

1st Quarter Business Meeting Agenda
April 26, 2026

- Call to Order & Prayer – Charles Brown
- Membership Report – Hanna Fowler
- Benevolence Report – Rex Milburn
- Financial Report – Melvin Rhodes
- Elder Report – Randy Scott
- Any Other Ministry Reports - TBD
- Discipleship Pastor Report – Joey Wood
- Worship Pastor Report – Matt MacLeod
- Senior Pastor Report – Jimmy Long
- Other Business – Charles Brown
- Closing Prayer – Jimmy Long

2026 1st Quarter Membership Report

Membership Changes in 1st Quarter

Total Membership end of 4th Quarter 2025		405
New Members	2	
Members Deceased	1	
Members Transferred	1	
Members Removed since last meeting	0	
Total Change for Quarter	0	
Total Membership end of 1st Quarter 2026		405

1st Quarter Candidates for Membership

Profession of Faith	
Statement of Faith	
By Letter	
Total	

Total number of candidates for membership: 17

1st Quarter Membership Breakdown

Active Members	257
Inactive Members	148
Total	405

Benevolence Ministry Annual Report
1st Quarter 2026

	<u>QTR</u>
Number of Benevolence Requests	14
Number of Contacts	41
Beginning Balance	\$9,284
Contributions: January - March	\$5,834
Assistance Provided:	
Rent/Hotels	\$2,517
Utilities	\$1,960
Transportation	\$511
Food	\$254
Other	\$2,280
Greene County Christian Outreach	<u>\$2,334</u>
Total	\$9,856
Ending Balance of Fund	\$5,262

GRACE FELLOWSHIP FINANCIAL UPDATE				
	1st Quarter Results (Through March 31, 2026)			
	Budget	Actual	Variance	
FAITHFUL GIVING AND OFFERINGS	\$ 267,296	\$ 249,641	\$(17,655)	
GEORGIA BAPTIST FOUNDATION OFFERINGS		\$ 4,709	\$ 4,709	
NET OTHER INCOME		\$ 581	\$ 581	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 267,296	\$ 254,931	\$(12,365)	
MISSIONS	\$ 53,600	\$ 37,896	\$(15,704)	
GENERAL PERSONNEL	\$ 127,340	\$ 124,952	\$(2,388)	
CHURCH GROWTH	\$ 23,364	\$ 18,501	\$(4,863)	
OPERATIONS	\$ 83,822	\$ 69,078	\$(14,744)	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 288,126	\$ 250,427	\$(37,699)	
COMMENTS				
YTD Tithes / Offerings are 93% of annual budget and above last year.				
YTD Expenses are 87% of budget and \$24K above last year spending.				
Avg Weekly Giving thru March	\$ 19,203			
Weekly Giving needed to achieve budget	\$ 20,561			
ADJUSTED RESERVE FUNDS (ARF)	\$ Amount	# of Months		
ARF as of 3/31/2026	\$ 424,882	4.88		

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Grace Fellowship Financial Update
 1st Quarter Results (Jan. 1st – Mar. 31st)
INCOME

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Faithful Giving and Offerings	\$267,296	\$249,641	\$17,655
Georgia Baptist Foundation Offerings		\$4,709	\$4,709
Net Other Income		\$581	\$581
Total Income	\$267,296	\$254,931	\$12,365

Comments:

YTD Tithes/Offerings are 93% of annual budget and below last year
 Avg. Weekly Giving thru March - \$19,203
 Weekly Giving needed to achieve budget - \$20,561

Grace Fellowship Financial Update

1st Quarter Results (Jan. 1st – Mar. 31st)

EXPENSES

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Missions	\$53,600	\$37,896	\$15,704
General Personnel	\$127,340	\$124,952	\$2,388
Church Growth	\$23,364	\$18,501	\$4,863
Operations	\$83,822	\$69,078	\$14,744
Total Expenses	\$288,126	\$250,427	\$37,699

Comments:

YTD Expenses are 87% of budget and \$24k above last year spending

ADJUSTED RESERVE FUNDS (ARF) \$Amount # of Months

ARF as of 3/31/2026 \$424,882 4.88

Elder Council Annual Report

Grace Fellowship – First Quarter 2026

Our first quarter has been very busy at Grace Fellowship. The Elder Council is grateful to the church for the trust you place in us. It is an honor and a spiritual calling to serve this church family. We do not take this responsibility lightly. Please continue to pray for us as we trust God to lead Grace Fellowship according to His will.

Each month, the elders gather with a shared commitment to prayer. We begin our meetings by lifting up specific needs within the church family- interceding for spiritual growth, physical healing, encouragement in trials, and God's provision. We want the congregation to know that your elders pray for you and welcome the opportunity to pray with you. Please feel free to share prayer requests with any elder at any time.

Jimmy and Nancy Long along with Luke and Deborah Miller went on a Mission trip to Zambia Africa. Jimmy and Luke lead a pastor's conference while Nancy and Deborah led a conference for the wives. The Grace Fellowship group also participated in village ministry and encouragement for the staff at the Global Samaritans.

In regard to construction improvements to our church. We have had numerous windows repaired and thanks to Jim Meadows the pavilion has been repaired and it looks brand new. Patterson Heating and Air fixed the 2 HVAC units that were broken. Other projects on the list are children's bathroom, storage building, portico and electric sign out front.

In regard to the IT contract, we are projected to save \$1,000 per month after we get established with BrightsideIT.

The Elder Council elected officers for 2026. Chairman is Randy Scott, Vice Chairman is Steven Brondyke, and Secretary is AJ Hunt.

Your Elder Council

Children's Ministry Director Report

Q1 2026

Cassidy Callaway

January was a quiet month in the children's department. I worked on signing on a few new volunteers to replace the ones stepping down this year, and I ordered our VBS program for this year to begin planning. We missed one Sunday in K@G for snow (and only had 4 children in Kids Cove that Sunday), and another Sunday totally for ice. Kids Cove attendance averaged 12.7, Kids@Grace averaged 10, and Wednesday night KidzLife averaged 14.8.

In February Lisa and I began discussing and making plans for VBS, and we also had announcements on February 8 to talk about children's ministry and ways to serve. I sent out our traditional 'virtual baby shower' for 2 of our expecting members. Kids Cove attendance averaged 17.3, Kids@Grace averaged 9.3, and Wednesday night KidzLife averaged 16.3.

During March the discipleship team worked to plan our Easter event, Journey Beyond the Cross. We also collaboratively planned with Matt for the Kids@Grace kids to do an Easter reading on Easter Sunday, as they did with Advent. VBS planning continued in the background this month as well. Kids Cove attendance averaged 17.8, Kids@Grace averaged 10.5, and Wednesday night KidzLife averaged 20.

Each Wednesday night is better than the one before. We started the year off fresh in January, continuing in our study of the book of Acts. When February came our volunteer count dropped a bit due to schedule changes and situational dynamics which we have not fully recovered from. Please pray with me for many more people to join the effort of signing up once a month to help in children's ministry. No matter your age or experience, we will benefit from everyone's help. Please reach out to me or Cassidy to get involved.

All for Jesus,

LisaMarie

Ps 127:3

Quarterly Business Meeting

April 2026

Discipleship Report

Across the first quarter of 2026, the focus remained on developing leaders, engaging youth, families, children, growing our small groups, and positioning the church for both seasonal ministry and long-term outreach.

January kicked off with participation in the Impact Discipleship Summit, which encourages exploring off-campus Impact Groups. Youth ministry began the year with Winter Jam, while children's ministry gained momentum with the recruitment of new volunteers and early planning for Zambia's Zamjam VBS using the True North curriculum.

February served as a month of growth. The official launch of the Bell's small group in Madison marked a tangible outcome of the Impact Summit, while Wednesday night ministries and small-groups continued to grow rapidly and faithfully. Early planning also began for a re-imagined VBS model called VBX, exploring an outdoor, Wednesday-based format connected to Water Wednesdays.

March was a capstone month leading into Easter, with significant preparation for the Journey Beyond the Cross event. Teenagers were well prepared and very involved, and volunteers worked together to coordinate costumes, props, and logistics. The construction of Jarvis' tomb stood out as an example of our Discipleship teams' work. The passing of Kimberly Young during the month brought renewed awareness of the importance of a mercy ministry and elder involvement during times of loss. The quarter also finished with continued discipleship growth through the recruitment of a new family to lead a new Sunday morning small group once Room C1 is cleared, reflecting ongoing efforts to steward space and develop leaders.

As we look ahead, we are encouraged by the clear evidence of growth the Lord is bringing within our ministries. We are currently experiencing approximately 40% growth on Wednesdays, exceeding what was anticipated when the year's budget was established, and momentum continues to build. We are steadily approaching our goal of breaking 100 in Wednesday attendance and moving toward the full utilization of every available room for small groups sooner than we expected. In response, we are prayerfully evaluating how to steward our space well, including exploring improved use of the pavilion area to better serve our children and families.

This season of growth has been encouraging for us and further inspiring us to focus outreach into the downtown Greensboro area for the gospel. We are especially encouraged by the launch of our first off-campus Impact Group, composed primarily of non-members and led by a committed member. Looking toward summer and fall, plans are underway to launch a foundational evangelism-focused small group, as well as two new coed small groups, one with a specific emphasis on the family. Our prayer is that the Lord would

continue drawing people to Himself, bringing people into a life changing relationship with Christ. Filling every space with new faces hungry for God, and using Grace Fellowship as a place of discipleship, transformation, and faithful witness in our community.

Joey Wood
Discipleship Pastor

Worship & Ministry Quarterly Report (January–March 2026)

The first quarter of 2026 presented a unique mix of challenges and meaningful ministry opportunities. Weather disruptions significantly impacted our January and early February gatherings, resulting in a disjointed start to the year including both canceled and moved services. Despite these disruptions, the weeks we were able to gather were intentional and fruitful. Early in the quarter, we emphasized key spiritual themes including prayer, missions, and discipleship. A particularly engaging prayer-focused service invited strong congregational participation, while our missions emphasis highlighted opportunities for involvement in the coming year. We also observed Sanctity of Life Sunday, and communion.

As the quarter progressed and Pastor Jimmy transitioned into a study of 1 Samuel, we moved to shape our worship themes to align closely with his teaching text (similar to our Revelation study). Some of our worship themes included faith, overcoming, God's sovereignty and faithfulness, surrender, calling, obedience, presence, holiness, and reverence. This alignment between teaching and worship has continued to strengthen the cohesiveness of our gatherings.

Missions remained a visible and consistent focus throughout the quarter. In February, we highlighted the upcoming Zambia trip involving the Long and Miller families culminating in a commissioning service on March 8. March also served as our emphasis month for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, with weekly video spotlights, and we added in a special Wednesday evening missions night featuring R & K who had been scheduled to be with us in January during one of the lost weather weeks.

March proved to be an especially full month of ministry. With five Sundays to plan for, preparation for Holy Week which landed in the first week of April, and preaching responsibilities as I stepped in to preach during one of Jimmy's weeks away. We continued in 1 Samuel for that week, but for the second week we hosted Steve Foster from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board, who brought a message focused on evangelism.

In addition to the regular worship planning, time was given to support our student worship on Wednesday evenings, install new audio equipment in the gathering space which has served well for both Sunday ministry and special events, an IT management review, preparation for the annual meeting, and coordination of the Annie Armstrong emphasis. Lastly, communication remained a steady priority as well, with worship newsletters successfully completed and distributed.

While the quarter began with unexpected disruptions, the Lord provided meaningful opportunities for worship, teaching, and mission engagement. The continued alignment of worship with biblical teaching, combined with a steady focus on prayer, missions, and discipleship, has helped maintain momentum and spiritual direction as we move into the next season of ministry.

Our 1st quarter average for attendance is around 190, which is down from both our '25 1st and 4th quarter. However, this is not a surprise due to the weather impacts in January and February.

Administrator Report
1st Quarter 2026
April 26 2026

January

Budgets: Worked with Finance Team to present year-end 2025 and 2026 budget to Elder Council

Annual Business Meeting: Collected reports from contributors

Teams: Continuing project to identify current status and cleanup of various Teams folders

Bitner Henry: Completed workers' compensation annual audit

HVAC:

- RTU-2 (Offices) January 28 Superior diagnosed issue as 2 bad fuses and compressors bad. January ACS diagnosed issue as bad crankcase heater, motor and fuses; quote is \$5,004. Awaiting quote to replace entire unit
- RTU-1 (Halls B& C) February 2 ACS diagnosed issue as leaking refrigerant. Quote to replace refrigerant only \$2,250. Awaiting quote to replace coil. Awaiting another quote to replace the entire unit
- RTU-3 (Gathering Space, Youth rooms and Kitchen) ACS states operating as expected; no issues.

Benevolence: Initiated use of Google Spreadsheet developed by Orian Motley now used by several local organizations to inform all participants of actions taken on behalf of benevolence recipients.

22 Benevolence contacts in January:

- 3 Members
 - Home health care: \$2,280
 - Transportation & food: \$507.95
 - Car insurance: \$217.02
- 4 Non-members
 - 2 GA Power: \$235.29, \$397.84
 - Gas: \$39.93
 - 2 Rent: \$585; \$643

- 3 Non-members referred to other organizations
- 12 Non-members: No action taken

February

Teams: Continuing project to identify current status and cleanup of various Teams folders

Bitner Henry: Reported minor parking lot accident involving church bus. Insurance filed

HVAC:

- RTU-1 (Halls B & C) & RTU-2 (Offices)
 - Solicited diagnoses from 3 HVAC companies. Selected Patterson HVAC who recommended repair for both units at a substantially lower cost. Entered into a one-year service agreement that renews until either party terminates the agreement.
- RTU-3 (Gathering Space, Youth rooms and Kitchen) continues to operate as expected; no issues.

Computer operations:

- Signed an offboarding agreement with bdManagedIT effective March 1 to be concluded by April 30 at which time BrightsideIT will become our managed IT company. We are expecting to pay for a new firewall and higher Microsoft non-profit licenses. Must pay both companies for March and April.

Accounting operations:

- Began investigating local options to provide accounting services at a lower cost which was suspended until May because accountants are focused on income tax season.

Benevolence contacts in February: 7

- Members: None
- Non-members: 1, paid \$238.12 GA Power & \$400 rent. Collaborated with SVdP who paid additional \$400 rent
- Non-members referred to other organizations: 1
- Non-members: 5, No action taken

March

Computer operations and accounting operations – same as for February

Pest Control:

Wasps have become more active with warming weather. Nests were located in many places where gutters cover the siding on three sides of the building. They can enter the building in holes about ¼ of an inch. Bug House was employed to spray around the entire church building, even on the roof.

Benevolence contacts in March: 11

- Members: None
- Non-members:
 - 2 – paid \$654.06 & \$235.41 for lodging
 - 1 - paid \$400 rent
 - 2 – paid \$372 & \$716.08 GA Power
- Non-members: 6, No action taken

Senior Pastor Report for the Quarterly Business Meeting - Sunday, April 26, 2026

Grace family, these past few months have been full of both challenges and blessings, and through it all we have seen God's faithfulness as we continue to pursue our mission of glorifying God by bringing people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. January presented several unexpected disruptions due to winter weather, including cancelled services, a postponed Annual Business Meeting, and temporary office closures. Even so, ministry continued through online services and the faithful engagement of our church family, and I am grateful for your flexibility and commitment during that time.

We have also experienced some important leadership transitions. Joni Ghatti completed her three-year term as Church Clerk, and we are thankful for her faithful service. Hannah Fowler has stepped into that role and was affirmed by the church. In addition, Daniel Strozier stepped down from his Deacon role due to the increasing needs of his family as they care for his mother-in-law. We continue to pray for Daniel and Terre during this season and will be recommending a new Deacon to the church in the near future.

God has given us meaningful opportunities for ministry both locally and globally. In January, about 20 of our members participated in a public "Choose Life" emphasis, standing for the value of every human life. In March, Nancy and I, along with Luke and Deborah Miller, had the privilege of serving in Zambia where we led a pastors' conference for 25 pastors, while also providing training for their wives. Grace Fellowship made it possible not only for us to go, but also to provide meals and resources for those attending. We were also able to participate in a village Bible study and a children's outreach at an orphanage. It was a powerful reminder that your giving and prayers are making an impact far beyond our community.

Holy Week was a special and spiritually meaningful time for our church. Our midweek communion service provided an opportunity to reflect on the love of God and the sacrifice of Christ. Our Student Ministry led a "Journey Beyond the Cross" event that clearly and creatively shared the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, and our Easter Sunrise and worship services were both joyful and encouraging. As Scripture reminds us, *"He is not here, for he has risen, as he said"* (Matthew 28:6, ESV), and we rejoiced together in that truth.

In February we began a verse-by-verse sermon series through 1 Samuel, which has already been a rich study in God's leadership and faithfulness. During my time away in Zambia, Pastor Matt Macleod and Pastor Joey faithfully continued the series, and we are grateful for their leadership in the pulpit.

We have also been working to steward our church resources wisely. After receiving multiple evaluations, we have developed a plan to repair two HVAC units rather than replace them, resulting in significant cost savings. We also did an evaluation of our IT services to find a better option to meet our needs while reducing expenses. The transition will be complete by the end of April. I appreciate the work of our Administrative Coordinator Hank Raehn in doing the leg work for this change.

As we look ahead, we are preparing for several important opportunities. We will observe the Lord's Supper on May 3, which will also mark the beginning of our Benevolence Offering. We will host a community-wide National Day of Prayer service on Thursday, May 7 at Noon. The service will be

followed by a soup lunch. In addition, we are excited about upcoming mission opportunities, including trips to Wears Valley in May, the Dominican Republic in June, and Zambia in August. Our summer VBX (Vacation Bible Experience) will take place on Wednesday evenings from June through July, providing another opportunity to invest in the next generation.

As I reflect on these months, I am reminded of God's sustaining grace over our church. Through challenges, transitions, and opportunities for ministry, the Lord is at work accomplishing His purpose. *"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 15:58, ESV).

Thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your prayers. It is truly an honor to serve alongside you.