

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



*Give thanks in all
circumstances; for this
is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you.*

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Colynne Miller	1
Barry Clower	3
Caroline Finch	3
Andrew McElhannon	4
Kathy Thomas	5
Alley McCullough	7
Thomas Miller	8
Hanna Fowler	8
Alonzo Vasquez	11
Jared Norton	14
Stacy Spivey	15
Mike Moore	15
Mary Lynn Mobley	16
Abbigail Webb	18
Leona (Ellie) Webb	18
Bobby Phillips	20
Terre Strozier	22
Megan Freeman	22
Sandy Clark	23
Cynthia Chambers	24
Gavin Harris	25
Noah Human	26
Lawson Manley	28

ANNIVERSARIES

Lem & Sandy Clark	18
Bobby & Kathy Thomas	24

Scripture for NOVEMBER

***Oh give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good,
for his steadfast love
endures forever!***

Psalm 107:1



**SET YOUR CLOCKS
BACK ONE HOUR
BEFORE BEDTIME
ON SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 1**

**LORD'S SUPPER
& BENEVOLENCE
OFFERING**



NOVEMBER 2

IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

Ladies **FELLOWSHIP**

You are invited to a special gathering on Tuesday, November 18 at 11:30am to enjoy sweet fellowship, a delicious meal, and an informative discussion led by Sheriff Donnie Harrison. This will be a covered-dish meal, so bring something to share!



IT MUST BE GETTING CLOSE TO ... *Christmas*

November 30 ~ Advent Begins

December 6 ~ Gingerbread Bash

December 17 ~ Youth Christmas Party

December 24 ~ Christmas Eve Service

Please let the church office know if your small group is having a Christmas party!

FINANCES & BUDGET

Financial Update

Giving, Expenses, and Budget **thru 9/30/25**

Budget	\$ 756,174
Giving	<u>\$ 771,250</u>
Variance	\$ 15,076

Expenses	\$ 715,772
----------	------------

Thank You for Your Faithful Giving

As we move into the final quarter of 2025, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to our Grace Fellowship family for your faithfulness and generosity throughout this year. Your giving has been a visible expression of your love for the Lord and your commitment to His work here and around the world.

Through the first three quarters of this year, our church has given nearly \$125,000 to ministry and missions causes. This includes support for our missions teams serving in Zambia, Wears Valley Ranch, the Dominican Republic, and our ongoing support of the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention. Because of your faithfulness, lives are being touched and transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I am especially grateful for the strong giving we experienced during the summer months, which allowed us to move forward in ministry and rebuild some of the reserve we had lost over the past two years. Our staff and ministry teams have also demonstrated wise stewardship, keeping expenses below budget while continuing to serve faithfully and effectively.

At this point in the year, giving remains ahead of last year's pace. That's a wonderful testimony to your faithfulness. As we look toward the final months of 2025, I am hopeful that our giving will continue to be strong—enabling us not only to finish the year well but also to plan boldly for ministry in the new year and beyond.

Thank you for investing in what God is doing through Grace Fellowship. As Paul reminded the Corinthians, *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work"* (2 Corinthians 9:8).

The Best Is Yet to Come! ***Pastor Jimmy***

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 to get plugged in or to ask any questions.

.....

KIDS COVE

Our November unit for Kids Cove is 'Uh-Oh Topher'. That mischievous little gopher has done it again! Topher the Gopher has burrowed his way into the large group room while we weren't looking. He got his paws on the story pictures from the true Bible story and hid them! But the story must go on! It's up to the kids to find the hidden pictures so the story can be told. During the silly search, we will learn that God takes care of us and His way is the best way!



KIDS @GRACE



This month our class will be off the first Sunday for Communion. When we return on November 9th, we will begin with a Unit Review. Through the remainder of the month we'll study Paul's letter to the Philippians, and learn from Peter how to be holy and how to recognize false teaching. Kids@Grace does not meet for the month of December! Enjoy your family time in the service as we go through Advent season together! 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 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 kid's check-in desk to be directed there.

LAKE BAPTISMS

Lake Oconee



For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
(Galatians 3:27)

CANDY QUEST



ELDER UPDATE

Elder Communication for the November 2025 Newsletter

The Elder Council met for its regularly monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 21. A.J. Hunt opened the meeting with prayer. This was followed by the devotion given by Nolan Callaway. The minutes of the September Elder Council meeting were considered and approved.

Each month the Elders recite from memory the church mission statement as a means to remind us to stay focused on what is most important. The mission statement reads: *"Grace Fellowship exists to glorify God by bringing people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ."* May the Lord guide us as we seek to pursue this mission!

Mike Moore, who serves as the Elder liaison for the Finance Team gave a positive update on giving and the budget. Our target reserve for the church operating account is having 2 months of budget on hand. As of the end of September, our reserve fund stands at 4.67 months. Giving in 2025 has exceeded the same time period for 2024 by \$112,322. Expenses continue to be monitored carefully, and currently overall spending is less than what was budgeted. It was suggested that a letter go out to the church as an update on our current status and encouragement to our faithful givers as the fiscal year comes to a close.

The Elders entered a time of discussion for the known prayer needs of our membership, as well as the needs of each Elder. Pastor Jimmy lifted up those needs in prayer. Please let us know of any particular needs that you have, so that we can more effectively pray for this church family.

Items of business considered during this meeting were -

- One of the efforts discussed by the Elders to encourage the unchurched to attend has to do with updating our reviews on the Google search engine. Members and small groups are encouraged to leave reviews about Grace Fellowship on Google. This is yielding results with now 50 reviews being active. Joey Wood is coordinating this through the small group ministry.
- The Elders considered the recommendations for new Elders from the church. Each recommendation was considered and the Elders look forward to continuing the evaluation process and presenting a candidate or candidates for a church vote in January.
- A number of building and grounds needs were discussed. These needs are being prioritized based on safety and long-term impact. Among these items were: the addition of a children's restroom, replacing windows in the building, adding a storage building, removing the pavilion and future replacement, new road sign, needed audio/visual upgrades, and replacement of the office copier. Each item has an estimated cost. Some items will be planned for and budgeted. Other needs will be addressed when necessary. The church will be kept informed as to the needs and any actions that will take place.

The next Elder Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18. If there are items of business to be considered, please contact one of the Elders or the Senior Pastor.

YOUTH MINISTRY

WEDNESDAY *Nights*

Join us every Wednesday at 6:00 PM for a night of connection, fun, and faith! *It's a great time to hang out and fuel up before we dive into worship, games, and meaningful conversations.*

DINNER AT 6! YOUTH EAT FREE!

kidzlife
@ GRACE

**PRE-K
-
5TH
GRADE**

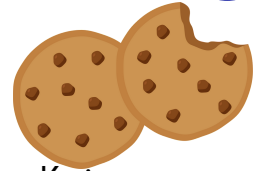
KidzLife is a Bible-centered children's curriculum for churches who value the next generation.

6PM ON WEDNESDAYS!

COMMUNITY NEWS



COOKIES for KAIROS



Cookies baked with prayer are a significant tool used during a Kairos Prison Ministry weekend. They are used to soften the hardened and calloused hearts to allow Jesus to come in through the power of the Holy Spirit. To the inmates it means someone cares about them, that someone they don't even know loves them and that someone took the time to do something for them even as undeserving as they may feel. Please pray about this and if you feel led by the Holy Spirit to participate in this ministry then read on...

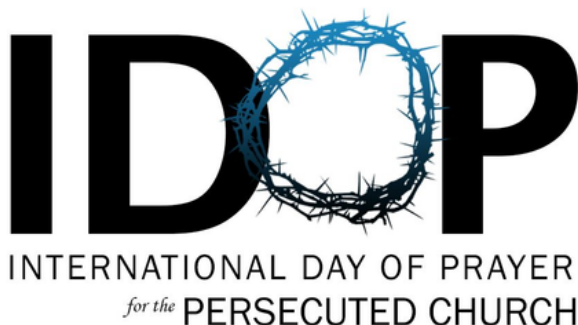
We need a lot of homemade cookies for the Kairos weekend.

Directions are:

- Each cookie should be approximately 2" to 3" in diameter.
- Cookies should be baked with prayer.
- Cookies should be sealed in a Ziploc bag. 6 cookies per bag.
- If you use peanut butter or nuts in your recipes then the bags of cookies containing these ingredients need to be labeled as such.
- A note should be placed in each bag to say something about God's love such as: "Jesus loves you and so do we."

Deliver cookies to the Grace Fellowship kitchen or call Bobby Thomas no later than 5:00pm Wednesday, November 18.

////////////////////////////////////



PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Over 365 million Christians live in areas of high or extreme persecution.

Grace Fellowship will set aside Sunday, November 9 to pray for the persecuted church.