Welcome to Oak Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Andice, Texas

General Information:

Oak Grove is an “old church;” it is “God’s church.” The “Land” Oak Grove Church rests upon is owned by the Love Family and descendants and is leased to the congregation indefinitely with terms (since 1896). The lease becomes null and void when the church building ceases to exist as God’s church. The “Building(s)” comprising Oak Grove Church are God’s House. Not “owned,” but are shared by all who walk through the doors, and built by believers in this community.

The current church buildings include the Sanctuary (1896, 1925), with an attached fellowship hall and a stand-alone wood-frame 60x40 open-air Tabernacle (1898), a garage/storage shed, and a well house. The Sanctuary building is registered as a Historical site with the State of Texas.

The Elected Elders of Oak Grove Church are responsible for maintaining and upkeeping the church, managing church finances, and serving the church members in decision-making authority. The elders also perform the duties of “Elder” within the congregation, in accordance with those duties as stated in the COF, and maintain the moral character of the Christian Faith within the congregation.

Facilities

Meetings and Session:

Session meetings are scheduled as needed but no less than once per quarter.

Congregational Meetings are required (2) minimum per year and as requested in accordance with “Confession of Faith.”

Elders are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the building.

Facilities and grounds may be used by outside parties or groups with the approval of the Elders and a signed liability agreement protecting the church.

Access to the church and grounds outside planned worship services must be approved by the Elders.

Our sanctuary walls are adorned with paintings from one of our members. Each painting reflects a biblical story. Each painting is unique and precious; we invite you to stand close and stand far from each to see and feel the moments these paintings capture truly.

Members

New members are considered for acceptance by nomination to the congregation by elder(s). After a congregational vote, the Session makes final acceptance.

Rules of discipline for Members are in accordance with the Confession of Faith (COF).

Other Rules:

Hats may be worn in the church but removed before the Altar and during prayer. Bonnets may be worn at any time.

Animals must be approved before being brought into the church.

Communion is open to all who will come.

There shall be no disturbances that disrupt the order of worship.

Church Officers include:

Minister (or presbyterial pastor), moderates the Session and provides spiritual guidance.

Elders - minimum (3), rotating terms of 3 years. Elders “manage” the church.

Session Clerk - (2) year term

Treasurer - minimum (1), Maximum of (2). (2) year alternating Terms.

Worship -

Oak Grove will follow COF guidelines. The Lead Elder shall provide the preaching schedule. All who preach or Exhort Messages shall be approved by Session.

Statements of purpose and beliefs for Oak Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church:

We believe in the Mission of our Particular Church and the History and Blessings received from God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost.

This church was conceived to serve a local community to bring like-minded Christians together for worship and fellowship. We also support the church's greater mission throughout the world.

The Confession of Faith **was prayerfully compiled and written by church leaders and based upon the inerrant truths of the Bible. A brief summary of our principal beliefs follows:**

WE BELIEVE that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, are written by men, inspired by God, and are the only infallible guide to faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE in the unity of the Trinity as expressed in the *Father*, the *Son,* and the *Holy Spirit*.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ came and died for all and that whosoever will accept Him as Savior can and will be saved.

WE BELIEVE in the preservation of the believers; that no one who is saved can "lose" his or her salvation.

WE BELIEVE there are no eternal reprobates. In other words, no one is so sinful that they cannot be saved through faith in Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE that Christ died not for part only, but for all mankind.

WE BELIEVE that all infants dying in infancy are saved through Christ and the sanctification of the Spirit.

WE BELIEVE that the Spirit of God operates on the world, or as co-extensively as Christ has made atonement, in such a manner as to leave all men inexcusable. (In other words, the Cumberland Presbyterian Church does not agree with the Presbyterian doctrine of predestination. All men will be judged, and there are not those predestined to be saved or lost)

WE BELIEVE that there are two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion. Holy Communion is served to anyone who has professed Christ as their Lord and Savior, whether or not a member of this church. Baptism is performed by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion and symbolizes the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the life of the new Believer. In and of itself, water baptism is not required for salvation but is done as an act of public profession of new faith in Christ.

WE BELIEVE that persons do not merit salvation because of repentance or any other human exercise. Yet repentance is necessary to partake of God's saving grace and forgiveness in Christ.

WE BELIEVE that God has appointed a day when He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE that God has appointed one day in seven to be kept holy to Him.

As we welcome you to Oak Grove, know that we are believers, friends, and servants to God. We hope your experience of worship with our Lord will be joyful. We are a simple church; we find ourselves mired in fellowship and sharing with goodwill and welcoming hearts.

The Elders and Congregation of Oak Grove CPC.