



# OAK RIDGE

## METHODIST CHURCH

### September 2025 Ridgerunner



Dear Oak Ridge Church Family,

We had a great family vacation down in Florida at Jensen Beach as you can tell with the pictures! I wanted to share with you all the sand creations that I did. Some were new this year and I even offered a sand art trivia one day. Check out the manger, the cross, and empty tomb. All of these highlight the birth, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is amazing what we can do to share the gospel with people wherever you are at that moment. I was able to talk with a few people who stopped by to check it out.

The Sermon Series for the month of September is focused on the Mission Statement of the Global Methodist Church - "To make disciples of Jesus Christ who Worship Passionately, Love Extravagantly, and Witness Boldly." It's a powerful statement and I will be preaching about Worship Passionately on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, Love Extravagantly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, and Witness Boldly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. I am excited to preach about this mission statement because our fellow brothers and sisters in the Global Methodist Church around the world join us in living this out. I see our church living out this mission statement as we worship God passionately at both of our worship services, we love others extravagantly with our missions of the month, and we witness boldly as we invite people to be a part of our church family.



We will celebrate Homecoming together with one combined worship service on September 28 at 11am in the Family Life Center followed by a covered-dish luncheon.

I hope and pray that you will join us this month and find ways to connect and serve with the love of Jesus Christ

Take care and God bless,

Pastor Mike



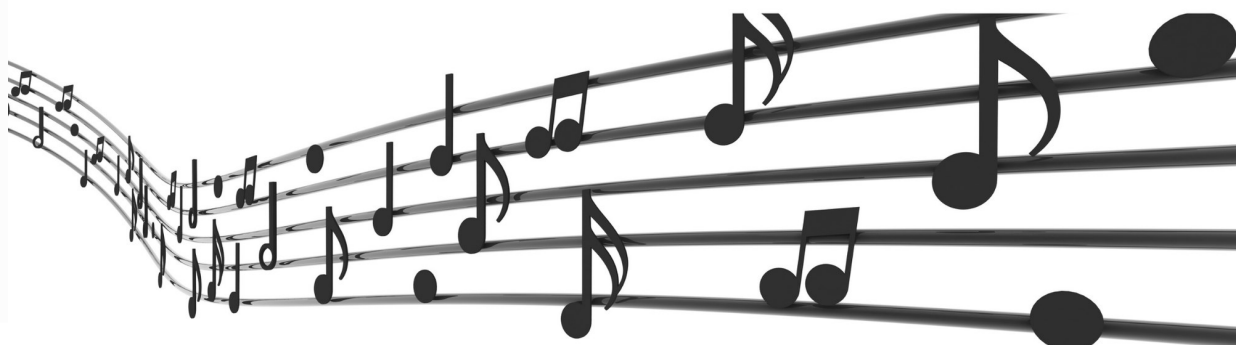
---

## 🎵 Come Make a Joyful Noise! 🎵

Do you love to sing or play an instrument? We'd love to have you join us in lifting your voice (or your instrument!) in praise! The choir rehearses every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, and there's always room for more joyful voices—no experience necessary, just a willing heart!

We're also looking for singers and instrumentalists, young and old, to share their musical gifts during our 9:00 am Sunday worship services. Whether you're a seasoned musician or just starting out, your offering can bless and inspire.

Contact [elizabeth.crouch@oakridgemc.org](mailto:elizabeth.crouch@oakridgemc.org)



# EMPOWERING GUATEMALA

## September Mission of the Month



### **Empower Guatemala – Stove and Water Filter Ministry**

### **Extending God's Love Through Service**

### **Impacting Lives and Building Community**

The resources we gather, both financial and practical, are truly the heartbeat of our ministry, enabling us to stand alongside families in need and to tangibly demonstrate God's love. Equally crucial is the steadfast work carried out by our partners: the pastor and the local church in Guatemala. We are deeply grateful for their unwavering dedication; together, we accomplish far more than we ever could alone. All thanks and praise be to God!

Our mission reaches far beyond simply providing stoves and water filters. This coming January, we are set to serve an incredible 486 families, each averaging six members, touching nearly 3,000 lives in total. In addition to these essential installations, we'll be delivering close to 100 checked bags filled with everyday necessities: LuoPads, medicines, prenatal and children's vitamins, reading glasses, children's books in English to support language learning, clothing, and many other practical items. While some of these donations will directly benefit the 486 families receiving stoves and water filters, many will be distributed across several communities, ensuring that those facing the greatest challenges are not forgotten.

The pastor skillfully uses these resources to build trust and strengthen relationships with surrounding communities, creating new opportunities to offer hope and to share the message of the Gospel.

Witnessing our increasing effectiveness is genuinely uplifting. Year after year, our reach grows, allowing us to help even more families. Yet, as our mission expands, so does our need for financial support.

Your prayers, generous contributions, and ongoing financial support truly make this mission possible. When we embrace God's call to serve with open hearts, we see His blessings multiply in astonishing ways.

For \$300, you can support an entire family providing, a concrete kitchen floor, stove, water filter, deworming medication, vitamins, and thorough training. Please consider sponsoring one or more families. If full sponsorship isn't possible, know that every gift, no matter the size, has an impact. Please memo your donation "Guatemala stoves."





# FINANCE NEWS

## Culture of Generosity

John Rollins – Stewardship Committee

What does a “Culture of Generosity” at Oak Ridge Methodist Church mean to you?

As we begin the Stewardship season, we’ll be sharing a special series of videos that highlight the heart and history of generosity at ORMC. It all begins on **Homecoming Sunday (September 28)** with our first video, “*Our History of Generosity Runs Deep*.” This series will explore the powerful impact our church has had—both in our local community and beyond.

Throughout October, members of our congregation will share their personal stories and experiences of generosity at ORMC during Sunday services.

## Commitment Sunday – October 26

We invite every member to prayerfully consider their commitment to the life and mission of ORMC. Please submit your **Commitment Card** by **Sunday, October 26**. Prefer to give online? That option is available too.

As Pastor Mike shared in the mid-year statements:

*“It’s inspiring to see how God takes the offerings we bring and multiplies them in the lives and ministries we’re a part of here at Oak Ridge Methodist Church.”*

---

## Catch the Vision Match

There’s still time to be part of the **Catch the Vision Match**—a wonderful opportunity to reduce our building loan. Every dollar you give will be matched **dollar-for-dollar** by a generous member of our congregation. To participate, simply designate your check to **CTV Match** and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office.

---

## IRA Giving: QCD & RMD

If you’re **70½ or older**, you may be eligible to make a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from your IRA—**tax-free**. This is especially beneficial starting the year you turn 73, when you’re required to take a **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)**.

By making a donation directly from your IRA, you can fulfill your RMD while potentially lowering your taxable income.

Interested in learning more?

Please reach out to:

- **Paul Magnabosco**, Finance Committee Vice Chair
- **Monica Bogle**, Director of Finance

Let’s continue to build a Culture of Generosity together as we look ahead to all that God has in store for ORMC.



NEW MEMBERS

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Welcome!



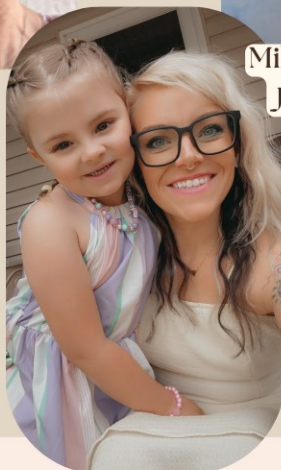
Bill and Laurie Payne  
Joined August 31, 2025



Mike and Debbie Wagoner  
Joined August 24, 2025



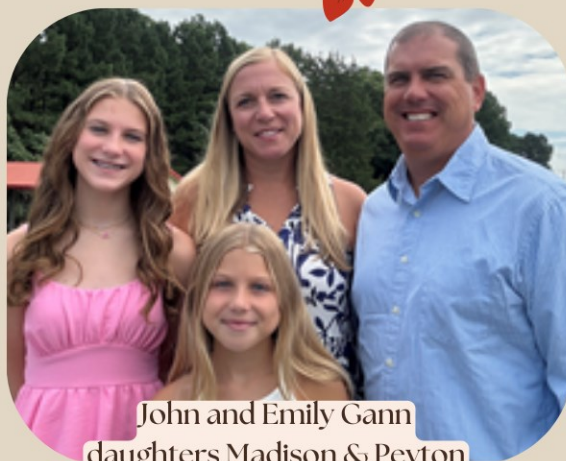
Pete and Sondra Beene  
Joined August 10, 2025



Jesy Moser and daughter, Salem Grey baptized  
Joined July 13, 2025



Scott and Julie Bennett  
Joined August 17, 2025

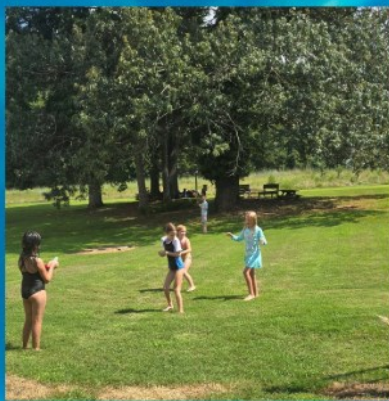


John and Emily Gann  
daughters Madison & Peyton  
Joined August 10, 2025



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## Celebrating Water Day



**Coming Soon...**

**Calling All 3rd Graders**

Parents! Contact Larissa Brown if you'd like your 3rd grader to receive a Bible!

**3rd Grade Bible Recognition**  
September 21; 9 AM and 11 AM Service

**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



## August RECAP

August has been an amazing month where we have tapped into our rhythm of LEARNING! Our Summer 2025 Ridge Bible Study came to a close and it was truly a highlight of the summer! We studied through the entire book of 1 John together! We also had some wonderful Youth Trips and Gatherings! One of those was a successful Youth Outing to Carowinds! We also were able to provide the NW Highschool Band with refreshments during one of the 3 weeks of Band Camp! Another great outing we had was our Youth Tailgate to the first NW Football game this season!

## FALL RETREAT

**10/10-10/12**

Dates are out and registration is live!!

Pricing:

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:**

by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> is \$65

**REGULAR REGISTRATION:**

by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> is \$80



### 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<br>*Confirmation Sunday |
| 5. October 19th   |  |

Another confirmation class will start in September! If you or someone you know wants to sign up please visit our website.

Confirmation Sunday will be Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

## PARENT MEETING



We will have a parent meeting

Sunday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6pm.

We will be going over details of the Fall semester. We strongly encourage you to join us.

We will meet in the youth room.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTING

Friday, Sept 26<sup>th</sup>  
**MIDDLE SCHOOLERS** will meet at the church at 6pm. We will head to dinner and then to SPARETIME for Laser Tag! We hope to be back to the church by 8:30pm

## BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH

Kicking off our semester September 7<sup>th</sup>. We will need as much parent participation as possible. Please use sign-up genius to let us know what you are bringing [Back-To-School-Bash Sign-up Here](#)



Text @theridgemc to 81010



[jonc.christ@oakridgemc.org](mailto:jonc.christ@oakridgemc.org)



336-689-5524

# FALL SEMESTER @ THE RIDGE

TEXT @THERIDGEMC TO 81010 FOR UPDATES

## September

9/7 - Back 2 School Bash

9/14 - The Ridge

9/21 - The Ridge

9/26 -MS- Dinner & Laser Tag

9/28 - The Ridge

NOTES: 9/7 Theme: Tailgate

## October

10/5 - Theme: Western

10/10-10/12 - Fall Retreat

10/19 - Trunk or Treat (Bluey)

10/26 - Theme: Movie Character

10/31 - HS - Bonfire 9-11pm

NOTES: We will not meet for  
normal youth on 10/12

## november

11/2 - Theme: Baby

11/9 - The Ridge

11/16 - Friendsgiving

11/23 - Service Project

11/30 - NO YOUTH

NOTES: We will leave after

11am service for service proj

## December

12/6 - Glenwood Service

12/7 - Caroling & Hot Cocoa

12/14 - Theme: July 4th

12/21 - Christmas Party

12/28 - NO YOUTH

NOTES: wear ugly sweater or  
Christmas attire to party

NOTES: 2026 Youth will begin January 4<sup>th</sup>, Save the date for Resurrection Conference January 23-25, Youth Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*Theme nights & The Ridge nights are normal youth

We need cooked meals for the retreat: Please contact -Kristian Christ  
Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> - Dinner  
Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>  
Breakfast, lunch & dinner





# September

## @ THE RIDGE

9/7 - Back 2 School Bash

- Tailgate

9/14 - The Ridge 6-8pm

9/17 - Community Dinner 6pm

9/21 - The Ridge 6-8pm

- **Parent meeting 6pm**

9/26 - Middle School Outing

- 6pm - Dinner & Laser Tag

9/28 - The Ridge 6-8pm

### Notes:

- We need parents to help with decorations and finger foods at the Back 2 School Bash Tailgate! Contact Kristian Christ for more details 336-549-0520
- Parent meeting on 9/21 will be about 30 minutes - Students will arrive at their normal time for hangout.









# Monarch Group Homes



# Summer Cookout





**This Summer, the Parsonage had some amazing renovations done to the kitchen and living room.**

**We had new wood floors installed, new kitchen cabinet doors that were also painted, new countertops, new sink, new water filter, and new lighting fixtures. Plus, the front door was painted. The project was budgeted for \$20,000 and we were able to keep under budget because of the work done by our church members.**

**Special thank you to Donna & Pete Gardner, John Gordon, Mike Sell, Jeff Gallow, Jack Polakowski, Jane Hahn and Cristina Voorheis. They spent a lot of hours to make this transformation happen. You can see that it does not look like the same kitchen. It really is a blessing to our family, and we can't say thank you enough. God Bless, Pastor Mike & Kellie Carr**

