



Oak Grove United Methodist Church  
6440 OLD STATESVILLE ROAD  
CHARLOTTE NC 28269-1782

First Quarter 2023

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Sunday School's - 9:30AM  
Worship - 10:30AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9:00AM - 2:00PM

Phone Number - 704-596-4084

Web Address - [www.oakgroveumc.net](http://www.oakgroveumc.net)

Secretary email—[oakgrovesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:oakgrovesecretary@gmail.com)

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CHARLOTTE NC 28269-1782



# The Oak Grove Greeter

First Quarter 2023

## Greetings from the Worship Committee:

As you may know, on Sunday, February 12, 2023, a church conference was held, during which attending members voted for Oak Grove to petition The Western North Carolina Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church for disaffiliation from The United Methodist Church. There are several steps that must be taken to make this official, the first of which is for the petition to be approved at the special called Annual Conference being held on May 6, 2023.

As we go through this transition, most things will remain the same. The United Methodist Church logo will be removed from our sign, letterhead & any other forms that use that name.

There will be some more noticeable differences. First and foremost, will be the absence of our pastor, Reverend Glenda Bennett. Glenda has chosen to take her three weeks of vacation and after that begin a sabbatical beginning Saturday, April 8, 2023.

Starting Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023, you will see different visiting pastors. Some of these have been referred to us by the Global Methodist Church. We will also have the opportunity for several of our own wonderful lay speaker to lead us in worship. We look forward to the variety of speakers during our transition and hope you do too.

On Wednesday, March 29, at 6 pm, there will be a congregational meeting for all members. As we promised, we want to hear from you. During this time we welcome your viewpoints, suggestions, comments, etc. as we move forward. We covet your input. We hope you will make plans to attend this meeting and share your feelings.

Mostly we would like for you to pray for Oak Grove as we continue to strive to grow in His love and do His will.

Blessings to All.

## Dates To Remember

**Question, answer & informational meeting** in reference to the church's future Wednesday, March 29

**Maundy Thursday:** Thursday, April 6, 6:00pm

**Good Friday:** Friday, April 7, 6:00pm

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 8, 10:00am-12noon

**Easter Sunrise Service:** Sunday, April 9, 7:00am at the cemetery

**Easter Breakfast :** Following Sunrise Service, Thanks to Methodist Men

**Easter Worship Service:** Sunday, April 9, 10:30am

**Heritage Sunday** May 21, 2023, at the Cemetery

## Oak Grove Photo Gallery



OAK GROVE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



First Quarter 2023

The newsletter of Oak Grove United Methodist Church



# The Oak Grove Greeter





**Our Mission** is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love

Supported by fervent prayers, faithful discernment, and a sure hope for the future, the Global Methodist Church is a Holy Spirit inspired movement. We joyfully share its mission and vision with you. We invite you to learn more about us, and to plan to join brothers and sisters around the world for a bright and bold new future!

**Our Vision** is to join God in a journey of bringing new life, reconciliation, and the presence of Christ to all people, and to helping each person reflect the character of Christ.

Through our ministries, we desire to share the whole counsel of God with all peoples and to advance the presence and fulfillment of the Kingdom of God in every part of the world and at all levels of societies and cultures. The Global Methodist Church is committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, the inspiration and authority of the Scriptures, and the work of the Holy Spirit in conveying God's truth and grace to all people.

**We are a global church that recognizes and deploys the gifts and contributions of each part of the church, working as partners in the gospel with equal voice and leadership.** Our witness to the world is marked by mutual love, concern, sharing, and a focus on those who are most vulnerable. We watch over one another in love and bear witness to the transforming power of the Good News as we humbly, but boldly, strive to serve others as ambassadors of Christ!

**REPEAT REQUEST  
PLEASE DO NOT  
BRING ANY ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS,  
KITCHEN UTENSILS,  
ETC. WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL.  
WE ARE OUT OF SPACE.  
THANK YOU!**



**Wesleyans believe** in one God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and the Savior of all who put their faith in Him alone for eternal life.

**We believe** that those who are made new in Christ are called to be holy in character and conduct, and can only live this way by being filled with the Lord's Spirit. We believe in the Bible and its sufficiency to establish our faith and conduct. We believe God wills for people everywhere to know Him and be made new in Christ. We believe that the purpose of the Church is to worship God in spirit and in truth, and to reach a lost and fallen world with the gospel of Jesus Christ through its worship, witness, and loving deeds.

**The Discipline** of The Wesleyan Church is an essential handbook for pastors, church leaders and members addressing the organization, positions and doctrine of The Wesleyan Church.

*The Discipline 2022* marks the 14th version of *The Discipline*, the book of governance for the denomination's next four years. As a result of the completion of *The Discipline*, actions voted upon at General Conference 2022 now take effect. The book incorporates all legislation approved by General Conference, held in May 2022 in St. Louis, Missouri.

**We are God's Kingdom Force, UNLEASHED** It takes everyone. Women and men, lay and clergy. Multiethnic, multigenerational, multieconomic – People from everywhere who are willing to go anywhere.

Following Jesus, we boldly shine the light of his boundless love, life-changing holiness and unstoppable hope into the Gospel Gap. Filled with the Holy Spirit, **we are the movement of The Wesleyan Church – God's Kingdom Force. Unleashed.**

MARCH	APRIL	MAY
<b>Ushers:</b> Alan Stephens	<b>Ushers:</b> JoAnn Walker Cindy Williams	<b>Ushers:</b> Dale McWhirter
<b>Greeters:</b> Lonnie Carrier	<b>Greeters:</b> Cindy Williams	<b>Greeters:</b> Mark Shook
<b>Counters:</b> Susan Becknell Chris Blumberg	<b>Counters:</b> Joann Walker Chris Blumberg	<b>Counters:</b> Corene Lazenby Brent Blumberg

He Giveth More Grace

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater,  
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase;  
To added afflictions He addeth His mercy,  
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,  
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,  
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources  
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limits,  
His grace has no measure,  
His power no boundary known unto men;  
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus  
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.

By Annie J. Flint

God's grace is not an excuse to sin, but rather a reason to love and serve Him more fully.

Memorials & Honorariums

**In Memory of Linda G Brown**  
Harry & Goldie Queen  
Andrea Wilson

**In Memory of Lenna Miller**  
Andrea Wilson

**In Memory of Aurie Elliott**  
Pat & Karen Reynolds

**In Memory of Priscilla Carroll**  
Cathy Sparks

**In Memory of R.M. Henderson**  
Corene Lazenby  
Cindy Williams  
Andrea Wilson  
R.B. & Helen Helms  
Jay & Vickie Whitlow  
Perry & Kathy Phillips  
Anne Robinette  
Arzelle Dwyer  
Elizabeth Akers  
Lonnie & Joan Carrier  
JoAnn Walker

THANK YOU!

The Oak Grove Congregational Care Committee would like to thank the many people who have shown acts of love and kindness to others through our homebound ministry.

Some members are homebound for a short period time while others have an extended time. Either way we want them to know Oak Grove cares for them and they are still a viable part of our church family. We have from 12 to 16 homebound members most of the time. Usually these are members who have supported our church and it's ministry when they more able. Our committee's goal is to let our homebound know they are love, cared for, and missed.

Many people have donated to the ministry. People have spent time preparing packages and gifts. There are the members who take time to

deliver the packages and gifts and visit with our homebound members. This ministry has grown over the years and we now have a lot of congregational support.. To make participation more convenient we are putting donation boxes in the vestibule and by the elevator on the Sanctuary level. If you would like to donate items to this ministry just drop them in the boxes on Sunday morning.

If you would like to have a more active role in the committee contact Chris Blumberg 704-363-1002.

Thank you again for efforts.  
Congregational Care Committee

**Donation Ideas:** Pens, Small Pads, Kleenex, Lotion, Little Debbie's Cakes, Sweets, & Microwave Popcorn

Thank You!

The R.M. Henderson family would like to thank everyone for their support through their kind words, prayers and cards. They truly made a difference during his illness and our time of sorrow. We would like to extend a special thank you to the Outreach Committee sending cards and gifts to our shut-ins. We recently found a card from Oak Grove Members and on the back of the card, dad had put, "Service starts at 10:30 a.m." We can't promise you he made it to another service after that card, but we can say he had interest in going. He loved Oak Grove and was proud to be a member of it.

Blessings to All,  
Mike, Pat and Scott

Thank You

**Pastor & Congregation,**

I would like to thank you all for the many acts of Christian love given to me and my family over the last two months. Visits, gift bags, a prayer shawl (which lays over me at night), cards and prayers and I really enjoyed the baked good.

God Bless you all,  
Charlene McWhirter

MARCH MADNESS IS UPON US!

Once again Oak Grove will be collecting canned goods/staple food items to support our Food Pantry. From now until April 9th, boxes will be in the sanctuary with team logos on them. Choose your school and place your food items in that box. The school with the most food items will be their box will be this year's winner. A word of warning: While Duke took the ACC Title, there is no guarantee that they will win Oak Grove's March Madness. Carolina is hungry for a win....and UNCC often has a strong backing.....

For those who can not be present to put food items in their team's box, there is still hope. You can donate money to Oak Grove and designate it to the Food Pantry in honor of your school.

The winner of the canned good drive will be announced on April 9th. The winner of the money drive will be announced on April 16th.

Please help support our Food Pantry.