

**Pastor:**  
Tim Harvey

**Minister of Nurture  
and Music:**  
Carol Elmore

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**Phone:**  
(540) 774-3217

**DEADLINE FOR  
OCTOBER  
SEPTEMBER 15**

**NEWSLETTER  
COMMITTEE:**

Rena' Brown  
Carolyn Broyles  
Nancy Hylton  
Josephine Keller  
Bryana Lackey  
Emily Nelson

**CHURCH OFFICE  
SECRETARY HOURS:**  
Monday-Friday  
9:00-2:00 p.m.

# THE VISITOR

SEPTEMBER 2026

Published by:

**Oak Grove Church of the Brethren**

2138 McVitty Road, SW  
Roanoke, VA 24018



*Sunday School-9:45 a.m.  
Worship-11:00 a.m.*

## September Sermons and Scripture

**September 6** *Health vs. Darkness.* Matthew 6:19-23

**September 13** *Two Masters?* Matthew 6:24

**September 20** Guest Preacher, Angella Haranzo; Pastor Tim preaching at Troutville CoB revival service.

**September 27** *Do not worry.* Matthew 6:25-34



Childcare volunteers are needed for both the Infant Nursery and Big Kid's rooms during church. There are several Sundays for the months of September, October and November when no one is signed up.

Please contact Gloria Harmon at 540-309-9342 or speak to her at church to volunteer.

# Church News

## Prayer concerns since the last Visitor:

...Jane Grisso, recovering from illness  
 ...John King, recovering from surgery  
 ...Martha Gregory, Raleigh Court Rehab

Sympathy and prayers for the family of Dennis Ferguson who passed away on August 22, 2026.

## Terry Robinson Senior Quilt Thank You

O.K. more quilts  
 thank you for the wonderful quilt  
 you made for me and thank you  
 for all the love and hard work you  
 put into it it is a memory that I will  
 always keep in my heart  
 Terry



## August 2026 Outreach

- Two individuals assisted through our Good Samaritan Fund.
- Food for one family through our Food Pantry.
- SHP Bed Builds produced 40 beds.

## Happy Birthday

- 1- Trenton Marcum
- 2- David Twigg
- 3- Gavin Robinson
- 3- Tracy Twigg Anderson
- 6- Amanda Marcum
- 10- Jennifer Johnson
- 13- Kylie Young
- 27- Dominique Duncan
- 28- Stephen Turner
- 30- Zach Harvey

## Happy Anniversary

- 20- Stephen and Vicki Turner  
 28- Roger and Joan Simpson

Choir resumes rehearsals on September 2, 2026.

Dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Wildwood Smokehouse.

Then, we'll have a short rehearsal at 7:00 at church. ALL who love to sing are invited!



Handbells will resume rehearsals at 10:00 a.m. on September 9, 2026. All are welcome to join this amazing group directed by Sarah Ann Bowman.



Peace Service  
 September 20, 2026  
 3:00 p.m.

The Virgina District Peace Affairs Committee is having a service on September 20, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at Central Church of the Brethren. Everyone is welcome to attend.

# Vacation Bible School 2026 #CONNECT





# September

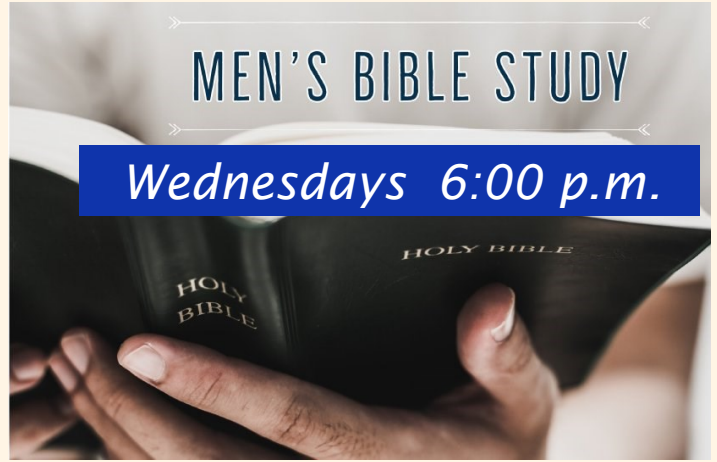
**JESUS  
ABIDES  
IN YOU.  
ABIDE  
IN HIM.**

**Women's Faith  
Study Group**  
• **Thursdays**  
• **10:00 a.m.**



**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

**Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.**



*Munch Bunch at Cast*  
*September 16, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.*  
*Everyone is invited!*



## September 2026 Highlights

- 2-**Choir meeting at Wildwood at 5:30 p.m. Rehearsals at 7:00 p.m.
- 5-**SHP Bed Build at Glenvar High School at 8:30 a.m.
- 7-**Church Office Closed for Labor Day
- 9-**Handbell rehearsals begin at 10:00 a.m.
- 9-**Men's Bible Study returns to Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.
- 10-**Women's Faith Study Group begins at 10:00 a.m.
- 12-**SHP Bed Build at South Roanoke Lowe's at 8:30 a.m.
- 13-**Leadership Team Meeting after church at 12:30 p.m.
- 16-**Munch Bunch at 11:00 a.m. at Cast on Electric Rd.
- 19-**SHP Bed Build at 622 Mohawk Ave. at 8:30 a.m.
- 20-**Peace Service at Central CoB at 3:00 p.m.

## Peace & Justice Roanoke Justice Ministries Meeting – September 1, 2026

Please join the Peace & Justice group for a special meeting on Tuesday, September 1, at 6:00 p.m., to learn more about Roanoke Justice Ministries and explore how Oak Grove can become involved in this important community effort.

Roanoke Justice Ministries is a coalition of faith communities working together to address systemic issues affecting our neighbors through research, relationship-building, and collective action. By bringing diverse congregations together, Roanoke Justice Ministries seeks practical, lasting solutions to challenges facing the Roanoke Valley.

During this meeting, we will learn more about their mission and discuss what it would mean to form an Oak Grove Roanoke Justice Ministries team. Whether you're passionate about justice issues or simply curious to learn more, your perspective is welcome.

Please consider joining us Tuesday, September 1, at 6:00 p.m., either in person or via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 852 5148 6821

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85251486821>



# BUNKS ACROSS AMERICA

Sept. 12th at 8:30 am

## Volunteers Needed



Join Oak Grove as we partner with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Lowe's, Cave Spring UMC, and other local churches on Bunks Across America Day to build 50 beds for local children in need. Lowe's and the national Sleep In Heavenly Peace headquarters are generously sponsoring this build—we just need volunteers to help assemble the beds!

- ✓ No experience necessary!
- ✓ Anyone 12 and older is eligible to help.
- ✓ Sleep In Heavenly Peace requests all volunteers sign up in advance of build day. (See registration information below)



We're also collecting  
NEW  
twin-size bedding,  
sheets, comforters,  
and pillows!

### LOCATION:



South Roanoke Lowe's  
4224 Valley Ave  
Roanoke, VA 24018

To register, scan this  
QR code or visit  
<https://shpbeds.org/chapter/va-roanoke/>



# Camp Bethel News

## Labor Day Family Weekend at Camp Bethel September 4-7, 2026

Click [here](#) for more information on registration, menus and activities!



**REGISTER NOW!**

7:00-8:00am Check-in,  
8:30am Start.  
10:00am Brunch in the  
Ark!  
(donations accepted)

\$40 includes race shirt,  
pre-and-post snacks,  
stocked water, brunch,  
placier medals,  
and fun!



[runsignup.com/Race/VA/Fincastle/CampBethelPep5K](https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/Fincastle/CampBethelPep5K)



**FAMILY BARN DANCE**

SEPTEMBER 5TH, 7-10PM

LEARN A VARIETY OF REELS, SET DANCES,  
& SIMPLE SQUARE DANCES CALLED BY  
PAUL MULLER & LOCAL OLD-TIME BAND  
PURGATORY MOUNTAIN STRINGBAND!

**Camp Bethel Golf Tournament**  
**Wednesday, September 23, 2026**  
Click [here](#) to register!




JOIN US FOR CAMP BETHEL'S 42ND ANNUAL

## HERITAGE DAY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 3

328 BETHEL RD.  
FINCASTLE, VA

• CRAFTS • FOOD • KIDS ACTIVITIES • APPLE BUTTER • FISHING



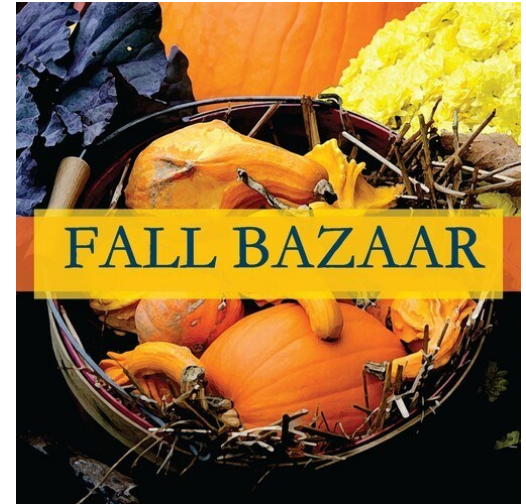
From Nancy Hylton:

*Thank you all for the good wishes for Birthday # 90! It was a memorable occasion and your well-wishes made it more so!*

*Oak Grove is a special church and it is my joy to be a part. God's Blessings to everyone.*

**Fall Bazaar  
October 17, 2026  
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

Oak Grove's Fall Bazaar will be held Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. We will have handcrafted items from Christmas decorations to pottery, candles, wood items and more! There will also be a bountiful bake sale, Country Store and “next to new” booth.



It takes many good cooks, bakers, talented crafters, jelly makers and organizers to have a successful bazaar. A number of our crafters have been meeting regularly throughout the year enjoying creating fellowship and unique items.

The Country Store is always popular and there you will find jellies, jams and fresh produce. There are also areas for potted plants and pumpkins. The shifts for volunteers in the different areas are 7:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. We will also need volunteers to help the cashiers.

We will be setting up in the fellowship hall for the Bazaar beginning on Sunday, October 11th. Moving the tables and many chairs to and from the storage closet and bringing down racks and items. Starting October 12th volunteers from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. can help set-up the displays in the different areas.

The funds will support the Good Samaritan Fund here at Oak Grove. These funds are used to help members of the community with rent, utilities, and payments for medications, etc.

We have many talented people in our congregation and this is an excellent opportunity to share those talents, fellowship with others, and with guests who come to shop. Please contact Rena' Brown (540) 525-8726 to reserve your time for volunteering.

# Pastor's Column for September 2026

Our Finance Commission continues to work hard to manage our bookkeeping, provide meaningful updates to the congregation, pay our bills, and understand our congregation's giving patterns and trends.

This last responsibility—understanding our giving patterns and trends—is a relatively new area for the Commission and one that is increasingly important to its work. Simply put, the way we give has changed over the years.



Not so long ago, offering envelopes were the primary way members made their financial gifts.

Many of us gave weekly or bi-weekly, and offering envelopes were an important part of that process. That is no longer the case. While some of you still value offering envelopes, we no longer purchase a new set each year. Instead, we provide envelopes from a previous year. Increasingly, we receive offering checks in the mail. These checks are often generated from your bank account or retirement funds and are placed in the safe, rather than in the offering plate, before being included in our weekly offering count.

The frequency of giving has changed as well. Our congregation remains as faithful in its giving as it has always been; however, those gifts may now arrive weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or even annually.

As we enter our stewardship season this month, please pay close attention to the pledge letter, budget, and pledge card you will receive. While the Finance Commission is still finalizing the details of these materials, returning a pledge card helps the Commission in two important ways:

- Determine whether the proposed budget is reasonable.
- Establish a baseline for congregational giving that will help the Commission plan for the future.

If you return a signed pledge card, our Financial Secretary, Ron Mooney, will keep your information confidential and will be able to provide you with updates on your year-to-date giving compared with your pledge. ***But even an anonymous pledge card provides valuable information that helps the Finance Commission do its work more effectively.***

Thank you, once again, for your faithful financial sharing and for helping the Finance Commission faithfully steward the resources entrusted to our congregation.

*Pastor Tim*

Pastor Tim is preaching at Troutville Church of the Brethren's revival services this year:

- Sunday, September 20, 11:00 a.m.
- Monday September 21 – Wednesday September 23, 7:00 p.m.

# September 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                            | Monday                                                                                                        | Tuesday                         | Wednesday                                                                                            | Thursday                                                                                     | Friday                                                      | Saturday                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Looking Ahead...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>November 1- Love Feast after church.</li> <li>November 8- Council Meeting after church.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                               | 1<br><br>6 p.m.-Peace & Justice | 2<br>5:30 p.m.-Choir meeting at Wildwood<br>7 p.m.- Choir Rehearsal                                  | 3<br>2 p.m.-Games<br>5:30 p.m.-Commissions Meeting                                           | 4<br><br><br><i>Labor Day Family Weekend September 4-7.</i> | 5<br><br>8:30 a.m.-SHP Bed Build at Glenvar High School   |
| 6<br>9:45 a.m.-Sunday School<br>11:00 a.m.-Worship                                                                                                                | 7<br><br>Church Office Closed                                                                                 | 8                               | 9<br>10 a.m.-Handbells<br><br>6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study<br><br>7 p.m.- Choir                          | 10<br>10 a.m.-Women's Faith Study Group<br><br>2 p.m.-Games<br>6 p.m.-Christian Ed.          | 11                                                          | 12<br><br>8:30 a.m.-SHP Bed Build at South Roanoke Lowe's |
| 13<br>9:45 a.m.-Sunday School<br>11:00 a.m.-Worship<br>12:30 a.m.-Leadership Team                                                                                 | 14<br>9 a.m.-Crafts<br><br>12:30 p.m.-Backpack<br><br><i>Pastor Tim is on vacation September 13-20, 2026.</i> | 15                              | 16<br>10 a.m.-Handbells<br>11 a.m.-Munch Bunch at Cast<br>6 p.m.- Men's Bible Study<br>7 p.m.- Choir | 17<br>10 a.m.-Women's Faith Study Group<br><br>2 p.m.-Games<br><br>5:30 p.m.-Finance Meeting | 18                                                          | 19<br><br>8:30 a.m.-SHP Bed Build at 622 Mohawk Ave.      |
| 20<br>9:45 a.m.-Sunday School<br>11:00 a.m.-Worship<br>3 p.m.- Peace Service at Central CoB                                                                       | 21<br>9 a.m.-Crafts                                                                                           | 22                              | 23<br>10 a.m.-Handbells<br><br>6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study<br>7 p.m.- Choir                             | 24<br>10 a.m.-Women's Faith Study Group<br><br>2 p.m.- Games                                 | 25                                                          | 26<br><br>5 p.m.-Autumn Bash for families                 |
| 27<br>9:45 a.m.-Sunday School<br>11:00 a.m.-Worship                                                                                                               | 28<br>9 a.m.-Crafts<br><br>12:30 p.m.-Backpack                                                                | 29                              | 30<br>10 a.m.-Handbells<br><br>6 p.m.-Men's Bible Study<br>7 p.m.- Choir                             |         |                                                             |                                                           |