

OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

Serving Christ, Serving Our Community

AUGUST 2026

A word from the Pastor...

I wanted to use this space to talk more about some exciting opportunities that are coming up in the life of this church....beginning with...a seminary class.

Enroll Now — *A History of Christian Theology*. Do you have more questions about God than you have answers? Do you always leave a Bible Study wanting more...or wanting to go “deeper?” Well...now is your chance!

The CEC of Ocker has approved me to offer an upper-level, graduate style semester long class. The class will meet on the first Sunday of each month, from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in the upstairs conference room. There will be no graded work, you will not be given a test or quizzes or asked to write an essay with the intent of it being graded. You *will* be expected to do the readings and present one chapter or section (as assigned by me) to the class. The presentations are easy, but the reading is challenging and dense. The church has graciously allowed the Sunday School to help fund the class by donating the book(s). Our primary book for this course will be *The Story of Christian Theology* by Roger Olson.

We will start the class the first week of October, so I need to know by **9/15** if you want to be in the class. I have a minimum of five and a maximum of 20. I will have a syllabus for you by the first of September.

This is just another ministry of the Christian Education Committee of our church. Maggie has a wonderful Bible Study on Wednesday night, we have many great Sunday School classes...including Confirmation...and now...for those who have a lot of questions...we have a seminary level class that you can take over the *History of Christian Theology* beginning very early on after Jesus' resurrection, up to the reformation. If the class goes well, we will continue looking at the reformer's theology and more. Please talk to me if you would like to sign up!

- Brad



BOARD OF ELDERS MEETING

Wednesday,
August 12, 2026
6:30 pm

Upstairs Conference
Room. Meetings
are open
to all.

Girlfriends and God

BIRTHDAY CARD MINISTRY, DINNER
& FAMILY GAME NIGHT

AUGUST 26, 2026

STARTING AT 6:00~ OCKER

*May your school year be as radiant
and full of blessings as a sunlit
summer afternoon.*



Isaiah Bible Study Update:

The Isaiah Bible Study will be shifting gears for a few weeks. Beginning August 12, we will put Isaiah aside and start a short bible study on the book of James. If you haven't joined us before, here is a chance to embark on a study to see what James has to say to the church today. We meet each Wednesday night at 6:30 pm. Bring your bible and enjoy study and fellowship with friends.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SOMETHING NEW!

I have spoken with several people in the congregation that would like to learn to crochet. I've been given some specific projects that they would like to work toward making. So, on Family Game Night - August 27th - we will have our first gathering at 4:30 pm. This will allow us time to learn and practice, then join the Youth for dinner. If you don't already have supplies, I have some extra yarn and crochet hooks to play with. This is open to all ages. See me for more details. Hope to see you there.

- Maggie

LOCAL MISSION UPDATE – ROGERS COMMUNITY FOOD & CLOTHING



It's Back to School time for Rogers Food & Clothing Pantry. As a reminder, there is a box at the Church Entry for items that can be donated.

They are in need of the following food items:

- jelly
- jam
- pancake mix
- syrup
- oatmeal packets or cups
- pop tarts
- mac & cheese boxes and cups
- instant mashed potatoes
- SpaghettiOs
- ravioli
- things that a kid can microwave after school

Other items needed: sugar, flour, corn meal cornbread mix, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, dried pinto beans, black eyed peas, etc. Use your imagination for snacks and inexpensive meals. You can follow the Food Pantry on Facebook to stay up to date. Let's stock our box each month and be thinking about holiday meals coming in the next few months. Thank you for your prayers and support for this organization. Please don't hesitate to see me if you have any questions.

-Lisa Sebek

C.E.C. NEWS

The Christian Education Committee met on Sunday, July 26 after worship..

First Sunday Breakfast Providers for 2026 - 2027 are:

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 - Standard Bible Class

OCTOBER 4, 2026 - Life Application Class & Harmony of the Gospels Class

NOVEMBER 1, 2026 - Books of the Bible Class

DECEMBER 6, 2026 - Potluck (everyone brings a dish to share)

JANUARY 3, 2027 - Standard Bible Class

FEBRUARY 7, 2027 - Life Application Class & Harmony of the Gospels Class

MARCH 7, 2027 - Books of the Bible Class

APRIL 4, 2027 - Potluck (everyone brings a dish to share)

MAY 2, 2027 - C.E.C. / Muffins with Mom

JUNE 6, 2027 - C.E.C. / Donuts with Dad

JULY 4, 2027 - Potluck (everyone brings a dish to share)

AUGUST 1, 2027 - C.E.C. / Back to School Breakfast

*As a reminder, breakfast starts at 8:30 on First Sunday to allow class and children's music time.

August begins our new Sunday School year to coincide with the school calendar year. Breakfast will be provided by the CEC and we will have Sunday School promotions for our classes. Teachers and students will be announced for each class. The kiddos will then go to the sanctuary to sing for 20-25 minutes and then back to their classes for Bible lessons and activities.

....continued on next page.

C.E.C. NEWS CONTINUED

We are so grateful that ALL Sunday School Classes are filled with great teachers and leaders! They are:

YOUTH CLASSES

- Pre K / K - Judy Jeske & Jana Jeske
- 1st & 2nd Grade - Sandra Dubcak
- 3rd & 4th Grade - Amanda Parker
- 5th, 6th & 7th Grade - Emily Sebek
- 8th & 9th Confirmation - Brad Herridge
- 10th thru 12th Grade - Jeremy Wentrcek

ADULT CLASSES

- * Standard - Rose Ann Groseclose
- * Harmony of the Gospels - Maggie Imhoff
- * Life Application - John Brinkley
- * Books of the Old Testament - All/student led

Please join us for Sunday School as we study the Bible in various classes. You will LOVE it!!

Vacation Bible School is here! It will begin on Sunday, August 2nd. Family meal will begin at 5:30 pm and VBS will end at 8 pm each evening. See where you can volunteer and make sure to bring your kiddos and their friends. (See the YOUTH PAGE for more information.)

BACK TO SCHOOL

A **BACK TO SCHOOL** Party is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th at 6 pm. Food, dessert and fun is on the menu to close out VBS and look forward to the new School year ahead!

Fall activities were mentioned and will be discussed at the next meeting - Fall Party, Christmas Program, Congregational Meeting and Valentine Banquet next year.

Hot Topics class was discussed. The class will continue in September in a different format to be presented by Brad. (See "A Word from the Pastor" for more info.)

The next CEC Meeting is scheduled for October 18th following Worship.

THERE WILL BE NO CHRISTIAN SISTERS MEETING IN AUGUST.

Ocker Brethren Church

17454 State Hwy 53

Temple, TX 76501

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 806

Rogers, TX 76569

Phone: (254)985-2240

E-mail: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

PASTOR:

Dr. Brad Herridge

Phone: (254)716-2578

E-mail: bradherridge@gmail.com

Board of Elders President:

John Brinkley

Phone: (254)721-3196

E-mail: wphalia@yahoo.com

Sunday School Supt.:

Tracie Malovets

Phone: (254)780-8969

E-mail: tmalovets@gmail.com

Youth Director:

Jennifer Chervenka

Phone: (254)913-1244

E-mail: jenn.chervenka@gmail.com

Church Secretary:

Stacie Sebek

Phone: (254)718-5608

E-mail: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

Christian Sisters

Hospitality Coordinator:

Deanna Naivar

Phone: (254)931-5720

E-mail: busybaker10@gmail.com

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- 1 - Travis Glaser
- 2 - Emily Doney
Jason Parker
- 5 - Hayden English
- 6 - Cory Pierce
- 8 - Jaylea Elkins
- 9 - Jean Coufal
Ian Ranley
- 10 - Raymond Coots
- 12 - Andrew English
Matthew Wilfert
- 13 - Gabbey Dillard
- 15 - Emma Ranley
Marcia Snyder
- 16 - Cil Krcha
- 19 - Grace Tawney
- 20 - John Brinkley
- 21 - Karly Stephens
- 23 - Janet Hoelscher
- 24 - Jeannette Glaser
- 29 - Stephanie Phillips
- 31 - Mike Beimer

August Anniversaries



- 6 - John & Kim Dillard
- 12 - Jordan & Emily Sebek
- 18 - Jodie & Abbey Zavodney
- 23 - Barton & Tammy Pierce
- 26 - Brent & Brittany Harper



NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK NOVEMBER 16 - 23, 2026

OCKER PACKING PARTY NOVEMBER 14 @ 10 am

Ocker will once again be a Drop-Off Hub this year! Keep your calendars open for National Collection week: Monday, November 16th through Monday November 23rd. We will do the same thing we did last year but for a shorter period each day. Volunteer hours and opportunities will be posted soon!

We didn't have a formal Packing Party last year and we know it was missed, so... we ARE this year! YAY!! It will be Saturday, November 14th. We are accepting donations for our shoe boxes and will have pamphlets and boxes soon. Take a box and fill it! Or, take a pamphlet and purchase multiples of any item.

More info will be available in the next few months newsletters.