

The Red Oak Christian

PUBLISHED BY RED OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
GREENVILLE, NC 27834-7029
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May 2025

Well, I hope everyone had a good Lent and Easter. We were blessed to have had a wonderful Easter Weekend, beginning with the joint Maundy Thursday and the joint sunrise service, followed by a great Easter service at church. We had great attendance at our regular Sunday morning service. I want to encourage you to ride that Easter excitement as we move forward.

Now that Lent and Easter are over, don't let that set you back when it comes to commitment and involvement. Continue to work and commit to growing and maturing as a Christian; continue to take advantage of the opportunities we have to do that. This past week, we began a new Bible study series on Wednesday night, working through the book of James. This week, we will also begin a new morning Facebook devotional series. We are finishing up the book of II Samuel and beginning a study of I Kings. This will continue the story of David's family, focusing specifically on King Solomon.

On Sunday mornings, I am going to continue to focus on God's call. This past week, we examined what it means to be called to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. This coming week, we are going to look at our call to share the hope that is in us as Christians. If we have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, we possess something that is essential to finding meaning and purpose in life. We also have the ability to share that with other people. Hope to see you in church.

Grace and peace, Reece

DAILY DEVOTIONS ON FACEBOOK with Rev. Reece Jones – Ayden/Red
Oak Christian Churches Shared Ministry

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY Book of James 7 PM with Rev Jones

SUNDAY MORNING SHARED FELLOWSHIP TIME

Coffee in the Fellowship Hall before worship - 10:30-11:10.

Choir News 

Choir Rehearsals Wednesday Night – 6 pm – all are welcome.

Church Board News

BOARD MEETINGS SCHEDULE 2025

May 8

Jul 10

Sep 11

Nov 13

Congregational Meeting – 12/7/25

Newsletter Information – Please submit any information you would like included in the June Newsletter to Lisa Belue via church email – redoakchristianchurch@yahoo.com or in writing to the office by Monday, May 26th. Thank you!

Hookerton District Union Meeting

The next meeting of the Hookerton District Union is Thursday, May 22nd. The meal will be served at 6:15 pm, Service at 7:00 pm. Meal will be spaghetti, salad, bread, dessert and tea/lemonade. Cost for meal is \$8. Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Children's Church

We are now having Children's Church each Sunday for children 4-7 years old. We like for the children to stay in the sanctuary until after the Choir's Special each Sunday.

We need your **Gallon Jugs** for when we feed the homeless. Please make sure to wash them thoroughly, tape lid to side of jug, and place upside down in crates beside the refrigerator in the kitchen pantry. Thank you!

***** Church Office will be Closed, Monday, May 26th for Memorial Day. *****

“Walk to Emmaus”

The focus of Emmaus is God as known in Jesus Christ and how that finds expression in the local church. The objective is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their home, churches, and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled life to be lived and shared with others.

The "Walk to Emmaus" is a 72-hour experience. The weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends Sunday evening. At Emmaus you spend three busy but very enjoyable days, at a retreat center. You will live and study together in singing, prayer, worship, and discussion. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. These talks present the theme of God's grace, and how that grace comes alive in the Christian community and expresses itself in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, and how you can live in the life of grace, bringing grace to others. You will have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion, and to begin to understand more fully the presence of Christ in his body of believers. You will experience God's grace personally through prayers and acts of service of a living community.

Emmaus is open to members of any denomination.

You might ask, Why should I attend an Emmaus Walk? Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who:

- Wish to strengthen their spiritual lives
- May have unanswered questions about prayer, study, and sharing their faith
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility
- Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner
- Have positions of responsibility in the church and the world
- Strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people

Although there is cost involved, by the generosity of our congregation giving when they have a birthday or anniversary there is no cost for anyone sponsored by our congregation. All you have to do is pray, accept God's invitation by filling out an application, pack a bag of casual clothes and have an open heart for what God has prepared for you.

The dates for the Men's Walk are September 25-28, 2025.

The dates for the Women's Walk are October 9-12, 2025.

Deadline to submit an application is June 1, 2025.

Location: Crusader Youth Camp and Tabernacle in Dunn, NC (Your transportation there and back will be provided)

If you have any questions or need assistance completing an application, please contact Sandy Smith 252 814-4954.

All you have to do is talk to someone that has attended Emmaus to understand how wonderful this experience is. They will confirm it is an experience that is hard to describe but never forgotten. Won't you come and feel the love of Christ?

Some of the members of our congregation that have attended if you'd like to talk to them are Todd Williams, Carla Smith, Sandy Smith, Nancy Hardison, Mary Durham, Hildegard McLaughlin, Hazel Erwin, Kathy Parker, Jeremiah Chamberlin, Eileen Gauthier Mills, Allen Carter and Kim Carter.

Mission News

FEEDING THE HOMELESS: May 28, 2025

A meal will be provided to the Community Crossroads Shelter on Wednesday, May 28. Randy and Debbie Avery will be the team leaders. If you are able to help, please let them know.

Mental Health will be spotlighted by the mission team for May. Our church calendar has designated May 18th as Mental Health Sunday. Mental illness is a genuine and debilitating condition. Acknowledging the profound impact of mental illness on individuals and their loved ones is the first step to a happier life. No one should have to endure the burden of untreated mental health conditions, which can strain relationships and hinder overall well-being. As a general rule, treatment centers in Greenville can help with many mental health disorders. Such disorders may include phobias, eating disorders such as compulsive eating, anorexia or bulimia, PTSD, trauma, personality disorders, bipolar disorder, depression, dissociative identity disorder and schizophrenia. There are a wide range of mental health centers and therapy programs designed to make a recovery journey as comfortable and effective as possible. A list of Mental Health Facilities in Greenville, NC will be on the information center in the Narthex. Please take and share as needed.

Emmaus Gathering is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd at 3:00 at 4588 W. Church Street Farmville, NC. Please contact Sandy Smith with any questions or directions. All are invited to attend.

Sandy Smith, Co-Chairman Mission Team

Prayer Concerns (Please hold our brothers and sisters in prayer)

PRAYER CONCERNS: Heinz Götz, Alton Hedgepeth, Family of Hope Strickland, Chris Leggett, Ed Hobby, Elaine Denton, Macon Jones, Hunter Smith, Sandra Ferrell, Hilda Dixon, Isabelle O'Geary, Stanley Leggett, Micah Chamberlin, Brenda Allen, Sandra Hazelton, Nick Masterton – Mike's son, Baby Marley (Eileen Gauthier's great nephew), Ed Cavanaugh, Lynette Wyller (Eileen Gauthier's sister), Gene Hathaway, Baby Austin Duran, Willard Kinsaul, Claudia Manning, Linda Umphlett, and Vernon Powers.

Let these words from the scriptures guide you as you consider your financial gifts to the church in support of our programs and ministries:



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also Matthew 6:21.

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (II Corinthians 8:9)

TOTAL BUDGET FUNDS NEEDED FOR 2025\$167,192.20

Offerings Received Month of April 2025\$12,946.46

Year to Date\$48,204.46



The Zelle QR Code is available for electronic donations.

See Melissa or Kim with any questions about Zelle.

**Elders For May 2025: Marilyn Harris (Worship Leader) &
Curtis Gordon**

Deacons for Communion: Sharon O'Konek – May 4
Madison O'Konek – May 11
Worth Williams – May 18
Claudy Jones – May 25

May 2025

Red Oak Christian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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25 <i>Chalene Savage</i> <i>Lynwood Stocks</i>	26 <i>Church Office Closed</i> <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Newsletter Info Due</i>	27 <i>Davis Pittman</i>	28 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Bible Study <i>Feed the Homeless</i>	29 <i>Celeste Carter</i>	30	31																																																																																				