

Grace Notes

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH | OCTOBER 2017



PASTOR'S NOTES MARK ELKINS

The Scriptures are clear that before God saved us, we were dead in our trespasses & sins; and then at the moment we first surrendered to Him in repentance & faith, we were made alive together in Christ (Eph. 2:1-5; Col. 2:13). The wonder of God's grace should never cease to amaze us and we should always celebrate with the angels every time a new soul is added to His kingdom (Luke 15).

But have you ever wondered about the journey all of us took to that single day of salvation? Yes maybe we remember the person who shared the Gospel with us that day, a friend, a co-worker, or a pastor. But think for a moment, just how many people prayed for us, shared the Gospel with us in both word and deed, or simply loved us like Jesus when we needed it? How many, of what seemed at the time to be unrelated events, encounters, and conversations, did our sovereign Lord lovingly use to guide us on our journey to Him? Just thinking about it staggers the mind.

I have personally found it easier if I think of our journey as a long chain that has hundreds if not thousands of links in it. Each link is one of the people who prayed us, invited us to church, taught us a Sunday School or Awana lesson, took us to lunch and listened to our problems, or

simply greeted us with a smile and a small dose of Jesus' love.

Beloved, every one of us is at least one link in the chain of someone else's journey to Christ! And this month we have so many low pressure opportunities that through the power of the Holy Spirit can be turned into another link in someone else's journey. Think how easy it is to invite someone to share a free breakfast and enjoy shooting at a private range. Or how about proclaiming the Free Grace of God by simply handing out some waters or painting some children's faces? There may be someone you know who hasn't been in a church for years, but they would love to help out those suffering around our country today by giving blood. And each year we've had over 120 kids come to our Trunk & Treat and this year we are also giving each family a Gospel DVD that is in both in English & Spanish.

This month, please don't think of these events as volunteering or doing your duty, instead take hold of them as the divine opportunities that Jesus has sovereignly laid before you to be a link in the chain of salvation for someone you love or someone you don't even know yet, but who will one day be your brother and sister for all eternity.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 1st

Deacon Ballots Handed Out

Oct 7th

Men's Ministry: Food, Fellowship, & Firearms

Oct 8th

Pastor Appreciation Day

Oct 15th

Deacon Ballot Deadline

Oct 21st

Apple Dumpling Festival

Oct 25th

Fall Red Cross Blood Drive

Oct 29th

3rd Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck Lunch

Oct 31st

Trunk and Treat

Nov 5th

Daylight Saving Time Ends

PRAYER DEACONS

Oct 01 – Greg Carlson
Oct 08 – Dick East
Oct 15 – Pat Groves
Oct 22 – Lee Bryant
Oct 29 – Chuck Buchanan

FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Oct 04 – Prepared
Oct 11 – Potluck
Oct 18 – Prepared
Oct 25 – Prepared

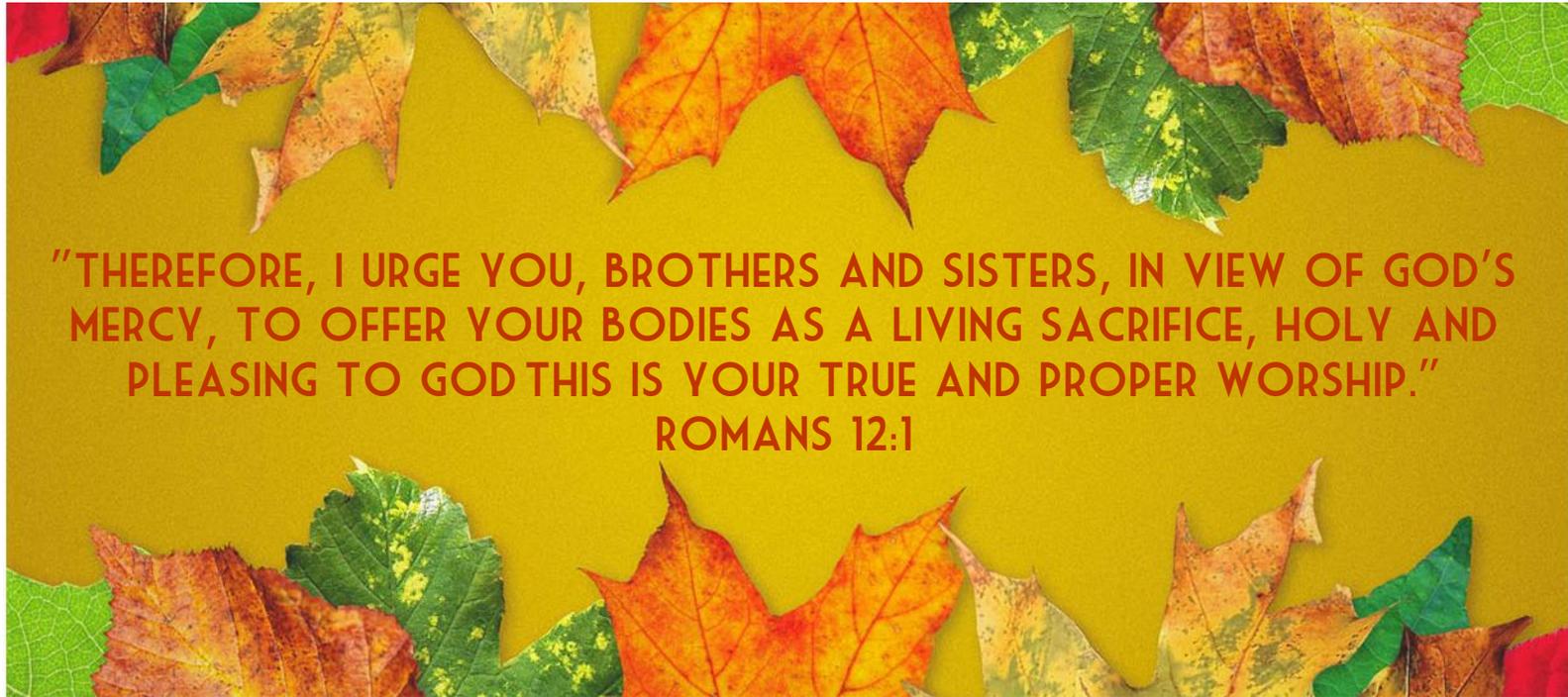
NURSERY SCHEDULE

Oct 1 – Ward & Shelley Stone, (Maura Elkins)
Oct 8 – Margaret Carlson, Casey Elkins, (Nandrea Groves)
Oct 15 – Annetta Lind, Jane Hall, (Nadine Smith)
Oct 22 – Sandra Carson, Maura Elkins, (Peyton Elkins)
Oct 29 – Marcia Jones, Erin Carroll, (Sandee Davis)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Oct 01 – Paula Reynolds & Bud Brown
Oct 08 – Maynee Meadows & Mandy Worley
Oct 15 – Jane Hall & Annetta Lind
Oct 22 – Diane Ross & Jane Bryant
Oct 29 – Wendy Buchanan & Grayson Howell

"THEREFORE, I URGE YOU, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCY, TO OFFER YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND PLEASING TO GOD THIS IS YOUR TRUE AND PROPER WORSHIP."
ROMANS 12:1



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Wednesday Night Activities started up again just last month, and there's a ministry for every member of the family. Wednesday nights begin with our weekly Fellowship Meal at 5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Then AWANA Clubs begin at 6pm, followed by Adult Bible Study, AWANA Mamas, and Isaiah's Bells at 6:15. Then the night if finished up with Choir Practice at 7:40pm.

The Apple Dumpling Festival will be on Saturday, October 21st, from 10-4pm, and we will be there with a GBC booth. We need help from volunteers like you for setup, clean-up, handing out waters, face painting, and serving for the glory of God! If you would like to join us (and we would love to have you), there will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway. It is a fun event of service, fellowship, and representing our great God!

HELP SAVE A LIFE! The need for blood donations is constant, and especially after several destructive hurricanes have hit the US in recent days. Just one donation can potentially save up to 3 lives! Grace Baptist will be hosting another Blood Drive with the American Red Cross this year on Wednesday, October 25th, in the Fellowship Hall from 3-7pm. Please pray and consider donating and/or volunteering for this wonderful cause. Sign up with the sheet in the hallway or by visiting <http://www.redcrossblood.org/give/drive/driveSearch.jsp?requestid=153745> and searching "gbc" or "24171".

If you are curious about what is involved in the process of a blood donation or what happens to your donation afterward, be sure to click one or both of these links:

www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/donation-faqs and www.redcrossblood.org/learn-about-blood

It's time again for Operation Christmas Child! Please help us share God's love to a child who needs the gospel--and some Christmas cheer! Don't forget to grab one of our OCC boxes to fill with a special toy or craft, hygiene items, clothing, and school supplies. Also, consider sending a personal note and photo along with your box to send just a little extra love! This year, OCC is asking that we refrain from including any candy or liquid items, including toothpaste and lotion. Finally, include \$9 in your box or pay online so that you can track your box as it makes its exciting journey!

Please join us for our 3rd Quarter Potluck Lunch and Business Meeting on Sunday, October 29th, directly after the service.

Mark your calendars! Our annual Trunk and Treat will be on Monday, October 31st from 6-8pm in the church parking lot. Please join us for some safe family fun, as we pass out free candy, roast marshmallows, drink warm apple cider, and enjoy fellowship together. Chili and soup will be provided to the volunteers at 5pm. We would love your help by bringing your trunk full of delicious sweets and inviting families for a fun night! There will be a sign-up sheet for trunks in the hallway.

GBC welcomes the local Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group, every 1st and 3rd Tues of the month, at 10am, to encourage and equip one another in the love of Jesus. Please, contact Leisa LeFew with questions.

Do you have a couple hours twice a month to give in service to the young families who will attend the MOPS meetings here at Grace? If you can help provide childcare for the babies, toddlers, and preschoolers, please, contact Leisa LeFew or Jennifer Brown.

Please prayerfully complete your deacon ballot and either mail it back to the church or deposit it in the green box in the hallway by Sunday, October 15th.

OCTOBER 2017

Birthdays

Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Deacon Ballots Handed Out	2	3 10am MOPS	4	5 <u>Dylan Hodges</u>	6 <u>Greg Carlson</u>	7 Men's Ministry: Food, Fellowship, & Firearms
8 Pastor Appreciation Day	9	10 <u>Opal Hughes</u> <u>Jake Logan</u>	11 5:15pm Fellowship Meal 6pm AWANA 6:15pm Bible Study Isaiah's Bells 7:40pm Choir Practice <u>Jahsmine Fowler</u>	12 <i>Rick & Christy Menear</i> <u>Sandee Davis</u>	13	14 <u>Nathan Hodges</u>
15 Deacon Ballot Deadline	16 7pm Women on Mission	17 10am MOPS <u>Leisa LeFew</u>	18 5:15pm Fellowship Meal 6pm AWANA 6:15pm Bible Study AWANA Mamas Isaiah's Bells 7:40pm Choir Practice	19 10am Women of Grace	20	21 Apple Dumpling Festival
22 <u>Pam Elkins</u>	23	24 <u>Peyton Elkins</u>	25 3-7pm Red Cross Blood Drive 5:15pm Fellowship Meal 6pm AWANA 6:15pm Bible Study AWANA Mamas Isaiah's Bells 7:40pm Choir Practice	26 <u>Hannah Roberson</u>	27 <i>Joe & Linda Griffin</i>	28
29 Quarterly Business Meeting & Potluck <u>Jimmy Hall</u>	30	31 Trunk and Treat				