



# ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

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www.oneidaschool.org

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

March/April 2025

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## Honoring the Prices for 10 Years of Service at OBI



**David and Pam Price** are celebrating their 10th year at OBI. Pam's journey into ministry began in California with her missions-focused family who had ties to the Kentucky Mountain Mission (KMM). Her uncle, known locally as "Preacher Bill," was the director of the KMM, and Pam grew up serving alongside her family at the Youth Haven summer camp. After a 15-year career in daycare, Pam "gave in" to her Kentucky cousin's requests to move to this area. She said, "I was ready for a change. It was just God's time." She moved to Clay County and began looking for a

local church. Her parents recommended New Prospect Baptist Church because they knew the pastor through their work at the KMM. The pastor's name was David Price.

In Dr. Price's 50+ year career, he has been a pastor in four churches, a police chaplain, and a youth counselor with the KMM. He holds a Master of Ministry in Christian Counseling, a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, a Doctor of Ministry and a PhD in Religion. He had been the pastor at New Prospect for about two years when Pam visited. Seven months later, they were married. David said, "Pam is a gift from God for me." Pam noted, "When I got married, I became a pastor's wife, stepmother and Grandma!" The Prices now have seven grandchildren, and Mrs. Price has had two of them as students at OBI!

*(Prices continued p. 2)*

## Four Students Baptized in January

Staff and students gathered at the Oneida Baptist Church on January 24th to witness the baptisms of four students. Last fall, Dr. Price invited students to speak with him if they were interested in baptism. He explained, "So many kids have accepted Christ but have never been baptized. Some do not have a home church, and we wanted to offer them the opportunity."

At home in Nigeria, Cedar accepted Christ when he was seven years old. "I always wanted to be baptized, and when I got a chance here, I decided to do it. Dr. Price knows me and knows I am born again. He made sure I ran it by my parents



*Four young men, all juniors and dorm students, were baptized during an OBI chapel service. L-R: Jacob, Pietro, Jackson, and Cedar.*

*(Baptisms continued p. 2)*

## AG Coleman delivers message of hope



*Attorney General Russell Coleman talked with students after chapel.*

Russell Coleman, Attorney General of Kentucky, shared a powerful testimony in a chapel service on February 28th. When we learned that AG Coleman had attended OBI for one semester, we invited him to come and share with our students.

AG Coleman shared about how God opened the doors for him to become an FBI special agent only to have his career path halted by a rare spinal tumor that caused paralysis. He recalled, "Laying in that hospital bed, faith became much more than a box to check. ... Faith became the very foundation I built the rest of my life on."

He found renewed hope and new career opportunities that led to him becoming the AG in 2024. "God's plan was a lot better than my plan. ... The job I do now is to work to protect you and your family," Coleman said.

He closed with Jeremiah 29:11, one of our favorite verses here at OBI, and encouraged the students by saying, "There is no limit to the hope you can have in Christ." □

## (Prices continued)



Over 30 students have been baptized in the last two school years.

With many of the New Prospect church members on staff at OBI, Pam said, "We learned so much about the Oneida ministry, and it piqued our interest!" What appealed to David was the idea of interacting with kids every day. "Here, they come to us, and you get to be a mentor. It's just amazing!"

In 2015, OBI president Larry A. Gritton, Jr. asked Dr. Price to consider serving as a pastoral counselor at OBI. He stated, "God provided Dr. Price in His perfect timing to meet that



## (Baptisms continued)

who were happy about it," Cedar said. At home in Aruba, Pietro had drifted in his spiritual life. He enrolled at OBI last August and said, "Ever since I came to OBI this year, I wanted to get closer to God." He chose to be baptized because, "I wanted to show my faith to everyone."

From northern Kentucky, Jackson felt a "burden" to be baptized. He said, "I had been going to church and doing the motions, but it was like a mask. I wanted to give myself fully to the Lord and to His glory." He described his experience saying, "Something changed. When I came up out of the water, I felt like the burden had lifted. I felt like a clean, new person!" □

need. The Lord knew exactly where we would need Pam before we did! We had an unexpected vacancy in our daycare that Pam willingly and wonderfully filled. The Prices' servant leadership has been such a blessing. They have made OBI a better place these last 10 years."

Mrs. Price was the Daycare Director for four years until a need arose for a teacher in the Lower School.

In his counseling role, Dr. Price combines psychology and biblical principles. Students are welcome to request a meeting, and sometimes they are referred by teachers. Dr. Price is also the Senior Bible teacher and the Campus Minister responsible for the daily chapel services.

The Prices serve the Oneida "family" and community in many other ways. They cheer on our student athletes at games and take many volunteer shifts in concessions. They organize Sunday evening treats for the dorm students and fill and deliver Christmas stockings to local students. Over the years, they have ministered to OBI staff children by hosting fellowship opportunities.

In 2022, the Prices encountered a daunting obstacle when Pam was diagnosed with cancer. They persevered through this time while continuing their ministry in faith here at OBI.



Mrs. Price has been the second grade teacher at OBI for the last three years.

Pam said her "go-to" verse was Philipians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

This season was particularly hard for David who had lost his first wife to cancer. A biblical principle that helped him was one that he uses often in counseling. It comes from 1 Samuel 16:1, "The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way...'" He explained, "Sometimes in life when doing the right thing doesn't feel right, you do it anyway. You just keep putting one foot in front of the other." We are all thankful to God that Pam is cancer free and will be considered "in remission" in 2027.

Reflecting on the last 10 years at OBI, Dr. Price said, "I always tell people that God saved the best for last." □

## Spring Spiritual Emphasis

Our annual Spring Spiritual Emphasis week started with the Sunday evening service on March 23rd. We were blessed to have **Jason Stewart** to lead worship and **Kenny Rager** to present the gospel for six services from the 23rd to the 25th.

Dr Price reflected, "I think this was one of our finest 'Spiritual Emphasis' weeks in my time at OBI. The Spirit of God was at work during the entire time. Eleven students accepted Christ and many others made decisions to have a deeper walk with God." □



**Kenny Rager**  
Pastor of 12 Stone Baptist Church



**Jason "Bubba" Stewart**  
Worship and Music  
Consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention



## OBI's Annual Culture Fair

Students, staff and guests sampled a wide variety of foods from around the world at OBI's annual Culture Fair on Saturday evening, March 29th.

Over 30 young cooks representing a dozen countries partnered with staff sponsors and spent Friday evening and most of Saturday cooking in home kitchens. **Randy and Tricia Schmittendorf** host a group in their home every year. Tricia commented, "I sign up each year to work with international groups for the Culture Fair because I enjoy learning more about their culture and interacting with them outside of the classroom. The students bring savory spices and create delicious dishes which they enjoy sharing with their peers and staff members. The Culture Fair has become an event Randy and I look forward to each year; we get to embrace the uniqueness God has created in each one of us."

This wonderful community-building experience is just one more unique way that OBI is a great place to be for local and international students! □



*Phillipines*



*Welcome crew!*



*South Korea*



*4th grade friends try new foods!*



*Jamaica*



*Thailand*



*Ethiopia group cooking and serving*



*Cameroon (left), India (above)*



*Nigeria*



*Many of our local students and their families attended the Culture Fair.*



*Appalachia*



*Cambodia*

**Contact us to update your address or to sign up for the e-newsletter:**

Phone: 606-847-4111 ext. 292

Email:

[diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org](mailto:diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org)





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PO BOX 67  
ONEIDA KENTUCKY 40972-0067  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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*Another historic flood in Oneida on February 16, 2025. The flood crested about 34.8'—higher than the 2021 flood by about 6-8 inches. Photo taken from the farm.*



## In Memoriam

**Brenda Davidson Jenkins**  
Class of 1966

**Dr. Edward Lowdenback**  
Former Administrator and Coach  
To view Dr. Lowdenback's  
obituary, visit:  
[www.warefuneralhome.com](http://www.warefuneralhome.com)  
(Select the Cynthiana location.)



**Meet Hunter House**, OBI's new soccer coach for the 2025 Fall season. Coach House visited campus in early April to meet the team. He is a native of London, Kentucky, where he teaches P.E. and resides with his wife, Taya, and four month old baby.



## Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations

The purpose of the OBI Athletic Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor our outstanding coaches and athletes. The inductees will be chosen by the OBI Athletic Hall of Fame Committee.

Nominees must have have been outstanding in their sport(s) and left OBI in good standing. Coaches must have been a varsity coach at least three years. For full eligibility rules, email Tony Hall, OBI Athletic Director.

**Please submit nominations via email to:**  
[tony.hall@oneidaschool.org](mailto:tony.hall@oneidaschool.org)

**All nominations must include:**

- ☐ The nominator's full name, address and phone number.
- ☐ Name of nominee and decade he or she was at OBI.
- ☐ Sport he/she played or coached.
- ☐ List of nominee's sports awards, records set, etc.