



October 2025 Ridgerunner

Dear Oak Ridge Church Family,

It was a great Homecoming celebrating 180 years of ministry here on our property! Special thank you to Pastor Susan Mitchell for preaching "Now is the Time to Come Home".

The month of October is focused on Stewardship and our theme is "The Culture of Generosity". Our church definitely has a culture of generosity in the way we give to support the church budget and beyond that to the Mission of the Month. Every time we present a challenge to the church about giving of your Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness; you all step up to meet that goal and even more. I believe this is rooted in the power of the Holy Spirit and God's Word that lives inside of us. We see God working in and outside of our church with our missions and ministries!

The Sermon Series will start with "The Competition" – Matthew 6:25-34. Pastor Tony Dowdy will be preaching the 2nd Sunday of Stewardship which will focus on "The Challenge" – 2 Chronicles 31:1-10. The 3rd Sunday will be "The Commitment" – 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. The 4th and final sermon on Commitment Sunday, October 26 will be "What if..." – 2 Chronicles 7:14-15. What if we gave like God calls us to give? What if we lived out our membership vows by offering our Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, and Witness to the glory of God? What if we all took another step closer in our relationship with Jesus Christ? What if we invested in the life of a younger disciple of Jesus Christ? May we all take time this month to listen to God speak to us and seek God's will for 2026.

I am excited about the future here at Oak Ridge Methodist Church and we need each other to make it happen.

God Bless,

Pastor Mike

GUILFORD BACKPACK MINISTRY

MISSION OF THE MONTH



HOW WE HELP



We have been providing food and basic necessities to students in need in northern and northwest Guilford County schools since 2010.

The families we serve have limited access to food pantries and other resources due to their rural area and lack of public transportation.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



- Monetary Donations
 - Donate Online
 - Scan QR Code
 - Text "ORMC Backpack" to 73256
- Donate Food
 - Drop off non-perishable items in the **Oak Ridge Methodist Church Lobby**.
 - Look for our bins at check out at **Lowe's Foods** in Oak Ridge and on Church St.
- Donate Time
 - We welcome new faces and have many opportunities for you to help! Email us!

GET HELP



Students in our program receive an assortment of nutritious, eat-to-prepare food for each weekend of the school year plus an assortment of snacks for each day of the week.

Each school's social worker or counselor is in charge of enrollment and distribution of food. Enrollment is **confidential**.

CONTACT US:

www.OakRidgeMC.org/Backpacks
GuilfordBackpackMinistry@gmail.com

FINANCE NEWS

Preparing for the Future: Our 2026 Budget

As we step into the final months of 2025, our church leadership has begun preparing the budget for 2026 — a vital tool to help us steward God's resources faithfully and plan boldly for the year ahead.

Budgeting is more than just numbers; it's an opportunity to reflect on where we've been, evaluate where we are, and prayerfully discern where God is calling us next. With that in mind, our 2026 budget is being shaped around three guiding principles:

1. Faithful Stewardship

We remain committed to using every dollar wisely and transparently. In 2026, we plan to maintain our support for ongoing ministries — worship, discipleship, missions, and care — while keeping administrative costs in check. Thanks to your generosity, we've been able to meet our financial needs this year, and we believe God will continue to provide as we move forward together.

2. Growth and Outreach

Our community is changing — and we are called to grow with it. The 2026 budget includes plans to invest in outreach programs and GMC connectional funding. Whether it's welcoming newcomers or equipping members to serve outside our walls, we want to be a church that looks outward with compassion and purpose.

3. Next Generation Investment

We're excited to allocate more resources toward children, youth, and family ministries. This includes updated curriculum, leadership development, and creating spaces where the next generation can grow in faith and belonging. We believe the future of the church depends on the seeds we plant today.

How You Can Participate

In the coming weeks, we invite you to:

- **Pray** for wisdom as our finance and leadership teams finalize the budget.
- **Ask questions** and share your hopes for the future with our budget team (listed below).
- **Continue giving faithfully**, knowing your generosity fuels ministry impact every day.

The proposed 2026 budget will be shared later this fall, with a council vote scheduled for December 2nd. We're grateful to walk this journey with you and excited about all God has in store.

Together, we're not just preparing a budget — we're preparing for the future.

In Christ,

ORMC Budget Team

Mary Ellen Florence, Paul Magnabosco, Kim Jackson, Jill Shelton, Max Kern, Mike Carr, and Monica Bogle

NEW MEMBERS NEWLY BAPTIZED

Welcome!



Tom and Val Woolen
Joined September 21, 2025
Daughter Sophie baptized



Matt and Heather Page
Joined September 21, 2025
Daughters Wrenly and Savannah baptized



Ian and Ashley Mabeus
Joined September 14
Daughters Amelia and Victoria baptized



Lynn Angel
Joined September 21, 2025

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Celebrating 3rd Grade Bible Sunday



Coming Soon...

CrAfTy ThUrSdAys

Oct 16: Three Year Olds
Oct 23: Four Year Olds
Nov 6: Age 5-1st Grade
Nov 13: 2nd and 3rd Grade
Nov 20: 4th and 5th Grade

3:00-4:00 PM
Ridge Kids Room
Reservations Required

Wednesday Night Kids

October 8

6:00 PM-Meal

6:30 PM- Pumpkin Carving

Family Life Center
Reservations Required

OAK RIDGE METHODIST CHURCH

TRUNK OR TREAT?

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

3-5 PM

PRIZES
FOR BEST
CAR DECOR



Practicing
THE WAY OF
Jesus

- LEARNING
- PRAYING
- GATHERING
- RESTING
- CONTRIBUTING



September RECAP

Oh how we LOVE September in the life of our Student Ministry! We have OFFICALLY started back from our Summer Schedule! Great news, we have grown! Our family keeps getting bigger and bigger, and we couldn't be happier about it! This month we have been in 1 Timothy 4 with a sermon series titled, Letter to Young Leaders! We have been going through this letter from Paul to Timothy and learning from all of Paul's wisdom how to be an impactful and influential leader in this world, even from a young age! How to make the right choices, form the right habits, a become the leader God has created these students to be!

FALL RETREAT

10/10-10/12

We will meet at the church Oct. 10th @ 1:30pm
We will return to the church at noon Oct. 12th
We are looking forward this retreat and sharing all about it!



Confirmation Schedule	
1. September 7th	6. October 26th
2. September 14th	7. November 2nd
3. September 21st	7. November 9th
4. October 5th	9. November 16th *Confirmation Sunday
5. October 19th	

Confirmation class is underway. Note: We will not meet for confirmation on Oct. 12th due to being at the Fall Retreat.



HIGH SCHOOL "ACTIVITY"

Friday, October 31st
We invite all High School students to join us for a bonfire, smores and music 9-11pm.
We hope this opportunity creates a safe place for students to hangout on Halloween.

Trunk or Treat

Our students will be participating in trunk or treat, in place of youth on October 19th. We will have a Bluey theme and will be preparing for it in the weeks to come!



Text @theridgemc to 81010



jon.christ@oakridgemc.org



336-689-5524

October

@ THE RIDGE

**10/5 - Theme: Western
@ The Ridge 6-8pm**

10/8 - Community Dinner 6pm

**10/10-10/12 - Fall Retreat
(must be signed up by October 1st)**

**10/19 - Trunk or Treat (Bluey)
@ORMC - 3-5pm**

**10/26 - Theme: Movie
Character @ The Ridge 6-8pm**

**10/31 - High School Bonfire
@ORMC - 9-11pm**



Men's Outing: Faith, Fellowship, and Fun



We had a great Methodist Men's Outing at Jim Spinder's shooting range and sporting clays! A total of 36 men joined us for this great event. Pastor Mike shared a meaningful devotion on keeping our focus on the target and not being distracted, referencing Matthew 14:22-33 - the story of Peter walking on water and keeping his eyes on Jesus.

We enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs for lunch and had a time of fellowship together. A special thank-you to everyone who helped make this event possible and to Jim for graciously allowing us to use his range.

We are already looking forward to hosting this event again next year - and stay tuned for details about an upcoming Methodist Women's Event!



BLOOD DRIVE

October 13, 2025

1:30 - 6:30pm

Family Life Center (FLC)



HELLO October

What's going on at ORMCC!



WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL OCTOBER 8 AT 6PM SOUP & SLIDERS

\$5 for adults / bring soup to share & eat free
children eat free
sign up in Realm

Pumpkin Carving after the meal!



Aging with Choice

Wednesday, October 8, 2025
Following Fellowship Meal

We invite you to join us for an informative session on the different types of senior living communities, financial models available, and medical criteria to consider. Bring your questions to Shannon Norman, a Certified Senior Advisor and Certified Dementia Practitioner with 15 years of experience in the senior living industry.

This program is geared toward:

Newly retired individuals

Seniors 55+

Adult Children caring for aging parents



HELLO October



FALL CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, October 4
8am - 10am / 10am - 12pm



HELLO October



Here is your invitation to join the Choir for Advent!

Choir will begin rehearsing Advent/Christmas music on October 15
Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary



hope•peace•joy•love

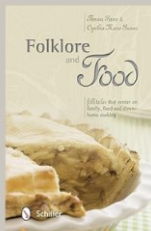
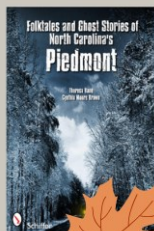
MARY MARTHA CIRCLE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

AT 10AM / ROOM F-219

FEATURING LOCAL AUTHOR AND STORYTELLER
CYNTHIA MOORE BROWN



"I HAVE TOLD STORIES ALL MY LIFE, AS A
PROFESSIONAL STORYTELLER, ENTERTAINER,
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT FOR 35 YEARS. I LOVE
HISTORY, CULTURE AND GHOST STORIES."



BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO PURCHASE



HELLO October



**SEND
GOOD NEWS
GREAT JOY!**



 Samaritan's Purse®
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

**PACK A
SHOEBOX**

Shoeboxes will be in both Welcome Centers in the Sanctuary and Family Life Center. Boxes will also be in the Church Lobby along with labels and packing information (after October 3).
Deadline to turn in boxes is Sunday, November 23.

Coffee with the Pastor
Oct. 19th 10am

Sanctuary Welcome Center

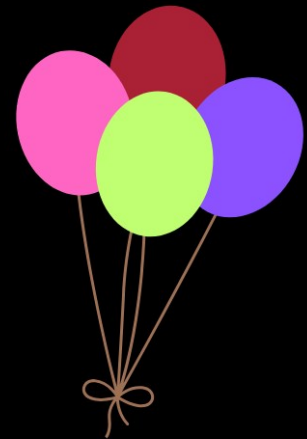
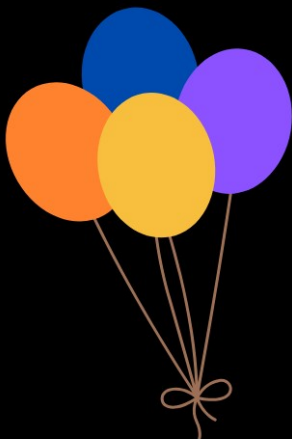
**Learn more about the church, how to get
connected, & ask questions**



NWHS Concession 2025



★ RIDGEFEST 2025 ★





HOMECOMING 2025

ORUMC Staff Church Office / 336-643-4690

Senior Pastor, Rev. Mike Carr, mike.carr@oakridgemc.org, 336-643-4690 ext. 205 / cell 704-574-0888

Pastor of Visitation, Tony Dowdy, tony.dowdy@oakridgemc.org

Youth Pastor, Jon Christ, jon.christ@oakridgemc.org, ext. 204

Director, Children & Family Ministries, Larissa Brown, larissa.brown@oakridgemc.org, ext. 203

Director, Choir, Elizabeth Crouch, elizabeth.crouch@oakridgemc.org, ext. 289

Accompanist, Lynn Gordon, lynn.gordon@oakridgemc.org

Praise Band Worship Leader, Jessie Gillie, jessie.gillie@oakridgemc.org

AV and Media Producer, David Dudley, david.dudley@oakridgemc.org

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