

supremacy, xenophobic predatory malfeasance, genocide, human trafficking, etc. Every October there are calls to eliminate Columbus Day from the calendar. Moreover, revisionist historians have tried for decades to purge the Columbus storyline of nobilities. As a side note, the same thing has happened with the Mayflower colonists and the celebration of Thanksgiving in November.

As we continue GROWING IN GRACE, we do well as Christians to embrace “Sail on!” conviction. The Apostle Paul exhorts to that end with the phrases “Press on!” (Phil. 3:13) and “Run with endurance!” (Heb. 12:1). They are calls to “keep the faith” even when the way is hard, the road is long, or, as the case may be, the sea of life is tossed to and fro (with no land in sight). So let us proceed with determination taking a cue from Christopher Columbus. His perseverance bore the fruit of discovering a brand-new world. With Jesus as our Master Helmsman we can “Sail on! Sail on! Sail on!” with assurance of discovering a new day dawning.

Onward,
Ed

ELDERS AND DEACONS...

Elders / Board Meeting
October 8th
Tuesday—6 pm
[American Way Campus]



LADIES CIRCLES....

**Dorcas Circle
Meeting**

October 8th

Tuesday – 10:30 am

Lunch afterward at Johnny Brusco’s

**Adelphai Circle
Meeting**

October 10th

Thursday – 6 pm

[All ladies are invited to participate in either or both circles.]



THANKSGIVING / CHRISTMAS “LADIES CRAFT NIGHT”

November 14th

Thursday – 6 pm

at

American Way Campus

[Watch, Look, & Listen for Details!]



“BUTTERBEAN AUCTION”

October 15th

Tuesday—1 pm

Everyone invited!



[For more information about the “Butterbean Auction” and /or to donate items, you may contact “Butterbean Auctioneer” Lisa Darnell at (423) 782-0963]



DRIVE-THRU / WALK-THRU “HULLABALOO”

October 31st
Thursday – 5-8 pm



[See “Christian Education” and “Missions Update” articles for more information.]

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION / CHILDREN’S MINISTRY UPDATE

As fall comes on the radar screen, so do plans for our “Hullabaloo” on Thursday, October 31st at 5 pm ff. This yearly event is a Christian Education outreach that extends the ministry of GCC community wide. Candy and small trinket items are now being collected in the fellowship hall. These will be placed in treat bags along with Christian themed items and literature on Wednesday, October 30th beginning at 5 pm. Volunteers are needed to “stuff the bags”. Stuffers will be treated to a pizza supper, so the preparation activity is being called “Stuff & Stuff”. Everyone is invited to help stuff the bags and stuff themselves with pizza! Help is also needed for the “Hullabaloo” event itself on Thursday evening. Specific needs are bag distribution, traffic control, and prop set-up, take down.

The regular schedule of Christian education and children’s ministry opportunities at GCC continues into the fall season. Those include the following:

- Adult Sunday School [10 am]
- Children’s Church [11 am]
- Grace Cadets [Sun. / Wed., 6 pm]

Sunday services at GCC meet at 11 am and 6 pm. Wednesday, S.A.L.T. Bible Study meets at 6 pm and recently began an in-depth study of the Book of Acts.

SPECIAL NOTE

For more information about our Children’s Ministry, including Grace Cadets, please reference “Grace Cadets News” below. You may also contact Children’s Ministry Director, Karen Cradic at (423) 367-4756 or cradicbkaren@gmail.com.

Learning together is learning at its best!



GRACE CADETS NEWS

Check out what’s going on in our Children’s Department!

SUNDAYS: Our studies on Sunday mornings are based on the Book of Genesis. We’re going back to the beginning and learning about how God provides for His people.

WEDNESDAYS: On Wednesdays we’re studying about Daniel’s trials and triumphs. We’re hearing stories about faith, resisting temptation, and God’s ability to help us overcome circumstances.

We are also learning songs and practicing our Christmas music. It is never too early for Christmas music! The children love singing and we can’t wait for you to hear them at the Christmas program on December 15th at 6 pm.

Thank you for your support of our Children’s Ministry, enabling us to follow the words in Psalm 78:4: “We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.”

Contact Karen Cradic for more info:

Home Phone #423-245-4273

Cell # 423-367-4756

Email: cradicbkaren@gmail.com



GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“God has a wonderful plan for our lives. It is a plan to give us an abundant life of true fulfillment in Him. It is not the fulfillment which the world offers. That is a shallow substitute. Rather, what Jesus offers us is the ability to be fulfilled in the deepest sense of what man was created to be. Christ desires to give our lives eternal purpose. He desires that our lives count for something eternal, because we are, in fact, going to live in eternity”.

[by Marlin Jaynes, 1942-2019; from “Tapping Your Potential” – sermon preached at Oakwood Forest Christian Church on July 21, 2013]

MISSIONS UPDATE

As we commence the last quarter of 2024, the GCC missions program is blessed to be supporting 13 missions – 5 monthly and 8 on a rotating basis. In addition, donated items are regularly donated to the Ballad – HV “Hospitality Snack Cart” and the Andrew Johnson School “Clorox / Lysol Wipes Supply”. Kay Cook reported that 224 snack items were delivered in September. The wipes are being held in inventory until needed by the school.

Last month GCC was once again inspired by a return visit of The Burress Family, along with Everett Adams, who shared an update about their most recent medical missions work in Guatemala. Rankin, Callen, Everett, and JoHila will be returning to Guatemala next April to help lead youth Bible studies. We will be sure to schedule the Burresses for another update.

Coming up on Thursday, October 31st is our Annual “Walk-Thru / Drive-Thru Hullabaloo”. Plans are to distribute 200-400 treat bags that include outreach literature with a community missions emphasis. Everyone is invited to help us distribute treat bags for the Hullabaloo event. We also need volunteers to help prepare the bags on Wednesday, October 30th beginning at 5 pm. Thanks to one and all for donations of candy and trinket items to include in the bags.

MISSIONS QUOTE

“Let us not glide through this world and then slip quietly into Heaven without having blown the trumpet loud and long for our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.”

[by C.J. Studd, 1860-1931; from The Lost Chord of Christianity, 1912]

Rem....
Nov..... **EMBER**

- November 10th - Veteran’s Day Observed, 11 am
- Senior Christians / Veterans Recognition Catered-Lunch, following AM service
- Veteran’s Day Video, 6 pm
- November 14th - Thanksgiving / Christmas “Ladies Craft Night”, 6 pm
[American Way Campus]
- November 24th - Thanksgiving Observed, 11 am
- “Thanks-Living Service”, 6 pm

graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to our five worship leaders for the month of September. Those include PHYLLIS JACKSON (Sept. 1st), KAY COOK (Sept. 8th), GARY BEVERLY (September 15th), KAYE TIPTON (Sept. 22nd), and KATHY HAKES (Sept. 29th). Much appreciation to these leaders for helping us begin Lord’s Day worship services with hearts and minds turned Godward, Christward, and Heavenward.
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TEAM for preparing and sharing wonderful selections of special music throughout September. This included “He’s Still Workin’ On Me” (Sept. 1st), “It Is Finished” (Sept. 8th), “He Looked Beyond My Fault” w/ solos by Henry Funkhouser, Becky Edwards, and Vicki Clevinger (Sept. 15th), “Since I Have Been Redeemed” (Sept. 22nd) and “Born To Serve The Lord” (Sept. 29th). Be sure to thank our Praise Team members for devoting lots of extra time, practicing weekly to keep us musically nurtured. Special thanks to Vicki Clevinger for leading the Praise Team and congregational singing, to Lily Wise for serving faithfully as our pianist for 3 years, and to Cindy Hardee for adding the organ’s aesthetic depth to our worship experience.
- Thanks to ROSALIE ARRINGTON for sharing her solo rendition of “Behold! Behold!” on Sunday, September 1st. Rosalie represented the Children’s Church ministry led by our Children’s Director, Karen Cradic. Much appreciation to Rosalie for lighting up our service with the joyful sound of children’s vocals.

graceFULLY-noted, continued

- GCC prayers of praise are lifted for the safe and healthy arrival of KATHERINE WALLING. Katherine was born on Saturday, September 7th at the Bristol Regional Medical Center. Following big sister Kennedy, she is the second born to Heath & Leah Walling. Her grandparents are Tim and Julia Chatman and her great-grandparents are Red & Charlotte Clevinger. GCC rejoices with the Wallings, now a family of four.
- GCC prayers of praise are lifted for the safe and healthy arrival of JESSIE ARENDS. Jessie was born on Sunday, July 14th at the Johnson City Medical Center. She is the firstborn of Mike and Nichole Arends. GCC rejoices with the Arends, now a family of three.
- GCC prayers of condolence are extended for the FAMILY OF RONALD “DEAN” O’CONNOR. Dean passed away on Sept. 8 following complications from surgery. He lived in Garland, TX and will be laid to rest in the National Cemetery in Dallas. He is the brother of our own Kay Cook. May God bless Kay and the entire O’Connor Family with the graces and mercies of peace, comfort, and rest in Jesus.
- Thanks to THE BURRESS FAMILY and EVERETT ADAMS for sharing with GCC their summer medical mission experience in Guatemala on Sunday, September 15th. Much appreciation to RANKIN BURRESS and EVERETT for leading the presentation and to all the Burreesses for filling in lots of details. Trevor and his family’s enthusiasm for missions has been an ongoing joy for GCC to share and support.
- Thanks to LISA DARNELL for serving as our most excellent auctioneer at the 3rd Tuesday “Butterbean Auctions”. Her work to plan, organize, and emcee this monthly event is providing lots of fellowship opportunities for old-timers and new-comers alike. Also much appreciation to so many for providing a steady stream of donated items every month.
- Thanks to WAYNE DARNELL and TONY TIPTON for serving as head chefs and fish fryers at the Fish Fry on Saturday, September 28th. Of course, there is the “backstory bonus” that Wayne and Tony also caught all the fish. Shout outs to this dynamic duo! Much appreciation to EVERYONE for sharing side dishes and dessert items as well as pitching in to set up and clean up.
- Thanks to KAYE TIPTON for transitioning the sanctuary florals for the fall season. Her touch always captures that just right display for a worshipful ambience.
- Thanks to KAY COOK, PATTY TURNER, ROBERT THOMPSON and JEFF ARRINGTON for their continued service to inventory and transport donated items for local missions. Their time and attention to these missions are important GCC ministries that convey the love of Christ throughout our community. Also thanks to ONE AND ALL for supplying a constant flow of items to the collection receptacles in the fellowship hall.
- Thanks to WAYNE DARNELL, TONY TIPTON, and JOIE KERNS for summer-long service to keep the exterior grounds of GCC mowed, groomed, trimmed, tidy, neat, clean, and safe. Their servants’ hearts are a “God-send”.
- Thanks to JANICE HILL for preparing and presenting the weekly lessons for our Adult Sunday School Class. Her faithful teaching and leading serve as an anchor-point for Sunday morning Christian education at GCC.
- Thanks to ETHEL BUSICK for reaching within and without to extend the fellowship of GCC to the sick and shut-in. Her cards, calls, and communiques are an invaluable part of our “staying in touch”.
- Thanks to KAREN CRADIC for serving so well as our Children’s Director. Her efforts have our Children’s Church and Grace Cadets program on solid Biblical ground Karen is a stellar role model for young people and they love her immensely!
- Thanks to BOBBY COOK, WAYNE DARNELL, SAM PIERSON, JANICE HILL, and ROSE LANE for meeting various transportation needs of the Hope Haven residents and others who temporarily “need a lift”. Their service is a blessing to so many.
- Thanks to GARY BEVERLY for installing the hood on our new kitchen stove, moving the old kitchen stove to the Oakdale House, and consulting the City Public Works regarding the underwash at the far edge of our parking lot. Much appreciation to Gary for his monthly, weekly, and daily attention to these and so many other needs of the church.
- Thanks to MIKE & SUZANNE JETER for helping GCC get a huge early start to the baby clothes collection for Agape Women’s Services. Their donations will help us provide an overflowing baby shower for AWS in February. Also, thanks to Mike & Suzanne for donating a first-rate metal clothes rack to use for all the times ahead.
- Thanks to KITTY BEVERLY, JAMIE ABERNATHY, JENNIFER STARNES, BRIAN BROOKS and JORDAN ARRINGTON for keeping GCC ‘teched” with the audio-visuals to support our morning worship, service, and with the internet connection to ensure our social media presence. Shout outs to our ‘tech team’ par excellent!
- Thanks to the entire GCC FAMILY OF FAITH for being so diligent to keep our fellowship God-exalting, Christ-centered, and Spirit-filled. Each one is a blessing to everyone and everyone is a blessing to each one. It’s truly an example of “God’s will on earth as it is in Heaven” (Mt. 6:10).



**“MORE POWER TO YOU!”
Fall Preaching Mission
October 20-23, 2024
6 pm each evening**



PREACHING MISSION SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Preacher</u>	<u>Special Music</u>
Oct. 20 (Sun.)	First Christian	Aaron Tyree	Indian Springs Christian
Oct. 21 (Mon.)	Belvue Christian	Mike Beverly	Grace Christian
Oct. 22 (Tues.)	Indian Springs Christian	Bob Underwood Ed Clevinger	Belvue Christian
Oct. 23 (Wed.)	Grace Christian	Phip Sams	Morrison City Christian

PREACHING MISSION SERMONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sermon</u>	<u>Preacher</u>
Oct. 20 [Sun.]	“The Power” (I Cor. 1:18-25)	Aaron Tyree
Oct. 21 [Mon.]	“Surpassing Greatness of the Power” (II Cor 4:5-12 / Eph. 1:18-23)	Mike Beverly
Oct. 22 [Tues.]	“Divinely Powerful” (II Cor. 10:3-6) “Power in Weakness” (II Cor. 12:7-10)	Bob Underwood Ed Clevinger
Oct. 23 [Wed.]	“Power That Works in Us” (Eph. 3:20-21)	Phip Sams

Dear Church family,

Thanks for the beautiful yellow and white flowers. I am truly blessed to have wonderful church family and a great preacher. May God bless you.

*In Christian love,
Janice Hill*

Dear Family at Grace Christian Church / Oakwood Forest,

Thank you for honoring our wife and mother, Elizabeth Stanley, with the lovely flowers at her memorial service. Such a display of kindness lifted our spirits and comforted us as we celebrated her life and homecoming to be with Jesus.

*Gratefully,
Melissa Phillips and the family of Elizabeth Stanley*

Dear GCC,

Thank you for your calls and cards and prayers. I really appreciate it. I love you all.

Karen Cradic