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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mon., Wed., Thurs.	
Wednesdays	6:30 pm
	7:00 pm
	7:00 pm
Thursdays	7:00 pm
November 01	11:30 am
November 02	Noon
November 08	
November 10	1:00 pm
November 13	11:00 am
	5:00 pm
November 14	7:00 pm
November 20	11:00 am
	5:00 pm
November 22	10:30 am
November 23	6:30 pm
November 24	

Noon Devotional on Facebook Live **Facebook Prayer Meeting** Zoom Prayer Meeting Choir Rehearsal (unless otherwise noted) GPBC Book Club (Searching for Sunday) Widow's/Single Ladies Support Luncheon at Harbor Inn **ROMEO's Lunch at Southbound Sandwich Shop** Election Day. Church Office will be closed. SIA Planning Meeting Youth Lunch and trip to Morehead Planetarium Church Conference / Budget Presentation Finance Committee (Zoom) 2023 Budget Vote **Alternative Christmas Market Properties Committee Operation Big Thing** Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service Thanksgiving. Church Office closed.

Messenger

Monthly Newsletter of Grove Park Baptist Church | November 2022

invoke in each of us a desire to live a life of thanks.

It is gratitude that prompted an old man to visit an old broken pier on the eastern seacoast of But there was an unexpected detour which would hurl Captain Eddie into the most harrowing

Florida. Every Friday night, until his death in 1973, he would return, walking slowly and slightly stooped with a large bucket of shrimp. The sea gulls would flock to this old man, and he would feed them from his bucket. Many years before, in October, 1942, Captain Eddie Rickenbacker was on a mission in a B-17 to deliver an important message to General Douglas MacArthur in New Guinea. adventure of his life. Somewhere over the South Pacific the Flying Fortress became lost beyond the reach of radio. Fuel ran dangerously low, so the men ditched their plane in the ocean. For nearly a month Captain Eddie and his companions would fight the water, and the weather, and the scorching sun. They spent many sleepless nights recoiling as giant sharks rammed their rafts. The largest raft was nine by five. The biggest shark...ten feet long. But of all their enemies at sea, one proved most formidable: starvation. Eight days out, their rations were long gone or destroyed by the salt water. It would take a miracle to sustain them. And a miracle occurred. In Captain Eddie's own words, "Cherry," that was the B-17 pilot, Captain William Cherry, "read the service that afternoon, and we finished with a prayer for deliverance and a hymn of praise. There was some talk, but it tapered off in the oppressive heat. With my hat pulled down over my eyes to keep out some of the glare, I dozed off."

Now this is still Captain Rickenbacker talking..."Something landed on my head. I knew that it was a sea gull. I don't know how I knew, I just knew. Everyone else knew too. No one said a word, but peering out from under my hat brim without moving my head, I could see the expression on their faces. They were staring at that gull. The gull meant food...if I could catch it."

And the rest, as they say, is history. Captain Eddie caught the gull. Its flesh was eaten. Its intestines were used for bait to catch fish. The survivors were sustained and their hopes renewed because a lone sea gull, uncharacteristically hundreds of miles from land, offered itself as a sacrifice. You know that Captain Eddie made it.

And now you also know...that he never forgot. Because every Friday evening, about sunset...on a lonely stretch along the eastern Florida seacoast...you could see an old man walking...white-haired, bushy-eyebrowed, slightly bent. His bucket filled with shrimp was to feed the gulls...to remember that one which, on a day long past, gave itself without a struggle...like manna in the wilderness.

Grace Abounds, Marc

The

I'd like to share with you a story of true thanksgiving as first told by Paul Harvey. I pray it will

Quarterly Church Conference and Budget Vote

We will be having our quarterly church conference on Sunday, November 13th at 5:00 pm in the gym. You may also participate via Zoom. A link will be sent out prior to the meeting. The Finance Committee will host our 2023 budget presentation at the conclusion of conference. 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 prior to the meeting.

On Sunday, November 20, following the morning worship service, there will be a called meeting to vote on the proposed 2023 budget. A copy was mailed to members on November 01, 2022. If you are unable to attend, you can vote by absentee ballot by coming to the church office from Monday, November 14 thru Thursday, November 17 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. or contact the church office to receive instructions on how to vote electronically by absentee.



Thanksgiving Communion will be held on November 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. If you will be unable to participate in our communion service in person, please call the church office by November 22nd so that communion elements can be delivered to you along with a worship bulletin.

OPERATION BIG THING

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Grove Park wants to remove some of the burden that attends families during the Thanksgiving season by continuing with our Operation Big Thing. We will, once again, be providing our "Big Thing Box" which will contain the following:

Ham Family Size Green Beans / 39 oz. can Idahoan Instant Potatoes / 13-15 oz. box One Apple Pie

Cranberry Sauce / 14 oz can Yams (Sweet Potatoes) / 40 oz. can **One Package of Dinner Rolls**



your shopping, we ask that you pick up one of four items—a box of instant potatoes, a can of cranberry sauce, a can of sweet potatoes or a can of green beans—and bring them to the church to put in the box. Or, simply make a contribution to "Operation Big Thing" and we will do the shopping. We plan to distribute the boxes the week of Thanksgiving and will also need assistance in packing and distribution.

If you have any questions or are able to volunteer, please let the church office know.

JUST FOR CHILDREN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

Make plans to stay after church for lunch and then travel with us to Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill. No Family Hour at 5 pm. on November 13th.



<u>Ministers On Call for the Month of November:</u>		
Nov 03 thru 06	Deacon Bob Webster	
Nov. 10 thru 13	Deacon Joan Smith	
Nov. 17 thru 20	Deacon Jim Etheridge	
Nov. 24 thru 27	Deacon Larry Dodson	

Advent devotionals will be available on November 27th to guide our preparation for the Christmas season. We will again focus our reflections on Advent and Christmas hymns from around the world instead of Scripture reflections. We hope this will give us a greater appreciation of the Church's global reach as well as making us conversant with the unknown riches of Christian worship from centuries past.



November

If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. (Romans 12:18)

Fall is a glorious time! Our annual leaf peeping trip to the mountains is one of my 2 favorite days of the year (the other is Easter). The cooler weather fits my preferences. And, of course, there's Alabama football (Roll Tide!).

However, I understand that November is a very dangerous time as well. The closer we get to Election Day, the more heated feelings and discussions become. Football games inevitably lead to extreme emotions - sometimes joy but other times anger. Family gatherings at Thanksgiving can be wonderful, but purchasing and preparing foods can be stressful and the dinner conversations sometimes unpleasant. And then there's Christmas shopping - enough said.

As you walk through the November minefield, I hope you'll remember the verse at the beginning of this article. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. We cannot control the people around us. They may be political partisans or football flamethrowers, dinner disputers or shopping savages. We can't change their behavior, and we shouldn't reflect their behavior back on them. Instead, let's keep our faces looking to God so that we can reflect God's grace and love to them. If you think you can't do that, please keep in mind that this is exactly how Jesus deals with us.

On a side note: thanks again to all who worked so hard to make the NC Baptist Singers and Orchestra such a wonderful evening! God certainly blessed your efforts!

Walk with God! Dale

Our Alternative Christmas Market returns this year on Sunday evening, November 20th, at 6:00 pm. We will again offer gift options that further God's call to love mercy and to do justice as we walk humbly with God. Our format will be the same as previous years. Please be on the lookout for

the catalogue so that you can share a gift with a loved one while also spreading the Gospel to the ends of the world.



November Birthdays		
Bill Pinson	November 01	
Iulie Turner	November 01	
Ionathan Cuthriell	November 02	
Donnie Johnson's 99th	November 05	
Allen McKinney	November 05	
Mable McKinney	November 06	
Carol Williamson	November 07	
Lisa Faircloth	November 09	
Bethany Davis	November 15	
Nancy Murchison	November 16	
Leigh Anne Snead	November 18	
lohn Mooney	November 20	
Nancy Beck	November 21	
Sue Ellen McKinney	November 25	
Vivian Crawford	November 26	
Linda Wood	November 26	
Ben Bouldin	November 27	
Cade McKinney	November 28	
Sue Etheridge	November 29	
Pat Sizemore	November 30	
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(Our Known)

