Olive Branch and more importantly, more people into the kingdom of God.

Speaking of the kingdom of God, in Luke 14:15-24 Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a large banquet to which a man invited many people. Before I go any farther, who doesn't like a good party or banquet? A party is usually an occasion to celebrate something. A great party also has cool music, tasty food, and a lot of great people to hang out with. In fact, it makes sense that the kingdom of God (and church as well) is like a party. In church we celebrate who God is and what He's done! We even celebrate with music. At church we share the Word of God which is like eating food (I know I'm stretching here, but David does say that the Scripture is sweeter than honey - Psalm 19:10). Of course, at church we fellowship with all of our brothers and sisters in Christ - just like at a party. What's one thing that's certain to make a party stink? When no one shows up. It's depressing. A host prepares for hours and spends thousands of dollars on a party to which no one comes.

That's what happened in the parable in Luke 14:15-24. The man invited many people but all the A-listers who were invited gave lame excuses about why they couldn't go. One had to take care of a field he had just bought. Another guy wanted to test drive the new oxen he had purchased. And one guy blamed his wife. He said he just got married and he couldn't go. Well, to say the least, the host was furious. So he invited the B-listers, and then the C-listers. The master who hosted the party told his servant to invite the poor, blind, and lame. When they didn't fill up the banquet, he commanded his servant to find people worse off than they to fill up his banquet hall! I like Luke 14:23, "Go out into the highways and hedges and make them come in, so that my house may be filled." "Make them come in" doesn't mean force them to come, but it shows the passion and the urgency the master wanted his servant to display when he invited.

I want us to have that same passion and urgency this church year as we look for people in our community to bring to church and to Jesus. We have an awesome Savior! We have an awesome church! We have a great party and we need more people partying with us. In fact, as I thought about the theme for this year I thought about some really spiritual sounding themes. Since I want to focus on inviting and growing God's kingdom I thought of themes like "Year of Harvesting", or "Year of Inviting." But then I thought, "How boring and uninspiring!!" So, I'm going to declare this year the "Year of Partying." Olive Branch, let's celebrate, fellowship, and feast on God's Word. But let's not keep the party to ourselves. This year let's go and invite and "make them come in."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Labor Day Office Closed	4 11:00 Golden Eagles—FH 7:00p Choir Practice - Sanct	5 6:30p-8:30p YC- Sanct/CLC Boy/Girls Pgms- Main Bldg	6 9:00 Ladies Breakfast Huddle House	7	8
9 2:00p Rosa Thompson WOM - FH	10 7:00p Deacon's Meeting - FH	11 10:00a Helen Cook WOM—FH 7:00p Choir Practice -Sanct	12 6:30p-8:30p YC- Sanct/CLC Boy/Girls Pgms- Main Bldg	13 7:00p-9:00p - LTN B2S at New Hope Baptist	14 6:30p-8:30p God's Young Ladies—FH	15
16	17	18 7:00p Choir Practice -Sanct	19 6:30p-8:30p YC- Sanct/CLC Boy/Girls Pgms- Main Bldg	20 CFAW @ LU	21 CFAW @ LU	22 CFAW @ LU
23 CFAW @ LU 30	24	25 7:00p Choir Practice -Sanct	26 6:30p-8:30p YC- Sanct/CLC Boy/Girls Pgms- Main Bldg	27	28 6:30p-8:30p God's Young Ladies—FH	29

Services each Sunday
9:00a Traditional Worship Service
10:10a Sunday School
11:05a Contemporary Worship Service

*CLC – Christian Life Center
*FH – Fellowship Hall
*Sanct – Sanctuary

Alma Hunt

Offering for Virginia Missions

Alma Hunt Offering theme is "Be Love" and is the week of September 17-23, 2018. We will be collecting offerings through the whole month of September. Our Goal this year is $1,200. The Alma Hunt Offering provides funding for all Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia (WMUV) missions and ministries and makes possible other special ministries, outreach projects, and initiatives not funded through regular streams of giving. It is a joint venture of WMUV and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV).

Please pick up a prayer guide and offering envelope from the Welcome Center or vestibule to learn more about the ministries this offering supports and pray for the specific needs listed.

ALL ARE INVITED TO
"MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE
UNTO THE LORD"!

The OBBC Sanctuary Choir will begin working on their Christmas Cantata, "**A Child This Day**" on Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 7:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The Cantata will be presented on Sunday, December 9.

If you love to Praise the Lord through song, come join us !!!

THANK YOU JESUS SIGN

You've probably seen yellow yard signs, that say "Thank You Jesus" in many places. This is the story of how it all happened. Lucas Hunt, a teenager active at Hopewell Friends Church in Asheboro, North Carolina, had a heart for putting up yard signs in his neighborhood during Christmas, reminding people that "Jesus is the reason for the season". For Easter in 2016 his plan was to put out signs again. Around the same time another member of Hopewell, Connie Frazier, without knowing about Lucas' plan, got the idea to do an Easter yard sign that said "Thank You Jesus". That Easter they were hoping to place 800 signs. They ended up placing 1,413. People kept them in their yards after Easter and the signs spread beyond Asheboro. Now more than 131,000 have been placed. Here is the web address to a story from the *Courier-Tribune* http://www.courier-tribune.com/news/thank-you-jesus-exceeds-expectations, and one to a Fox News story https://myfox8.com/2016/11/18/thank-you-jesus-yard-signs-popping-up-around-the-triad/ The website is www.thankyoujesus.com. At Olive Branch, Emory Britt has decided to spread the word of Jesus' blessings in Mecklenburg County by placing as many signs as he can. If you would like to place a sign in your yard you can purchase them from the thankyoujesus website. For your convenience, Emory has already ordered several and you get one from him for $10. We will also have a sign up sheet in the Welcome Center where you can place an order for as many as you want for $10 apiece.

GOLDEN EAGLES

———Senior Ministry

SENIOR MINISTRY
Golden Eagles

ATTENTION ALL SENIORS!

We will begin the new year by meeting on Tuesday, September 4 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your favorite meat, salad, vegetable, or dessert to share. Also, bring a favorite keepsake. For more details, contact Betty Woodlief at 434-636-5435.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6

YOUNG CHURCH (aka YC)

YC is underway with exciting things happening all year! Make sure you pick up a 2018-2019 YC calendar which has all the events for the year! Fill out your activity participation form as soon as possible so you don't have to worry about it rest of the year. They are available on the OBBC Website Youth Page or at the Welcome Center.

September 20—23 we are heading to Liberty University for CFAW! What is CFAW … Yep, it's "College For A Weekend". High school juniors and seniors, and college transfer students between the ages of 15-24 are invited. This is a fun event where they can interact with other Christians their age, and Christian college students from all around the world. For students considering Liberty University they will get to see what classes are like, how to apply, get information on scholarships, see life in the dorms, etc. There is a $50 fee payable to Liberty, plus spending money. For a lot more information, pick up a flyer and application in the Welcome Center or visit www.liberty.edu/cfaw.

Wednesday, September 26 is **SYAP** day! "See You at the Pole" is an annual prayer event held at each individual school's flagpole. We will have a pastor or youth leader to help lead the event at each school. Check out what time your school will be meeting!

YOUTH LEADER TRAINING

Youth Leader Training for youth pastors, youth leaders, and youth volunteers will be available on-line. An interest meeting will be held at OBBC on September 2 at 3:00 p.m. which will give everyone a taste of the program. Those that sign up at the meeting will be given a list of dates for other training sessions, when courses are due, and a suggested timeframe to complete online sessions. No cost to participants. We only ask that you take it seriously. Churches of all sizes and denominations are welcome.

RSVP at www.obbcblackridge.com/ministries/youth-leader-training. For more information contact Brandon Minter at pastorbrandon@obbcblackridge.com.

GOD'S YOUNG LADIES

GYL is back on! We start up again on Friday, September 14, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This group of young ladies, grades 5-12 will meet every other Friday evening for snack time, a lesson, and crafts. We focus on issues that girls this age face and what God says about those issues. All Middle and High schools girls are welcome to attend. Bring a friend!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

GIRLS IN ACTION

STARTS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018

6:30 PM—8:30 PM

GA is a mission organization for girls in grades 1-5. Through GA, the girls learn about, pray for, give to, and do missions work. We also make friends and have lots of fun! This year the church will serve the girls a small meal each Wednesday night. We meet in the Education Wing, Room 10. Come join us!

OBBC BOYS

Wednesdays 6:30 pm—8:30 pm

Inviting all boys, grades 1st through 5th to join us for OBBC Boys every Wednesday night, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. beginning **Wednesday, September 5, 2018**! Our schedule will look like this:

6:30 pm—7:00 pm: Meal

7:00 pm—7:30 pm: Bible Story

7:30 pm—8:00 pm: Action Time

8:00 pm—8:30 pm: Games

There will be a small meal each Wednesday night. We may break into small groups for an interesting Bible Story and activity. Action time will consist of either a life skill, missions project, interesting guest, or project/craft. Games will be designed following the AWANA games.

LIGHT THE NIGHT—REFUEL 2018

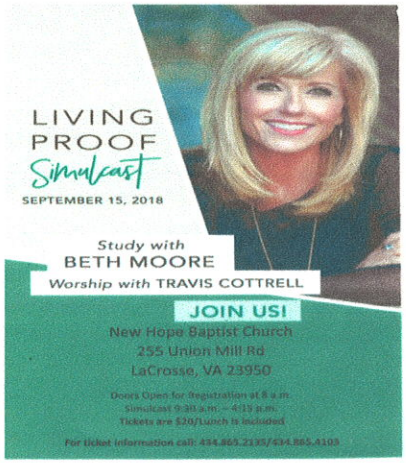
Fri, Oct 5, 2018, 5:00 PM - Sun, Oct 7, 2018, 12:00 PM

ReFuel 2018 is a youth camp that will be held at Camp Willow Springs on Lake Gaston, Littleton, NC. During the weekend your student will experience worship, music, diving into God's word, small group time and recreation time. Attendance is open to all 6th-12th graders. The $65 fee includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, full program and t-shirt. Pastor Brandon Minter will be bringing the message and The Illumination Project will be leading worship. Registration forms are in the Welcome Center or on-line at www.lightthenight.net.

ALMOST FULL—REGISTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

BETH MOORE SIMULCAST

"Living Proof" Simulcast with Beth Moore, and worship with Travis Cottrell, is being offered on September 15, 2018 at New Hope Baptist Church in South Hill. Tickets are $20 and includes lunch. Doors open for registration at 8:00 AM. The simulcast is from 9:30 am to 4:15 pm. For ticket information call 434-85-2135 or 434-865-4103.



Women Helping Women

"Falling in Love"

Upcoming Luncheon Event - Date: Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 11:30
New Hope Baptist Church, 255 Union Mill Rd. South Hill

Women Helping Women is an organization inspired by the Holy Spirit, organized by women who love Jesus, attended by women from every denomination, and serving women in Mecklenburg. If you haven't joined us before come check us out and bring a friend or two. Lunch is provided along with inspiring speakers and music. Fun! Fun! Fun!

Fall is the time when God's glory is colored by yellow, gold, crimson and peach. Perpetual falling leaves personify our endless "Falling in Love" with Jesus, our precious Lord and Savior. Let's celebrate that love together.

Physical health is just as important as emotional health. There is no time like the present to keep all our moving parts moving. David Love, a physical therapist, will tell us how. Sometimes prevention is the best medicine. Our vocal entertainment comes from the lovely Patricia Urdo. Wanda Townsend will share her love for Jesus.

Consider yourself cordially invited to our October Women Helping Women event. Let's get connected!

As usual, there is no admission charge for this luncheon. A covered dish would be welcome, but is not necessary. We encourage you to invite loved-ones, friends or neighbors who might not know God's saving grace. Be a part of this vital ministry and enjoy the love of like-minded women. See you there!

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Combined Nursery (Babies & Toddlers)
Baby Nursery (Birth to Walking)

Toddler Nursery (Walking well to under 3 years old)

A pre-school class is provided for toilet trained 3 & 4 year olds at the 10:00 AM and 11:05 AM hours.

Sunday, Sept 2

9:00	Combined:	Susie Carroll, Cathy Hardee
10:00	Babies:	Amanda McDowell, Mandi Calhoun
	Toddlers:	Jessica DeWater, Susan Gregg
11:00	Babies:	Dan Hammond, Sarah Jones
	Toddlers:	Lynn Paquette, Teresa Robinson, & Jessie Paquette

Sunday, Sept 9

9:00	Combined:	Mary Lou Arrington, Becky Aleman
10:00	Babies:	Lisa Bonner, Patti Smith
	Toddlers:	Dale Bradley, Carolyn Wallace
11:00	Babies:	Wendy Priest, Sue Vaughan
	Toddlers:	Larry Griffin, Joane Toler

Sunday, Sept 16

9:00	Combined:	Sandra Ittner, Susie Carroll
10:00	Babies:	Mae Jones, Wanda Watson
	Toddlers:	Hannah Priest, Kim Young
11:00	Babies:	Linda Labor, Laurie Wright
	Toddlers:	Susie Carroll, Vance Wright

Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from Him.
Psalm 127:3 (NIV)

Sunday, Sept 23

9:00	Combined:	Donna Jarrell, Lindsey Smith
10:00	Babies:	Judy Kidd, Julia Braddy
	Toddlers:	Shannah Freeman, Colleen Cookson
11:00	Babies:	Cheryl Parrish, Jane Wells
	Toddlers:	Lois Finch, Jeannette Lewis

Sunday, Sept 30

9:00	Combined:	Mary Lou Arrington, Becky Aleman
10:00	Babies:	Lisa Bonner, Patti Smith
	Toddlers:	Dale Bradley, Carolyn Wallace
11:00	Babies:	Wendy Priest, Sue Vaughan
	Toddlers:	Larry Griffin, Joane Toler

The newsletter is published monthly. Deadline to submit information for the October issue is September 24, 2018.

Birthdays of the Month

Celebrating Anniversaries this Month

1	Teresa Robinson
2	Conner Franck
3	Monte Aleman
4	Tyler Sykes
5	Owen & Joane Toler
6	Roy & Dot Johnson
6	Van Sykes III
7	Kelli Kennedy
8	Rick & Susan Anderson
8	Cindy Clevinger
10	Cambra Graham
10	Nick Lambert
13	Maggie Priest
14	Deanna Defibaugh
14	Mike & Dora Smith
15	Linda Gage
16	Dora Belcher
17	Margorie Newton
17	Allen & Holly Robinson
17	Courtney Shepherd
18	Rodney Bledsoe
18	Sarah Crowe
19	Shirley Clark
20	Sandra Ittner
20	Michael & Lindsey Smith
20	Debbie Wilson
21	Becky Aleman
21	Cutter Clary
21	Meghan Young
24	Chris Brown
25	Jeremy Lynch
25	Kenny & Heather O'Quinn
26	Aleisha Jones
27	Kory Anderson
27	Wanda Townsend
28	Hannah Bailey
29	Steven Carroll
30	Shannah Freeman

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OLIVE BRANCH
BAPTIST CHURCH

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PROCLAIMING PEACE WITH GOD, OTHERS, AND TO THE WORLD / "Peace I leave with you." - Jesus – John 14:27