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Monday-Thursday  
8:30am - 3:30pm

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Check us out on:

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

Instagram: [grovesparkchurch](https://www.instagram.com/grovesparkchurch)



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mon., Wed., Thurs.

Wednesday at 6:30 pm  
7:00 pm  
7:00 pm

July 03 at 5:00 pm

July 04

July 05 at 11:30 am

July 06 at Noon

July 11 at 7:00 pm

July 12

July 14 at 1:00 pm

July 17 at 5:00 pm

July 19 at 7:00 pm

July 21 at 7:00 pm

July 29-30

Noon Devotional on Facebook Live

Facebook Prayer Meeting

Zoom Prayer Meeting

Choir Rehearsal (unless otherwise noted)

Deacon Fellowship

Office Closed. Happy Fourth of July!!!

Widows/Single Women Support Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

ROMEO's at Southbound Sandwich Shop

Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)

BYKOTA Class Lunch in Fellowship Hall

SIA Team Planning Meeting

Family Game Night

Bible Study on the Maskils begins.

GPBC Book Club begins on Rachel Held Evans book.

Vacation Bible School

# The Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GROVE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH | JULY 2022

We announced on June 12th a renewed commitment to reaching young families and children as a congregation. If you missed worship that Sunday please go back and watch, listen to the podcast or request a CD. I stressed at the time that our focus should not be understood as relegating other ministries to the backburner, that we are as committed as we have ever been to proclaim to everyone the Gospel and meeting as many of the needs of our community as we possibly can through God's grace. However, we recognize that in our rapidly changing society the window for reaching the next generation is closing at speeds most of us neither acknowledge nor desire to recognize in all honesty. We must put our hands to the plow immediately and look forward as Jesus commands us if we are going to insure Grove Park's future. It is incumbent upon each of us to recognize that this effort's success rests not on the work of a few, but on the labors of all, fully participating through their respective giftings. So, what can you do?

First, we need to recenter our mindsets. Quite honestly the consumer culture that devours American society has metastasized to the Church. All of us from time to time allow our preferences to dominate us to the point they become misclassified as "have to's." We concern ourselves more with how things will impact us as individuals than how it may be harmful or beneficial to others. We need to recalibrate our mindsets to that of Jesus who stated that He came "to serve and not to be served." When we consider things, we should first ask ourselves how this will impact and further our mission to young families rather than being solely concerned with what will it do to me. We should remember that Jesus was so consumed by His mission that it freed Him to make the ultimate sacrifice and draw the world to His grace thereby changing each of our lives eternally.

Secondly, we should admit our ignorance about young families and seek to eradicate it. Our ignorance can stem from any number of reasons from lack of informative interactions and relationships with young families to biases on our part concerning the superiority of our mindsets to simply a lack of concern. We would do well to remember that just as each of us would assert that we deserve understanding and fair assessment so does everyone around us. Beloved, I admit this is a difficult thing to do and places a fierce demand upon us. I know how difficult it is in my own life to erase my knowledge deficits when it comes to generational shifts and understandings. Yet, I am reminded of our Lord who Scripture tells us dwelt among us as a human and thereby knows how to intercede before God on our behalf. If Jesus was willing to do that then why should not I be willing to do likewise so that others may know Him.

Next, we must recognize the harvest fields around us. I will not take time here to fully illumine this encouragement as it will be at the heart of my sermon on July 3 (so don't miss worship that day!). I will say this for now, each of us have someone we have left unasked about their relationship with Jesus and uninvited about joining us at Church. We are the answer to prayer to send laborers into the Lord's harvest fields and we are causing those prayers to be unanswered. Let's be frank, none of us like for our prayers to go unanswered, so should we not each of us be willing to be the answer to someone else's prayers.

Finally, we should knock people over to be the first to sign up when the call for volunteers on a project goes out. God never imagined the Church as marked by our being a passive spectator. Beloved, a passive approach where we wait on someone to individually ask us to do something is unhelpful and inoperable, there is simply too much to do. I myself cannot do everything, but I can do some things and all of us are in that boat. We need Bible school workers this month. We are preparing to launch next month an evening Sunday School for our children and young families. We will also need volunteers to help with Fifth Quarter next month. Thanks to all who volunteered for Extended Session which will launch later this month during worship. Maybe there is a ministry you have had laid on your heart that you'd like to bring to our attention, please let us know. There is plenty for each of us to do. We must arise now to do it. I do not believe God would have birthed this renewed emphasis if He were going to leave us helpless to fulfill it. So, shall we feel the power of God together as we seek to fulfill what He has called us to do?

Grace Abounds, Marc



Pitch

If you’re an Andy Griffith Show fan, you probably know that Barney Fife couldn’t sing a lick. As Andy said, “I don’t know how he does it but he’s got a knack of hittin’ a note just enough off to make your skin crawl.” We all know people who sing that way - just off pitch enough to make your skin crawl. They have a good heart and a willing spirit, but singing an accurate pitch just isn’t their gift.

You can miss the pitch in 2 different ways: you can sing just below the note (that’s called “flat”) or just above the note (that’s called “sharp”). For me, singing flat is not good, but singing sharp is like scratching fingernails on a chalkboard. It makes me cringe just thinking about it!

The thing is - both going too high and too low are incorrect. That’s true in music, and it’s true in many other areas of life as well. We can eat too much or too little. We can exercise too much or too little. We can talk too much or too little. All of those are incorrect. In all of life, we should strive to find the right balance, to hit the note just right.


It’s true in our walk with God as well. Obviously, we can do too little in our walk with God. We see people who live that way every day - who give no thought and put no effort into their Christian walk. But, is it true that we can do too much in our walk with God? Yes, I believe it is.

To explain, let me point you to the example of David, the great king of Israel. He was convinced that it was his calling to build a magnificent temple for God in Jerusalem. He collected many resources and bought the land where it was to be built. He talked with the prophet Nathan about it, and Nathan told him to do what he wanted. But, then David heard from God. God told him that He was pleased with David’s desire but that building the temple would be his son’s job, not his. In this area, David wanted to go too high; he wanted to do more than God wanted him to do.

In saying this, I’m not trying to talk you out of walking with God and working for God. Not in the slightest! However, we always need to pay attention to the question, “Am I doing what I want to do in God’s name, or am I doing what God wants me to do?” We don’t need to do other people’s work; we need to make sure we’re doing the task, walking the walk that He has set aside just for us. In that way, we live a life of balance, a life where we hit the notes just right.


Dale

The GPBC Book Club will begin studying July 21<sup>st</sup> “Searching for Sunday” by Rachel Held Evans. The book details Rachel’s journey from a fundamentalist evangelical background to a “deconstructed” Jesus follower. It provides a window into the thinking of many who now classify themselves as “dechurched” or are on the margins of being firmly connected to the Faith. We will send out Zoom details closer to the date. If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office.



Our Tuesday Night Bible Study begins a new study on the maskils on July 19. The maskils are the 13 discipleship psalms (32, 42, 44-45, 52-55, 74, 88-89, 142) which serve as hymns of discipleship and instruction. The Zoom link will go out closer to date.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office.





# CREATION

## Station

Make plans to join us July 29-30 for Creation Station Vacation Bible School. At Creation Station, children will learn about the Master Creator who created all of us to be unique and special. Children will have the opportunity to become creators themselves as they make masterpieces! Dinner and Lunch will be served. We are in need of volunteers to make Creation Station the best it can be. Sign-ups are available on the bulletin board or you can see Eliza Sanders.



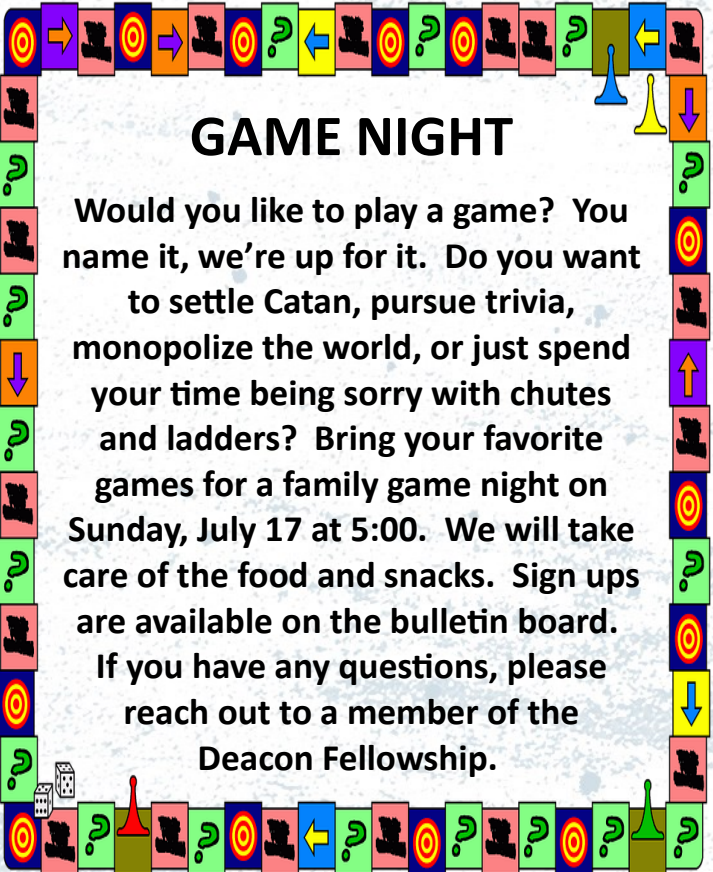


## Meals on Wheels

Grove Park supports Meals on Wheels by delivering meals to those in need once a month. We are in need of volunteers to help with this worth while and rewarding ministry. Our route takes only a little over one hour of your time. Directions to the houses are very explicit, and the clients are eagerly anticipating their meals.



If you are willing to help, please contact Ann Hayes (336-584-0270).



## GAME NIGHT

Would you like to play a game? You name it, we’re up for it. Do you want to settle Catan, pursue trivia, monopolize the world, or just spend your time being sorry with chutes and ladders? Bring your favorite games for a family game night on Sunday, July 17 at 5:00. We will take care of the food and snacks. Sign ups are available on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, please reach out to a member of the Deacon Fellowship.

<u>Ministers On Call for the Month of July:</u>	
June 30 thru July 04	Deacon Bob Webster
July 07 thru July 10	Deacon Jim Etheridge
July 14 thru July 17	Deacon Larry Dodson
July 21 thru July 24	Deacon Bob Webster
July 28 thru July 31	Deacon Joan Smith

Our Known

## July Birthdays

Joshua Bogart	July 03
Sylvia Smith	July 03
Eddie Canada	July 04
Gail Shepherd	July 07
Jan Bouldin	July 08
Pat Helms	July 08
Frances Bennett	July 09
Kenna Davis	July 09
John Moore	July 09
Kathy Fujiwara	July 10
Kim Cain	July 12
Gary Parrish	July 12
Jim Etheridge	July 13
Ann Kidd	July 15
Avery Miles	July 21
Alex Johnson	July 23
Matthew Byrd	July 24
Chloe Dunn	July 26
Ruby Allison	July 28
Brandon Kidd	July 28
Tiffany Dunn	July 29
Ken Davis	July 31

