



“Scent-sational Faith”

I was shopping at Fred Meyer over the weekend when I was greeted by an unmistakable reminder that Fall has arrived. The intermingled scents of cloves, cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg were impossible to ignore. Few things announce the season quite like the return of the pumpkin spice latte.

What began in 2003 as a simple “coffee” drink (yes, it’s been around for more than 20 years!) has grown into a multi-billion-dollar industry. As a case in point, here’s a quick quiz: which of these products isn’t real?

- Pumpkin spice Spam
- Pumpkin spice deodorant
- Pumpkin spice cat litter
- Pumpkin spice dog treats

Trick question...they all exist.

Now, I’ll admit, I’m not a huge fan of drinking pumpkin spice lattes, but I do love how pumpkin spice smells. For me, that aroma brings back memories of family, holiday gatherings, and connection; all things I deeply value.

As we step into this Fall season at Wood Village Baptist Church, our desire is to be that same kind of presence: a place of family, of gathering, and of connection. Paul reminded the Corinthian church,

“But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ’s triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life” (2 Corinthians 2:14-16).

Our prayer is that we, as a church, would be a life-giving aroma in this community. And, hopefully, one that is even more pleasing than pumpkin spice.

-TIM COLLINS, ELDER

BIBLE CONNECTIONS

We recently began our Fall Term weekly evening courses for Bible Connections. On Tuesday 9/9/2025, we started the *Torah* class (Genesis–Deuteronomy), and on Thursday 9/11/2025 we held the first class on *How We Got the Bible*. Sharing in the teaching with me are Patrick Vestal and Sheri Richter, with invaluable assistance from many others. While the classes are set up for in-person discussion with lively engagement, there are also limited live-streaming students online from around the larger Portland Metro area, elsewhere nationally, and even internationally. Please pray for all those involved: teachers, group leaders, “techies,” other assistants, and the 150+ students enrolled. We’re expecting significant life change as we gather to hear God’s Word. You can see the web page at: <https://woodvillagebaptist.org/bible-connections-main/>

~ Ray Lubeck



BAPTISMS

It was exhilarating to have 8 young people commit themselves to following Jesus and be baptized. They all went into the water with the understanding that they're in this for life, dedicated to participating in and serving the Church and choosing Jesus' ways in their own lives. Now, it's our responsibility as the church to prepare, empower and cheer them on in doing those very things. Give them some encouragement when you run into them! Most importantly, we need to live lives following Jesus that shows them what this really looks like up close! Can we do that together, Church?

~ Patrick Vestal



**OCTOBER
ANNIVERSARIES**

THE ROCK RESUMES

The Rock is off to a fun start! We have kids from both our church and our community coming to play games, make friends and learn more about Jesus! This year we are learning about the super heroes of the New Testament!



WOMEN'S FIESTA NIGHT



The Fellowship Hall was filled with amazing Mexican food, beautifully dressed women, festive decorations and hilarious games on September 19. Over 50 ladies from WVBC and our Hispanic community joined together to enjoy a night of food, fun and connection. A big thank you to Maria Herrera for organizing the evening and to all the wonderful ladies who brought the delicious dinner.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

BLOCKED FOR PRIVACY