

## ELDERS AND DEACONS...

**Elders / Board Meeting**  
February 13th  
Tuesday—6 pm  
[American Way Campus]



## LADIES CIRCLES....

**Adelphai Circle Meeting**  
February 8<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday – 6 pm



**Dorcas Circle Lunch at Olive Garden**  
(No meeting in Feb.)  
February 13th  
Tuesday – 11:15 am

## “BUTTERBEAN AUCTION”



-----  
February 20<sup>th</sup>  
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]



## AGAPE WOMEN'S SERVICES UPDATE / REPORT

-----  
February 25<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday – 6 pm  
-----



[\$-filled baby bottles and baby blankets, clothes, etc. are due on this date.]

## CHILDREN / YOUTH & EDUCATION UPDATE

Christian education opportunities are always included in the Sunday morning and evening services, 11 am and 6 pm respectively. Sermons and lessons are a primary way of learning about God's Word and applying Biblical truth. In addition, the adult Sunday School class is taught weekly in the fellowship hall at 10 am by Janice Hill. The midweek S.A.L.T. Bible Study meets each Wednesday at 6 pm. Most participants arrive early (appx. 5-5:30 pm) to enjoy food and snack items.

Grace Cadets for our children / youth meet on Sundays and Wednesdays at 6 pm. The GC Program is led by our Children's Director, Karen Cradic. Also, Karen provides Children's Church on Sunday mornings at 11 am.

Some activities already on the Grace Cadets calendar as we proceed through winter and towards Spring include the following:

- ⇒ Grace Cadets “Valentine Cookie Decorating” on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm
- ⇒ “Easter EGGstravaganza” on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. [Easter is early this year!]

For additional information about Grace Cadets, please see Karen's “Grace Cadets” info on next page.



## GRACE CADETS



In addition to our regular lessons we have some special events coming up:

On Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm we will be doing one of our favorite projects: cookie decorating. We'll have a good time decorating cookies for our loved ones – and maybe taste-testing a few in the process.

Looking ahead to Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm, we will have our Easter EGGstravaganza with lots of activities and an egg hunt. We'll have fun while remembering the true meaning of Easter. All young people are encouraged to invite their friends.



Contact Karen Cradic for more info:

Home Phone # 423-245-4273

Cell #: 423-367-4756

Email: [cradicbkaren@gmail.com](mailto:cradicbkaren@gmail.com)

## MISSIONS UPDATE

As per the 2024 budget approved at the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, the GCC portfolio of missions support continues to include 12 missions – 4 monthly and 8 on a rotating basis. Also continuing is the item donation support of the Ballard-HV “Hospitality Snack Cart”, the Andrew Johnson School “Clorox / Lysol Wipes Supply”, and the Sullivan County Jail Ministry “1200+ Bars of Soap”. In January, Kay Cook delivered 390 snack items and Jeff reported the soap inventory at appx. 100 bars. Wipes will be delivered according to need. The hosting of Hope Haven meals will resume this year on a ‘once-a-quarter’ basis. More details will be forthcoming.

For the month of January, the “Warm Tree” gloves, scarves, and hats were delivered to Shades of Grace for distribution to the homeless and displaced in downtown Kingsport. Also, in January the Agape Women’s Services baby bottles were delivered and are available under the missions board in the fellowship hall. Thanks ahead of time for filling the bottles with \$ to help support AWS in their sanctity of life ministry in Johnson City. The bottles will be received by an AWS representative on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Don’t forget to check out the mission board in the fellowship hall. For January and February, Jennifer Starnes has featured Agape Women’s Services.

## \*MISSIONS QUOTE\*

“The long history of the church shows that God sends out and uses all kinds of people with a huge range of gifts and talents.... The history of missions is a colorful history of ‘unlikely heroes’, characterized by obedience rather than ability.”

[by George Verwer, 1938-2023; from Out of The Comfort Zone, 2000, p.14]



## GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“It is infinitely better to lose oneself in Christ and to be seized by Him than to keep smugly within our secure natural framework. Not only is such seizure better, it is necessary for us if we are truly desirous of being transformed in Christ.... We should renounce all vain effort to incorporate Christ into ‘our’ life, but endeavor wholeheartedly to transpose our life into ‘His’”.

[By Dietrich Von Hildebrand, 1889-1977 – in Transformation In Christ, 1948, p. 493-494]



**MARCH** toward Easter....

\* This year the Easter Season is early. It's not too early to mark your calendars. \*  
March is just around the corner!



Ash Wednesday

-----  
"Bonhoeffer"  
Docu-Movie

-----  
February 14<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday – 5:45 pm  
-----



[NOTE: The "Bonhoeffer DVD" has a 92-minute running time, so we will begin at 5:45 pm]

- March 24<sup>th</sup>  
(Sunday – 11 am) **PALM SUNDAY SERVICE**
- March 28<sup>th</sup>  
(Thursday – 1 pm) **EASTER EGG STUFFING**
- March 29<sup>th</sup>  
(Friday – 6 pm) **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**
- March 30<sup>th</sup>  
(Saturday – 1 pm) **EASTER EggSTRAVAGANZA**
- March 31<sup>st</sup>  
(Sunday – 10 am) **EASTER BREAKFAST**
- March 31<sup>st</sup>  
(Sunday – 11 am) **RESURRECTION DAY SERVICE**

**CARDS & LETTERS**

GCC,

Thank you so much for your love and support over the last few months! You have been incredibly touching and encouraging! I am currently at my last chemo with a PET to follow later this month. We are praying it will show I am in remission.

Thank you!

Heather Beverly

*[Update from Kitty: Heather DID get a clear report on her PET Scan! She will continue to receive antibodies and will be scanned again in 3 months. Thank you for your prayers, and thank the Lord for the wonderful results!]*

## graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to our worship leaders for the month of January. Those include JAMIE ABERNATHY (Jan. 7), SAMUEL PIERSON (Jan. 14), and KAY COOK (January 28). Much appreciation to these servants for helping us begin Lord's Day worship with the right focus.
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TAM for leading the congregation in weekly praise and worship. January special music included "He Shall Reign Forevermore" (Jan. 7), "Let Your Mercy Flow" (Jan. 14), "The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" (January 21), and "Loving Medley" (Jan. 28). The musical leadership of our Praise Team is an integral part of the GCC worship experience. Special thanks to our pianist, LILY WISE for her superb musicianship and commitment to excellence.
- GCC prayers of praise are lifted for the baptism of JOSHUA TOWNES. Josh's profession of faith was received on Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> and he was baptized on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. And all God's people said, "Praise the Lord!" Special thanks to GARY BEVERLY for cleaning and preparing the baptistery, PHYLLIS ARRINGTON for preparing and washing the baptismal robes, and to HENRY FUNKHOUSER for assisting with the baptistery curtains.
- GCC prayers of praise are lifted for the safe and healthy arrival of REMINGTON GRACE GOTT. "Remi" was born to Sarah and Corey Gott on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. She is the granddaughter of Brenda Poe.
- Thanks to all GCCers for preparing and bringing generous portions of delicious food, dessert, and drink items to share at our Annual Business Meeting and Fellowship Meal on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Also thanks to EVERYONE for the teamwork to set-up and clean-up. Volunteerism and servanthood are always alive and well at GCC!
- Thanks to GARY BEVERLY, WAYNE DARNELL, and TONY TIPTON for working hard in the brutal cold temps to shovel, scrape, and scoop snow and ice from the sidewalks and parking lot. Their servants' hearts enabled us to safely have church on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. It was soo-o-o cold outside but so-o-o warm inside with a Lord's Day baptism.
- Thanks to LARRY MOORE for his work repairing the HVAC thermostat switch. GCC so much appreciates Larry's faithful 'hands-on' service in tending to maintenance and repair needs at both GCC campuses.
- GCC prayers of condolence are extended for THE FAMILY OF RANDY CORNETT. Randy passed away at Bristol Regional Medical Center in Bristol on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. He was 73. Randy's brother is our own Bob Cornett. May victory in Jesus support and sustain Randy's family during this difficult time.
- Thanks to ROSE LANE for delivering the donated gloves and cold weather gear to Shades of Grace. They items adorned the "Warm Tree" in the fellowship hall throughout the Christmas Season. Much appreciation to everyone for the donations and to Rose for organizing the outreach.
- Thanks to ETHEL BUSICK for her work to help keep us well-connected. Her calls, cards, text, meal-deliveries, etc. are a great source of encouragement in our family of faith.
- Thanks to the following who are continuing to faithfully serve in vital capacities in 2024:
- Thanks to the following who have faithfully served in various capacities through the year. Their ministries have helped keep GCC functioning and flowing with spiritual health and vitality:
  - LISA DARNELL [Butterbean Auction – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays]
  - WAYNE DARNELL, TONY TIPTON, JOIE KERNS [Lawn and Grounds Maintenance]
  - JENNIFER STARNES [Missions Bulletin Board]
  - JANICE HILL [Adult Sunday School Teacher]
  - KAY COOK, PATTY TURNER, ROBERT THOMPSON, JEFF ARRINGTON [Inventory and Transport of Items for Local Missions]
  - KITTY BEVERLY, JAMIE ABERNATHY, JENNIFER STARNES, BRIAN BROOKS [Technology and Media Support]
- Thanks to the whole GCC FAMILY OF FAITH for continuing to selflessly serve the Lord in so many ways. Our labor of love together is a foretaste of Heaven itself.