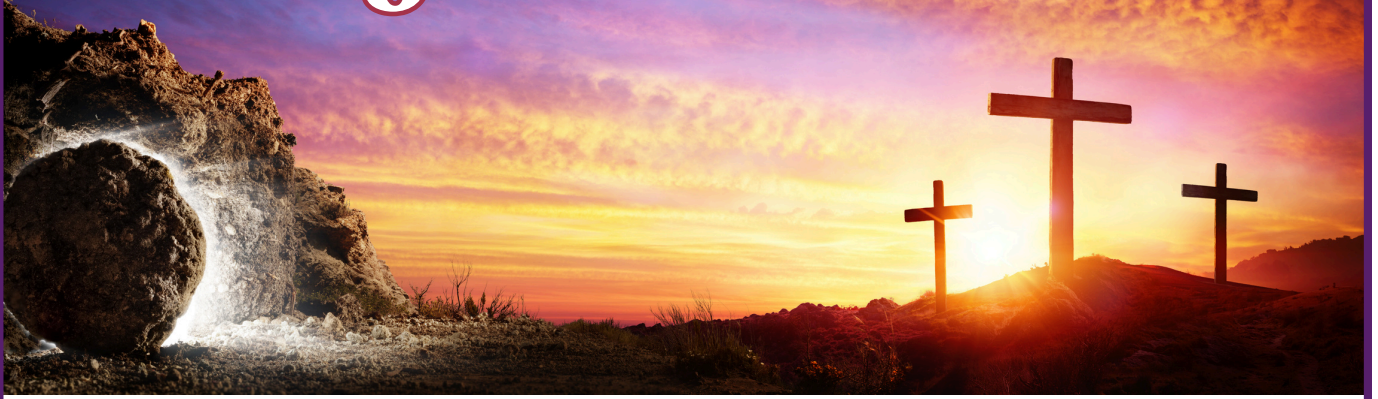


Holy Week @ Grace



Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Holy Week Communion

(note - there will be no family night meal served)

Saturday @ 10:30 a.m.

Journey Beyond the Cross

An immersive walk-through experience of Jesus' journey to the cross & beyond. Fun for the whole family, with treats and bounce houses!

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Sunrise Service @ 7:00 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.

Worship @ 10:30 a.m.

IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

David Cronic	1
Loydene Wilcoxson	3
Brittany Dyches	3
Jere Womble	4
Nelso Vasquez	6
Lisa Marie Cronic	7
Yvonne Beasley	7
Charles (Chuck) Marcussen	9
Daniella Caamano	11
Kelly Clower	13
Darlene Nicklow	14
Kettely Mauricette	14
Janis Phelps	15
Hannah Hunt	16
James Lester	18
Traci Johnson	19
Amy Ferman	19
Janice (Jan) Marcussen	21
Tim Gallops	26
Clarence Davidson	26
April Demoss	28
Beverly Sparkmon	29
Richard (Mark) Demoss	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Josh & Hailie Cummins	4
Churck & Janice Philippi	9
David & Tara Allen	10
Jarvis & Megan Freeman	11
Jeff & Christy Parker	12
Ron & Suzanne R Mohammed	13
T J & Miranda Mitchell	14
Jay & Brittany Moon	20

Scripture for APRIL

Jesus said to her,
“I am the
resurrection and the
life. Whoever
believes in me,
though he die, yet
shall he live.”

John 11:25

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 26
NOON

MISSIONS



Item of the MONTH

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

APRIL ITEM of The MONTH: STUFFED ANIMALS OR PLUSH TOYS

This month, selecting items for your Operation Christmas Child box should be straightforward, as a variety of stuffed animals—including Christian-themed options and other small toys—are likely to be discounted following Easter. Consider browsing local retailers such as Dollar General, Walmart, Hobby Lobby, as well as independent gift shops.

Operation Christmas Child is currently encouraging participants to focus on assembling boxes for boys aged 10–14 years. While it may be challenging to shop for this age group when considering typical Western preferences, it is important to remember that boys in these circumstances often have limited access to basic furnishings and regard toys and gifts as luxuries. For many recipients, the contents of these boxes can have a significant impact and perhaps draw them to Christ.

We appreciate the enthusiasm of those who have already taken boxes to focus on year-round shopping for their box(s). If you were unable to obtain your Shoebox earlier, additional boxes will be available at the Connection Center on the first Sunday of each month. Alternatively, please feel free to approach me in the gathering space if you want a box.

As you continue to add items to your Operation Christmas Child box, pray for your box recipient. In next month's update, I will share online resources where you can purchase deflated soccer balls (with pumps), toys, dolls, and games for those who pack multiple boxes.

Let's set a record number of boxes from Grace!

Thank you and God Bless You,
Libby Chapman, OCC Coordinator

MISSIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR RECENT TRIP
TO GLOBAL SAMARITANS IN ZAMBIA



FINANCES & BUDGET

Financial Update

Giving, Expenses, and Budget thru 2/28/26

Budget	\$ 164,490
Giving	<u>\$ 144,324</u>
Variance	\$ -20,166
Expenses	\$ 173,832

We are happy to report that our church is in sound financial condition. We carry no debt, and our reserve fund stands at 5.03 months of expenses. Additionally, in our Annual Church Meeting the church voted to send an additional \$35,000 to the Cooperative Program (CP) in support of missions. This brought our total giving to the CP in 2025 to \$85,000 (or 8% of our non-designated gifts for the year). Our desire is to continue to be faithful in fulfilling the Great Commission both locally and internationally. YOU make that possible.

Our church supports many ministries and missions, but our largest contribution goes to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention. If you are curious as to how the funds are allocated, please see the chart below.

2025-2026 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget

This allocation budget represents anticipated gifts forwarded to the SBC.

\$190,000,000

73.20%
World Missions Ministries
International Mission Board (50.41%)
North American Mission Board (22.79%)

2.99%
**Executive Committee
and SBC Operating Budget**

22.16%
**Theological
Education Ministries**
Seminaries (.21.92%)
Library and Archives (.24%)

1.65%
**Christian Ethics and
Religious Liberty Ministries**
Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM—The Heart of Southern Baptist Missions & Ministries

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.

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KIDS COVE

This April is special- we get TWO units! **'Topher's Easter Seek and Find'** and **'Lights, Camera, Action!'** The first part of the month we will see that our silly little gopher has done it again, and now we have an Easter emergency! Topher has hidden our Easter story pictures inside the Bible story drawing, but the kids will seek high and low to find them! Once found, the pictures will help tell the greatest story ever – the story of a Love that's more powerful than death. After Easter and into May, it's quiet on the set! The kids will act out scenes from Bible stories about the early church and when shooting wraps up, they'll have discovered that the church is our supporting cast, but Jesus is the real star of the show!



KIDS @ GRACE



We have started this class over! We will be laying the foundation of the Christian faith for the next several weeks before we dive into Genesis. Now is a great time to join us if you haven't already! This month we will be learning about the Trinity, and God's Word: how it guides us, how God preserves it, and how it is complete. 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.

ELDER UPDATE

The Elder Communication for the April 2026 Newsletter

The Elder Council met on March 24 in our regular monthly meeting. Stuart Harris 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 Joey prayed for the names and needs in the church as well as for the Elders and his family.

A number of improvements to our church campus were discussed by the Elders. Stuart Harris is evaluating the cost of adding a portico to the front of the church to provide a dry drop-off area for members and guests. Donnie Chapman is working with the staff to determine what needed onsite storage might look like. Pastor Matt will work with Pastor Jimmy to consider the options for a new roadside sign that would include an electronic message board. We will share any upcoming changes with the church.

Our Administrative Coordinator Hank Raehn and the staff are assisting with the transition from one information technology company to another. This change should maintain a high-quality of service while also providing a cost savings for the church. The Grace staff is always looking for ways to be better stewards of the offerings entrusted to this church.

The Elder Council spent time planning for the Holy Week services, focusing on the need for Elders to serve communion on that Wednesday night and for the Sunrise services. Additionally, the Elders were encourage to take part in the Journey Beyond the Cross on Saturday morning.

Holy Week Services in April will include:

Holy Week Communion - Wednesday at 6:30pm

Journey Beyond the Cross Family Event - Saturday at 10:30am

Sunrise Service - Sunday at 7:00am

Pancake Breakfast (sponsored by the Dominican Republic Mission Team) - Sunday at 8:00am

Resurrection Celebration Worship - Sunday at 10:30am

[Wednesday small groups are canceled, but all Sunday small groups will go on as planned.]

The next scheduled Elder Council meeting is April 21. If there are any issues that you would like addressed, please contact any of the elders to request it be placed on our agenda.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Tom Lynn.

YOUTH

MINISTRY

Contact Jarvis Freeman for more information - jarvis@gracefellowship.ws



SUMMER CAMP!

JUNE 4-8

Lookout Mountain, Georgia

Mark your calendars
and make your plans today!!!!

Contact Jarvis Freeman for more information - jarvis@gracefellowship.ws

kidzlife
@ GRACE
6PM ON WEDNESDAYS!

Grace Youth
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!
Kids & Youth eat free!

A background image for a game night event. It shows a wooden table covered with various board game pieces, including playing cards (Ace of Spades, Jack of Diamonds, King of Clubs), dice, dominoes, and game tokens. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text for the event.

**YOUTH GAME
NIGHT!**
APRIL 29
@ 6:30!

DISCIPLESHIP



No Sweat Evangelism

When many Christians hear the word evangelism, they think of pressure—having the perfect words, winning an argument, or approaching strangers with a rehearsed script. But the evangelism we see modeled in Scripture often begins much more simply: real conversations and ordinary faithfulness.

This May, our **No Sweat Evangelism** class will focus on everyday evangelism—learning how to engage people naturally and truthfully in the context of real relationships. We'll explore how the gospel connects to everyday questions and how God often uses ordinary obedience rather than techniques.

This class is not about turning you into a salesman or theologian. It's about helping you grow in confidence and clarity as you live out your faith among friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members. We'll spend time in Scripture, discuss practical scenarios, and encourage one another to trust that God is already at work in the people around us.

If you've ever felt hesitant or unsure when it comes to sharing your faith, this class is for you. Evangelism doesn't start with having all the answers—it starts with being present, faithful, and willing.

Join us on Wednesday nights coming in May as we learn together how God uses simple conversations for eternal purposes.

FAMILY NIGHT MEAL

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

GRACE @ HOME

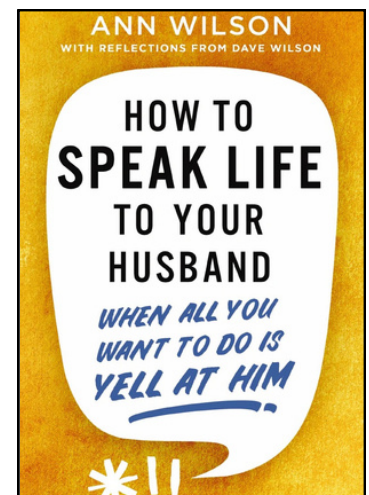
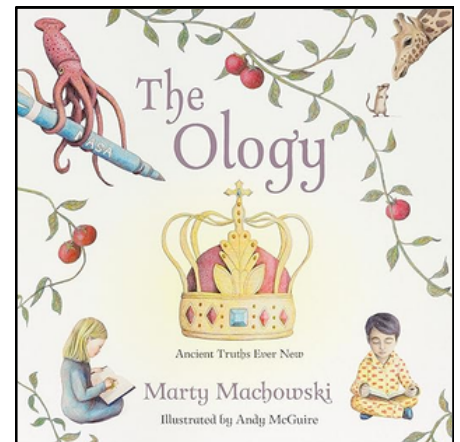
Just a reminder, we're still offering a **free Bible Reading Plan** to anyone who wants to join us in reading God's Word together. Whether you're starting fresh or continuing faithfully, this plan is a simple way to stay rooted in Scripture throughout the year.

We've also 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.

The-Ology – A beautifully illustrated family devotional that introduces children to the big truths of the Christian faith in a simple, engaging way. **FREE COPIES STILL AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES!!**

How to Speak Life to Your Husband – Discover the marriage you've always hoped for. With practical tools to help you communicate more effectively, you'll speak the language of grace that will encourage your husband.

If you'd like any of these resources—or want to claim your free copy—simply reach out to Joey at joey@gracefellowship.ws.



Stop by the Grace@Home Resource Center this week!