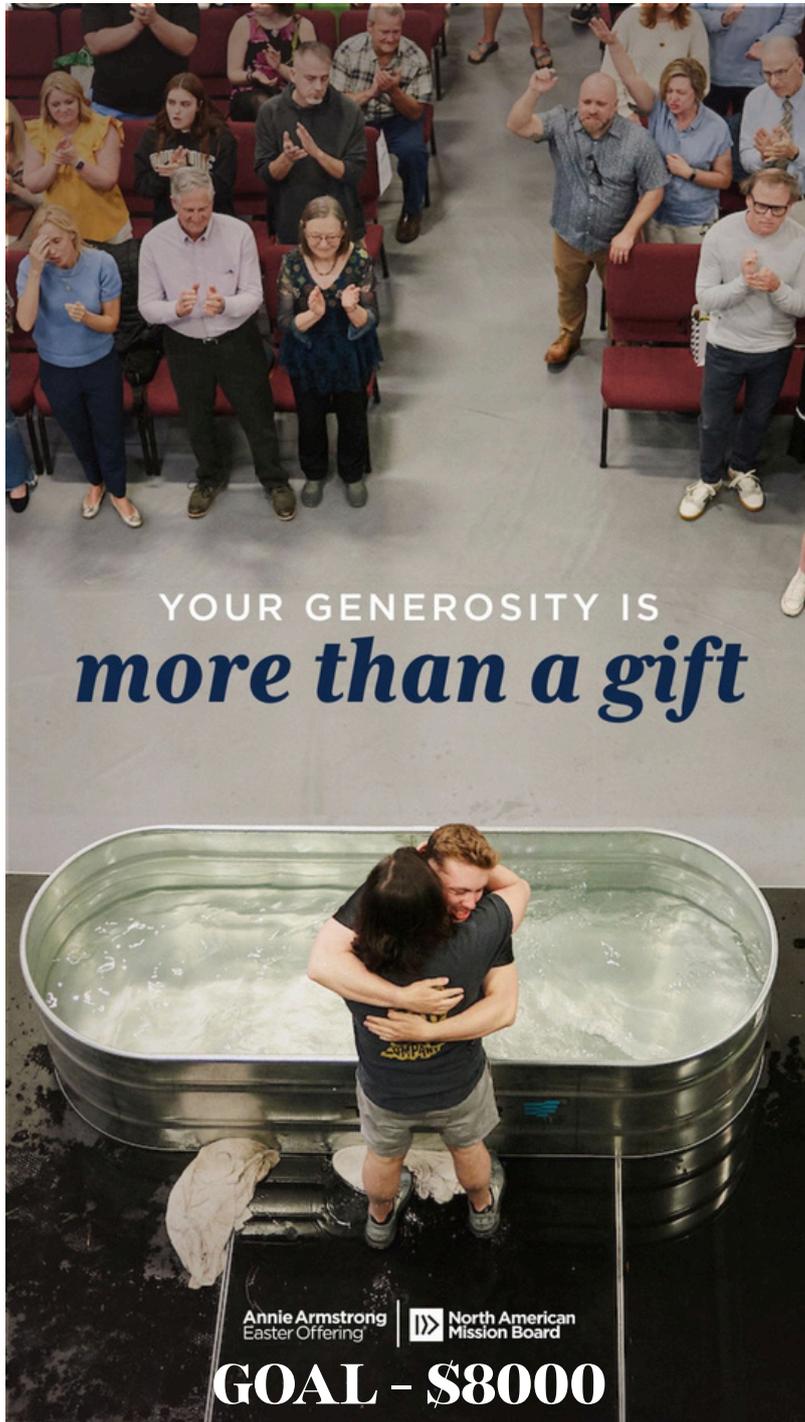


Grace Fellowship

MARCH 2026
NEWSLETTER



More than a Gift

Each year, Grace Fellowship joins with thousands of other churches in praying for Southern Baptist missionaries in North America and collecting the **Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions**.

The offering was started in 1895 by Woman's Missionary Union® (WMU) to benefit the work of the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). In 1934, it was named in honor of Annie Armstrong, a bold missions advocate and WMU's first national executive leader. Today, more than \$2 billion has been donated by Southern Baptist churches and individuals to support thousands of missionaries in church planting and compassion ministries. Because of this sacrificial giving, millions of lives have been and continue to be transformed by the power of the gospel.

Our church goal is \$8000. Every dollar given goes to train and resource more than 3,000 missionaries and their families involved in church planting and compassion ministries who share the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ across the United States, Canada and their territories.

LOOK FOR PRAYER GUIDES AND ENVELOPES IN THE SEATBACK POCKETS THIS SUNDAY



Beginning with Grace

Our next membership and Inquirers Class is Sunday, March 20 at 9:00 a.m. We'd love for you to join us!

IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Matthew MacLeod	3
Jayden Roberts	4
TJ (Robert) Mitchell	4
Germaine Copeland	9
Mary Moorhead	9
RoseAn Davidson	9
Beth Scherer	10
Jinger McElhannon	16
Kaitlyn Nunn	17
Hilda Stewart	18
Lake Ferman	21
Mary Lyn Choate	21
Joyce Michael	22
Ray Mullins	22
Melvin Rhodes	25
Mary Livingston	28
Gail Lynn	29
Ray Warwick	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Fletcher & Mary Livingston	6
Melvin & Helen Rhodes	14
Domingo & Daniello Caamano	17
Chris & Brittany Dyces	19
Randy & Pam Scott	20
Clay & Sister Summers	24
Mark & April Demoss	26

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

On Sunday, March 8 we will pray for our team doing pastors and wives training in Zambia.

Scripture for MARCH

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105

MISSIONARIES RESCHEDULED

R&K (missionaries to a country in the Middle East) were scheduled to speak during the Sunday Morning Small Group time in January, but due to inclement weather we had to cancel. GOOD NEWS! It has been rescheduled!

JOIN US WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, IN THE WORSHIP CENTER TO HEAR R&K'S JOURNEY SO FAR AND DISCOVER WHAT IS NEXT ... AND HOW YOU CAN PRAY FOR THEM.

MISSIONS



Item of the MONTH

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

MARCH ITEM of The MONTH: The "WOW" Item

Suggested - Dolls, Soccer Ball w/pump, Bead Kits, Stuffed Animal, Art or Craft kits

Here's the story of how a shoe box changed a family's life in Romania. This story comes from the book "Operation Christmas Child, The Story of Simple Gifts" by Franklin Graham.

In northern Romania, Gypsy children are not allowed to go to school until they can provide their own supplies. Mehi was wanting to go to school, he wanted to learn so you can imagine how his little 10-year-old heart soared when he received his shoebox filled with school supplies. Just school supplies and a small toy car. He shouted, "I have been given the best box of all. Now I can go to school."

Mehi's mother came to thank the OCC team, and when the Team noticed she kept eyeing a big box that had held the shoeboxes. They offered it to her and when asked what she was going to do with the carton she clasped her hands together and said, "This will be a rug in my shelter; it will keep our feet warm." She thanked them for the "valuable gift" and replied you have shown me and my son love "now I know there is a Jesus and He cares."

Not even a cardboard box is wasted in God's hands.

Pick up your Operation Christmas Child Box at the Connect Center this Sunday. Over the next few months, collect items for your box, and include a prayer with each one.

Happy Packing!

Libby Chapman, OCC Coordinator

FINANCES & BUDGET

Financial Update

Giving, Expenses, and Budget thru 1/31/26

Budget	\$ 82,245
Giving	<u>\$ 49,935</u>
Variance	\$ -32,310
Expenses	\$ 71,277

As you can see from the report above, January's giving fell well short of both budget and spending for the month. Of course, it was a very unusual month for the state of Georgia. We had to cancel in-person services on two Sundays due to snow and ice, and the attendance on a third Sunday was greatly impacted by snow. The budget shortfall for the month is understandable.

We appreciate those who gave online or by check during January. Our hope is that giving through the next few months will meet budget and perhaps even make up for January's shortfall.

In spite of this, the church is in sound financial condition. We carry no debt, and our reserve fund stands at nearly 5 months of expenses. Additionally, 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.

Why Southern Baptists Embrace The Cooperative Program

- It presents a unified and comprehensive budget, throwing a funding blanket over statewide, national and international missions and ministries.
- It provides a long-term sustainability for SB entities. When a church includes missions giving as part of its church budget, it provides consistency and stability.
- It adheres to our long term Baptist principle that *"we can do more together than alone."*
- The Cooperative Program mitigates competition between entities thereby allowing a balanced *Acts 1:8 Strategy*.
- It levels the playing field, and makes a place at the table for small and ethnic churches. Every church can stand hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder, on level ground, as partners in the gospel (large churches, small churches, new churches, growing churches, graying churches, and ethnic churches).

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

Our March unit for Kids Cove is **What a Mess**. This month the kids will meet Messy Mabel - a playful pig who just can't stay out of the mud! Mabel has made a mess all over our Bible story pictures, and it's up to the kids to help wipe away the (paper!) mud and reveal what's underneath. As they clean up Mabel's mess, kids will learn that no mess is too big for Jesus to wipe away.



KIDS @ GRACE



This month we start off learning what God has planned for the earth, believers, and unbelievers at the end of time, and then we will start this 3-year curriculum over again! This is a great time to join us if you haven't already- we will be laying the foundation of the Christian faith from now until May before we dive into Genesis. 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 March 2026 Newsletter

The Elder Council met on February 24 in our regular monthly meeting. Tom Lynn then 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.

Staff reports were received. Pastor Jimmy reminded the council of the upcoming mission trip to Zambia for pastors and wives training. Nancy will be accompanying him, and Luke and Deborah Miller will also have a part in this training. Please keep Jimmy and Nancy, and Luke, Deborah, and their family in your prayers.

It was also discussed as part of the staff reports the recent repairs to the HVAC unit and upcoming changes in some of our current vendors with the intent of saving money while still having our church's needs met.

Pastor Joey restated the importance of small group involvement and our goal of having 70% of our Sunday morning attendance involved in small groups. Small Groups create deeper connections between members and deepen spiritual growth in members.

Stuart Harris reported that the repairs to the church windows has been completed. The Elders also received a recommendation from Pastor Jimmy that we move forward with building on-site storage to replace the current rented storage space we are using. The Elders will be presented with a plan and price in our March meeting. More information will be coming to the church on this soon.

The Elders then moved into a time of Elder Officers elections. The new officers are:

Randy Scott, Chairman

Steven Brondyke, Vice-Chairman

A.J. Hunt, Secretary

The final business of the Elder Council was to assign liaisons to each of the ministry teams. The liaisons will contact each team leader to get an updated list of team members and to provide whatever information or assistance that they need.

The next scheduled Elder Council meeting is March 24. If there are any issues that you would like addressed, please contact any of the elders to request it be placed on our agenda.

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!

**YOUTH GAME
NIGHT!**
MARCH 4TH
@ 6:30!

DISCIPLESHIP



One of my favorite discipleship foundational classes in our church right now is our **Unlocking Scripture** group. Each week, men and women gather with a shared desire to understand the Bible more deeply and to grow in confidence as students of God's Word.

It has been a joy to watch people open the Scriptures together, ask meaningful questions, and discover

how accessible and life-giving the text truly is when we slow down and read it with care.

If you are not currently part of a group, this is a wonderful time to take a step. Discipleship grows best in community—when we share what God is teaching us, pray for one another, and walk together in obedience. Whether it is Unlocking Scripture or any of our small groups, on or off campus, your presence matters. Each group becomes stronger, richer, and more encouraging when more voices and more lives are gathered around God's Word.

We have groups that meet on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, and other times during the week. We invite you to join us and experience the blessing of growing in Christ with others. There is a place for you here.

Joey Wood

Discipleship Pastor

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.

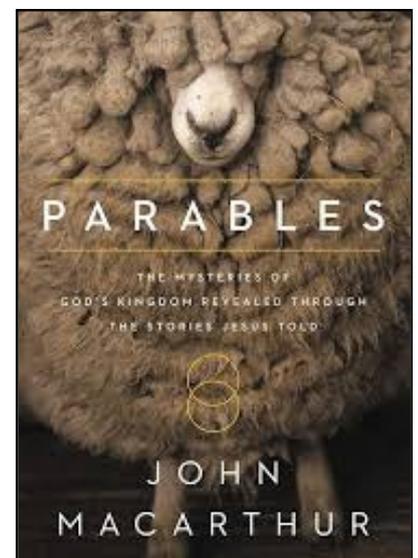
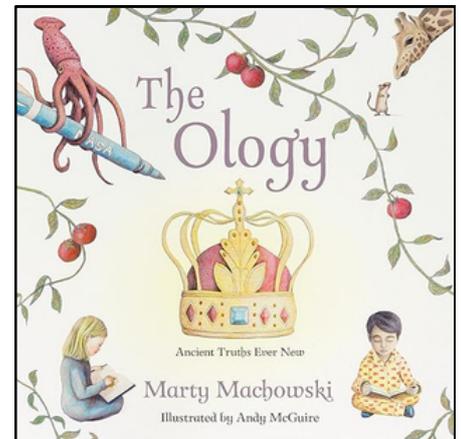
We've also restocked our **Grace@Home** resource table with a wide variety of new books and discipleship tools covering marriage, parenting, grandparenting, adult children, missions, personal growth, and more. All resources are available for just \$10.

The-Ology – A beautifully illustrated family devotional that introduces children to the big truths of the Christian faith in a simple, engaging way.

Parables by John MacArthur – helping believers understand not only what Jesus taught but why His stories still matter today.

As a special blessing, the first 10 families with children to contact us will receive a FREE COPY of The-Ology while supplies last.

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!