OAK GROVE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 18, 2026 — Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Friends,

This month begins Oak Grove United Methodist Church's 2026 Stewardship Campaign, "The Grace of Giving." Giving is one way we respond to God's abundant grace and participate in God's work in the world. At Oak Grove, our gifts – large and small – become something greater when we offer them together. They make possible the ministries and mission we share.

Our gifts and offerings take many forms: meals shared with neighbors, children and youth discovering they are deeply loved by God, meaningful worship, care offered during difficult seasons, and advocacy in our community. They create spaces where lives are redeemed andtransformed through intentional fellowship, and where doubts and fears are met with grace and acceptance. These, and so many other expressions of "life together," become ministry.

This is one of the things I love most about generosity: what we give does not remain what it was. A financial gift becomes hospitality, compassion, justice, worship, and hope.

During the month of October, we encourage you to prayerfully discern how God is inviting and calling you to respond. Your next step might be to move from occasional giving to a regular practice. You might choose a percentage of your income as a guide or decide to grow from where you are by increasing what you already give. There is no single faithful response for everyone. What matters is that we make the decision intentionally, prayerfully, and with gratitude for what God has blessed and entrusted to us.

Generosity grows through practice. Each time we choose to share what we have, we loosen our grip on the idea that there will never be enough and learn again to trust in the abundance of God. We are assured: "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:8).

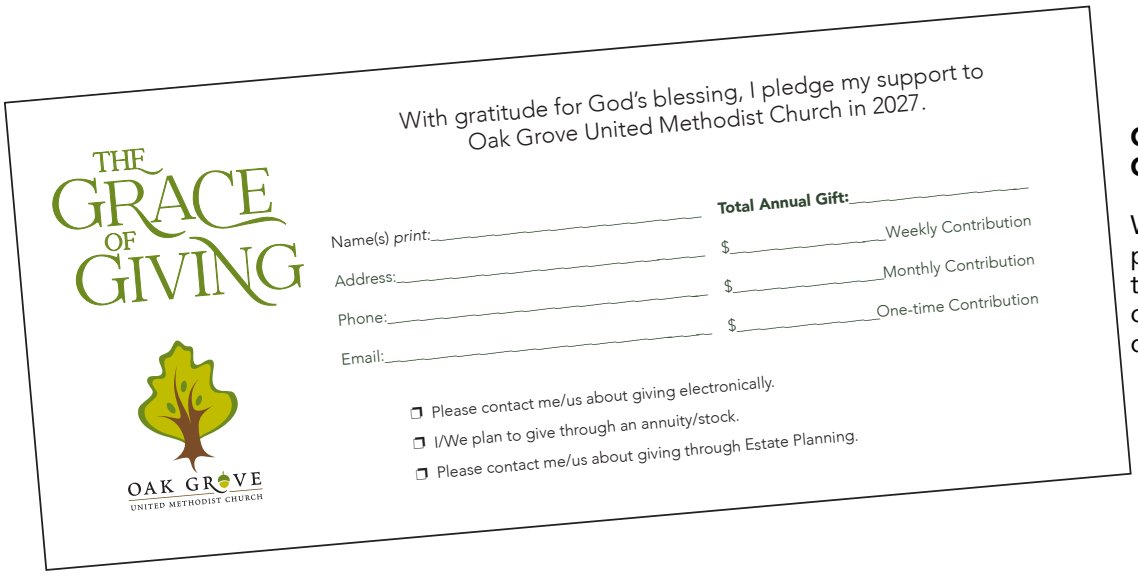
We invite you to fill out the included pledge card with an estimate of your giving for 2027. Your estimate will help us plan our work and be good stewards of the gifts you entrust to us. Please join your church family on Commitment Sunday, October 25th, when we will offer our written commitments for the coming year and celebrate together the faithfulness and sacrifice of one another. Thank you for being such a vital part of this faith community and its ministry. We are excited to partner with you and grateful that together we get to discover what comes next.

In hope and confidence, Sincerely,

Doug Gilreath
Senior Pastor

Melissa Kime-Hall
Associate Pastor

Joseph McBrayer
Associate Pastor



Committment Sunday is October 25.

We invite you to fill out a pledge card, available at the Portico Welcome Desk, or pledge online at ogumc.org/stewardship.

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 am Order of Worship

October 18, 2026 **Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost**

Gathering Music — How Majestic Is Your Name, Michael W. Smith/arr. Keith Christopher — Anna Price

Welcome and Announcements — Rev. Melissa Kime-Hall

Introit — Safari na Yesu, traditional African arr. Jeremy Russell — Celebrate Choir (Grades 1-2)

*Call to Worship — Rev. Kime-Hall

God has called each one of us to serve, using the gifts we have been given.
I don't know where to start.
Place your trust in God's guidance.
What if I fail?
God is with you - place your trust in God's presence.
Help me, O God, to trust in you and in your gracious gifts to me.
Help me to serve others in your name. Amen.

*Hymn **Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones** **UMH 90**

Children (Pre-K–1st grade) may leave for Children's Church (Room 223) during the last stanza. After 8:30 am, children will go from Children's Church to Sunday School. At 11 am, children return to the service for the final hymn. New to Oak Grove? Please accompany your child to the front gathering area, and someone will help you check them in.

*Affirmation of Faith — Apostles' Creed — Rev. Kime-Hall

**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.**

A Morning Prayer and the Lord's Prayer — Rev. Kime-Hall

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) | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
arr. Mack Wilberg | Chancel Choir

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art. Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast. Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be. End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty. Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive. Suddenly return, and never, nevermore they temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love. Finish, then, thy new creation; true and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee. Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Scripture | Psalm 71:1-6 | Caroline Uddin

*Hymn | **Wounded World That Cries for Healing** | **TFWS 2177**

Offertory Prayer | Rev. Kime-Hall

Holy God, you guide us to live lives of honesty, justice, and peace.
As we present our offerings, may our giving reflect our desire to walk in your ways.
Use these gifts to further your kingdom of love. Through Christ we pray. Amen

Offertory Anthem | Praise Him! Praise Him!
arr. Douglas Wagner | Tuesday Ringers

*Doxology | Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture | Philippians 4:10-20 | Dr. Joseph McBrayer

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon | **Contentment and Generosity** | Dr. McBrayer

The Grace of Giving Video | Amy and Jonathan Merrill

*Hymn | **God of Grace and God of Glory** | **UMH 577**

*Benediction | Dr. McBrayer

*Postlude | Festal Postlude
Robert J. Powell | Anna Price

Music Notes by John Cowden

In just over twenty years of music ministry, I've talked with a number of folks about their experience serving in mission. Nearly universally, people say they received far more from the experience than they gave. Contentment doesn't come from what we have as much as it comes from what we do (assuming we choose what we do wisely, of course!). So this morning we are singing about living in love and service of others–about being generous in supporting others.

We'll be including another hymn from The Faith We Sing this morning, "Wounded World that Cries for Healing." Honestly it might be a little on the nose, given it's stewardship season. Nevertheless, it challenges us to think about acting out of compassion, both in terms of how we give and also how we exist in, well, in a wounded world.

*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 is available for children ages 3 and under in all worship services.

Oak Grove United Methodist Church
1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur, Georgia 30033
404-636-7558 | ogumc.org

Today's Worship Servants:

Acolytes: (8:30): Seth Schillie, Spencer Schillie, Andrew Wagner, Matthew Wagner
(11:00): Addy Shafer, Ansley Shafer, and Mary Collier Woolley

Altar Guild: Randee Cook, Tryllis Hallford, Sally Houghton

Sound/Livestream: Billie Williams, Ricci Valldejuli

Ushers: John Adams, Charlie Beckham, Jack Chilton, Kim Cody, Kelly Ewing, Clint Ginn, *John Hancock, Joseph Hancock, Sherry Hancock, Dan Riedford, Jim Smith, Kurt Travis, Lillian Travis, Linda Travis, Bill Widmayer *Usher Captain

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
YouTube: youtube.com/ogumc

Our Pastors

Dr. Doug Gilreath – *Senior Pastor*	ext. 211
Rev. Melissa Kime-Hall – *Pastor of Service and Nurture*	ext. 236
Dr. Joseph McBrayer – *Pastor of Connection and Digital Ministry*	ext. 212
Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster – *Bishop in Residence*	

Our Program Staff

Rachel Fullerton – Executive Director	ext. 220
Georgia Moore – Assistant to the Senior Pastor	ext. 225
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
Krisy Kuo – Director of Senior Adult Ministries	ext. 242
Leanne Herrmann – Organist	

Our Church Information

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

Our School

Oak Grove Christian School	404-636-5476

Submitting Articles to the Oak Grove News:

Please be reminded that Thursday 12 pm 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.

VISIT the Oak Grove website: ogumc.org and pull down "FORMS". Fill out your information. *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).