

**THIS IS ONEIDA
BEING THANKFUL AT ONEIDA**

- I am thankful for God's sustaining grace that has enabled Oneida to bless so many for 114 years.
- I am thankful for James Anderson Burns and his vision to found our school.
- I am thankful for countless other folks who assisted and supported James Anderson Burns with the founding of Oneida.
- I am thankful for our first five graduates in 1908.
- I am thankful for the 3,718 people who have graduated from Oneida.
- I am thankful for the countless others who have attended but did not graduate from Oneida.
- I am thankful for the faculty and staff who sacrificed in the early years of our school to keep our doors open.
- I am thankful for Dr. Barkley Moore and his passion, work, and vision that kept Oneida alive in the 1970's.
- I am thankful that my parents chose to answer the Lord's call and serve at Oneida for 20 years.
- I am thankful for the education and diploma I received here at Oneida.
- I am thankful for that my wife found her way to Oneida in 1984.
- I am thankful for the opportunity Dr. Bud Underwood gave Angie and I to return to Oneida after college to serve for seven years.
- I am thankful that the Lord called us away to Florida for nine years so we could prepare for our current roles here at Oneida.
- I am thankful for the privilege of now having a hand in leading this wonderful ministry.
- I am thankful for our current student body.
- I am thankful for our 130 faculty and staff who sacrifice every day to make Oneida great.
- I am thankful for the nearly 1,000 volunteers who give of their time and talents to Oneida annually.
- I am thankful for the many friends of Oneida who supply 2/3 of our funding through giving.
- I am thankful the many Baptist churches and pastors who support Oneida in so many ways.
- I am thankful for the many people across our nation and world who daily lift Oneida up in prayer.
- I am thankful for the many guests who visit our campus each year.
- I am thankful for the many individuals and organizations who bring donated items to our campus.
- I am thankful for the challenges that we face every day on our campus.
- I am thankful for the progress I see our students make every day on our campus.
- I am thankful for the seven worship services we have on our campus every week.
- I am thankful for our remote location that enables us to focus on the more important things in life.
- I am thankful for the many salvations that happen annually here at Oneida.
- I am thankful for Oneida Baptist Institute.



**Larry A. Gritton, Jr.
OBI President**

*First printed in the Western Recorder November 26, 2013.
Reprinted with the permission of the Western Recorder.*