

VITAL CONNECTION

Official Newsletter of Oak Forest United Methodist Church
September 2026

2026 Fall Bazaar

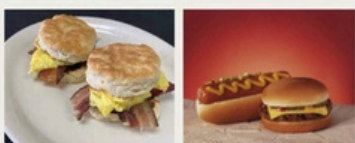
September 19, 2026

Fall Bazaar & Cruise-In

Oak Forest UMC
11461 Old US Hwy 52
Winston-Salem, NC 27107

Food:

BREAKFAST: 7:00–10:00 am
LUNCH: 11:00 am–1:00 pm



EVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 19th 7am–1pm

- Yard Sale, Bake Sale, Children's Toys & Clothing (all day)
- Breakfast 7-10am; Lunch 11am-1pm
- General Store (baked goods, canned goods, fried apple pies, soups, vegetables, small crafts)
- Chicken Pies (no preorders)
- **CRUISE-IN** cars, trucks, & bikes 8am-1pm

Silent Auction (bidding ends at 12pm)

Auction:

Saturday:

SILENT AUCTION ends @ 12:00 pm!



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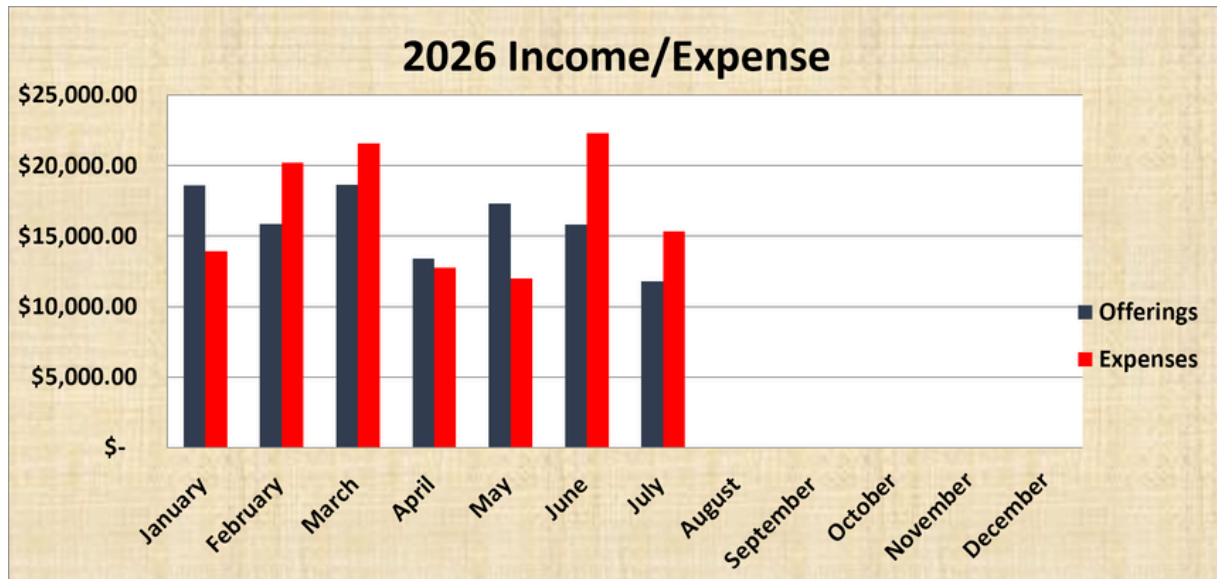
Please
join us!





Finance Report

Finances for the month of July 2026. Income from tithes and offerings was \$11,804.00. The expenses were \$15,336.52. The total cash flow for the year is negatively \$6,606.53.



Our reported expenses for each month do not reflect the church's total budgeted obligations. Currently, we have not paid our District and Conference apportionments which are \$1,871.18 per month.

(Copies of the church Budget and Designated Funds report are available on the blue shelves beside the copier usually around the 12th of each month.)



Building Fund Report

The building fund balance as of the end of June is **\$23,073.21**.

Development Fund

The current value of the fund as of the end of June is **\$73,160.04**. Funds in this account are from the Church's Designated Fund account and are currently earning 3.75% monthly. (Rates are adjusted quarterly.)

Endowment Report

The current value of the Endowment Fund as of the end of June is **\$128,950.38**.

Submitted by the Finance Committee



Ways To Give

In person on Sunday morning.

Mailing a check to OFUMC 11461 Old US Hwy. 52, W-S, NC 27107

From our web site - ofumc.org - *Giving On Line*.

Direct payment from your financial institution.

Using the Vanco Mobile Faith Encouragement app.





After School Program Director

The ASP has a new director - Renee Hicks. We would like to welcome her to Oak Forest!



I am so excited and grateful to be joining the after-school program as Director! I have been working with children for over 15 years and hold an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to work both in the classroom and in leadership roles as an Assistant Director and Director. I truly love both, and I'm excited that this role allows me to be hands-on with the children while also helping create a fun, safe, and well-organized program.

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Outside of work, I'm a proud mom to my daughter, Sophia, who is 15, and my son, Maddox, who is 7. They are my world! We love taking road trips, watching movies, and simply spending time together making memories.

I feel incredibly blessed to have this opportunity and look forward to getting to know each of your families. My hope is that the love and care I have for children shines through in all that I do. I'm excited to partner with our families and church community to make this a place where every child feels loved, welcomed, and excited to be a part of our after-school family!



For more information, visit
www.oakforestchildcare.org to
register.



Nursery Care is provided during our 9:00am
and 10:30am worship services for Infants
through 4 years old.



Children's Message at the 10:30am service.



Preschool School Year 2026-2027

Call 336-764-2991 or email
oakforestpreschool@gmail.com for
more info or to register.



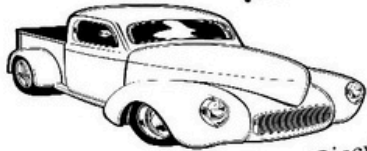
Car, Truck & Bike Cruise-In

Park On Short Grass

Plus : Fall Bazaar

Oldest Cars Park In Front

Show within a Show



Breakfast—Eggs, Gravy Biscuit
& Sausage
Lunch—Burgers & Dogs



Silent Auction & Yard Sale

Stang Gang
Vette Set
Truck Town

Saturday September 19th, 2026

8:00am-1:00pm—Breakfast & Lunch

@ Oak Forest UMC

OFUMC Fall Bazaar Schedule

Saturday 9/19/2026

7:00am—10:am — BREAKFAST, Yard Sale, General Store, Baked Goods

11:00am — LUNCH

12:00pm—Silent Auction Ends

1:00pm — All events end

www.ofumc.org

11461 Old US Hwy 52 WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27107

(MIDWAY between Hickory Tree & Gumtree Roads) (336)764-2949

We collected 134 cans of pop-top canned goods for August. Thank you for your donations!



Doug Powell and family on the passing of his brother, Rick Powell, on July 17th.

Ronnie Chandler and family on the passing of his aunt, Louise, Welbourne, on August 3rd.

The family of Patty Blake on her passing on August 21st.

Tina Spicer Gregory, Teri Spicer Leonard and family on the passing of their father, Robert Spicer, on August 28th.



Carol and I are settled in with Jamye and Paul in Hickory NC and I have been in Catawba Valley hospital five days in ICU, Trinity Village Rehabilitation Center now back at home. Just wanted thank each Oak Forest member and friends who have reached out to us in many ways. Your prayers, visits and cards mean so much to us as do each of you. Thank you! Last week we were blessed by those who visited with us. Keep up the blessings to each one whose life you touch.

Dwight & Carol Cartner

935 1st Street
Hickory, NC 28601



September



Office Closed
Monday, September 7th



Fall Bazaar
September 19th
7:00am - 1:00pm
Family Life Center



Car Show
September 19th
8:00am - 1:00pm
Church Parking Lot

Announcements

Ushers

September 6 - Team #2
September 13 - Team #3
September 20 - Team #4
September 27 - Team #5

Children's Time

September 6 - Rev. Dave Kelley
September 13 - Carolyn Shoaf
September 20 - Linda Anthony
September 27 - Carla Dry

10:30 Worship Leaders

September 6 - Rev. Dave Kelley
September 13 - Casey Mancilla
September 20 - Casey Mancilla
September 27 - Casey Mancilla

Nursery Volunteers

September 6 - 9:00 - Dianne Johnson
10:30 - Nancy Spence
September 13 - 9:00 - Carleen Hill
10:30 - Lorraine Marovich
September 20 - 9:00 - Tracy Powell
10:30 - Cheryl Cope
September 27 - 9:00 - Carleen Hill
10:30 - Carolyn Shoaf

Greeters

September 6 - 9:00 - Dianne Johnson
10:30 - Rodie & Lorraine Marovich
September 13 - 9:00 - Cathy Messinger
10:30 - Carla Dry & Janet MacKay
September 20 - 9:00 - Dianne Williams & Donna King
10:30 - Dwight Smith
September 27 - 9:00 - Ron & Debra Chandler
10:30 - Louise Thompson & Judy Clodfelter



The Wednesday Weekly Prayer Service at 6:15pm until 6:45pm in the church sanctuary.

This service is led by members of our congregation. September leaders are below. This will be a time of praises and prayer requests.

Speakers for Wednesday Night Prayer Services for the month of September

September 2 - Pastor Rick Carter
September 9 - Chris Wall
September 16 - TBD
September 23 - Tim Bryan
September 30 - Rev. Dave Kelley

Many Ways to Give to Oak Forest:

In person on Sunday mornings with a check or cash.
Using the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app. (*Vanco Mobile*)
From our web site – www.ofumc.org
(Select – **Ways to Give** from the bottom of each webpage)
Using your banking institute's check writing service to automatically send a weekly or monthly check to the church.
Send a check to the church office through the mail.



Announcements for the Vital Connection are due on the third Friday of the month.

F.Y.I.

Finance Committee & Church Council meet quarterly on the 2nd Sunday at 5:30 & 6:30pm in the FLC

United Women in Faith (UWF) Meetings
2nd Monday of every month at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

United Methodist Men (UMM) Meetings
2nd Monday of every month at 6:30pm in the FLC Sunday School Classroom

Trustees will meet every 1st Thursday night at 6:30pm in the FLC Sunday School Classroom

Men's Bowling

The men of Oak Forest will meet at Creekside Lanes for bowling every Wednesday at 9:30am.

Women's Bowling

The women of Oak Forest will meet at Creekside Lanes for bowling every Tuesday at 9:30am.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3. Carolyn Hester 4. Alaina Bryan
5. Eric Lindsay 8. Todd Reed
13. Denise Hinkle 14. Izabelle Thornton
16. Jason Ferrell 17. Dean Leonard
18. Nancy Spence 21. Carla Dry
23. Zach Joyce, Anne Rettmann
25. Nancy Hiatt 26. Gail Sicard, Ryan Weavil
27. Evan Johnson 28. Daniel Powell
29. Johnny Johnson, Caroline Carter
30. John Owen Vannoy



If you have a birthday that isn't listed, or know of a name that should be removed, please let the office know.



Connect with us!

Meet our Staff!

Rev. Rick Carter

Contact at Office: (336) 764-2949

Cell: (336) 457-4316

Email: rick.carter@ofumc.org



Kim Barnes

Administrative Assistant

Office: (336) 764-2949

Email: kim.barnes@ofumc.org



Tabitha Jones

Preschool Coordinator

Office: (336) 764-2991

oakforestpreschool@gmail.com



Renee Hicks

After School Program Director

Office: (336) 764-2991

oakforestaspmisp@gmail.com



YADKIN VALLEY DISTRICT STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mark Conforti

District Superintendent

Office: (336) 725-4502; Fax: 336-723-6341



<https://www.facebook.com/oakforestumcnc/>



<https://www.instagram.com/oakforestumcnc/>



<https://www.flickr.com/people/oakforestumcnc/>



<http://www.ofumc.org/>



"For where two or three
gather in my name,
there I am with them."

Matthew 18:20



As September dawns, we embrace the transition
from summer to fall, welcoming the beauty of
nature's transformation



Calendar of Church Events for the month of September 2026

Tuesday, September 1

- 9:30am Women's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 7:00pm Refit - FLC

Wednesday, September 2

- 9:30am Men's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:15pm Wednesday Night Prayer Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Praise Band Practice - FLC

Thursday, September 3

- 6:30pm Trustees Meeting - FLC large classroom

Sunday, September 6

- 9:00am Adult Sunday School Class - Builder's classroom
- 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service - FLC
- 9:50am Sunday School Class - FLC large classroom
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 4:00pm Handbell Practice - Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 7 (Labor Day)

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8

- 9:30am Women's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 7:00pm Refit - FLC

Wednesday, September 9

- 9:30am Men's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:15pm Wednesday Night Prayer Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Praise Band Practice - FLC

Sunday, September 13 (Grandparents' Day)

- 9:00am Adult Sunday School Class - Builder's classroom
- 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service - FLC
- 9:50am Sunday School Class - FLC large classroom
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 4:00pm Handbell Practice - Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 14

- 8:00am Bazaar Prep - FLC (all day)
- 6:30pm United Women in Faith - Fellowship Hall
- 6:30pm United Methodist Men - FLC large classroom

Tuesday, September 15

- 8:00am Bazaar Prep - FLC (all day)
- 9:30am Women's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:30pm Lay Leadership Meeting - FLC large classroom
- 7:00pm Refit - FLC

Wednesday, September 16

- 8:00am Bazaar Prep - FLC (all day)
- 9:30am Men's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:15pm Wednesday Night Prayer Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Praise Band Practice - FLC

Saturday, September 19

- 7:00am Fall Bazaar - FLC (until 1:00pm)
- 8:00am Car Show - Parking Lot (until 1:00pm)

Sunday, September 20

- 9:00am Adult Sunday School Class - Builder's classroom
- 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service - FLC
- 9:50am Sunday School Class - FLC large classroom
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 4:00pm Handbell Practice - Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 21

- 6:30pm Lay Leadership Meeting - FLC large classroom

Tuesday, September 22 (First Day of Fall)

- 9:30am Women's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 7:00pm Refit - FLC

Wednesday, September 23

- 9:30am Men's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:15pm Wednesday Night Prayer Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Praise Band Practice - FLC

Thursday, September 24

- 6:00pm NTO Game Night - FLC large classroom

Sunday, September 27

- 9:00am Adult Sunday School Class - Builder's classroom
- 9:00am Contemporary Worship Service - FLC
- 9:50am Sunday School Class - FLC large classroom
- 10:30am Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 4:00pm Handbell Practice - Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 28

- 6:30pm Lay Leadership Meeting - FLC large classroom

Tuesday, September 29

- 9:30am Women's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 7:00pm Refit - FLC

Wednesday, September 30

- 9:30am Men's Bowling at Creekside Lanes
- 6:15pm Wednesday Night Prayer Service - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Choir Practice - Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Praise Band Practice - FLC



SEPTEMBER

Helen Hunt Jackson

The goldenrod is yellow;
The corn is turning brown;
The trees in apple orchards
With fruit are bending down.



The gentian's bluest fringes
Are curling in the sun;
In *dusky pods* the milkweed
Its *hidden silk has spun*.

The sedges flaunt their harvest
In every meadow-nook;
And asters by the brookside
Make asters in the brook.

From dewy lanes at morning
The grapes' sweet odors rise;
At noon the roads all flutter
With yellow butterflies.



By all these *lovely tokens*
September days are here,
With summer's best of weather,
And autumn's *best of cheer*.



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11461 Old US Hwy 52
Winston-Salem, NC 27107