

# Grace Fellowship

JUNE 2026  
NEWSLETTER

## GET READY FOR A SUPER SUMMER!

# VBX KICKOFF CARNIVAL

June 3rd  
6:30-8pm

wednesday nights  
june 3 - july 29



MORE DETAILS INSIDE OR AT [GRACEFELLOWSHIP.WS](http://GRACEFELLOWSHIP.WS)

# IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Anthony Floyd	4
Matt Finch	4
Parker Malone	4
Cathy Whitcomb	10
Mac Manley	10
Rex Milburn	12
Jonnie Ghetti	13
Jim Bedsole	15
Mary Alice Human	16
Tracy Durrance	17
Carolyn Jordan	18
Jeff Parker	21
Noah Allen	23
Orian Motley	23
Heather Harrison	24
Jean Raehn	24
Kathryn Purdy	25
Austin Warwick	27
Chuck Gerlach	28

## ANNIVERSARIES

William & Linda McNeil	1
Curtis & Emily Crumbley	2
Holt & Stacy Spivey	2
Jody & DeeDee Hice	4
Fred & Susan Paradise	7
Mike & Joyce Daniel	7
Rick & Tommi Ward	8
Hank & Jean Raehn	10
Mike & Carol Kuhn	11
Larry & Mary Lyn Choate	12
Richard & Beverly Sparkmon	15
Nelson & Ashley Morales	19
Adrian & Yvonne Beasley	22
Earl & Susie Porche'	22
Brett & Elizabeth Hansen	26
Jimmy & Nancy Long	29
Jordan & Mollie Knowles	30

## Scripture for JUNE

The name of the Lord  
is a strong tower;  
the righteous man  
runs into it and is safe.

**Proverbs 18:10**

starting  
june 3



# FINANCES & BUDGET

## *Financial Update*

Giving, Expenses, and Budget thru 4/30/26

Budget	\$ 349,541
Giving	<u>\$ 344,144</u>
Variance	\$ - 5,397
Expenses	\$ 325,382

## We Are a Local Church with a Global Impact

Grace Fellowship is a cooperating church with the Southern Baptist Convention and the Georgia Baptist Mission Board. Not only does Grace receive support from these agencies, our involvement (along with over 12 million members in nearly 47,000 congregations) enables us to make an impact far beyond our community.

For generations, Southern Baptists have worked together to do far more collectively than any one church could ever do alone. Through the Cooperative Program, churches pool their resources to support theological education, church planting, disaster relief, evangelism, missions, and ministry efforts across our nation and around the world. The Cooperative Program is not simply a funding strategy; it is a partnership for the sake of the gospel. It reflects the biblical principle that we are "laborers together with God" (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV), joining hands to make Christ known.

Here in Georgia, the Georgia Baptist Mission Board serves churches by strengthening pastors, equipping leaders, planting churches, supporting evangelism, and helping congregations reach their communities effectively. Across North America, the North American Mission Board works to plant churches, send missionaries, and respond to crises with the love of Christ. Around the world, the International Mission Board sends missionaries to take the gospel to unreached peoples and places where the name of Jesus is not yet known. These ministries represent the cooperative heart of Southern Baptists and our shared commitment to fulfill the Great Commission.

When a church gives through the Cooperative Program, it is investing in eternity. Every offering helps train pastors and missionaries, strengthen churches, care for those in need, and proclaim the gospel both near and far. In a time when the world desperately needs truth and hope, faithful giving through these cooperative efforts allows Southern Baptists to stand together in obedience to Christ's command: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19, ESV).

# MISSIONS

## Partner with us as we bring True North to Zambia!



Dear Grace Family,

Our Zambia mission team is busily preparing for **Zam J.A.M.** this August. **Zam J.A.M.** is an all-day VBS for approximately 450 children in Zambia. This year the theme will be **"True North – Trusting Jesus in a Wild World."**

We will be leading crafts, Bible lessons, and activities with **children in grades 1-8**, and we would love your help gathering supplies for the trip. Because we must pack and transport everything to Zambia, we are focusing on **lightweight and easy-to-pack items.**

Here are some of the most helpful supplies you could donate:

- **Stickers (stars, hearts, animals, encouragement, etc.)**
- **Markers**
- **Black Sharpies**
- **Ribbon or yarn**
- **Tissue paper (bright colors)**
- **Pony beads**
- **Brass fasteners/brads**
- **Cardstock paper (bright colors or black)**
- **Gallon-size Ziplock bags**



If you would like to help, donations can be dropped off at the church **by July 5.**

There will be a **preparation day at Grace Fellowship on Thursday, July 9 from 9am-2pm**, and we invite you to join us for the fun! **For more information talk with Nancy Long, Joey Wood, or Lisa Cronic.**

Most importantly, please pray for:

- **the children we will meet**
- **our mission team**
- **safe travels**
- **and that every child will learn that Jesus is their True North!**

Thank you for helping us share the love of Jesus with children in Zambia!

Blessings, *Nancy Long and the entire Zambian Mission Team*



# MISSIONS

## Greene County Food Pantry June Food Drive



**JUNE** ♡ ♡

**FOOD DRIVE**

**STOCK THE KID'S ROOM**

Greene County Food Pantry

Helping kids.  
Building stronger  
tomorrows. ♡

**YOUR DONATION  
MAKES A BIG  
DIFFERENCE!** ♡

**MOST NEEDED ITEMS:** ☺

 Annie's Mac and Cheese	 Beanie Weenies
 Chef Boyardee Ravioli	 Goldfish (individual packs)
 Chef Boyardee Spaghetti and Meatballs	 Graham Crackers (individual packs)
 Fruit bars	 Oatmeal
 Fruit snacks	 Shelf Stable Milk
 Applesauce	 Small cereal boxes
 Fruit cups	 Snack Packs
	 Any healthy snacks

**♡ DONATE TODAY!**

 All donations help provide healthy food and hope to local children.

☺ ♡ TOGETHER, WE CAN FILL THEIR SUMMER WITH NOURISHMENT. ♡ ☺

Use the drop-off spot in the Gathering Space.

# MISSIONS

## *Missions Prayer*

The **Rajputs** are a group of high caste Hindus living primarily in Northern India. God has called and equipped Moses to teach and to proclaim the Gospel to this unreached people group with less than 2% evangelical Christians. The name, Rajput means “Sons of the King” and Moses’ and our prayer is that they will come to know God, the King of Kings through the Lord Jesus Christ. Persecution is increasing in the area and 3 indigenous pastors were killed recently. Please pray for protection for Moses and his family. Shristi, his daughter, has completed medical training and will be sitting for her licensing exam on June 28. She hopes to join him in ministry.



R&K have been called to take the gospel to the **Khofa** people group in an undisclosed country. They are classified as an “unengaged” or “frontier” people group as there are no known Christians among them or no known Christian workers presently engaging them. R &K’s team seeks to do this. The world’s greatest problem is lostness, and the number of those dying without Christ grows every day. God has given the solution – the Gospel! (MT 28:18-20)

### Pray that:

- God would grant visas for R&K as they wait to transition to this country
- That they would grow in their relationship with Jesus and with each other as they wait
- God would bless business efforts for access and engagement
- He would use this team to plant a church among the Khofa people

# MISSIONS



## Item of the MONTH

Each month, I'll share an "Item of the Month" to help reduce holiday and Christmas shopping stress.

### JUNE ITEM of The MONTH: TOYS

Examples: Jump Rope, Small Ball, "Matchbox" Type Cars, Fidget Spinners, Kazoos, Harmonicas, Slinkies, Building Blocks, Finger Puppets, etc.

Through Operation Christmas Child, Samaritan's Purse is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with millions of boys and girls in more than 100 countries each year. Many of these children have never before received a present or heard the message of Jesus until they open a gift-filled shoebox from a person like you. One such child was Setian in Kenya.

On her way home from school, Setian, 9, used to pick up stubs of pencils on the ground so she could do her homework. Her parents could not afford to buy her new ones. Setian attended an Operation Christmas Child outreach event where she heard the Gospel and prayed for what she needed before opening her shoebox gift. Inside, she found pens and pencils! Setian told her parents about Jesus. They accepted His salvation by faith and began attending church with their daughter. Setian also shared the Gospel with her friends, and today 20 other children are coming to church as a result of her invitations.

Never underestimate what God can do with the shoebox you pack. It's not just about toys, it's all about changing lives. If you have not started your box yet, it's not too late.

*Libby Chapman, OCC Coordinator*

# CHILDREN'S

## MINISTRY

*It's a joy and an honor to serve and teach your children each week. They have hungry minds and it's amazing to watch them learn and grow in the Lord.*

*We need you! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in the children's ministry, please contact Cassidy Callaway at [children@gracefellowship.ws](mailto:children@gracefellowship.ws) to get plugged in or to ask any questions.*

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## KIDS COVE

This June is another special month in Kids Cove - we get TWO units! **'Super Duper Sticker Party'** and **'FaceTime with Felix'**. In the first part of the month, we will use stickers to reveal stories of the Bible's best friendships, and the kids will discover the beauty of a friend who sticks closer than a brother and the forever friendship we can have when we stick with Jesus! Then at the end of the month we will meet Felix the Fox, who will help put a face to the many emotions found in the Bible. The kids will learn that God is with them no matter how they feel and He helps them show kindness.



## KIDS @ GRACE



This month we will dig into creation! We'll begin with the 7 C's of History (a review for those of you who were at Jungle Journey!), and then we'll learn how God created the universe, days, kinds, animals, and man. **Reminder: K@G does not meet for the month of July. We will have worksheets for them.** If you have a child in 1st-4th grade who is not yet plugged into Kids@Grace, please feel free to come with them to class at the dismissal announcement! You can also contact Cassidy Callaway at [children@gracefellowship.ws](mailto:children@gracefellowship.ws) to get them set up and ask any questions. Reminder: Kids@Grace offers a Sunday school class as well, from 9-10am. If you would like your child to be in this class, stop by the kids' check-in desk to be directed there.

# CHILDREN'S

## MINISTRY



Mark your calendars for our **VBX kickoff** as we celebrate the beginning of summer, carnival-style! We'll have games, bounce houses, ice cream truck, popcorn, face-painting, contests, and more! FREE cookout dinner at 6pm and the fun starts at 6:30. No childcare on this night- enjoy time together with your families!

June 3-July 29      Nursery-  
Dinner: 6 pm      5th grade  
VBX & Adult      Water games, slip-  
Small Groups:      n-slide, science,  
6:30-8pm      treats, and more!  
Contact [children@gracefellowship.ws](mailto:children@gracefellowship.ws)

**VBX** is coming this summer, a twist on traditional VBS! **Every Wednesday evening from June 3-July 29** the kids will embark on an Irish adventure through Psalm 23 to learn how the Lord is our Shepherd, Leader, Comforter, Provider, and Promise Keeper. We'll have a slip-n-slide, water games, treats, science & crafts, and more for kids (nursery-5th grade).

**Dinner at 6pm, VBX and adult small groups 6:30-8pm.** Invite your family and friends to come along this summer (no drop-offs please)! You don't want to miss this... kids AND adults! Church- we need your help to teach the next generation about our Good Shepherd! Contact [Cassidy Callaway](#) or [Lisa Cronin](#) for questions or to sign up!

# ELDER UPDATE

## The Elder Communication for the June 2026 Newsletter

The Elder Council met on May 19 in our regular monthly meeting with Chairman Randy Scott presiding. Pastor Jimmy opened the meeting in prayer and presented the devotion.

As always, the Elders set aside a time of discussion for the known prayer needs of our membership, as well as the needs of each elder. Following this, Pastor Jimmy prayed for the names and needs in the church as well as for the Elders and his family.

Following the decision to build an onsite storage building, the plans were not approved by the city due to our proximity to Highway 44 and the building's visibility from the road. Donnie Chapman has been asked to guide this project, and a new proposal was shared with the Elders to construct the same size building on our property using church-provided labor. The proposal will be taken to the city for their approval. By doing some of the construction ourselves, the project should come in below the \$25,000 budget. We will keep you posted.

Ministry updates included additional kitchen volunteers, appreciation for Matt Macleod's leadership during the Wears Valley Ranch mission trip, and discussion regarding the Mercy Team and the possibility of expanding its ministry to include homebound and hospital visitation. Matt Macleod also shared some possible schedule changes to serving the Lord's Supper.

The church has received a generous contribution from Ellen Wisdom's estate. Based on input from the Finance Team, the Elders have provided instructions to the Treasurer on how to invest the gift. The Elders will present to the church in our next Quarterly Business Meeting the intended plans for this gift and seek the church's approval as needed.

Additional updates were provided on future HVAC needs, approval of Zander and Mariah Burger as messengers to the 2026 Southern Baptist Convention, and several ministry action items related to facilities, finance, and ministry team organization.

The next scheduled Elder Council meeting is June 16. If there are any issues that you would like addressed, please contact any of the elders to request it be placed on our agenda.

## Don't Forget Your Nametag

It may seem like a small thing, but wearing your name tag on Sunday morning helps both guests and members get to know you better. Stop by the name tag board each week and grab yours!

If you have misplaced your nametag, call Nancy Miller in the church office or sign up for a new name tag at the Welcome Desk.





# DISCIPLESHIP

## **The Midweek Service: *A Family Gathering***

Wednesday nights have quickly become one of the most meaningful rhythms in the life of our church. Each week, we come together not just for programs, but for community—growing in faith, building relationships, and encouraging one another in every season of life.

We offer small groups for both men and women, open to young and older adults alike. Our women's' group, led by Brooke Wood, Megan Freeman, and Carrie Human, provides a welcoming space for connection and spiritual growth. Our men's group, led by Jimmy Long and David Cronic, offers the same opportunity for fellowship, encouragement, and discipleship. These groups are a place where life is shared and faith is strengthened together.

At the same time, our next generation is being poured into with intentional care. Our teenagers gather for Youth Worship, while our children are engaged in KidzLife—both designed to help them grow in their understanding of God in a fun and meaningful way.

Before everything begins, we share a meal together as one big family at 6:00 pm. Anyone is welcome to join us—it's a great way to connect, slow down, and step into the evening together.

None of this happens without an incredible team of servants. We are so thankful for everyone who plays a part in making Wednesdays possible—our children's team, security team, small group leaders, youth volunteers, cleanup crew, setup team, and our amazing cooking team who ensures no one goes hungry. It truly is a full-force effort, and we love being part of what God is doing through this midweek family.

If you'd like to be part of what's happening—whether by serving on a team or joining a group, I'd love to hear from you. Come be part of the family!

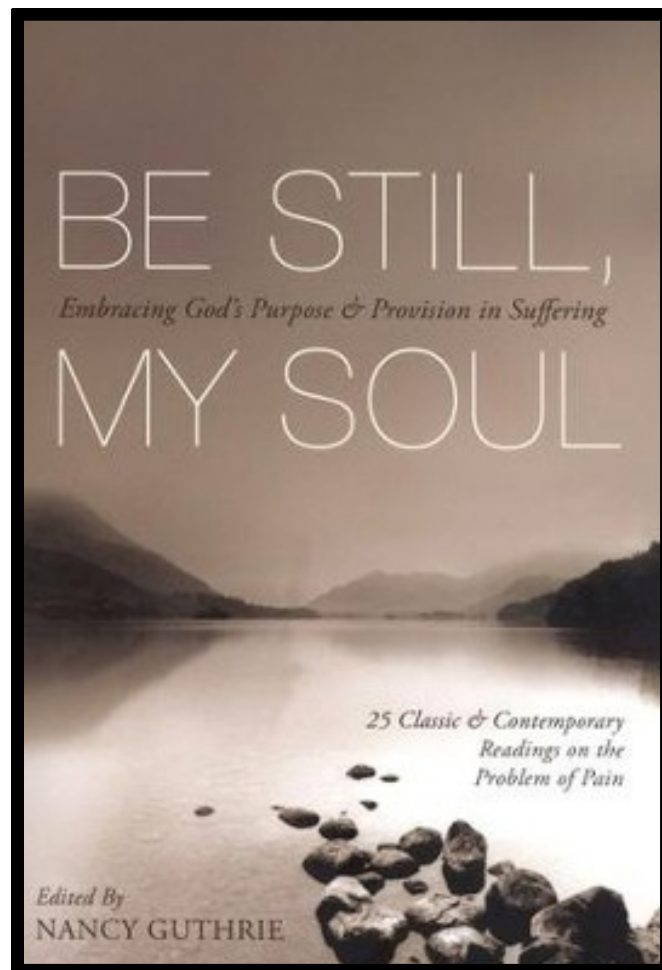
**6:00 PM WEDNESDAYS**  
**DONATIONS APPRECIATED**  
**18 & UNDER EAT FREE!**

# GRACE @ HOME

## REMINDER

**We've restocked our *Grace@Home* resource table with a wide variety of new books and discipleship tools covering marriage, parenting, grandparenting, adult children, missions, personal growth, and more.**

***All resources are available for just \$10.***



When you experience suffering and loss, it's natural to cry out, "*Why is this happening? Where are you, God?*" Offering profound insights from an array of classic and contemporary theologians, teachers, and missionaries, these comforting readings open your eyes to God's purpose and provision -- even in the midst of pain and tragedy.

Edited by Nancy Guthrie.

**Come and get your copy at the *Grace @ Home* table this month!**