

October Calendar 2026

Date: Family to Pray For:

Scripture Reading

1	Shawn, Cori, Micah & Isaiah Layman	John 1:1-28
2	David & Connie Liptrap	John 1:29-51
3	Ronnie & Debbie Liptrap, Sr.	John 2
4	Ronnie & Selena Liptrap, Jr.	John 3
5	Al, Cathy & Jonathan Lush	John 4:1-26
6	Rose Mace	John 4:27-54
7	Joshua, Selamawit, Zeyada & Zakai Mack	John 5:1-23
8	Michael, Kristina, Gabe, Judah & Haddie Neill	John 5:24-47
9	Gary & Teresa Nicely	John 6:1-21
10	Richard Nicely	John 6:22-70
11	Pastor Matt, Amy, Eliot & Morgan O'Meara	John 7:1-24
12	Robert & Shelley Persinger	John 7:25-52
13	Dave, Kathy & Hannah Pritt	John 8:1-30
14	Chuck & Robyn Ratliff	John 8:31-59
15	Pastor Mike & Tracy Rollins	John 9
16	Mary Ryan	John 10
17	Danny & Barbara Ryder	John 11:1-44
18	Lee & Frannie Simmons	John 11:45-57
19	Minnie Slayton	John 12:1-26
20	Greg & Cindy Smith	John 12:27-50
21	Jesse, Holly, Eliana & Maddie Smith	John 13
22	Betty Snead	John 14
23	Chris, Amber, Bayleigh & Billy Sorrels	John 15
24	C.R. & Vicky Sorrels	John 16
25	Daniel, Liana, Raylan & Levi Sorrels	John 17
26	Brad & Kandace Speer	John 18:1-27
27	Larry & LaDonna Stevenson	John 18:28-40
28	Paul & Joan Strausbaugh	John 19:1-24
29	Alan & Beverly Taylor, Cameron Tucker	John 19:25-42
30	Pauline Taylor	John 20
31	Bill, Irene & Becki Wade	John 21

October Newsletter 2026

Church Family,

When this newsletter goes out, it will be Pastor Mike's official last Sunday with us as the head pastor of Living Stones Ministries. It would be dishonest to say that this transition does not fill me with all sorts of conflicting emotions. Mike has been my pastor, my spiritual father, my boss and my friend for the last 15 years. For some of you, he has been those things for much longer. We have been blessed by God to walk with him, as he answered the call, and served this church faithfully. Now he is completing that call, and answering a new one. He has finished well, and I am overwhelmingly thankful for him.

And so, yes, things will change for us, as well as Mike and Tracy, as we journey on with the Lord. But just as God has blessed us and provided for us these many years, we trust Him now to bring new blessings into our lives. I am excited to see what God will do as we move forward together, walking in faith, wherever He may lead us.

In that way, transitions and change can be an amazing catalyst for growth in our relationship with the Lord. Times of struggle, though unpleasant, have a way of stirring up areas of our heart that have settled from inactivity. Our flesh has a tendency towards comfort and settling, while God has called us to take up our cross and follow Him. Struggle can sometimes be the kick in the butt we need to wake us up.

I believe we have a good example of this in Exodus 33. Israel, God's chosen people, are smack in the middle of a difficult time of change. They have been taken from their slavery in Egypt, have been wandering with God in the wilderness, and now are about to be sent into the land God had given to Abraham. There was nothing settling or comfortable about this time for Israel, but they were learning to live in complete reliance on their God.

Of course, like us, they had a talent for complaining, and God, having heard enough of it, tells them at the beginning of the chapter some pretty startling news. As He sends them to this promised land, He will send His angel with them, but he will not go with them Himself. Israel, rightly, is devastated by this news. How can they make this journey if God is not going to go with them? Moses goes so far as to say in verse 15 "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here."

It is a valid concern! If God's presence does not go with His people, they are no different than all the other peoples in the land, with no foundation for their hope. And so, God's warning had its intended effect. The people of God humbled themselves, repented of their sin, and sought the grace of their God. God assures them that, of course, He will be going with them.

More than anything else, as we head into this time of change, let it be a time for us to humble ourselves. We know that we have access to the unlimited grace and mercy of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We would be absolutely foolish not to take hold of it. When we humble ourselves before God, when we confess our sin, and put away our foolish idols, we declare together with Moses, "God, we need you!"

Because God is faithful, I know He is walking through this time with us. Be excited, be in prayer, and let's help each other seek the Lord in humility and sincerity. Pray for Pastor Mike and Tracy, as God leads them on their new adventure with Him.

Pastor Matt

October Calendar 2026

Saturday, October 3rd: Men's Community Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 am, Life House

Saturday, October 10th: Memorial Service for W.G. Anderson, 12 Noon, at the Anderson family farm. Meal to follow at the Life House.

Sunday, October 11th:

- We will observe Communion and our Communion offering will go toward purchasing items for Samaritan's Purse Shoe Boxes. OCC Shoe Box collection dates are November 16th-20th. Visit samaritanspurse.org to learn more about how to pack a shoebox.

Monday, October 19th: Leadership Team Meeting, 6:30 pm, Life House

Weekly Events:

Tuesday: LSM Bible Study, 10:00 am, Life House
"In His Image" Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Life House

Wednesday: Disciples for Christ Bible Study, 9:30-Noon
Youth, 6-8 pm, Life House

Thursday: "Roots" Kids Ministry meeting, 10:00 am, church & pavilion
Karate, October 8th, 6-8pm

Friday: BSF, 9:45 am, Life House beginning September 18th
Karate class, 6-8pm – **no class Friday, October 9th**

Fall Word Search

M	N	I	H	S	Q	U	I	R	R	E	L
L	Y	I	P	R	E	B	O	T	C	O	J
Z	E	Y	K	X	Y	D	F	A	L	L	Y
R	A	E	G	P	X	L	I	T	J	Z	E
E	F	L	L	O	M	R	L	R	A	K	E
B	E	L	G	P	O	U	E	I	Y	R	Y
M	C	O	R	D	P	T	P	D	H	A	A
E	O	W	E	Q	U	A	E	E	I	C	H
T	L	R	W	O	R	C	E	R	A	C	S
P	L	A	O	V	N	M	U	T	U	A	W
E	A	V	L	E	A	V	E	S	X	B	C
S	B	C	F	S	O	R	A	N	G	E	F
A	T	J	N	G	C	P	N	B	R	Y	E
J	O	Q	U	Q	M	H	Q	X	Z	O	F
D	O	S	S	A	C	O	R	N	E	P	K
C	F	Q	F	N	W	O	R	B	X	R	H

FALL
AUTUMN
LEAVES
PUMPKIN
APPLE
ACORN
SUNFLOWER

HAYRIDE
CHILLY
RAKE
FOOTBALL
SQUIRREL
ORANGE

SCARECROW
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
CIDER
YELLOW
BROWN
RED



FALL WORD SCRAMBLE

NROEMBEV _____
OLW _____
EPI _____
LLFA _____
SEBMETRPE _____
RKEA _____
BOSOT _____
HASUQS _____
ASYACTKH _____
HCRABN _____

WORD LIST

RAKE	SEPTEMBER
OWL	BRANCH
BOOTS	FALL
SQUASH	PIE
HAYSTACK	NOVEMBER