

ELDERS MEETING
February 10th
Tuesday—6 pm
[American Way Campus]



LADIES CIRCLES....

Dorcas Circle Lunch
February 10th
Tuesday – 11:00 am
[Lunch only at Chop House –
weather permitting]



Adelphai Circle Meeting
February 12th
Thursday - 6 pm

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

BUTTERBEAN AUCTION



February 17th
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]

“SERVING OTHERS RECOGNITION SUNDAY”
[Honoring Servanthood In The Church]

February 15th
Sunday, 11 am

Thanks to one and all for serving, giving, and helping
as a labor of love.



ELDER ORDINATION / INSTALLATION

On Sunday, January 11th, GCC dedicated a part of the morning worship service for the ordination / installation of elders. During the service deacons Bobby Cook, Tony Tipton, Brian Brooks, and Gary Price were ordained and installed as elders. Ordained minister / (elder) Nick Bush was installed as elder. These men join elders Gary Beverly, Wayne Darnell, Larry Moore, Robert Thompson, and Jeff Arrington as our current Board of Elders. Additional elders and/or deacons will be added to the board as needs of the church dictate.

Be sure to pray for our elders as they shepherd GCC in the likeness of our “Good Shepherd” (John 10:11).



MISSIONS UPDATE

The 2026 budget approved at our Annual Congregational Business Meeting on Wednesday, January 28th sustains our current portfolio of missions support at 14 missions. Five are supported monthly and 9 are supported on a rotating basis. In addition, 3 local missions are supported via donated items. Those include the Good News Global (Sullivan County Jail Ministry) “Hope Bags”, the Andrew Johnson School “Wipes Supply”, and the Ballard-HV Medical Center “Hospitality Snack Cart”. Additional support will be extended to other local missions on a seasonal basis.

Following GCC’s donation of “Warm Tree” items in December to Uplift Ministries, we were blessed to begin the new year with a presentation from Uplift Directors Ronson & Sarah Griffin. Ron, Sarah, and several Uplift residents shared with us their ministry work at our evening service on Sunday, January 4th.

Also in January, GCC once again joined to support Agape Women’s Services in their month-long “Sanctity of Life” emphasis via distribution of plastic baby bottles for \$ donations. Bottles may be obtained on the fellowship hall display table. As bottles are filled, please return them to Kitty Beverly, Suzanne Jeter, or Lucy Bush. Baby clothes, blankets, etc. are also being collected and are being displayed in the sanctuary. The money-filled bottles and clothes / blankets will be presented to an AWS representative on Sunday, February 22nd. Be sure to check out the fellowship hall missions board. This month Jennifer Starnes has featured AWS to keep us reminded about our support and inspired about “Sanctity of Life” causes.

For the times ahead, let us remember that the prayer support of our mission is as essential as the financial support. Moreover, may we be sure to know that every Christian is a missionary. Missions begin where a Christian life meets another soul. In the meeting “the fields are white for harvest” (John 4:35).

MISSIONS QUOTE

“Mission is not just a task of the Church, but rather the very being of the Church.”

[by Lesslie Newbegin, 1994 – from “Forward”, p.xiii in Roland Allan: Pioneer, Priest, and Prophet by Hubart Allen, 1995]



GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“This was the design of Christ – that He and His Father and His people might all be united in one... Christ has brought it to pass, that those whom the Father has given Him should be brought into the household of God; that He and His Father and His people, should be as one society, one family; that the Church should be, as it were, admitted into the communion of the Blessed Trinity”.

[by Jonathan Edwards, 1703-1758; from “The Excellency of Christ” – Discourse 5; in The Works of Jonathan Edwards, 1834 / 2003, p. 689]



COMING IN MARCH & APRIL....

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| • March 29 th
[Palm Sunday – 6 pm] | - | Jews for Jesus
“Christ In The Passover”
w / Jake & Jeanne Rosen |
| • April 2 nd
[Thursday – 1 pm] | - | Stuffing Easter Eggs |
| • April 3 rd
Friday – 6 pm] | - | Good Friday Service |
| • April 4 th
[Saturday -11 am] | - | Easter “Eggstravaganza”
(Easter Egg Hunt) |
| • April 5 th
[Easter Sunday – 10 am] | - | Easter Breakfast |
| • April 5 th
[Easter Sunday – 11 am] | - | Resurrection Service |
| • April 12 th
[Sunday – 6 pm] | - | “The Eternals”
in Concert |
| • April 29 th
[Wednesday – 6 pm] | - | “Potluck”
Fellowship Meal |

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian education opportunities at GCC are available each week throughout the week. Current offerings are as follows:

- Sunday School [10 am]
- Sunday AM Worship w/Sermon [11 am]
- Sunday AM Children’s Church [11 am]
- Sunday PM Worship w/Lesson [6 pm]
- Sunday PM “Grace Cadets” [6 pm]
- Wednesday S.A.L.T. Bible Study [6 pm]
- Wednesday “Grace Cadets” [6 pm]

For more information about the “Grace Cadets program for children / youth, see the “Grace Cadets” column below. You may also contact Children’s / Youth Minister Adam McCloud at (423) 607-0715 or abmccloud@gmail.com.



GRACE CADETS NEWS

As our Grace Cadets continue through February, it has been encouraging to watch our children and youth grow in both curiosity and confidence as they explore what faith really means. On Sunday mornings, we are continuing our study on faith—learning that faith isn’t just about believing the right things, but about trusting God through the ups and downs of everyday life. These discussions have opened the door for honest questions, thoughtful reflection, and meaningful connections to their own experiences.

We’ve also recently begun a new study on discipleship on Wednesday nights, focusing on what it looks like to follow Jesus in today’s world. Together, we’re talking about how being a disciple shows up in our words, our choices, how we treat others, and how we live out our faith at school, at home, and with friends. Our Grace Cadets are discovering that following Jesus is an active, daily journey—one filled with purpose, growth, and grace.

Thank you for your continued prayers, encouragement, and commitment to our children and youth. It is a joy to walk alongside them as they learn to trust God, grow in faith, and discover what it means to follow Jesus in their everyday lives.

-Adam- 423-607-0715 or abmccloud@gmail.com

CONDOLENCES FOR JANUARY

The GCC family of faith joins in prayerful support of the following families whose loved ones have recently passed to the 'Church Triumphant'.

- The Family of Otis Williams (1933-2026)
[Father of Richard Williams and Toni Stinson; Devoted friend and companion of the late Georgia Quillen]
- Family of Janice Moore (1954-2026)
[sister of Charlotte Clevinger]
- The Family of Shirley Busler (1954-2026)
[Cousin of Tony Tipton]

graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to our worship leaders for the month of January. Those include PATTY JOHNSON (January 4), PAULA KEITH (January 11), and ROSE LANE (January 18). Much appreciation to these volunteers for helping us get spiritually focused for Lord's Day services.
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TEAM for leading the ministry of music each week. One and all are blessed by their diligent practice and spirited presentation of special music on Sunday mornings. The specials for January included "Sing Noel Medley" (January 4), "Use Me, Lord" w/ flute accompaniment by Robin Smith (January 11), "The Potter's Hand" (January 18), and "Our Hope Is In The Lord" (January 25). Of course, as always, we are exceedingly grateful for the dedication of excellence of the GCC MUSIC STAFF. They include VICKI CLEVINGER – Praise Team / Worship Music Director, LILY Wise – Pianist, and CINDY HARDEE - Organist.
- Thanks to UPLIFT MINISTRIES DIRECTORS RONSON & SARAH GRIFFIN, along with UPLIFT RESIDENTS for sharing their testimonies at our Sunday evening service on January 4th. The Uplift work to help hurting souls navigate through recovery, displacement, and other life challenges is inspirational and compelling. Best of all, it is done via the love and grace of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. May God richly bless Ronson and Sarah as they continue serving Jesus by serving others.
- Thanks to GARY BEVERLY, SCOTT TREADWAY, LARRY MOORE, and WAYNE DARNELL for attending to numerous facility maintenance and upgrade needs of the church property. Scott continues with interior updating / remodeling at Oakdale house #1. Gary and Wayne have completed plumbing repairs at Oakdale house #2. Gary and Scott have completed painting and other jobs at Oakdale house #3. Gary, Wayne and Larry Moore have been working with a contractor to replace the sanctuary baptistry pump, heater, and wiring. And Larry and Gary have upgraded the sanctuary and fellowship hall lighting with LED bulbs and tubes. Be sure to thank these men for their service to the church. In addition to meeting important property needs, they have saved the church thousands of dollars... ..a 'God-send' indeed.
- Thanks to the DORCAS and ADELPHAI CIRCLE LADIES for preparing and delivering numerous meals throughout the month. Their service is a powerful example of the Biblical model of caring, sharing, and bearing in our family of faith.
- Thanks to KAYE TIPTON for beautifying the sanctuary and vestibule with flowers and accessories. Kaye's work to keep everything always fresh and seasonally relevant is so much appreciated.
- Thanks to PATTY TURNER, ROSE LANE, SARAH SHORT, PAULA KEITH, SUZANNE JETER, and GARY BEVERLY for their teamwork to get out the January GraceNotes newsletter. Yes, folding, labelling, stamping, and stuffing serve the Lord by serving us all.
- Thanks to ONE & ALL for helping GCC begin 2026 as a "Living Stones Church" (I Peter 2:5). "Living stones" are Christian believers who come together building their lives on Him who is "THE Living Stone" (I Peter 2:4) - JESUS. All the giving, serving, supporting, and encouraging is bearing fruit for the Kingdom. Needs are being met, spirits are being edified, souls are being strengthened, and lives are being changed by the GCC family of faith. Unending appreciation to each one and everyone for doing his/her part to make and keep GCC an exemplary church. In addition, thanks to all for committing to our new 2026 budget presented and unanimously accepted at our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 28th. The 2025 budget was \$173,779.14. Actual expenditures were \$190,948.49. God's outpoured grace allowed us to finish the year and begin 2026 with a net positive balance of \$28,300.20. The elder-recommended and congregation-approved budget for 2026 was \$205,181.94. Thanks so much for your generosity, sacrifice, and faithful stewardship to meet the needs of the church "to the glory of God in Christ Jesus our Lord".

graceFULLY-noted, continued

- As always, thanks without end to the GCC STAFF & VOLUNTEERS for working all year long to keep our family of faith functioning in good order. Those include the following:

VOLUNTEERS

- Lisa Darnell [Adelphai Circle Leadership / Butterbean Auction]
- Vicki Clevinger [Praise Team Director / Worship Leader / Adephai Circle Leadership]
- Lois Starnes [Dorcas Circle Leadership]
- Janice Hill [Dorcas Circle Leadership / Adult Sunday School]
- Henry Funkhouser [Adult Sunday School]
- Wayne Darnell, Tony Tipton, Joie Kerns [House & Grounds Exterior]
- Larry Moore & Gary Beverly [House & Grounds Interior and General Maintenance]
- Kaye Tipton [Interior / Exterior Flowers]
- Jennifer Starnes [Missions Board]
- Jamie Abernathy, Jordan Arrington, Brian Brooks, Kaye Tipton [Tech Team Support]
- Kitty Beverly [Multimedia Arts]
- Brian Brooks [Webmaster]
- Kay Cook, Robert Thompson, Jeff Arrington [Local Missions item inventory and delivery]

STAFF (Paid & Unpaid)

- Kitty Beverly [Secretary, Administration, Media Arts]
- Rebecca Phillips [Bookkeeping]
- Adam McCloud [Children's / Youth Ministry]
- Ethel Busick [Outreach / Inreach Assistance]
- Vicki Clevinger [Music Ministry Leadership]
- Lily Wise [Pianist]
- Cindy Hardee [Organist]

CARDS & LETTERS

The family of April Pridemore would like to thank Grace Christian Church for your prayers and kindness during April's illness and death.

Dear Friends,

Thanks for all your prayers, cards, and faithfulness to stay in touch. Every time I get mail it is so wonderful. Special thanks to Ethel for her dedication in reaching out.

I love my Church family so much!

*Love,
Ruth Adkins*

The family of Otis Williams would like to thank everyone of the church for the love, prayers, visits, cards, and food for our Dad.

He loved his church family very much.

*Love,
Richard & Gladys*

*Love,
Toni*