

Grace Fellowship

OCTOBER 2026
NEWSLETTER

candy QUEST!

 **A SWEETER TWIST**
on TRUNK or TREAT! 

Oct 25th 5-6:30pm

**Trunks, candy, and
volunteers needed!**

More info inside!

IN THE LOOP

Stay up to date with us!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

John Rhodes	1
Fletcher Livingston	1
Steve White	1
Helen Rhodes	2
Brett Hansen	3
Kaycee Manley	6
Lamar Chambers	9
Rhonda Evans	9
Joyce Glover	9
Jim Lantz	9
Robin Gallops	10
Ashley Vasquez-Morales	10
Richard (Van) Myers	10
Fred Paradise	11
Joleigh Dyches	11
Brenda Warwick	13
Debbie Smith	13
Teddy Jahns	13
Lucas Human	16
Ann Duncan	18
Glyndell Porter	19
Jean Phillips	19
Bobby Thomas	20
Michael Vaughn	20
Brittany Moon	20
Susan Scott	28
Sabrina Jahns	28
Mike Daniel	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Kimberly & Jeremy Stewart	3
Denise & Dave Bickers	4
Susan & Tracy Durrence	10
Sabrina & Teddy Jahns	14
Andrea & Matt Finch	20
Charles & Pat Brown	20
Josephine & Scott Jackson	22

Scripture for OCTOBER

Your steadfast love,
O LORD,
extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the
clouds.

Psalm 36:5



Operation
CHRISTMAS CHILD

Collection Day - Nov 8

Look for the OCC display on October 4.
Together, let's send the love of Jesus in a shoebox!

FINANCES & BUDGET

FINANCIAL REPORT THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2026

YTD Actual Giving:	\$1,007,659
YTD Actual Expenses:	\$ 665,214
YTD Budget:	\$ 694,297

You can give your tithes and offerings through the Church Center app by scanning the QR code below.



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

On October 25, Grace Fellowship will hold a Quarterly Business Meeting following the morning worship service. This will be an important meeting as we consider a motion from the Personnel Team and the Elders concerning the succession plan announced by Pastor Jimmy and Personnel Team Chairman Bobby Thomas on Sunday, September 20.

We anticipate the Elder Council will also bring forward additional motions requiring votes from the church. All resident members of Grace Fellowship are encouraged to pray and participate. Your presence is appreciated and needed.

Thank you!

MISSIONS



THANK YOU!!!

We appreciate all our sponsors, volunteers, and “kickers”!

Our 2nd Annual Kickin' for the Kingdom Kickball Tournament was a great success. We had a fantastic time, ate some great chicken, slaw, and beans, and witnessed awesome feats of athleticism; we also raised over \$23,000 for missions!

All the proceeds from the kickball tournament and the chicken plate dinner will help our members get to the mission field. They will also directly support these Christian organizations:

Circle Ranch (Greene County)
Wears Valley Ranch (Tennessee)
Global Samaritans (Zambia)
BIG HOPE (Dominican Republic)

K4TK CHAMPS



MISSIONS



Item of the MONTH

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

October Item of the Month -- Personal Note or Picture & Prayer

A personalized box is especially meaningful to the child who receives it.

Children enjoy receiving a personal note or photo from you. Sharing that Jesus loves them and that you are praying for them can encourage them to join The Greatest Journey, a 12-lesson discipleship course on following Christ and telling others about Him.

Pray for the Child Receiving Your Box

The most important gift you can include is prayer for the child who will receive your special box. As you prepare it, ask God to:

- Guide your box to the child He has chosen.
- Help that child come to know and love Jesus.
- Open doors in hard-to-reach places.
- Change lives and bring glory to Him alone.

Collection of boxes is Sunday, NOVEMBER 8

As a reminder - DO NOT INCLUDE:

Soap; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans; alcohol wipes or disinfectants.

Libby Chapman, Operation Christmas Child Coordinator

LAKE BAPTISMS

It was a beautiful day at the Parks Ferry Recreation Area. We celebrated 8 baptisms and enjoyed some sweet fellowship!



ADAM PADGETT



PATRICK STAPLES



HANNAH STAPLES



EMMA MOORE



MALLORY PADGETT



MACY PADGETT



ISAAC VAUGHN



JAY MOON



WHO IS NEXT?

ELDER UPDATE

Elder Communication for the October 2026 Newsletter

The Elder Council met on September 15 for its regular monthly meeting. As always, our time included prayer for members of our church family, consideration of ministry needs, and discussion of matters related to the ongoing health and direction of Grace Fellowship.

Small Groups

Joey Wood led a discussion on the importance of Small Groups and Sunday School in the life of our church. Small groups provide an important setting for biblical community, spiritual growth, encouragement, and care. The Elders continue to encourage everyone at Grace Fellowship to find a place to connect beyond the Sunday morning worship service.

Finances and Facility Needs

The church remains in a strong financial position, and we are grateful for the continued faithfulness and generosity of our congregation. The Finance Team continues to review and strengthen our financial policies and procedures to ensure wise stewardship, appropriate safeguards, and accountability.

The Elders also discussed several upcoming facility and maintenance needs, including the children's bathroom project, playground improvements, and replacement of our aging church sign. A recommendation to designate additional funds for these and other major repair and maintenance needs will be presented at the October Quarterly Business Meeting.

The Elders also approved presenting a proposal for a new church sign to the congregation at the October meeting. The proposed sign would include a digital message board, allowing the church to communicate worship times, ministry opportunities, and special events more effectively to our community. More information will be shared on this project before it is presented to the congregation for consideration.

Elder Selection

The process of selecting Elders for the coming term has begun. Three Elders are completing their 3-year terms and will not be presented to the church for a second term: Nolan Callaway, Mac Manley, and Stuart Harris will complete their current terms. Mike Moore is also finishing his first term, but has indicated that he is willing to be presented for affirmation for a second term.

The Elders will move forward with four candidates. Please pray for this process.

Senior Pastor Transition

On September 20, Pastor Jimmy shared with the congregation his intention to retire as Senior Pastor and announced the beginning of a thoughtful, prayerful succession process. The Elders are grateful for the opportunity to approach this transition carefully, prayerfully, and without haste.

The Personnel Team will assist in developing a job description, qualifications, and compensation recommendations, and a pastor search team will be established as the process moves forward. The call of the next Senior Pastor will be brought before the congregation in accordance with our church bylaws. Please continue to pray for Jimmy and Nancy, our Elders and leadership teams, and especially for the man God is preparing to serve as the next Senior Pastor of Grace Fellowship.

Looking Ahead

Our next observance of the Lord's Supper will be Sunday, October 4.

We are grateful for God's faithfulness to Grace Fellowship and for the privilege of serving together. Please continue to pray for wisdom for our Elders and staff as we seek to lead faithfully, steward wisely, and keep our focus on our mission to glorify God by bringing people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

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 our 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

That mischievous little gopher has done it again! Topher the Gopher has burrowed his way into our room while we weren't looking. He got his paws on the story pictures from the true Bible story and hid them around the room. 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, kids will learn that God is always with them and that He hears them when they talk to Him.

KIDS @ GRACE



This month we'll start by learning how all are sinners through Adam, but can be saved through Jesus! Then we will move on to the third of the '7 C's of History' - Catastrophe! We will learn why God sent a flood, how He saved Noah and his family, and the effects of the worldwide flood that can still be observed today. Your kids have been very interested and engaged as we've been laying the foundations for the Christian faith this year!

If you have a child in grades 1-4 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 kids' check-in desk to be directed there.

CHILDREN'S

MINISTRY

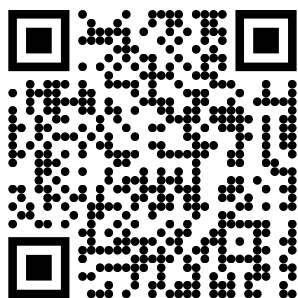
Candy QUEST!

Oct 25th 5-6:30pm

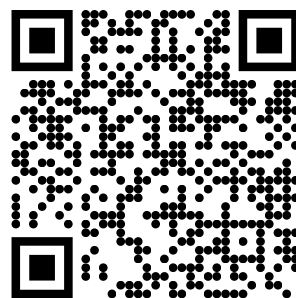
PLEASE BRING CANDY DONATIONS TO OFFICE - THANK YOU! FOR ANY QUESTIONS - CONTACT CASSIDY CALLAWAY. SIGN UP BELOW, IN CHURCH EMAIL, OR IN GATHERING SPACE.

FREE DINNER- EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Trunks



Volunteers



CHILDREN'S

MINISTRY

**JESUS
IS THE
LIGHT**

GRACE FELLOWSHIP PRESENTS:

**GLOW IN THE DARK
PARTY**

**OCTOBER 28TH 6:30PM
K- 5TH**

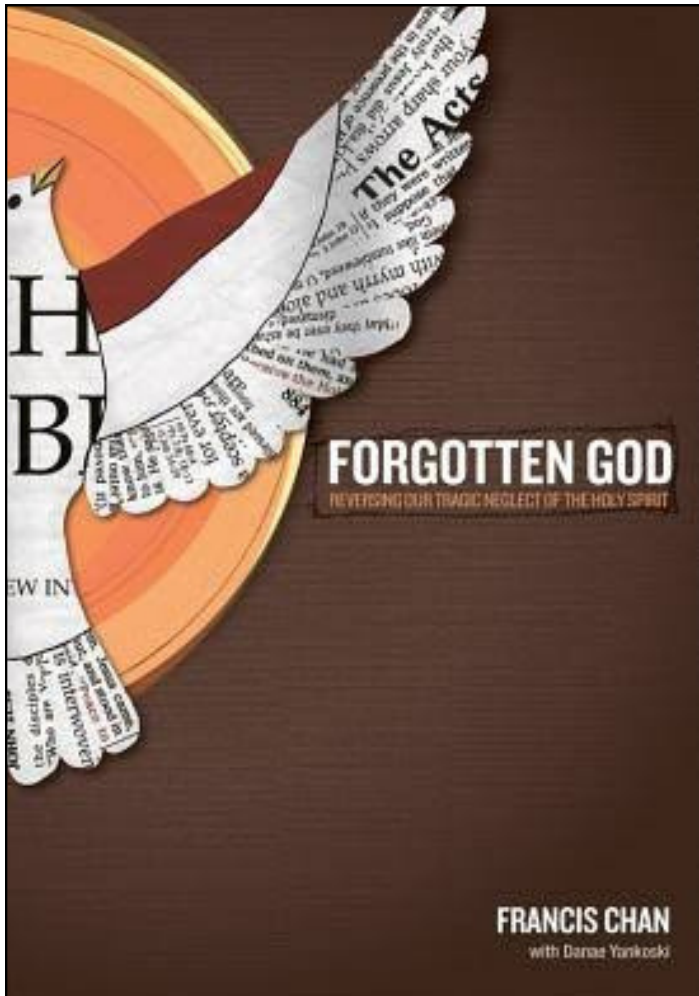
FAMILY NIGHT WEDNESDAYS AT GRACE
DINNER AT 6PM, CLASSES FOR EVERYONE AT 6:30

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.

Each book is available for just \$10.



BOOK GIVEAWAY!

Forgotten God

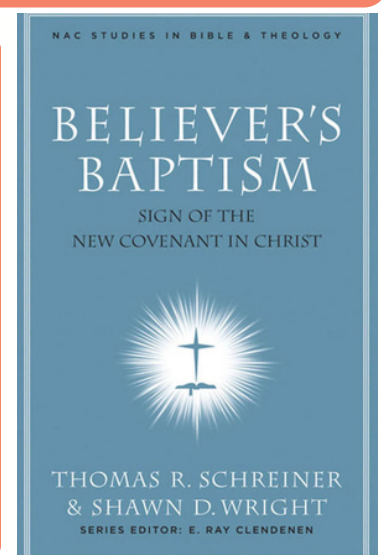
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We pray in the name of all three, but how often do we live with an awareness of only the first two?

Francis Chan calls us back to the source of the church's power—the Holy Spirit. Chan contends that we've ignored the Spirit for too long and are reaping the results. Through Scripture and compelling narrative, Chan invites us to stop and remember the One we've forgotten: the Spirit of the living God.

ENTER THE DRAWING THIS WEEK AT
THE GRACE@HOME RESOURCE DESK!

Is believer's baptism the clear teaching of the New Testament Scriptures? What are the historical and theological challenges to believer's baptism? What are the practical applications for believer's baptism today? *Believer's Baptism* begins with the belief that believer's baptism (as opposed to infant baptism) is the clear teaching of the New Testament. Along the way, the argument is supported by written contributions from Robert Stein, Thomas Schreiner, Steve McKinion, Jonathan Rainbow, Shawn Wright, and Mark Dever.

\$10 per copy!



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

YOUTH

MINISTRY

Truth Seekers is a new small group designed specifically for students in grades 6-8 who want to grow in their faith, build meaningful friendships, and learn how to follow Jesus in everyday life. Each Wednesday, students will begin with the 6:00 p.m. church-wide dinner and then join the rest of the youth ministry for a shared time of worship and announcements before breaking into grade-specific groups. Through Bible study, discussion, prayer, and practical application, Truth Seekers will help middle school students explore God's Word, ask honest questions, and discover biblical truth together.



Grace Youth

Join us every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. 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!

DISCIPLESHIP

Small Groups New Opportunities to Connect

One of the best ways to grow in your faith and build meaningful, Christ-centered relationships is through a small group, and we are excited to welcome **Zander and Moriah Burger** to our Small Group family!

Zander and Moriah will be launching **a new coed Small Group**. This group is being established as a long-term, ongoing Small Group designed to serve individuals and families for years to come. It will provide a welcoming environment for fellowship, Bible study, prayer, encouragement, and spiritual growth as participants walk through life's seasons together.

We are grateful for their willingness to serve and invest in others as they help create another place for people to connect, grow, and belong. For more information, contact the church office at 706-453-0020.

We believe life is better when lived in community. Small groups provide wonderful opportunities to grow in faith, form lasting friendships, and experience the encouragement of walking through life together. We hope you'll prayerfully consider joining one of these groups and finding your place in the Grace Fellowship family.

DISCIPLESHIP

When asked, "What is a disciple?" many people would answer, "A disciple is someone who follows Jesus." While that is certainly part of the answer, discipleship goes even deeper. A disciple is someone who believes in Jesus, follows Jesus, and helps others follow Jesus along the way.

Throughout Scripture and church history, we see this pattern repeated. Jesus invested in Peter, James, and John. Paul discipled Timothy and Titus. Peter invested in Mark. The Apostle John discipled Polycarp, who in turn discipled Ignatius. The faith has been passed from one generation to another through ordinary people who chose to follow Christ and help others do the same.

A disciple is not simply a follower. A disciple actively brings others along on this journey, helping them grow in Christ and teaching them to do the same. This is how the Kingdom of God advances from generation to generation.

Believe it or not, you and I are called into this same deeper life of discipleship. We are not the authors of our own story, but we have been invited by the Author into His. When God reaches the people around you, He does not usually use pillars of fire or parted seas. More often, He works through our faithfulness. He works through conversations in the break room, over a cup of coffee, around the dinner table, or during a conversation at the playground.

You are God's Plan A for someone else.

If you would like to learn more about living the disciple-making life or becoming involved in discipleship ministry at Grace Fellowship, contact Pastor Joey Wood at joey@gracefellowship.ws.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." - Matthew 28:19