

A Brief history of the Pilgrims and Thanksgiving Day

England was a Roman Catholic nation until 1534, when King Henry VIII (reigned 1509-1547) declared himself head of a new national church called the *Church of England*. A few people felt that the new Church retained too many practices of the Roman Church, so they called for a return to a simpler faith and less structured forms of worship. In short, they wanted to return to worshipping in the way the early Christians had and this group wanted to purify the church and became known as “Puritans.” Another group, considered very radical, went even further. They thought the new Church of England was beyond reform. Called “Separatists,” they demanded the formation of new, separate church congregations. This opinion was very dangerous; in England in the 1600s, it was illegal to be part of any church other than the Church of England.

The “Separatists” left for the Netherlands, to the town of Leiden, hoping to find more freedom. In the Netherlands, life was hard with times of unemployment and severe poverty. Disappointed, they then began to dream of finding a better and easier place to live. Some of them went back to England, others set sail for New England on the Mayflower.

In May 1620 the Mayflower ship and its crew were hired to take the “Separatists” known as Pilgrims across the ocean to New England. Most of the Pilgrims were living in the city of Leiden, in the Netherlands. They hired the Speedwell ship to Southampton, England, where the Mayflower was waiting for them. The two ships were supposed to set sail together for America. But seven days after their departure from Southampton, they had to pull into the town of Dartmouth for repairs to the Speedwell, which had a leak. About nine days later the two ships sailed again together but the Speedwell was leaking again. The two ships landed in Plymouth and the crew decided to leave the Speedwell behind. Some of the Pilgrims were already exhausted and quit, the rest set sail to America onboard the Mayflower, on 6th September.

The journey across the Atlantic Ocean lasted 66 days and it wasn't always easy. Finally, the Mayflower reached Cape Cod on 9th November. At first, the Pilgrims' intention was to make their plantation at the mouth of the Hudson River in New York, but because of the weather during their journey, they landed further North. Instead of moving South, the Pilgrims decided to stay and setting their plantation in Plymouth, after having explored the area. It was 25th December 1620 by then.

During their first winter, in 1621, 46 of the 102 Pilgrims died because of sickness and scarcity. However, at the end of their first year at the plantation, the Pilgrims decided to celebrate the successful growing season that finally rewarded their hard work. The three-day festivity included 90 natives who helped the Pilgrims survive, mostly teaching them how and where to fish and how to hunt and plant, introducing them to their traditional crops like corn and squash. The Pilgrims thanked God and their new friends, starting a tradition of thanksgiving.



Okatee
BAPTIST CHURCH



Okatee Baptist Church exists as a family of baptized believers in Jesus Christ who are dedicated to prayer, evangelism, worship, ministry, missions and fellowship through the empower-

Rev. Woody Oliver / Pastor
Dr. Tim Searcy / Associate Pastor

November 24, 2024

THE LORD'S DAY
November 24, 2024

Call to Worship
"Give Thanks"

Praise Team

Community Prayer / Welcome / Greeting
(Children Dismissed for Children's Church)

Dr. T

Worship in Song
"Count Your Blessings"
"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Hymn #585
Hymn #98

Special Music
"Thank you Medley"

Choir

Message
"A Pilgrim Mentality"
Hebrews 11:8-16

Pastor Woody

Response
"My Tribute"

Hymn #577

Mission Moment

Ted Janosko

Offertory Prayer and Benediction

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today. An offering plate is located on a table in the center aisle of the sanctuary for your convenience. Thank you for supporting our church with your Tithes & Offerings.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church is provided in the Education Building for children K-4. Children will be dismissed after Family Prayer Time.

DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Come for fellowship and fun at 9am Saturday, November 30th to help decorate the church for Christmas. All are welcome to come and help.



OKATEE BAPTIST CHURCH, 5467 N. OKATIE HWY., RIDGELAND, SC 29936
843-987-0885
www.okateebaptist.com

ATTENDANCE

Worship Service / 108 Sunday School / 71
Sunday Evening / 35 Wednesday Evening / 69

OUR PEOPLE GAVE

Weekly Budget: \$ 8,012.31 Budget Offering: \$ 8,905.00
Benevolence: \$ 354.00 Prisoner Packet Total 293

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24TH - DECEMBER 1ST

Sun 11/24 **No Evening Service**

Tues 11/26 Morning Prayer Gathering

Wed 11/27 **No Evening Activities**

Thur 11/28 **Happy Thanksgiving**

Sat 11/30 9am Decorate the Church for Christmas

Sun 12/1 9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service
6:00pm Christmas Games

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Sam and Mary Hollis, 540 Knollwood Court, Okatie, SC 29909
Katlyn and Harlow Urys, 25 Catawba Way, Beaufort, SC 29906
William and Patricia VanBuren, 23 Coronado Ct., Bluffton, SC 29909

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING
Wednesday, December 4th / 6pm

A special called business meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4 for the purpose of presenting and approving the 2025 Okatee Baptist Church budget and the presentation and approval of adding 2 deacons: Jim Campbell and Don Cormier. Copies of the proposed budget are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

Website: Okateebaptist.com; [Youtube.com@okateebaptistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/@okateebaptistchurch);
Facebook.com: Okatee Baptist Church