



# SONLIGHT NEWSLETTER

*The mission of Okatee Baptist Church is to grow a family of baptized believers in Jesus Christ who are dedicated to evangelism, worship, ministry, missions and fellowship through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.*

## DR. DARYLE HAWTHORNE, Pastor

As I write these words, I cannot remember a time in my life that I have ever been more excited and filled with anticipation about the opportunity that is before us at Okatee Baptist Church. So as I begin as your pastor, I want to talk about three words with you.

1. **Excitement** – On behalf of Christy and our family, we are excited to serve the Lord with you. We are excited to get to know you and our new community. We are excited to grow together with you in our walk and relationship with the Lord. The Lord is worth getting excited about! He is our God, Lord, and King! He is our everything! Excitement is in the air because we serve a God that can do anything.
2. **Anticipation** – With joyous anticipation of what God will do, we come before our Lord, desiring to be used of Him for His glory.
3. **Opportunity** – What a privilege and opportunity we have here in this area. God is literally bringing people here by the thousands. With great growth/opportunity comes great responsibility for the church. We have an eternal task to do! People need the Lord! And we have the glorious opportunity to share Him with others and see Him work in their lives, as well as our own. The opportunity abounds along with God's grace.

Joshua 3:5 says, "And Joshua said to the people, Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you." The Israelites were preparing to cross the Jordan River into the Promised Land. Much like when the Israelites left Egypt and came to the Red Sea, they did not know how they would get across. The same is true in Joshua 3. But God had brought them too far to let some water get in their way. The priests set their feet in the river, and the waters parted. They crossed over on dry ground.

So we are excited and filled with anticipation for the beautiful opportunity the Lord has given us to make a difference for His kingdom right here. We can't wait to put our feet in the water and see what the Lord is going to do. And we look forward to joining hearts and arms together to see people come to Jesus and to grow in our relationship with Him.

It is an honor to serve as your Pastor! We love you!

In Christ,  
Pastor Daryle

# DR. TIM SEARCY, Associate Pastor

## WHO ARE YOU BRINGING WITH YOU?

September often feels like a new beginning. Summer vacations are winding down, schools are back in session, and families are settling into their fall routines. At church, ministries begin moving into a new season as well. It is a wonderful time to reconnect, get involved, and invite someone to come with you.

That raises a simple question: Who are you bringing with you?

When Jesus called His first disciples, they quickly began bringing others to Him. Andrew met Jesus and immediately went looking for his brother Simon Peter. Scripture tells us, "And he brought him to Jesus" (John 1:42). Andrew did not have all the answers. He had not attended a class on evangelism. He simply knew he had found Jesus, and he wanted someone he loved to meet Him too.

There are people around us every day who need that same invitation. It may be a neighbor who has never attended church, a coworker going through a difficult season, a family member who has drifted away from God, or a friend who simply needs a place to belong.

Inviting someone to church may seem like a small thing, but God often uses small acts of faithfulness to accomplish something much greater. You never know what God may already be doing in someone's heart before you extend the invitation.

So, as we begin this fall season, think about the people God has placed around you. Pray for them. Look for opportunities to encourage them. And then take the next step and simply ask, "Would you come to church with me?"

Imagine what could happen if every person in our church intentionally brought one person with them this fall. Someone may be waiting for an invitation.

Who are you bringing with you?



**GRIEF SHARE**  
**TUESDAYS 6:30-8:00 PM**  
**You Are Welcome Anytime!**

GriefShare sessions are currently underway at OBC. If you are grieving the loss of someone you love, it's not too late to join us! You are welcome to come at any time during the current session. Each gathering offers encouragement, understanding, practical help, and hope as you walk through grief.

Come when you're ready. Come as you are. You don't have to walk through grief alone.

For more information, please call 843-987-0885.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**WOM MEETING Monday,**  
**September 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

**FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK MEAL**  
**Wednesday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> / 6pm**  
Bring your favorite entree, side dish or dessert. Church will supply drinks.

**MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST**  
**Saturday, Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> / 8am**  
All men and boys are invited for good food, fellowship, and a challenge for men.

**JOIN US ANY TUESDAY AT**  
**11:30AM FOR A PRAYER**  
**GATHERING**  
**IN THE PASTOR'S OFFICE**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**9am - Noon**  
**Fall Work Day at OBC**

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**  
Please welcome Micki Gobeil as our newest member at Okatee Baptist Church. Her address is 673 Tiki Terrace, Hardeeville, SC 29927. Her email is [mickigo@embarqmail.com](mailto:mickigo@embarqmail.com) and her phone 843-783-4012

**DIRECTORY UPDATES**  
Please update your directory with the following information:  
**Sandra Goodman's Phone number:**  
**843-290-5220**  
**Jessie Gray, 45 Hazel Drive,**  
**Hardeeville, SC 29927**



## WOMEN ON MISSION

DIRECTOR: Janet Phillips

WOM is already working on purchasing our items for the prisoner packets for November's delivery to the association office. We have decided on a goal of 250 bags and we have designated funds in the account to purchase 125. We will only accept funds in September for this project. After this year's project is completed, we will no longer use a designated account for prisoner packets. I will be adding the funds as an item in our budget.

We are planning to visit Canterfield in November for a Veterans celebration with the memory care residents for Veterans Day! Our visit to Rooms of Grace will be at a later time. We will keep you updated on other mission projects we will be involved in.

Please remember our Lottie Moon offering is coming up, to be completed by Christmas, and we will begin requesting funds for that project in October.

All ladies in our church and ladies who are not members are welcome to join our WOM meetings the second Monday of each month @ 1:00 in the fellowship hall behind the sanctuary.

Pray for us as we reach out physically and monetarily to help people in need, whether the need is physical or spiritual. As always our goal is to Glorify our God in all we do!

## LADIES BIBLE STUDY

LEADER: Marilyn Janosko

Two new Ladies Bible Studies will be started in the fall.

The Power of God's Name by Tony Evans will begin the September 22nd. It is an 6 week study every Tuesday at 10am. Contact Marilyn Janosko by 3 September 580-917-8088 so that she can order the workbooks.

The other study, "A Place called Heaven" by Robert Jeffress, also an eight session study, will begin October 14<sup>th</sup>, presented every second Wednesday each month. There is a limit of 8 slots available for this study. It is a luncheon at the home of Micki Gobeil that begins at 11am. RSVP for this study through Marilyn as well.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

LEADER: Gail Lenga

The Fall Festival is scheduled to take place Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available in October.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



The Children's Ministry Team is excited to announce that we are going to conduct a shoebox drive for Operation Christmas Child! This program is run by Samaritan's Purse and provides shoeboxes with toys, school supplies, personal care items, and a Gospel booklet about Jesus to millions of children in over 100 countries each year. In the 30+ years of this program, more than 240 million children in over 175 countries and territories have heard the Gospel and received shoebox gifts. Our goal this year is 100 shoeboxes!

You'll find information posted on bulletin boards in the Education building and the Sanctuary foyer as well as posters hung throughout the campus. We will have collection boxes for items you wish to donate in the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Education building. There will also be a table set up in the back of the Sanctuary with general information, volunteer forms and donation envelopes. If you have any questions, please see Glenda Lyon.

## SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Team Leaders: Ted & Marilyn Janosko

**SEP 18, 2026 Game Night** at the church in Fellowship Hall, 6:30-8:30 pm. Bring your favorite games. We'll bring several such as Skip-Bo, Uno, Rack-O, Five Crowns and cards for Euchre, Hearts or Spades. The church will provide light refreshments

**OCT TBD 2026 Preparing your earthly legacy**, Planning for the loss of a loved one. Seminar at the church in the Fellowship Hall with Light Refreshments (Upon approval by the pastor)

**NOV 2026** Many will be on the Israel trip.

**DEC 5, 2026 Kelly Tours, Real Christmas Story at Narroway**, Trip # 28285. Cost \$179. Trip departs from Savannah about 7:30 am. If we have 10 or more, the bus will pick us at the church. Call Kelly tours at (912) 964-2010 extension 210 and ask for Chanda to reserve your seat. The show features live animals, talented actors, uplifting music and more. Cast serves a traditional Christmas dinner of turkey, dressing mashed potatoes, green beans, etc. with a pumpkin dump cake for dessert. Boxed dinner on the return trip. See flyer.

## BUILDING AND GROUNDS TEAM

Leaders: Chris Campbell & Michael Robbins

Your B & G team is excited to announce that the AC replacement in the fellowship hall was completed, Praise God!

We will have a **fall work day on October 10th from 9:00 to 12:00**, focusing on grounds beautification for the upcoming Harvest Festival.

We are still looking new team members. If you're interested, please let one of the team members know. We're also looking for a team captain! If you're interested please let your Deacon or a member of the Nominating Team know.

**Okatee Baptist Church**  
**5467 N. Okatie Highway**  
**Ridgeland, SC 29936**

