

Website Newsletter

JANUARY 2025

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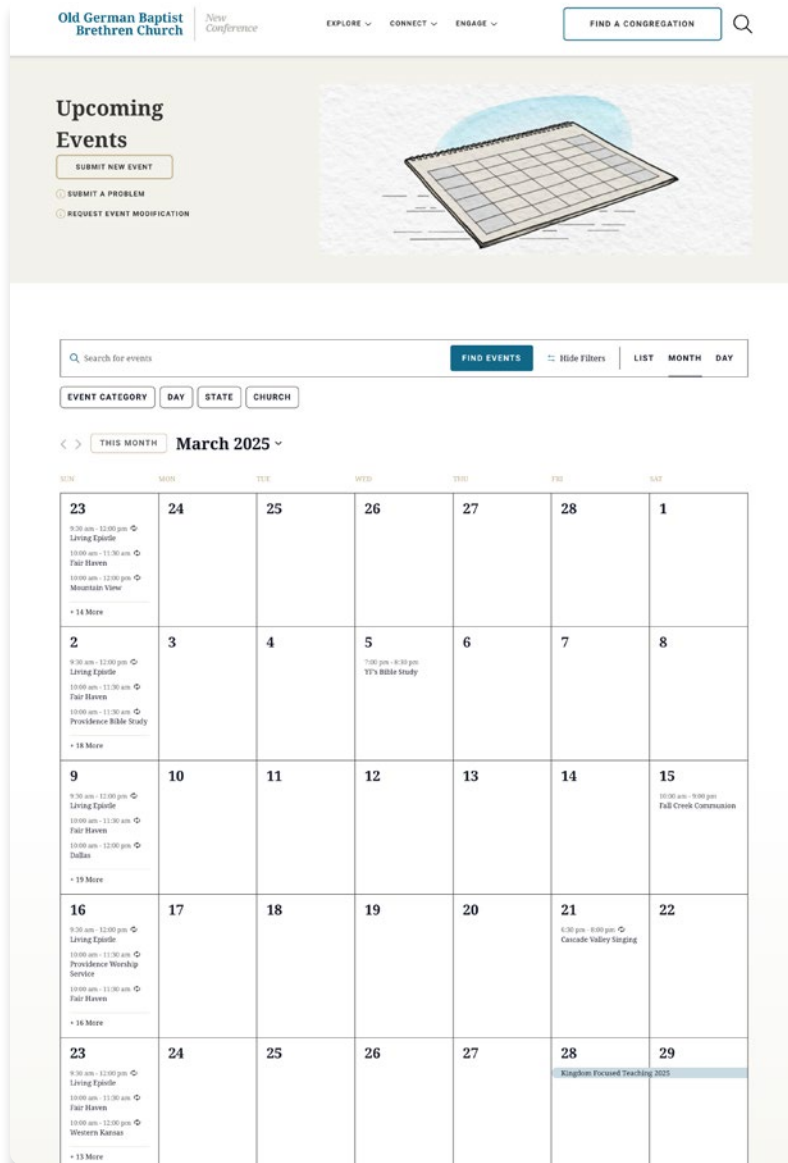
Our Calendar
Subscriptions
Feature Works!

Pg 2

NEED TO KNOW

Calendar Subscriptions

You can now use the Calendar Subscriptions Feature.



EVENTS PAGE

This feature was broken and now it is fixed.

Since the website launched over a year ago, we've been working with our web development partner to get the subscriptions working. After a lot of waiting, it's finally functional. We are relieved and happy to share this news with you.

What is a calendar subscription?

Subscribing to a calendar is an easy way for you to see upcoming church events on your calendar app. By subscribing, the website calendar will reflect onto your personal calendar, showing worship services and communions for the state or district you choose. It will also automatically update these events if there are any changes.

Learn how to subscribe on the next page.

How To Subscribe To a Calendar:

BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

To access the calendar, select “Engage” at the top of the website. Then, select “Calendar” in the dropdown. You can also use this website link: ogbbc.org/events

Tip: Knowing what you want to see in your personal calendar will make it easier to decide what filters to set in Step 1. For example, do you want to see church services at your congregation? Or perhaps you want to see all the communion services in your state? *Once decided, begin Step 1.*

1. Set the calendar filters.

Filters allow you to remove unwanted events from your view and keep the events you do want to see.

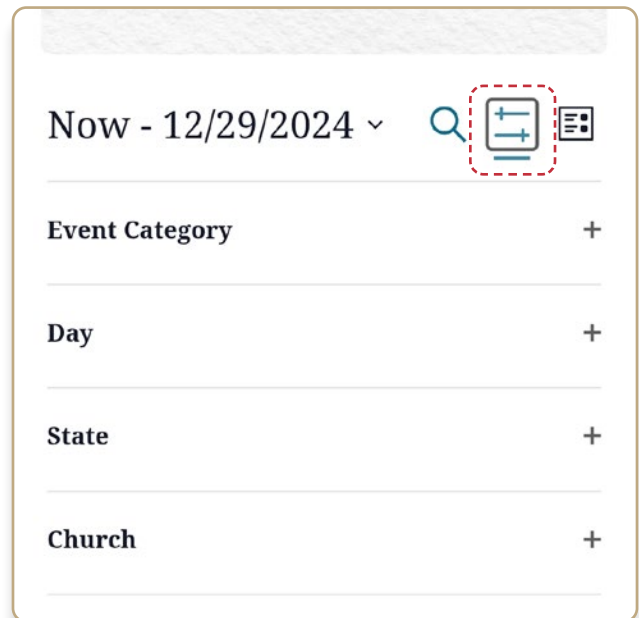
There are 4 filters you can set:

1. **Event Category** - choose the type of event, like *Communion* or *Worship Service*.
2. **Day** - you can choose events that fall on a certain day of the week, like *Sunday*.
3. **State** - you can choose a single state, like *Oregon (OR)*, to view its events.
4. **Church** - view all events from a single congregation, like *Fair Haven*.

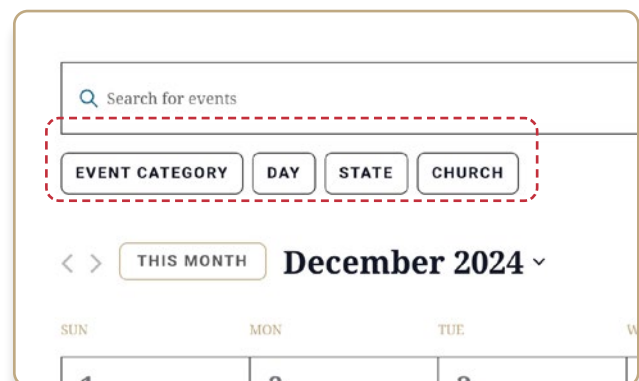
Once you have set your filters, the selection should appear and the website Calendar will only display events that match your filters.

Note: You may apply multiple filters, but you can only select one option per filter. For example, you cannot filter for Modesto and West Modesto church at the same time.

Proceed to Step 2 on the next page.



CALENDAR FILTERS - MOBILE



CALENDAR FILTERS - DESKTOP

How To Subscribe To a Calendar:

2. Click “Subscribe to Calendar” button.

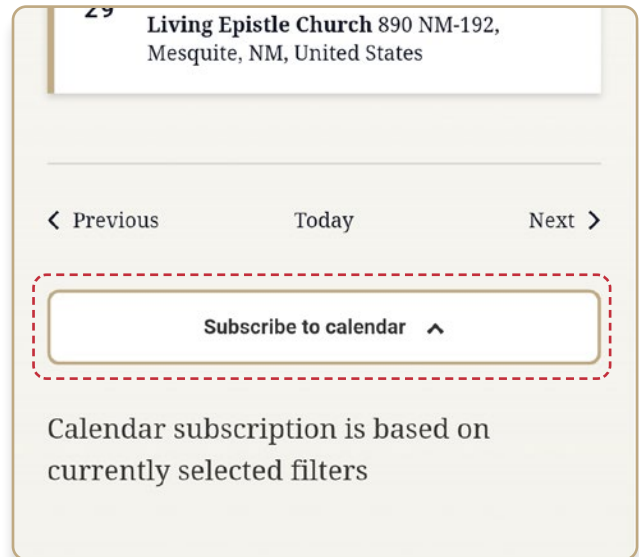
The button is located at the bottom right of the calendar’s content. Click or tap on the button. This will open a list of files for you to download. [More information in Step 3.](#)

3. Select a calendar subscription method.

You will select a method based on what Calendar app you want the subscription to appear on. Selecting a subscription method will initiate one of the following actions to happen:

- **Google Calendar** - you will be directed to Google’s Calendar where you will be prompted to add the subscription. If you are not logged in, you will be directed to Google’s login page.
- **iCalendar** - you will be directed to Apple Calendar where you will be prompted to add the subscription. If you are not logged in, you will be directed to Apple’s login page.
- **Outlook 365** - you will be directed to outlook.office.com where you will be prompted to add the subscription. If you are not logged in, you will be directed to Outlook’s login page.
- **Outlook Live** - see description for Outlook 365 above.
- **Export .ics* file** - automatically downloads an .ics file to your device.
- **Export Outlook .ics* file** - automatically downloads an .ics file to your device.

*.ics is a universal calendar file format.



SUBSCRIBE BUTTON - MOBILE



SUBSCRIBE BUTTON - DESKTOP



SUBSCRIPTION METHOD - DESKTOP

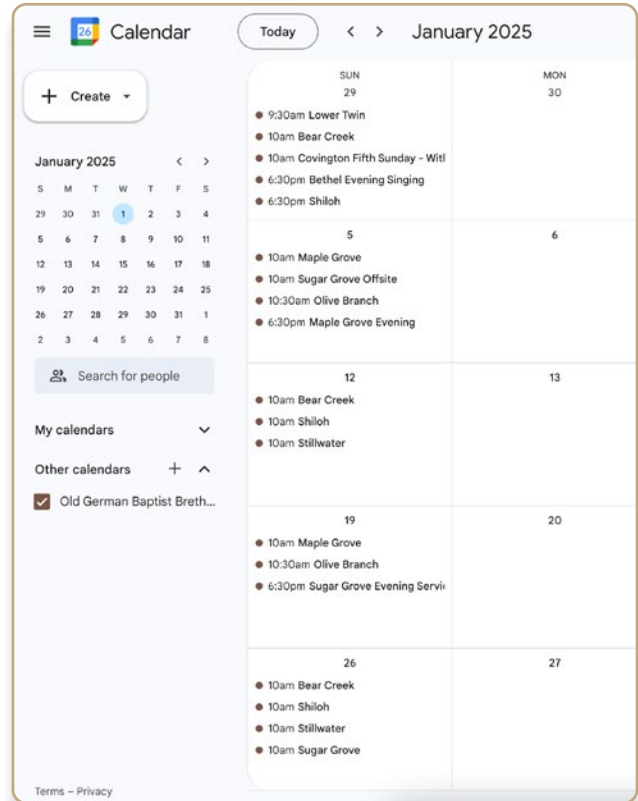
How To Subscribe To a Calendar:

I have subscribed to a calendar. What happens next?

Once you have successfully added the subscription to your personal calendar, events should automatically populate and update. As the events are updated on the website's calendar, those changes will reflect on your personal calendar.

Note: Calendars are automatically named "Old German Baptist Brethren Church, New Conference." If you wish to change that name, you can do so in your personal calendar's app.

Note: Some calendar apps can take several hours to capture new information from the website and update it on your personal calendar. If you see a discrepancy between your calendar subscription and the website calendar, please be patient and check your personal calendar again. It should update.



SUBSCRIPTION ON GOOGLE CALENDAR

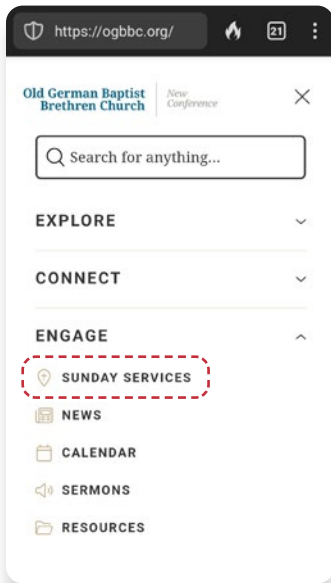
PROBLEMS WITH SUBSCRIBING?

Please reach out to your local district's Calendar Contact or contact an OGBBC webmaster. *Webmaster contact information on the last page of this newsletter.*

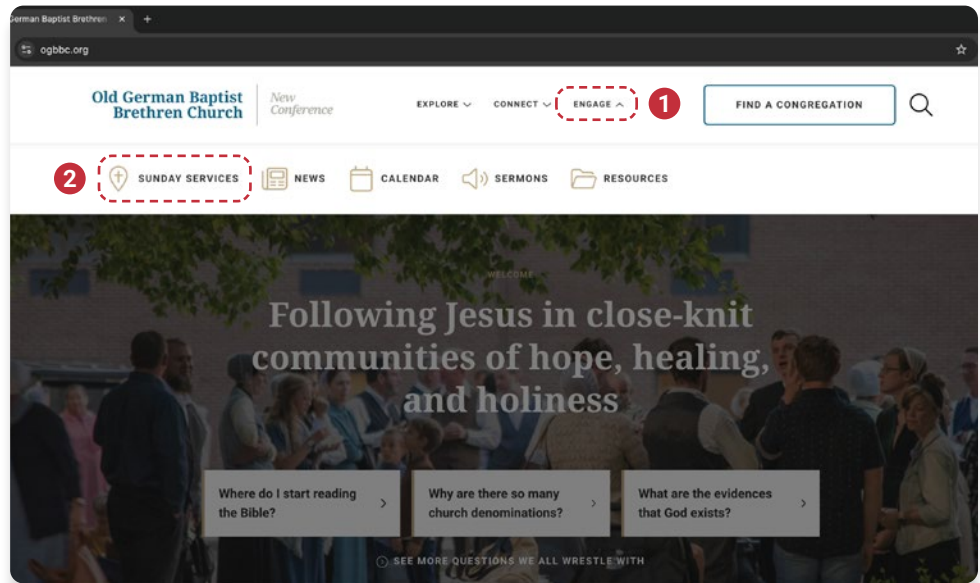
NEW FEATURE

Sunday Services Button

The “Services This Weekend” map is easier to access via a new “Sunday Services” button in the navigation.



SUNDAY SERVICES BUTTON - MOBILE



SUNDAY SERVICES BUTTON - DESKTOP

We’ve heard your feedback.

We have heard from you that it is hard to navigate to the “Services This Weekend” map. To help resolve this, we have added the “Sunday Services” button to the website’s navigation. *See images above.*

What the button does:

Clicking this button will take you to the “Services This Weekend” map on the home page. This button is accessible in the menu no matter where you are on the website.



SERVICES THIS WEEKEND MAP - MOBILE

Website Traffic

How people have engaged with our website
from Nov 2023 – Dec 2024.

Unique Visitors
34,456

Average Daily Visits
241

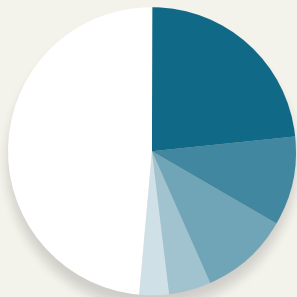
Visiting Countries
139

Website Visits
100,176

Total Page Views
330,653

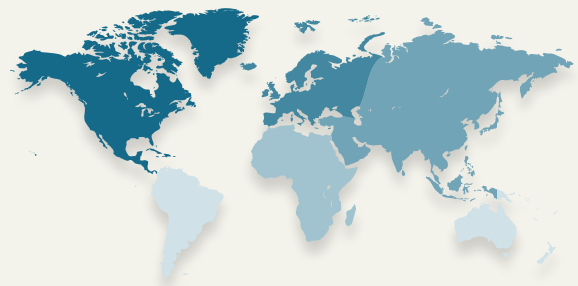
Visiting U.S. States
50

Top 5 Viewed Pages



- Home ————— 102,069
- Sermons ————— 44,225
- Calendar (events) ————— 44,227
- News ————— 20,635
- Congregations ————— 14,280
- Other Pages

Visitors By Continent



- North America ————— 30,646
- Europe ————— 2,569
- Asia ————— 824
- Africa ————— 220
- South America ————— 113
- Oceania ————— 52

Analytics are taken from ogbbc.org's Google Analytics account.

Kingdom Impact

We receive several inquiries each month through our website's "Contact Us" page. We view our contact form as a gateway to making new relationships, sharing the Gospel of Christ, and helping others learn more about the Bible. Here is a sampling of requests we've received.*

“

Hello, my wife and I have been married for many years. We both became serious about following Jesus and conforming our lives to His will around 5 years ago. We both, unfortunately have a divorce in our past. This was before our conversion, and neither previous marriage was in the Lord. We have an young daughter and have been searching for a plain community. Would our past be an issue?

“

Dear Brethren. With best wishes and greetings from Germany. I'm very interested in Christian Hymnody especially of the Anabaptists. I have in my collection A collection of Hymns and Sacred Songs 1994 Ohio. 558 hymn. Words only. Is this the book in use in your churches? My next question is, if there is a copy with tunes available? I am interested to buy a copy from you. Naturally I want to refund your costs to you. With best wishes, The LORD bless you and your work.

“

Looking to join this congregation and connect to a new community. God bless. Thank you!

“

I was wondering how to join a German Baptist Church and the rules and policies. If I was to join how would I dress? And if you allow tattoos. My old church doesn't want me to go there anymore. And if I join how would I get a Bible and where I get the clothes at if there is certain dress code. I'm wanting to find a church that sticks together and has compassion for one another. I want a church who believes that Jesus rose from the dead and is God in the flesh who died for our sins. And that God is the only God and that he is King.

**Some details may be altered to protect the identities of people contacting our website.*

COMING SOON

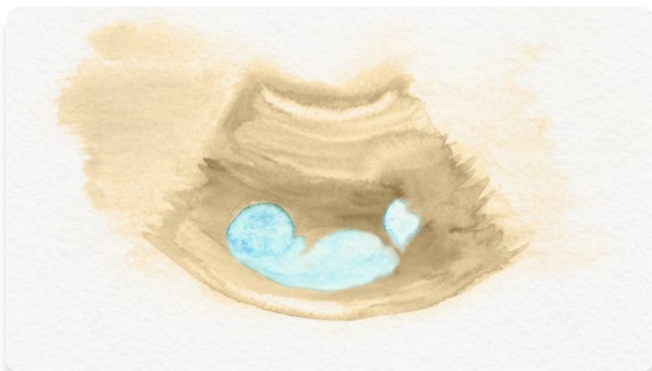
More Thought-provoking Articles



IS THE BIBLE THE WORD OF GOD?



WHAT IS MODESTY?



IS ABORTION WRONG?

New articles coming soon.

We created three articles to be ready when we launched the website just over a year ago. Our goal is to continue adding more articles as time moves on. We are currently developing three; here are their titles with accompanying artwork.

1. Is the Bible the Word of God?
2. What is Modesty?
3. Is Abortion Wrong?

Who are these articles for?

Have you ever encountered someone wrestling with tough questions about faith? The “Thought Provoking Questions” articles explore the kinds of questions people commonly search for on the internet. Our goal is to provide a helpful, thoughtful, and Christ-centered response for those searching for deeper meaning via their Google searches.

HAVE A GOOD QUESTION?

Please let us know if you have a question that you would like to have added to the list of possible articles.

Submit your questions to us at ogbbc.org/contact and the Advisor Committee will consider your request.

Contact Us

Here are several ways you can contact us and stay up to date on website news:

1. Website Contact Form



Visit ogbbc.org/contact and fill out the contact form. A member of the website team will respond to you.

2. Email Us



Email the webmasters directly by sending a message to: webmasters@ogbbc.org

3. Newsletter



Visit ogbbc.org and scroll to the bottom of any page. Enter your email address in the newsletter form field and hit submit. You will receive an email notification when a newsletter is published.

OGBBC.ORG

Website Team

Advisor Committee

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TREASURER

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Michael Cook

Todd Boone

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