

There is an expectation of obedience connected to the learning. Without obedience Christian discipleship is questionable, if not disqualified. But when we do learn from Jesus, expressed by obedience, we enter the glorious domain of truth – yes, His truth – which is tantamount to life itself. As he said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” (John 14:6).

As we continue GROWING IN GRACE together, may we remember that we not only “live and learn,” but, as disciples of Jesus, we also “learn and live.” In this “Back to School” month of August, let us commit to “staying in school” with Jesus. He never stops teaching; we must never stop learning. Next lesson?

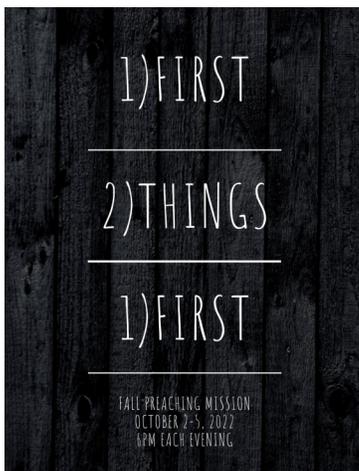
His Student,

Ed

COMING THIS FALL....

“FIRST THINGS FIRST” FALL PREACHING MISSION

October 2-5, 2022
Sunday—Wednesday
6 pm each evening



Watch, look, and listen for more details as
Grace Christian Church
joins
First Christian Church
Indian Springs Christian Church
LifeBridge Christian Church
Morrison City Christian Church
for



4 Nights of wonderful preaching, praise, and fellowship. Save the dates!
[A full schedule will be published in the September issue of GraceNotes.]



GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“To the degree that pain teaches us that our deepest desire is for God, we will abandon ourselves to Him.... The soul’s capacity to abandon itself to God and to enjoy confidence in Him is a capacity that the Spirit’s companionship inspires. It develops most fully when our capacity for lesser pleasures is frustrated. Shattered dreams give us the chance to discover our desire for God and then to create a space for Him and to watch Him enter. As that process slowly unfolds, we become aware of God’s desire for us.”

[by Larry Crabb, 1944 –2021; in Shattered Dreams, 2001, pp 111-112]

ELDERS AND DEACONS...

Elders Meeting

August 9th
Tuesday—6 pm

Board Meeting

August 9th
Tuesday—6:30 pm

[Both Meetings at the American Way Campus]

LADIES CIRCLES....

Dorcas Circle

August 9th
Tuesday, 10 am
Lunch Afterward

Adelphai Circle

August 11th
Thursday, 6 pm

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

“BUTTERBEAN AUCTION”



August 16th
Tuesday—1 p.m.

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]

5th WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL



August 31st
Wednesday—6 pm

*Old-Fashioned / Comfort Food” Theme
[Everyone Invited]



SERMON SERIES....

“Gems Of Wisdom From Agur” (Proverbs 30)

- July 31 [Sun.] - “The Malady of Discontent” (Prov. 30:15-17)
- Aug. 7 [Sun.] - “The Miracle of Nature” (Prov. 30:18-20)
- Aug. 14 [Sun.] - “The Marvel of Exception” (Prov. 30:21-23)
- Aug. 21 [Sun.] - “The Mark of Wisdom” (Prov. 30:24-28)
- Aug. 28 [Sun.] - “The Measure of Dignity” (Prov. 30:29-33)

BRING YOUR PALS TO PAL'S



Bring your pals to enjoy a delicious catered-lunch from Pal's!

Sunday, August 7th after church

Please help us out by bringing sides and /or desserts.



EDUCATION UPDATE

This year's 1-Day Vacation Bible School was held on Sunday, July 24th. Twelve children participated with energy, enthusiasm, and exuberance. Elizabeth's "Under Construction" theme, coupled with hard hats, was wonderfully successful. The children were kept busy with "pool-noodle golf", beach ball volleyball, a "Power in His Promise Craft", refreshments, and a lesson. A host of GCC volunteers assisted with everything and they had just as much fun as the children. For the whole afternoon the church was filled with the laughter and love of the GCC family of faith.

For the times ahead, Elizabeth continues to direct our Children's Church on Sunday mornings at 11 am and the "Grace Cadets" program on Sunday and Wednesday evenings at 6 pm.

Watch, look, and listen for upcoming information about "Tweens and Teens" activities scheduled for the "Back to School" season.

For more information about Christian Education at GCC, you may contact Elizabeth Winegar, Children's Director at (423) 530-0601 or winegarelizabeth@gmail.com

MISSIONS UPDATE

The mission emphasis for August is "The Oasis Women's Ministry of Kingsport". Jennifer Starnes has featured the same on our Missions Board in the fellowship hall. Throughout the month GCC is collecting donated items of laundry detergent and fabric softener for "Oasis". To learn more about this ministry you can view their website at OasisKpt.org.

The "After-Church Lunch" for Hope Haven residents was hosted by Rose Lane, Lois Starnes, Jennifer Starnes, and Vicki Clevinger on Sunday, July 31st. If you would like to host a lunch, you may sign-up in the fellowship hall.

GCC continues to support 5 missions on a monthly basis and 8 on a rotating basis. In addition, donations to the Ballad HV "Hospitality Snack Cart", the Sullivan County Jail Ministry "Bars of Soap", and the AJS "Clorox / Lysol Wipes Supply" are ongoing. Containers for donated items are located in the fellowship hall.

The missions board in the fellowship hall is regularly updated by Jennifer Starnes. For July and August the feature missions is "The Oasis Women's Ministry of Kingsport".

MISSIONS QUOTE

"Evangelize or fossilize".

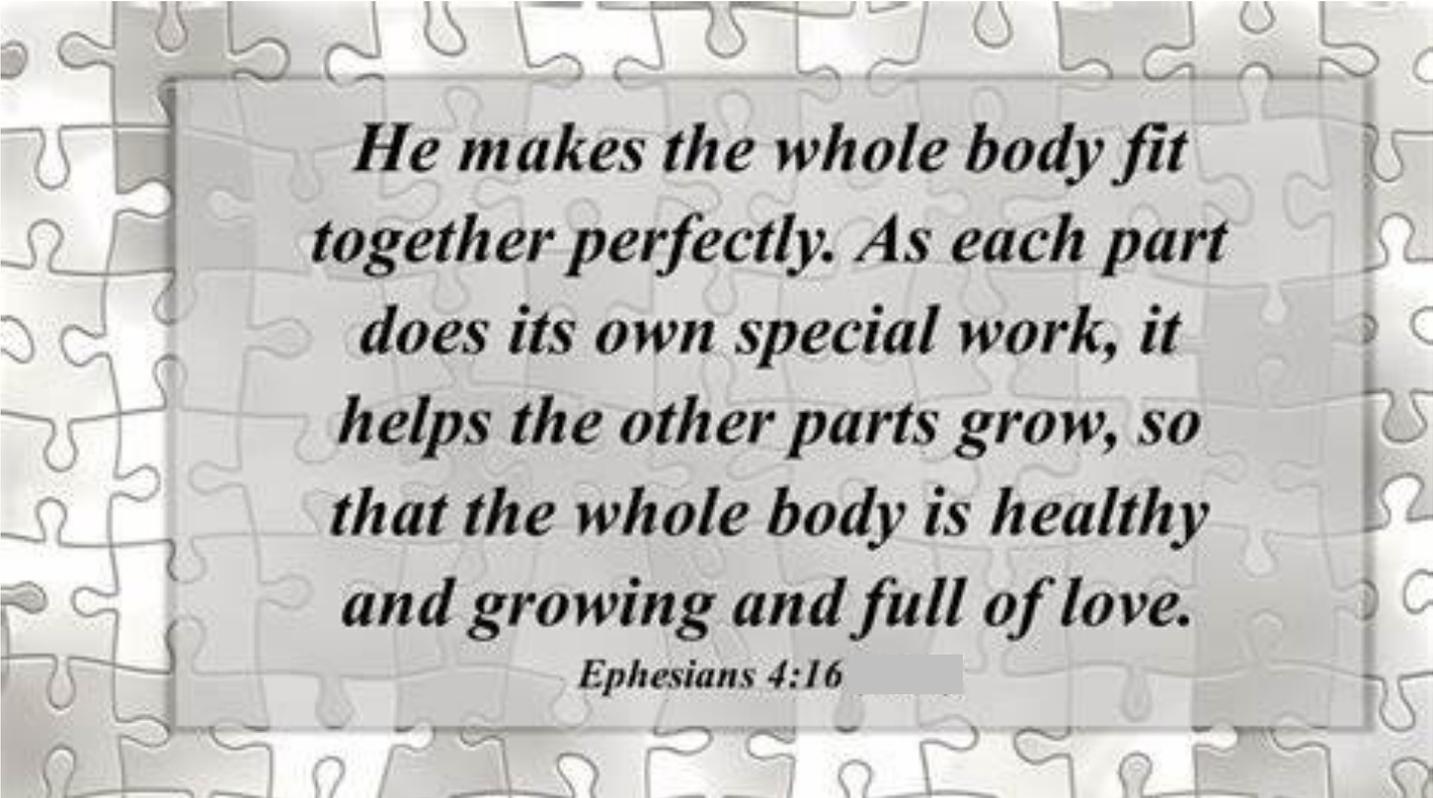
[by Oswald Smith, 1889-1986; in The Challenge of Mission, 1959]

graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to our worship leaders for the month of July. Those were PHYLLIS JACKSON (July 10), GARY BEVERLY (July 17), SAMUEL PIERSON (July 24), and EDWARD THOMPSON (July 31). Much appreciation to these servants who helped us proclaim our faith to commence each Lord's Day.
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TEAM for practicing hard each week and proclaiming the Gospel in song every Sunday. The fruit of their labors is a congregation spiritually enriched by a ministry of music that sets the tone for our Lord's Day worship. Specials for July were "I Still Believe in America" (July 3), "He's Still Working on Me" (July 10), "God's Glorious Church" with solo by Vicki Clevinger (July 17), and "I'm Saved and I Know That I Am" (July 24). The Praise Team is led by VICKI CLEVINGER, LILY WISE—PIANIST, KAY COOK, and PATTY TURNER. Grateful praise to God for those leading our grateful praise to God!
- Thanks to EDWARD THOMPSON for faithfully holding the Bible for our "Pledge to the Bible" on Sunday, July 3rd.
- Thanks to a HOST OF GCCERS for making our 2022 Vacation Bible School a wonderful success. First of all, thanks to Elizabeth Winegar for creating, planning, organizing, and conducting everything according to the "Under Construction" Theme (complete with hard hats). It all fit together perfectly. Secondly thanks to so many who donated equipment and helped set up, teach, serve, and shepherd children. Those included TONY TIPTON, KAY TIPTON, HENRY FUNKHOUSER, PHYLLIS ARRINGTON, KATHY HAKES, JEPH CAMPBELL, SHERRY CAMPBELL, JANICE COBB, ROBERT THOMPSON, MARYBETH THOMPSON, WAYNE DARNELL, LOIS STARNES, JENNIFER STARNES, ROSE LANE, ASHLEY BROWDER, GARY BEVERLY, KITTY BEVERLY, PHYLLIS JACKSON, and VICKI CLEVINGER. Unending thanks to all these assistants. Most of all, thanks to our CHILDREN / TEENS who laughed, learned, and brought so much vitality and enthusiasm to everything, including beachball volleyball, golf badminton, and the "Power in His Promises" craft. And, of course, there were refreshments to nourish the body and lessons to nourish the soul. Much appreciation to ELIZABETH WINEGAR for teaching the children and to HENRY FUNKHOUSER for teaching the "tweens". Praise the Lord for so many coming together to do so much. And all God's people said.... "AMEN"!
- Thanks to BRYLEE CORDELL for graciously helping Elizabeth Winegar with the GraceCadets on Wednesday, July 27th. Teenagers helping the younger children.... It doesn't get any better than that!
- Prayers of grateful praise are lifted up for the baptism of CHARLES MILLER on Sunday, July 24th. Thanks to TONY TIPTON, WAYNE DARNELL, BOBBY COOK, JEFF ARRINGTON, and ROBERT THOMPSON for assisting with Charles' baptism. What a great moment in the GCC family of faith!
- Thanks to ROSE LANE, LOIS STARNES, JENNIFER STARNES, and VICKI CLEVINGER for hosting the "After-Church Lunch" for Hope Haven residents on Sunday, July 31st. Their service and hospitality extended are a great witness of the love of Christ. In addition, thanks to all those who helped extend that hospitality. Those included BOBBY & KAY COOK, PATTY TURNER, HENRY FUNKHOUSER, SAM PIERSON, and MCKINLEY CALDWELL.
- Thanks to BOBBY COOK and HENRY FUNKHOUSER for providing transportation to Hope Haven residents multiple times a week. Their most gracious service to meet this need is helping numerous souls in countless ways to be connected with a church family.
- Thanks to WAYNE DARNELL and TONY TIPTON for working hard to keep both GCC Campuses looking good throughout the summer. July has brought additional work of cutting shrubs, pruning bushes, and transporting it all for pick-up. Saying thanks for all of this seems too little. Wayne and Tony spend hours a week on the church property and it has saved GCC a huge amount of money that would otherwise be a contractor expense. Be sure to express gratitude to these two Christian men who are sacrificially working to get everything done. It is truly a labor of love for Christ and His Church.

graceFULLY-noted—continued

- Thanks to JOIE KERNS for his weekly service in keeping the GCC walkways and entry areas safe, clean, and debris-free. We appreciate Joie's attention to this detail of house and groundskeeping.
- Thanks to ETHEL BUSICK for attending to our outreach needs with calls, cards, and visits. Her service to GCC is meeting a vital need to keep us connected and close-knit. For the last several months (including July) her ministry has been conducted seamlessly despite numerous heart catheterizations. GCC is so appreciative of Ethel's sacrificial service to Christ and His Kingdom.
- Thanks to JENNIFER STARNES for being the GCC 'missions educator'. Jennifer's rotation of mission features on the fellowship hall missions board keeps us missions-minded and focused on the emphasis at hand. Much appreciation to Jennifer for attending to this vital part of our missions program.
- Thanks to KAY COOK and PATTY TURNER (Ballad HV "Hospitality Snack Cart"), JEFF ARRINGTON (GNJPM "Bars of Soap"), and ROBERT THOMPSON (AJS "Clorox / Lysol Wipes Supply") for providing inventory and transport of all the donated items to our various local missions. Their ongoing service is so much appreciated, as is the constant donor support of so many who regularly contribute items.
- Thanks to our 'TECH TEAM QUARTET' for their weekly service to keep GCC technology needs met. KITTY BEVERLY creates and operates the 'PowerPoint projections' for our weekly services; JAMIE ABERNATHY provides audio and 'PowerPoint' assistance and backup; VICKI CLEVINGER records the sermon video; and BRIAN BROOKS serves as the 'GCC Webmaster' to furnish us with an impressive social media presence. Shout-outs to this 'Tech Team' par excellent.
- Thanks to the S.A.L.T. BIBLE STUDY COOKS, CHEFS, and BAKERS who support our mid-week fellowship with plenteous portions of palate-pleasing delights.
- Thanks to EVERYONE for making "All for one and one for all" a reality at GCC. It is an awesome witness of the Apostle Paul's I Corinthians 12 "Body Dynamic" at work. It's the Biblical model for Church and GCCers are modeling it so well.



***He makes the whole body fit
together perfectly. As each part
does its own special work, it
helps the other parts grow, so
that the whole body is healthy
and growing and full of love.***

Ephesians 4:16