

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH-WIDE FISH FRY: March 29 immediately after the service. Donations will help support the Cherokee Mission Trip. Menu: Flounder, baked potato, slaw, roll, and banana pudding. Corn Dogs and chips will be available for kids who don't like fish. Suggested donation \$5 per adult, \$3 per youth age 4 and up, \$20 family plan.

CHEROKEE MISSION TRIP. Aug 1–Aug 8; We have three families going so far and would welcome more. We need to plan in advance for this trip as there are many details that the team leaders need to address. We have many opportunities for service on this *family mission trip*: sports clinics, painting, VBS, senior care, etc. See Joe Dell’Arena or Dale Underhill for more details.

LADIES’ BIBLE STUDY meets at 9:30 on Friday mornings at the building. We are studying Isaiah. Childcare is provided. See Randy Edwards for details.

LADIES OF GRACE LADIES’ NIGHT IN: Friday, March 20 from 7 to 10pm. We will hang out, watch a movie on the big screen in the Youth Room, and enjoy great company! Dress code: sweats or PJs. Bring a snack or drink to share, and bring a friend!

NEW THRIFT STORE MINISTRY! Tim Brieady is opening a mercy ministry thrift store in Waughtown in April. He is in need of donated goods to stock the store and volunteers to help. Tim can be reached at 336-817-5229.

ACE BIBLE STUDY: We continue our Sunday school study on Romans on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30.

COMMUNITY GARDEN MEETING If you are interested in helping to begin a community garden at GPC, you’re invited to attend our next meeting this Thursday night at 7pm here at the building.

ROOTED IN GRACE: If you are interested in learning more about Grace Presbyterian and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America, join us for Rooted in Grace on March 27 from 7-9 pm and March 28 from 9-11 am. If you are interested in becoming a member of Grace, attending Rooted in Grace serves as the first step in that process. If you have any questions, please contact Randy Edwards at 993-1305 x11.

twentiesgpc: March 28, 7-9pm. Gauche Bowling or Non-Dominant Ten-Pins at Countryside Lanes. See Pastor Randy for details.

SHEPHERDING SUMMIT We will be hosting a special lunch for those who desire to give feedback and input on how GPC does pastoral care and shepherding. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Randy and plan on bringing a salad and dessert to share, we’ll provide the pizza and drinks. Also, if you would like childcare, please let Randy know.

VISIT www.gracekernersville.org and check out our new website layout. We're especially excited about the calendar page which will be current and up to date. You can also join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

GRACE HOUSE PRESCHOOL is now accepting registration for the 2009-2010 school year. Registration forms are in the preschool office and or on the preschool website www.gracehousepreschool.org. Please call Carla in the preschool office if you have questions.

FAMILY PROMISE CARDBOARD BOX CITY — a fundraiser for F.P. is scheduled for April 24-25. Mark it on your calendars.

SPRING MEN’S RETREAT at Black Mountain Retreat Center is scheduled for April 24-26. Registration Cards are located on the foyer table.

SESSION AND DIACONATE MEETING is scheduled for tomorrow night at 6:30pm at the building.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Jillian Moore (3/16); Carl Ellis (3/19); Zachary Houser (3/19); Mark Pardue (3/19); Sigourney McClain (3/20); Cara Mead (3/21).

MARRIAGE CONFERENCE: Providence Presbyterian Church (OPC) invites you to join us for our 2009 Marriage Conference, "To Known and Be Known: The Marvel of a Christian Marriage" on April 17-18 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro, NC. The fee of \$60 per couple includes a hot lunch on Saturday, and the registration deadline is April 13. For further information or to register, please call 1-888-838-3231, or visit our website at <http://providencegso.org/conference.htm>.

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

PRESCHOOL PAJAMA PARTY: Join us for pizza and a movie in your pajamas for our very first preschool pajama party, Saturday, March 21 from 6-7pm. Cost is \$3 for dinner; we will watch a Veggie Tales/Hermie type movie (about 30 minutes). Parents are welcome to stay, but if they want pizza, please let Carla know by noon Friday, March 20 so we can order enough pizza (993-1305 ext 12 or carla@gracekernersville.org).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHILDREN’S PROGRAM: 6:30–7:30 pm

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: June 22-26. If you would like to help with the planning stages, contact Carla .

YOUTH MINISTRY

SN@G: High School Youth Group meets TONIGHT We’re having a Prince Caspian and Pizza Movie night from 5-8pm in the youth room. Bring \$5 for pizza.

VERTICAL: Middle School Youth Group Wednesday evening, from 6-7:30!

YOUTH AMAZING RACE: Sunday, March 22 5-8pm. Meet at the church building.

OUR SUNDAY SERVANTS

NURSERY SCHEDULE				
Date	Infants	Walkers	2 Year Olds	Children’s Church
Today	Jim and Claudia Plybon	Kevin and Melanie Patton	Ty and Amanda Daurity	March 3 Kelly Young 4 Pinkney Greene and Linda Mainhart K Karl and Mary Freeman 1st Joe Dell’Arena, Debbie Potts, Charity Moore, Bryan Pardue 2nd/3rd Darlene Clagett, Catherine Edwards, Jessica Moore
3/22/09	Rick and Maria Reeves	Jack and Amanda Goode	Laura Devonmille Sean Goode	April 3 4 Mark and Terrica Smith K Beth and Julie Collins 1st Jennifer Edwards and Martha Larson 2nd/3rd Darlene Clagett and Catherine Edwards
3/29/08	Judy Young Jodi Pardue	Doug Jewell Ryann Lievens	Matt and Janice Lievens	
4/5/09	Terri Norman Anna Collins	Mike Pellerin Mikaela Pellerin	Chad and Beth Sapp	
Ushers		Greeters		
Hugh Smith	Ben Banks			
Dave Collins	Mike Pellerin			
Matt Lievens	Doug Sonnenburg	Rapid Visitation		
		March: Amy Mead		
		April: Kristi Maier		
Worship Team				
Randy Edwards, Michael Zeoli, Kevin McClain, Scott Plybon, Lee Adams Randi Bechtold, Tonya Stanley, John DeBoer, Jim Dougherty, Carl Ellis				

Our Church Officers

Session: Wynn Baum, Don Bechtold, John DeBoer, Randy Edwards, Doug Jewell, Jim Plybon.

Diaconate: David Collins, Karl Freeman, Jim Dougherty.

Church Staff and Contact Extensions

The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am until Noon.

Randy Edwards, Pastor/Teacher • ext.11

Carla Collins, Accountant/Children’s Ministry Coordinator/Preschool Director • ext.12

Deacon and Mercy Ministry Voicemail • ext.22

WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

2009 General Fund Budget						\$356,185
Contributions		Budget		Expenses		
MTD Mar 9	Year to Date	March	Year to Date	MTD Mar 9	Year to Date	
\$ 15,695	\$ 65,903	\$ 29,682	\$ 89,316	\$ 11,954	\$ 65,514	
2009 Building Fund Contributions			2009 Missions Fund Contributions			
MTD Mar 9	Year to Date	MTD Mar 9	Year to Date			
\$ 785	\$ 7,300	\$ 150	\$ 1,036			



Grace Presbyterian Church exists to focus attention on God’s grace as He transforms us into a community that delights in his worship, is marked by a selfless care for others, and proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ with gospel-transformed words, relationships, vocations, and lifestyles, resulting in the transformation of the communities of the Triad and the world.

MARCH 15, 2009

For Reflection

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
Of never failing skill,
He treasures up his bright designs
And works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust him for his grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purpose will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour;
The bud may have bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
And scan his work in vain:
God is his own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.

William Cowper

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

If you have a prayer request, which you would like to have offered during the Pastoral Prayer, please speak with the pastor during the break.

Elder Prayer. If you would like prayer, Elders are available after the service.

Men’s Prayer. Meets every Friday morning at 6 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday Prayer. Drop by the church office between 10 am and Noon and pray with the staff for the needs of our congregation.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

PRELUDE

Come Thou Fount

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don Bechtold

Pew pads are located along the inside aisle. Please take a moment to let us know that you were with us this morning and to tell us how we can help you today.

OUR HISTORIC FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism,

Lord’s Day 11

Q. Why is the Son of God called “Jesus,” meaning “savior”?

A. Because he saves us from our sins. Salvation cannot be found in anyone else; it is futile to look for any salvation elsewhere.

Q. Do those who look for their salvation and security in saints, in themselves, or elsewhere really believe in the only savior Jesus?

A. No. Although they boast of being his, by their deeds they deny the only savior and deliverer, Jesus. Either Jesus is not a perfect savior, or those who in true faith accept this savior have in him all they need for their salvation.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 65 (responsive reading)

Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion;

to you our vows will be fulfilled.

O you who hear prayer, to you all men will come.

When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!

We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior,

the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,

who formed the mountains by your power,

having armed yourself with strength,

who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,

and the turmoil of the nations.

Those living far away fear your wonders;

where morning dawns and evening fades you call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain,

for so you have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

you soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with your bounty,

and your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the desert overflow;

the hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with

grain; they shout for joy and sing.

Wonderful Merciful Savior

It is Well

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Sweet Mercies

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

Nursery is available for two years old and under. Children ages three and four years old are dismissed for Children’s Church. Children kindergarten through fifth grade are dismissed for Children’s Worship.

RENEWAL

CORPORATE PRAYER, PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD’S PRAYER

Don Bechtold

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Habakkuk 1:1-2:1

SERMON

When God is Silent

Randy Edwards

RESPONSE

Just As I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,

But that thy blood was shed for me,

And that thou bid’st me come to thee,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not

To rid my soul of one dark blot,

To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about

With many conflicts, many doubts,

Fightings and fears within, without

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind,

Sight, riches, healing of the mind,

Yea, all I need, in thee I find,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou will receive,

Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

Because thy promise I believe,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Jesus Paid it All

BENEDICTION

SERMON NOTES

FOR REFLECTION

The ancient man approached God (or even the gods) as the accused person approaches his judge. For the modern man the roles are reversed. He is the judge: God is in the dock [the place of the accused]. He is quite a kindly judge: if God should have a reasonable defense for being the god who permits war, poverty and disease, he is ready to listen to it. The trial may even end in God’s acquittal. But the important thing is that Man is on the Bench and God in the dock.”

C.S. Lewis, “God in the Dock”

“But anyone can find out what will happen,” said Aslan. If you go back to the others now, and wake them up; and tell them you have seen me again; and that you must all get up at once and follow me—what will happen? There is only one way of finding out.”

“Do you mean that is what you want me to do?” gasped Lucy.

“Yes, little one.” said Aslan.

“Will the others see you too?” asked Lucy.

“Certainly not at first,” said Aslan. “Later on it depends.”

“But they won’t believe me!” said Lucy.

“It doesn’t matter,” said Aslan.

“O dear, oh dear,” said Lucy. “And I was so pleased at finding you again. And I thought you’d let me stay. And I thought you’d come roaring in and frightening all the enemies away—like last time. And now everything is going to be horrid.”

C.S. Lewis, *Prince Caspian*

OUTLINE

TABLE TALK

Much of Martin Luther’s theology was clarified, distilled, and applied around the dinner table with his friends. The informal discourse of two friends pursuing the same truth does more to work into one’s life an understanding of that truth than all the talk of great speakers. Take some time this week to discuss these questions over coffee or a meal.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Read 2 Kings 23-24 and 2 Chronicles 36 for the historical context.
2. Would you say that you have God in the dock or that you are in the dock? How does the gospel speak to where you are to be in relation to the courtroom?
3. What circumstances in your life does it seem that you are being asked by God to see a conclusion to? Pray and ask for strength to be both humble and patient.
4. Is there a place on your life for lament? Do you avoid brokenness and conviction? Do you wallow in self-concern and pity?
5. Is there a place in your life for joy? Is your joy tenuous and dependent upon good circumstances or is it an abiding, deep joy?
6. How does the gospel give you confidence to engage with God regarding your confusion? How does it give you joy in spite of your circumstances?

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