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Check us out on:

[Facebook.com/GroveParkChurch](https://www.facebook.com/GroveParkChurch)

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Upcoming Opportunities:

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat.	Noon Devotional on Facebook Live
Tuesdays at 7:00 pm beginning Feb. 01	1 & 2 Thessalonians Bible Study led by Pastor Marc
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at 7:00 pm	Facebook Prayer Meeting Zoom Prayer Meeting
February 01 at 11:30 am	Widow's Support Luncheon at Harbor Inn
February 07 at 5:00 pm	Deacon Meeting via Zoom
Thursdays at 7:00 pm beginning Feb. 10th	GPBC Book Club led by Pastor Marc
February 14 at 7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom Happy Valentine's Day
February 20 at 5:00 pm	Church Conference

The Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GROVE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH | FEBRUARY 2022

I once thought history to be a rather static subject. After all, one cannot just make up new chronologies and facts. However, the older I become the more I realize history is only a static subject if we choose to make it so by how we tell history's story. There are any number of perspectives that we can include or omit which would dramatically reshape what we believe to be settled history. It is important to note that when we include all available factual perspectives we are not engaging in reconstructing or changing history, rather we are writing it more fully and therefore more truthfully as we include parts of the story that have previously been omitted. To be sure, the fuller the historical account the more open we become to greater discomfort and sorrow. Solomon said it best in Ecclesiastes 1, "for in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow." I have found this to be true as I have uncovered long buried truths as I researched my family tree. Yes, some of this information has been distressful, yet the knowledge has also been somewhat freeing as I have learned more about why I am the way I am.

I have varied reasons for sharing these thoughts from my journey this month. One is to remind us that as we debate history to not get caught in the trap of making historical accounts fixed, but to be open to other factual perspectives. Our society is keen these days to cite historical precedents, but often does so with only partial accounting of the full record. Secondly, let me encourage you to take advantage of our nation's focus on Black and Women's History months in February and March respectively to expand your knowledge base, for as our understanding concerning the shared history we have with our neighbors increases, we may engage with greater ease in conversations that can lead to sharing the Gospel and invitations to worship.

Finally, let me encourage you to take the lessons of history not being fixed and apply it theologically. Yes, just as the basic acts of history are fixed so too are our basic doctrines. The Boston Tea Party did occur though the reasons behind it may be more varied than we think just as we can say with all certainty that the Second Coming will occur though we may debate how it will occur regarding the Rapture and the Tribulation. The most casual reading of the Sermon on the Mount and Jesus repeatedly stating "you have heard that it was said" followed by His dramatic perspective that changes everything that was said on the subject provides sufficient proof that there is a continued calling throughout Scripture for us to explore beyond just the well known and easy perspectives. Jesus's perspectives for sure made His hearers uncomfortable as they should do for us if we would but open ourselves to them. Rest assured Beloved, if we engage in such a journey we need not fear for the God that history repeatedly shows is full of grace will comfort and strengthen us as He uses the discomfort these new perspectives bring to make us more in His likeness.

Grace Abounds,

Marc

ARC of Alamance

Covid may have slowed us down, but it did not stop us!

The ARC of Alamance was not able to have our normal Christmas dinner due to Covid restraints, but we were able to safely pass out Christmas dinners to the local group homes.

Helping pass out dinners were: Elizabeth Hill, Angie Solomon, Lea Secan, Carl Norris, Jim LaRocco, Mike, Jan and Ben Bouldin. Santa was also present and a welcome surprise to everyone!

Thank you, Grove Park Baptist Church, for allowing us to use your facility for this endeavor.



Quarterly Church Conference

Our quarterly church conference will be held on Sunday, February 20th, at 5:00 pm.

If you or a committee on which you serve have business to bring before the conference, please let the church office and/or church moderator know.

Alternative Christmas Market

What an amazing way to close out 2021!!

Thru your generosity, we raised a total of \$8,267.00 for our Alternative Christmas Market, surpassing all previous years.

This money has been sent to 21 various agencies and funded a total of 38 different causes.

Your gifts have helped to bring hope and love to someone in need here at home, in some other part of our nation and even our world.

Widow’s Support Luncheon

The Widows Support Group meets the first Tuesday of each month for a dutch treat lunch at Harbor Inn Restaurant on South Church Street at 11:30 am.

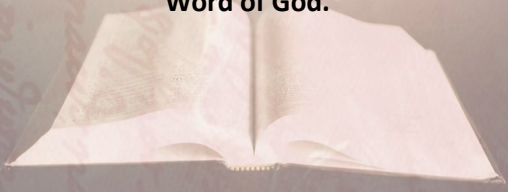
In the past it has been for widows only; however we feel that including any and all single women would be good. We are all here to do God's work and also be a friend and supporter of any women who are alone for whatever the reason. We look forward to including any woman who would like to join with us to encourage and support them. We look forward to welcoming you into our group

Pat McIntyre

Pastor Marc’s next Bible study will be on the Books of 1 Thessalonians and 2 Thessalonians.

This Bible study will begin Tuesday, February 1st, at 7:00 pm. We will be sending the Zoom link.

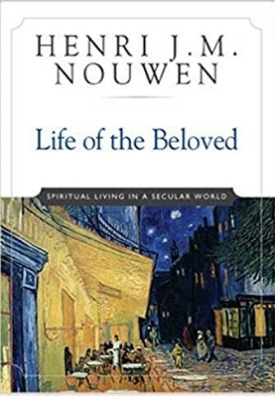
We hope you will join in as we learn more about the Word of God.



Our GPBC Book Club will be reading and discussing “Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World” by Henri J. M. Nouwen.

The book is available on Amazon and online thru Barnes & Noble.

Book Club will begin Thursday, February 10th, at 7:00 pm. We will be sending out the Zoom link.




“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:1-13



(Our Known)	
February Birthdays	
Dale Cain	February 01
Jacob Haithcock	February 01
Marc Sanders	February 03
Benjamin King	February 07
Daniel King	February 07
Randy McIntyre	February 07
Alvis Oakes	February 07
Myrtle Talbert (103 years young)	February 10
Ronnie Sapp	February 11
Bobby Andrews	February 12
Shirley Bradley	February 14
Marion Holyfield	February 15
Earl Hudson	February 17
Kathy Shambley	February 20
Audrey Snider	February 27



MINISTERS ON CALL FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY:	
February 03 thru 06	Deacon Larry Dodson
February 10 thru 13	Deacon George Britton
February 17 thru 20	Deacon Earl Hudson
February 24 thru 27	Deacon Marian Brewer