

1. "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5);
2. "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind" (Eph. 4:23);
3. "Be transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Rom. 12:2);
4. "The mind set on the Spirit is life and peace" (Rom. 8:6);
5. "We have the mind of Christ" (I Cor. 2:16).

The role of the mind in the Christian life is paramount. Change the mind; change the mood. Stay the mind; stay the mood. So what we give our minds to and what we focus our minds on has everything to do with what our moods are and where our moods go. A content guideline for the mind can be found in Philippians 4:8: "Whatever is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, of good repute; if there is any excellence and anything worthy of praise, THINK on these things." As we continue GROWING IN GRACE together, let us mind our moods by "staying our minds" on Him who offers peace that transcends a seismically unstable world. Jesus revealed and offered the same as He said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give you" (John 14:27). In other words, Jesus offers a version of peace the world has not, knows not, and offers not. It is the very peace of God and it's a peace that is abiding not vacillating.

April has her many moods; so does life. But life need not be enslaved to or dominated by an out of control moodiness. The great 'mood stabilizer' is Jesus. Minds "stayed on Him" bear the fruit of hearts settled by the Spirit's peace. For April and all the times ahead, may our moods be blessed by being focused, fastened, and fixed on Jesus.

Mindfully,

Ed

ELDERS AND DEACONS...

Elders / Board Meeting

April 9th

Tuesday—6 pm

[American Way Campus]



LADIES CIRCLES....

Dorcas Circle Meeting

April 9th

Tuesday – 10:30 am

[followed by lunch at The Chop House]



Adelphai Circle Meeting

April 11th

Thursday – 6 pm

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

"BUTTERBEAN AUCTION"



 April 16th
 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]



POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL

April 24th
Wednesday – 6 pm

Everyone Invited

[Thanks ahead of time for bringing food, dessert, and drink items to share]

TREVOR BURRESS / RANKIN BURRESS

“Honduras Mission Update”

April 28th
Sunday – 6 pm



GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“There is no comfort except to those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died to make atonement for our sins, that He was buried, that He literally rose triumphant o’er the grave, having conquered the last enemy and that He has ascended through the heavens”.

[by Martin Lloyd-Jones, 1899-1981; from The Final Perseverance of The Saints, 1976, p. 26]

CHILDREN / YOUTH & EDUCATION UPDATE

As always, Christian education is a primary point of emphasis throughout our programming. Sunday school lessons (10 am), Sunday morning sermons (11 am), Sunday PM lessons (6 pm), and Wed. S.A.L.T. Bible Study (6 pm) are weekly opportunities for Bible learning.

Grace Cadets for our children / youth meet on Sundays and Wednesdays at 6 pm. In addition, Children’s Church is available on Sunday mornings at 11 am.

The big news in March was our “Easter EggStravaganza” for children and youth on Saturday, March 30th. Karen Cradic, Children’s Director, organized and led a wonderful afternoon of fun, games, learning, and, of course, the “Egg-Stravaganza Easter Egg Hunt! The weather was picture perfect and the enthusiasm of our young people pegged the energy meter at ‘full tilt’.

For more information about Grace Cadets and upcoming activities, please see Karen’s “Grace Cadets” info below.



GRACE CADETS

We’re sending out a great big THANK-YOU to everyone who contributed to and/or helped with the EggStravaganza on March 30th!

The children enjoyed doing resurrection-themed crafts, hearing the Easter story, and finding lots and lots of Easter eggs. Little Rosalie Arrington declared it “the best Easter Egg Hunt – ever!”

We hope that the fond memories of the day will encourage the youth in their Christian growth. Thanks to everyone for your participation. ♥

Contact Karen Cradic for more info:

Home Phone # 423-245-4273

Cell #: 423-367-4756

Email: cradicbkaren@gmail.com

MAY DAY! MAY DAY! MAY DAY! SAVE... THE DATES

**“SISTERS IN
CHRIST”
LADIES TEA**

May 4th
Saturday – 1 pm

[More info to come]
All Ladies Invited



**POTLUCK
FELLOWSHIP
MEAL**

May 29th
Wednesday – 6 pm

[Thanks for bringing
food to share.]

SUNDAYS OF MAY....

May 5th - “Ascension Sunday”, 11 am
May 12th - Mothers Day, 11 am
May 19th - “Pentecost Sunday”, 11 am
 - Graduate Recognition, 11 am
May 26th – Memorial Day observed, 11 am



CARDS & LETTERS

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us...
Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.
Beautiful flowers – Thank you, friends.

The Family of
Sarah Sams

MISSIONS UPDATE

The Grace Christian Church missions portfolio includes the financial/prayer support of 12 missions. In addition, donated items are delivered to the Ballad HV “Hospitality Snack Cart”, the Andrew Johnson School “Clorox / Lysol Wipes Supply”, and the Sullivan County Jail Ministry “1200 Bars of Soap”.

For March, Kay Cook reported that 156 individual snack items were delivered to Ballad-HV. Robert Thompson reported that 12 packs of wipes were delivered to AJS in March. And Jeff Arrington reported that the Jail Ministry soap inventory currently stands at 662 bars.

Coming up on Sunday, April 28th, Trevor Burress and his son Rankin will be with us for our evening service at 6 pm. Trevor and Rankin have recently completed another term of mission work in Honduras and will be sharing an update about their work.

Also be sure to watch, look, and listen for information about a return visit of John & Bev Leonard with Baptist Mid-Missions. John and Bev are currently on furlough from their work in Brazil and hope to be in our area soon.

Be sure to check out the missions board in the fellowship hall for highlights about our various missions.

MISSIONS QUOTE

“It is the whole business of the whole church to preach the whole gospel to the whole world”.
[by Charles H. Spurgeon, 1834-1892; from 19th century notes]

graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to our worship leaders for the month of March. LISA DARNELL (Mar. 3), PHYLLIS JACKSON (March 10), BOBBY COOK (Mar. 17), KAY COOK (Mar. 24) and COLE GARNER (Mar. 31) helped us begin our Lord's Day worship services by leading us to proclaim our mutually shared faith. There's no sweeter sound than the community of faith giving voice to its convictions.
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TEAM for setting the tone and cadence of our March and Easter worship through the ministry of music. Special music for the month included "Song of Redemption" (Mar. 3), "What a Savior" (Mar. 10), "His Life for Mine" (Mar. 17), "Hosanna Your Praise We Sing" (Mar. 24) and "He Is Risen" (Mar. 31). The Praise Team's weekly work to select, practice, and share special music is a labor of love that bears the fruit of edification and inspiration week after week. As always, special thanks to LILY WISE, PIANIST for her excellent musicianship. GCC is so very blessed to have her at the ivory keys.
- Thanks to EMMA BUSICK and MARCIA PHILLIPPE for blessing GCC with extra portions of special music in the month of March. Emma began the month on March 3rd by sharing her wonderful violin rendition of "Amazing Grace". For Palm Sunday on March 24th, Marcia shared her lovely vocal acapella solo of "In The Garden". So much appreciation to Emma and Marcia for adding to our worship services these melodic gifts.
- GCC prayers of grateful praise are extended for the Sunday, March 17th decision of MIKE & SUZANNE JETER to place their membership at Grace Christian Church. A big GCC warm welcome is extended to the Jeters. Please add to your church directories Mike and Suzanne's address:
Mike & Suzanne Jeter
1700 Birchfield Pvt. Ct.
Kingsport, TN 37660
- Thanks to HENRY FUNKHOUSER and SAMUEL PIERSON for their Palm Sunday service on March 24th to distribute palm fronds to the entire congregation. Their assistance provided an effective visual aid to enhance our Palm Sunday praise and worship.
- Thanks to LISA DARNELL for organizing and leading the monthly third Tuesday "Butterbean Auction". The most recent "auction" was on Tuesday, March 19th. A fun time of fellowship was shared by one and all. Be sure to thank Lisa for her monthly service to create a setting that has become an important aspect of extending the church's hospitality and outreach.
- Thanks to KAYE TIPTON, LISA DARNELL, GARY BEVERLY, KITTY BEVERLY, ROSE LANE, PHYLLIS JACKSON, and VICKI CLEVINGER for working hard on Saturday, March 23rd to give the church a deep "spring cleaning". Everything looks spic 'n' span and fresh as a daisy for this glorious season of new life springing forth. Also, thanks to so many for generously donating cleaning supplies. It was a big help to our church budget.
- GCC congratulations to EDWARD THOMPSON who received his "green belt" in Taekwondo at Taylor's Martial Arts on March 20, 2024. Shout outs to Edward for his hard work and determination!
- Thanks to TONY & KAYE TIPTON for sharing their creativity to keep our sanctuary, foyer, cross, and planter box decorated for the Easter Season. The flowers were beautiful and provided that "just right" adornment for the special season at hand.
- Thanks to GARY BEVERLY for attending to the contractor work at both campuses. The American Way Campus requires a section of sewer line to be replaced and the baptistery at the East Sevier Campus needs a plumbing leak repaired. Much appreciation to Gary for devoting his time and labors to take care of GCC needs.
- Thanks to ETHEL BUSICK for working hard throughout her own medical appointments in the ministry of "interconnectedness". Her efforts help us stay in touch and keep our familyship strong.
- Thanks to BOBBY & KAY COOK for providing local transportation to and from the church. It's a huge help and much appreciated by those who need a lift.

cont'd on back

graceFULLY-noted, cont'd

- Thanks to WAYNE DARNELL & TONY TIPTON, as they once again commence the spring-summer-fall season of lawn and ground maintenance. All the mowing, trimming, and pruning work at both campuses is a huge undertaking. Wayne & Tony's work are a 'God-send'.
- Thanks to JOIE KERNS for his ongoing attention to detailing the church walkways and entryways. His weekly service keeps everything clear, clean, safe, and secure.
- Thanks to JENNIFER STARNES for keeping the fellowship hall missions board creatively posted with information for our 'missions awareness'. Be sure to thank her for a job well done.
- Thanks to JANICE HILL for her weekly lesson preparation and presentation in our Adult Sunday School Class. She is a Christian educator par excellent.
- Thanks to KAY COOK, PATTY TURNER, ROBERT THOMPSON, and JEFF ARRINGTON for their ongoing attention to the local missions item inventory and transportation. Their service is not only blessing GCC, but helping GCC bless others.
- Thanks to KITTY BEVERLY, JAMIE ABERNATHY, JENNIFER STARNES, BRIAN BROOKS, and JORDAN ARRINGTON for their constant work to keep GCC tech-supported. Their skills are a vital part of our worship and outreach. Everyone give a "Hi-5" for the "Tech-Five".
- A big GCC shoutout to so many who did so much to make our Easter Season a true family of faith celebration. On Thursday, March 28th, ROSE LANE, ETHEL BUSICK, SUZANNE JETER, KAREN JAYNES, RUTH ADKINS, MARCIA PHILLIPPE, KITTY BEVERLY, GARY BEVERLY, ROBERT THOMPSON, EDWARD THOMPSON, CHUCK OLSON, PHYLLIS JACKSON, EMMA BUSICK, KATHY HAKES, KAY COOK, and HENRY FUNKHOUSER prepared basket loads of plastic eggs full of trinkets and treats for our "EggStravaganza". Assembly line work has never been so fun.
- In addition, the "EggStravaganza" itself on Saturday, March 30th was a big hit. KAREN CRADIC did a fantastic job planning, organizing, recruiting, and leading everything. The young people's participation was full of vim, vigor, and vitality. Much appreciation to all the parents and families who made sure their children were present. Also a big thanks to those adults who assisted Karen with supervision and administration. Those included KATHY HAKES, JANICE COBB, ROSE LANE, KITTY BEVERLY, VICKI CLEVINGER, ROBERT & MARYBETH THOMPSON, and COLE & MAKAYLAH GARNER.
- The Good Friday service on March 29th was blessed by excellent attendance. Many thanks to all the script and scripture readers as well as to those who supported the service via music and sound / light / media tech. Those included SAM PIERSON, BOBBY COOK, KATHY HAKES, HENRY FUNKHOUSER, DAVE NEALY, GARY BEVERLY, KAYE TIPTON, MAKAYLAH GARNER, JEFF ARRINGTON, MARYBETH THOMPSON, KAY COOK, JOSH BUCKLEY, PHYLLIS ARRINGTON, GAVIN BUCKLEY, GAIL HAMMONDS, MARCIA PHILLIPE, LILY WISE, KITTY BEVERLY, and VICKI CLEVINGER. Also much appreciation to KAREN CRADIC for providing children's activities during the service.
- Finally, thanks to DAVE NEALY, BOBBY COOK, and JAMIE ABERNATHY for leading our cross-draping meditations throughout the Easter Season.
- Thanks to ONE AND ALL for setting up, cleaning up, and sharing delicious food items at our Easter Breakfast on Sunday, March 31st. Everything was delicious and the fellowship was jubilant. Praise the Lord for our loving, serving, sharing, supporting, and encouraging family of faith.
- Thanks and thanks again to all GCCers for an outpoured spirit of gracious volunteerism and loving service. Everyone together is keeping everyone together as a community of faith filled with love, encouragement, and support.

