



ONEIDA MOUNTAINEER

www.oneidaschool.org

A bi-monthly newsletter of Oneida Baptist Institute

November / December 2025



It's that time of year where many of us are making lists and checking them twice. Some enjoy a busy season of baking treats to show appreciation to our friends and acquaintances. Others look forward to festive church and community activities. Making sure loved ones have a little something under the tree brings joy to gift-givers. For OBI partners and friends, we know you're thinking of us, and we appreciate every card, prayer and extra gift. As we like to point out every chance we get, it's our faithful "small donor" partners that are truly the financial backbone of this ministry.

God is faithful, and we know that He puts Oneida on the hearts of all who are drawn to support or serve here. Thank you to everyone who has responded. For the list makers, here are some specific needs we have going into the New Year. Add these items to your prayer list and respond as you feel led.



1. At the top of our wish list is salvations. We'd like to see every young person who steps foot on this campus receive the greatest gift of all time, eternal life through Jesus Christ. Please pray for our students.

2. Christian teachers and staff. We have current needs listed on the OBI website at www.oneidaschool.org/employment. If a person feels led to serve at OBI in any capacity, we'd love to talk to you and see how your gifts and skills might fit. Please email: president@oneidaschool.org.

3. Continued giving and more regular partners. It costs \$12,000 per day to provide Christian education along with the many sports and other opportunities to our 350 students. If you or someone you know would like to donate online, the QR code is a link to Network for Good. □



OBI Choir Spring Travel

*Are we coming to your area?
Join us for worship!*

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
1/11	Sand Spring BC Lawrenceburg, Ky.	11:00 AM
1/18	Kingston Forks BC Richmond, Ky.	11:00 AM
1/25	Fairview BC Ashland, Ky.	10:45 AM
2/1	Tunnel Hill BC Elizabethtown, Ky.	11:00 AM
2/8	Turner Ridge BC Falmouth, Ky.	11:00 AM
2/15	Island Creek BC Manchester, Ky.	11:00 AM
2/22	Eubank BC Eubank, Ky.	8:30 AM & 10:45 AM
3/1	River Pointe Church Munfordville, Ky.	9:30 AM Central Time
3/22	Emmanuel BC Berea, Ky.	11:00 AM
3/29	Rosedale BC Richmond, Ky.	10:30 AM
4/12	Calvary Baptist London, Ky.	11:00 AM
4/19	First Baptist Church East Bernstadt, Ky.	11:00 AM
4/26	Bethel Baptist Church Berea, Ky.	11:00 AM
5/3	East Frankfort BC	11:00 AM

Questions? Email:
frank.stratton@oneidaschool.org

Student Ambassadors



OBI seniors **Hallie Scott** and **Amadeus Martin** attended the Kentucky Baptist Convention in November where they shared testimonies and greeted KBC friends.

Hallie reflected, "Speaking at the KBC was nothing short of an honor for me. I felt incredibly blessed and fortunate to share just how big of an impact Oneida Baptist Institute has made on my life."

Amadeus added, "Being at the OBI booth was one of the best parts of the day. Greeting people, talking with them, and seeing their genuine interest made me feel so happy and proud to be part of this community. □"

Fall Spiritual Emphasis



Our Fall Spiritual Emphasis Week was a special time of spiritual renewal for our students. Our guest speaker was **Abram Crozier**, Pastor of Trinity Southern Baptist Church in Falmouth, Kentucky. Our worship leader was **Bubba Stewart**, KBC's Worship and Music Consultant. □



Bible Study Group Ignites Interest, Outgrows Space

IGNITE, a Wednesday night Christian fellowship and Bible study group for teens, got started in 2024 when a small group of students expressed an interest in having a Bible study where they could ask questions and have discussions.

OBI teachers **Joseph** and **Beverly Scull** offered to host a meeting once a week in their home. They started out with about six teens in December, 2024. Each meeting added more students until the Sculls' living room was overflowing. They moved to the Oneida Baptist Church where students still felt like they were off campus and away from distractions.



A typical meeting begins at 6:00 pm with prayer and snacks or a light meal like pizza or nachos.

It has become a group tradition that there is always jello which Mrs. Scull prepares ahead of time. After food and fellowship, they open the Word.

Mr. Scull commented, "Nothing could thrill me more than to see teenagers who want to hear God's word. Our mission is to minister God's Word to this generation so they they can be



IGNITE packed 50 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. One of the international students shared that they received an OCC box as a child.

world changers for Christ."

Michael Cunningham, a "regular" and senior dorm student from the Bahamas commented, "I attend IGNITE because I want to be a part of a group that will help me to become the young man that God intended for me to be. IGNITE has helped me look at life through a different lens."

Hailey Rogers, a sophomore from Estill County, has attended IGNITE since its inception. She said, "What I like about IGNITE is that everyone feels welcome every time they come, and we are learning more about God and how to grow in our relationship with Him. IGNITE reminds me to keep God as my number one priority in life." □



Averaging over 30 students each week, IGNITE moved their meetings from their sponsors' living room to the basement at the Oneida Baptist Church.

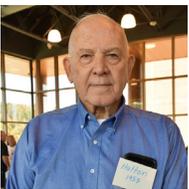
2025 Homecoming Highlights



Representing the 50th Class of 1975, L-R: **Vickie Hall, Randy Halcomb, Eleanor Casey Odle**



Left: The dedication ceremony for the new fieldhouse, named in honor of **Dr. and Mrs. Ed and Sharon Lowdenback**, took place in the afternoon. Ed and Sharon both served at OBI from 1993-2002, and Ed served again from 2013-2019.



Larry Hatton
Class of 1955



Charlotte (Burns) and Doug Holman, Class of 1966. These high school sweethearts went separate ways after graduation but met again in 2024 and were married in April 2025.



Sharon and her daughter were joined by OBI friends for the ceremony. Pictured L-R: **Connie Belcher, Sharon Lowdenback, Amanda Lowdenback Tierney ('97), Missy Underwood Nichols ('93), Laura Underwood Stockton ('86)**



Robert Brooks
('64) His first time back on campus.



Class of 1995 L-R: **Clifford Smith, Michael Summers, Jeff Pence**



L-R: **Kim Sargent Lake ('83), Michael Chambers ('84), Dora Bays ('80).**



Myrtle Webb Cooke Ball, Class of 1960 and School Counselor from 1984-2004.



It was a perfect Fall day for a wagon tour of the campus. Farm Manager **Nathan Edge** is to the left pointing out the route they will take. The two young men pictured, 8th grader **Gideon Muchiri** (left) and 7th grader **Kayden Stratton**, work on the OBI farm after school and assisted in building the wagon especially for Homecoming.



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In Other News



OBI senior **Michael Cunningham** (left) and freshman **Ezekiel Cantrell** represented OBI at the state Cross Country meet in November.



Six OBI singers were selected for the SKMA All Festival High School/Elementary Regional Honor Choirs. For the high school, L-R: **Scarlett Bench**, a junior from Virginia, **Cedar Tive**, a junior from Nigeria, **Elena Djibalene**, a senior from Senegal, and **Sophia Silva**, a freshman from Brazil. For the elementary, L-R: **Madelyn Garrett** and **Cassie Campbell**, both 5th graders from Manchester, Kentucky.



Donate to OBI securely online at Network for Good.

Update Your Information

If you have a change of address or would like to be added to our mailing list, please email: diane.dimsey@oneidaschool.org or call 606-847-4111 ext. 292.



In Memoriam

Jenileigh Gamez
 Class of 1989

Dorothy Pierson Miller
 Former Student

Harold Richardson
 Faithful Friend and Donor

Larry Bruce
 Faithful Friend and Donor

Barkley Gilliland
 Former Volunteer



A big thank you to the **Alabama Campers on Mission (ALCOM)** for two weeks of volunteering in October. The group tackled housing renovations, electrical work, landscaping and made tote bags for OBI's booth at the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.