



OAK GROVE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 23, 2023

Second Sunday after Easter

MISSION PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Since 1998, Oak Grove United Methodist Church has partnered with the Toco Hills Community Alliance (THCA). Oak Grove was instrumental in helping to create THCA and continues to be one of its largest supporters. THCA assists individuals and families in our community by offering hot meals, groceries, toiletries and diapers, and clothing.

Oak Grove provides significant funding, volunteers, and donations of items such as food, toiletry bags, and clothing for the clothes closet. THCA receives thousands of pounds of the food each year from our annual fall food drive, *It's Spooky to Be Hungry*.



**TOCO HILLS
COMMUNITY
ALLIANCE**
NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



In 2022, the Toco Hills Community Alliance was able to provide the following help to our neighbors in need:

- Households served: 14,632
- Persons served: 39,865
- Children served: 15,542
- Senior citizens served: 6,351
- Pounds of food distributed: 921,639

As COVID safety net programs came to an end, THCA experienced a 40% increase in usage from the first six months of 2022 to the last six months of 2022. In the last 3 months of the year, 25% of the households we served were new to us. Each family received an average of 63 pounds of groceries each week. Groceries include fresh produce, meat, fresh bread, and often, fresh dairy, in addition to canned goods and staples.

- 54% of the families served had children
- 16% of the people we served were seniors
- 18% of the people were unhoused

In addition to groceries, we shared:

- 4,262 hot meals with our unhoused friends
- 505 hygiene kits
- 22,404 articles of clothing

Thank you, Oak Grove, for helping to make this ministry possible through your generous gifts to the church budget, Lent and Advent offering, and your donations of food and other requested items!



Connect with Oak Grove

Thank you for participating in worship today. We're glad you're here.

Open your camera app and scan the QR code to visit ogumc.org/connect to

- register your attendance
- ask to speak to a pastor
- sign up for congregational emails
- request to join the church
- or give online.

8:30 AND 11 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

Gathering Music

Abide With Me

G Hamilton

Welcome and Announcements

Dr. Amy Morgan

Introit

Let Everything that Breathes
Young Children's Choir

M Burrows

*Call to Worship

(8:30) Dr. Joseph McBrayer
(11:00) Dr. Morgan

Life is full of challenges.

It's easy to feel as if we are alone.

But in the house of God there is light and help and peace.

Come let us worship together.

*Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King
Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 7

UMH 62

(At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade are invited to leave for Children's Church during the last stanza of this Hymn. Children will return to the service on the final hymn. If you are new to Oak Grove, please come with your child to the gathering area at the front and someone will assist you in getting your child checked in.)

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed (UMH 881)

(8:30) Dr. McBrayer
(11:00) Dr. Morgan

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Anthem (11:00)

Ha la la le lu jah
Young Children's Choirs

M Burrows

A Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Dr. Morgan

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem (11:00)

Lord, I Want to Be Close to You
Young Children's Choirs

M Burrows

Epistle Lesson	Acts 2:14a,36-41	Bob Unger
	The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.	
*Hymn	I Want a Principle Within	UMH 410
Offertory Prayer		Dr. Morgan
	Bless these gifts, O Lord. Help us to trust you to provide for our needs so that we may feel free to share with others. Amen.	
Offertory Anthem (8:30)	Amazing Grace Leanne Herrmann, piano	J Purifoy
(11:00)	Grace Chancel Choir	M Hayes
*Doxology		Lasst Uns Erfreuen
	Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up lifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!	
*Gospel Lesson	Luke 24:13-35	Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts
	The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	Overcoming: Misconceptions	Dr. LaRocca-Pitts
*Hymn	God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens <i>(Those who wish to join the church are invited to come forward.)</i>	UMH 150
*Benediction		Dr. LaRocca-Pitts
*Postlude	Voluntary on <i>We Know That Christ is Raised</i>	D Wagner

MUSIC NOTES BY JOHN COWDEN

This morning, we'll be exploring the walk to Emmaus...and considering the ways in which we sometimes need to put aside the things we think we know so our eyes can be opened to the things we can't see. One of the first steps in that journey is acknowledging (as Pastor Beth has so artfully said) that God is God, and we are not...worshipping in humility. The final verse of the opening hymn calls to exactly that. The middle hymn continues the journey, reaching out to God to remove the hardness of our heart and replace it with Christ. The final hymn completes the journey, asking God to direct our God-given creative powers to bring good into the world.

Meanwhile, the anthem is a setting of Amazing Grace set to an alternate tune. 'Twas grace that caused my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved!' I feel like knowledge works in a similar way: we must first learn what we don't know before we can move forward. Many thanks to Susan Hodges for conducting the choir in my absence this morning!

*Congregation stand as able.

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal / TFWS: The Faith We Sing

Children's Worship bags available at the front of the sanctuary to the right.

Nursery care available for children ages 3 and under in all worship services.

Worship Times and Locations

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.: Traditional (Sanctuary)
10:45: Modern (Fellowship Hall)

ONLINE: 10:45 a.m. – Modern Worship

ONLINE: 11:00 a.m. – Traditional Worship.

Facebook: [facebook.com/ogumc.org](https://www.facebook.com/ogumc.org)

YouTube: [youtube.com/ogumc](https://www.youtube.com/ogumc)

Our Pastors

Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts – *Senior Pastor* ext. 211

Dr. Amy Morgan – *Pastor of Service and Nurture* ext. 210

Dr. Joseph McBrayer – *Pastor of Invitation and Discipleship* ext. 212

Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster – *Bishop in Residence*

Our Program Staff

Dale Smith – *Executive Director* ext. 225

Rachel Fullerton – *Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor* ext. 220

Pam Reynolds – *Director of Finance* ext. 224

Atticus Hicks – *Director of Modern Worship* ext. 208

Elizabeth Loughran – *Director of Children's Ministry* ext. 218

C.J. Lord – *Director of Youth Ministries* ext. 202

John Cowden – *Director of Traditional Music Ministry* ext. 226

Kara Johnson – *Director of Senior Adult Ministries* ext. 236

Leanne Herrmann – *Organist*

Our Church Information

Church Office 404-636-7558
Office Hours 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. M–F
Emergency Contact After Hours ext. 9
Address 1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur, GA 30033
Website www.ogumc.org

Our Schools

Oak Grove Christian School 404-636-5476
YCS (Young Children's School) 404-636-7951

Submitting Articles to the Oak Grove News:

Please be reminded that **Thursday 12 p.m. is the deadline** for information that you would like to add to the *Oak Grove News*. This will enable your article to appear in the following week's bulletin.

Send items to oakgrovenews@ogumc.org. Articles will run TWO times and may be edited for space. Indicate the two editions you prefer when the article is submitted. Thank you!



Connect With Us

Check the Oak Grove website for up-to-the-minute news on all events: www.ogumc.org/news

Make Sure You Stay in Constant Contact

Information on our ministries, news, and upcoming events is shared through our ConstantContact weekly congregational email. If your email address changes during the year, please contact Diane O'Steen, Membership/Database Admin., (dosteen@ogumc.org or 404-636-7558 ext.221)



YouTube