

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE COMMUNITIES meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15. Currently, Don Bechtold is teaching on the Gospel of Mark.

TWIRTIES HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUP (20's & 30's) meets from 7:30-9pm each Wednesday. If you are interested, contact Hazel Ellis at loringafb89@gmail.com or Alan Hicks at alan.hicks617@gmail.com.

THE PRAYING LIFE SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY meets on Sundays, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the home of Jim and Claudia Plybon. All are invited. Call Jim or Claudia at 996-0785.

THE HOLINESS OF GOD SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY meets weekly on Sunday evenings at the home of Mark and Diane Zobrosky. Please contact John DeBoer (251-4603) or Mark Zobrosky (253-6926) if you have questions.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES this week we have our Fellowship Dinner. Don't forget to RSVP by December 1 for Ham and hashbrown casserole. Cost \$3 with a maximum of \$12 per family.

HIGH SCHOOL D GROUP meets Sunday evening from 6-8 pm at the Bechtold's home.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY We need someone for the 4th/5th grade Children's Church for the months of February and May. (It is covered for November). Please see Dave Wiebking or Carla Collins for more information.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Children will need to be present at our last two rehearsals. Wed, Dec 1st at 7:00 (or after they finish their Wed night meal) and Sunday, Dec 5th after church. (Bring a bag lunch and then we will rehearse after lunch). If your child will be one of the roles or a dancer, their costume will be provided but they will need shorts and a t-shirt to wear under the costume. If your child will be in the choir, they will need to wear dark pants and a white or light colored shirt. The pageant will be Wednesday, December 8th at 6:30 pm. Please have your children here, fed, and ready to go by 6:00 if they have a role OR 6:15 if they are in the choir. Note for dancers: Rehearsals will be Sunday, November 28th and Sunday, December 5th during a portion of children's church. To ensure that they learn the dance, please try to have them here both Sundays.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY is scheduled for Saturday, December 4 from 5-7pm, for ages 3yrs through 5th grade. More info to come.

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 14 at Korner's Folly**. A cast of friends including Charlie and Ruth Jones will transport us to the home of G.K. Chesterton where we will celebrate Christmas as they did in the turn of the century. This event is appropriate for all ages. Cost is \$25 which includes a tour of Korner's Folly. Donations will be received to support Family Promise of Forsyth County. Tickets are available through the church office.

POINSETTIAS If you would like to order a poinsettia to help decorate the building, there are order forms on the front table. These may be purchased in honor or memory of someone. Poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled following the worship service on January 9, 2011.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! John Ellis (11/30); Adriana Dell'Arena (12/1); Ethan DeBoer (12/2); Nicole Howard (12/2); and Eric Morris (12/3).

INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER As the weather changes remember that if school is out, church programs will be cancelled. If there is snow or ice on Sunday morning, services will be held provided the leadership is able to get to the building, but Sunday School will be cancelled. If there is a cancellation, the announcement will be posted on our website and on the church's answering machine.

PLEASE NOTE that Tax-deductible contributions to the church for 2010 must be **received in the office by December 30 or postmarked by December 31st**. Receipts for any reimbursable expenditures for 2010 should be turned into the office by December 16.

For more information see our website: gracekernersville.org. You may also receive updates by following us on Twitter @GraceKville or by becoming a fan on Facebook: Grace Presbyterian Church Kernersville.

OUR SUNDAY SERVANTS

NURSERY SCHEDULE			
Date	Infants	Walkers	Children's Church
TODAY	Doug & Nancy Jewell	Gail Kuehn Hazel Ellis	November 2/3 yr Mona Underhill & Melissa Mainhart 4/K Chris DeBoer & Kelly Young 1st-3rd Joe Dell'Arena & Sarah Hicks 4th/5th Lori Dell'Arena
Dec 5	Helen Libby Fe Arasmo	Martha Larson Cara Mead	
Dec 12	Matt Lievens Carter Lievens	Janice Lievens Grayson Lievens	December 2/3 yr Amelia Trant & Pinkney Greene 4/K Dave & Danielle Wiebking 1st-3rd Rick & Linda Mainhart 4th/5th Ted & Amy Mead
Dec 19	Mark and Kristi Maier	Melanie Masi Bryan Pardue	

Ushers		Greeters	
Hugh Smith	Ben Banks	November: Jewell	
Dave Collins	Doug Sonnenburg	December: Bechtold	
Matt Lievens	Jim Dougherty	January: Mainhart	
Elder Prayer Rotation		Rapid Visitation	
November: Larry Clagett		November: Amy Mead	
December: Don Bechtold		December: Kristi Maier	
		January: Claudia Plybon	
Deacon		Dec 12	
Nov 28	Dec 5		
David Collins	Joe Dell'Arena	Jim Dougherty	
Worship Team			
Micheal Kuehn, Randy Edwards, Chip Ellis, Kristin Dougherty, Jodi Pardue, and Jim Dougherty			

Our Church Officers

Session: Don Bechtold, Larry Clagett, Randy Edwards, Doug Jewell, Matt Lievens, and Jim Plybon

Diaconate: David Collins, Joe Dell'Arena, Jim Dougherty, Karl Freeman, and Chad Sapp.

Church Staff and Contact Extensions

The church office is open Monday through Thursday 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

General Fund 2010 General Fund Budget \$324,860					
WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT	Building		Missions		
	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Needed to meet expenses	
	MTD Nov 23	\$ 27,072	\$ 21,049	\$ 21,346	\$ 6,023
YTD	\$ 297,792	\$ 290,842	\$ 283,325	\$ 6,950	
MTD Nov 23	\$ 0		MTD Nov 23	\$ 467	
YTD	\$ 6,353		YTD	\$ 5,247	



GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**DELIGHTING IN HIS WORSHIP
FOR THE JOY OF ALL PEOPLES**

NOVEMBER 28, 2010

For Reflection

"The wonder of this vision is that God Himself takes the oath. He swears to Abram by His own life that He will perform the word that He has promised. This divine oath seals the covenant that God makes with Abram. In that covenant He promises to destroy the wicked inhabitants of the land and to give it to Abram's descendants. The covenant focuses on the seed of Abram: the nation that God will raise up, the descendants (and the Descendant) of the promise.

The threat of the presence of the holy God fills the darkness and burns in the fire. God will not break His word. But what of the sins of Abram and of the nation to be born of him? Must they not be devoured by the very flame of judgment that God will bring upon the Amorites, when the cup of their iniquity is full? (Gen. 15:16). If God is to fulfill His oath of blessing to Abram, how can His mercy triumph over His wrath?

The answer is not fully revealed until God's darkness shrouds Calvary."

Edmund P. Clowney, *The Unfolding Mystery*

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 to pray with you.

Men's Prayer each Friday Morning in the Fellowship Hall from 6-7:15 am.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

PRELUDE

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

WELCOME!

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 48

Q123. What does the second request mean?

A. "Your kingdom come" means, Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you. Keep your church strong, and add to it. Destroy the devil's work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your Word. Do this until your kingdom is so complete and perfect that in it you are all in all.

Ps. 119:5, 105; 143:10; Matt. 6:33; Ps. 122:6-9; Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:42-47; Rom. 16:20; 1 John 3:8; Rom. 8:22-23; 1 Cor. 15:28; Rev. 22:17, 20

CALL TO WORSHIP

MINISTRY OF SONG

O Help My Unbelief

Mountains of Mercy

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: The Prophecy Candle

The Banks Family, Ben, Suzan, Catie Ann, Charis, and Decker

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

O Come, O Come Emanuel

Following the Offering, children will be dismissed. Nursery is available for children two years and under. Children ages three years through fifth grade are dismissed to Children's Church.

RENEWAL

GREETING ONE ANOTHER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Larry Claggett

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 15:1-21

SERMON

Randy Edwards

The Life of Abraham: How Can I Know?

RESPONSE

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.* The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,** the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* By this we mean that Jesus experienced the full condemnation and wrath of God on the cross.

** "catholic" or "universal" the church in every place and time.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Today we receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Grace Presbyterian Church welcomes all Christians who: profess faith in Jesus Christ for their salvation and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel, to participate and to receive the Lord's Supper. If you are unable to receive the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to reflect on the following prayers. Regardless of whether you are able to receive the elements today, you are invited forward to be prayed for by the elders who will be stationed on either side at the front of the sanctuary.

Prayer for Those Searching for the Truth

Blessed Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. I realize that no human mind could have conceived or invented the gospel. Impress the gospel on my soul as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is indeed true, please grant the virtue of the gospel to diffuse every faculty so that it may be heard, acknowledged, professed, and experienced. Help me to see the reality of who you are, and give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing which can lead me to the life that you promise. Amen.

Adapted from a Puritan prayer, Arthur Bennett, *The Valley of Vision*

Prayer of Belief and Commitment

Most merciful Father, we render to you all praise, thanks, and glory, for that it had pleased you, of your great mercies, to grant unto us, miserable sinners, so excellent a gift and treasure, as to receive us into the fellowship and company of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and have given him unto us as a necessary food and nourishment unto everlasting life. And now, we beseech you also, O Heavenly Father, to grant us this request, that you never suffer us to become so unkind as to forget so worthy benefits; but rather imprint and fasten them sure in our hearts, that we may grow and increase daily more and more in true faith, which continually is exercised in all manner of good works; and so much the rather, O Lord, confirm us in the confession of the same, to the advancement of thy glory, who art God over all things, blessed for ever. So be it. Amen.

Baird, *Presbyterian Liturgies*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

MERCY MINISTRIES OFFERING

And Can It Be?

BENEDICTION

SERMON NOTES

FOR REFLECTION:

But as the covenant is instituted formally in Genesis 15; the Lord dramatizes the gracious character of the covenantal relation by having himself alone to pass between the pieces. This covenant shall be fulfilled because God assumes himself full responsibility in seeing to its realization.

The pleading voice of the patriarch had urged: "How can I know? How can I be sure?"

The solemn ceremony of covenantal self-malediction provides the Lord's reply: "I promise. I solemnly commit myself as Almighty God. Death may be necessary. But the promise of the covenant shall be fulfilled."

In Jesus Christ God fulfills his promise. In Him God is with us. He offers his own body and his own blood as victim of the covenantal curses. His flesh is torn that God's word to the patriarch might be fulfilled."

O. Palmer Robertson, *The Christ of the Covenants*

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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