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Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Check us out on:

Facebook: Facebook.com/groveparkchurch

Instagram: groveparkchurch

YouTube: YouTube.com/@groveparkchurch



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Return Service Request

UPCOMING EVENTS:

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|---|
| Sundays | 5:00 p.m. | Family Hour (unless otherwise noted) |
| Mon., Wed., Thurs. | Noon | Devotional on Facebook Live |
| Tuesdays | 7:00 p.m. | Bible Study on the Book of Acts (Zoom) |
| Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m. | Facebook Prayer Meeting |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Zoom Prayer Meeting |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursdays | 7:00 p.m. | GPBC Book Club (Zoom) |
| November 01 | Noon | ROMEO's meet at Southbound Sandwich Shop |
| November 05 | 4:00 p.m. | Personnel Committee |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Deacon Fellowship |
| November 09 | 1:00 p.m. | SIA Team Planning |
| November 12 | 6:00 p.m. | Quarterly Conference |
| November 13 | 7:00 p.m. | Finance Committee (Zoom) |
| November 19 | 10:00 a.m. | Budget Vote following Morning Worship |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Cain / Byrd Wedding Shower |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Alternative Christmas Market |
| November 20 | | Operation Big Thing Set-Up and Packing |
| November 21 | | Operation Big Thing—Distribute Boxes |
| November 22 | 6:00 p.m. | Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service |
| November 23 | | Office Closed in observance of Thanksgiving |
| November 30 | 1:00 pm. | SIA Packing Gift Bags |



On November 5th



I confess, I have some difficulties with the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. First, there is the whole notion of limiting our recitation of things for which we are thankful to just a day a year. We should be more in touch with these gifts such that we offer at least daily thanks for them. It is why I ask for thanksgivings to be shared in our weekly prayer meetings, to make us more aware. Secondly, our commemoration of Thanksgiving too often includes a recitation of thanksgivings that are indistinguishable from year to year or even day to day. Just as we do not desire stale rolls at our Thanksgiving feast, neither should we offer to God stale thanks. Our thanks should be fresh and so incredibly inviting that it causes us to have more than our share and others to pick some things off our plate. So, how can we overcome these thanksgiving difficulties?

Our answer, I believe, can be found in Paul's closing admonition to the Philippians. There Paul writes, "Finally brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." We would do well to notice first that this is not an invitation that can be side-stepped. Paul's call to "think about these things" is an imperative. In other words, Paul commands us to think, to meditate, to ponder on all of these positive things actively through every portion of our day. Can we say that we heed Paul's admonition or do we let the harsh negatives of life overwhelm our pondering?

Now, for those who would readily point out the difficulties of majoring on the positives because of the abundance of the negatives, we should redirect ourselves to the first part of Paul's statement. There is an implication from Paul that we already have some working knowledge of that which is true, honorable, just, pure, excellent, and worthy of praise. Furthermore, I am not confident that this knowledge is to be relegated strictly to the spiritual realm but to be all inclusive of life. So Beloved, how observant are you in the daily things of life about Paul's list? Where can you point to the magnificent and the awe-inspiring, the winsome and the gracious in the world around you? Can you see it in the magnificence of the changing color of trees, the winsomeness of children's costumes, or the actions of another to justly make right even the oldest of wrongs? Beloved, such is the key to perpetual, fresh thanksgiving. It requires careful observation and critical thinking, in other words it will not be easy, but the rewards are too numerous to count. I encourage you to use these tools so that we may all be able to live out another Scriptural admonition, "in all things give thanks," not just at Thanksgiving but everyday.

Grace abounds,

Marc

*"The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge." - Psalm 19:1-2*

"I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." - Luke 19:40

*"Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
and let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!"*

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it!*

*Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy
before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.*

*Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!" - 1 Chronicles 16:31-34*

*"And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea,
and all that is in them, saying,*

*"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" - Revelation 5:13*

This month's message is very simple. God has created this world and everything in it to give Him praise, honor, and glory, and He deserves it! The day will come when every created thing will give Him glory.

Friends, don't wait until that day to give God glory. Let's go ahead and get in the practice of thanking and praising Him now. That way, when that final day comes, we'll know what to do!

Dale

Quarterly Church Conference and Budget Vote

Our quarterly church conference will be held on Sunday, November 12th at 6:00 p.m. You may also participate via Zoom. A link will be sent out prior to the meeting. The Finance Committee will host our 2024 budget presentation following the church 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 19, following the morning worship service, there will be a called meeting to vote on the proposed 2024 budget. A copy was mailed to members on November 01, 2023. If you are unable to attend, you can vote by absentee ballot by coming to the church office from Monday, November 13 thru Thursday, November 16 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 22nd at 6:00 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 20nd so that communion elements can be delivered to you along with a worship bulletin.

Advent Devotionals: The first Sunday of Advent is December 3rd. Once again, we will have a book of daily devotionals available for reflection during the Advent season. These will be available on or before December 3rd.



Advent

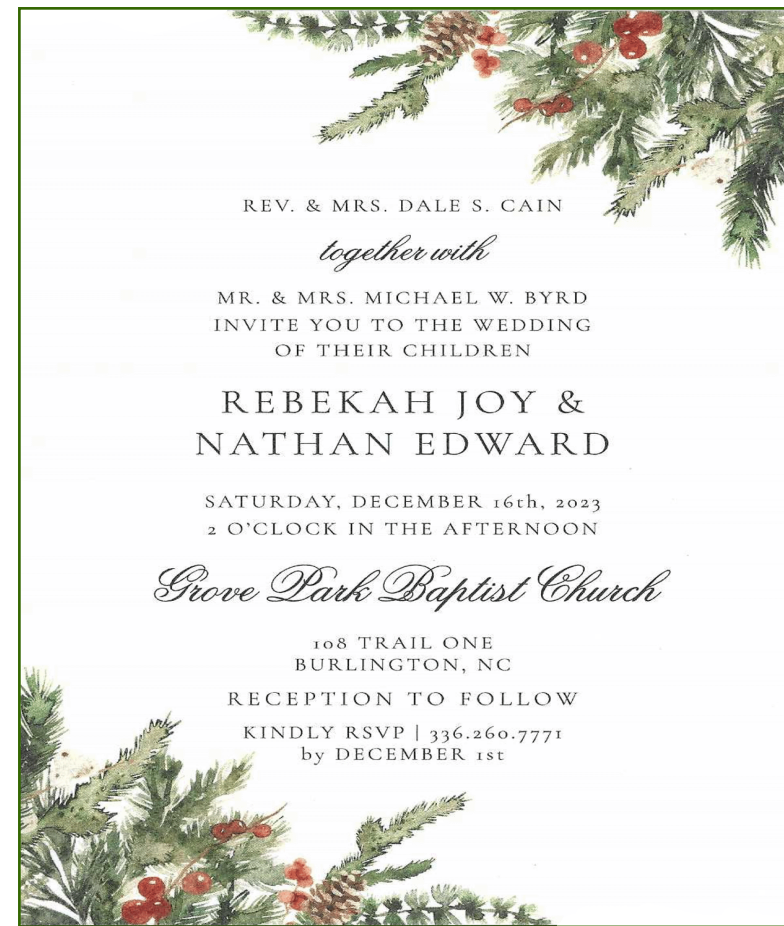
Alamance Chorale: GPBC will be hosting two concerts this year: Monday, Dec. 10th at 3:00 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:30 p.m. We will need greeters to assist at both concerts. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office.



November Food Pantry Items:
Canned Vegetables
(Green Beans, Corn, Sweet Peas,
Mixed Vegetables)



**"To be grateful is to recognize the
Love of God in everything."
Thomas Merton**



Hope Boxes: We are so grateful for all the contributions we continue to receive for this outreach ministry.

During the month of November, we are collecting hair items. This includes hairbrushes, combs, hair bands/elastics, bows, hats.



Items can be placed in the baskets located in the vestibule or dropped off at the church office.



Alternative Christmas Market: Our Alternative Christmas Market will be held on November 19th beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. Our market seeks to holistically address the two great commandments of loving God and loving our neighbor. We hope you will join us and let us assist you with your Christmas shopping.



OPERATION BIG THING : 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:

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|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ham | Stove Top Stuffing Mix / 6 oz. | Family Size Green Beans / 39 oz. can |
| Yams (Sweet Potatoes) / 40 oz. can | One Package of Dinner Rolls | Cranberry Sauce / 14 oz can |
| One Apple Pie | | |

We have calculated that each box will cost \$40. We encourage you to participate in two ways. As you do your shopping, we ask that you pick up one of four items—a box of stuffing mix, 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.

(Our Known)

November Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Bill Pinson | November 01 |
| Julie Turner | November 01 |
| Donnie Johnson (100th) | November 05 |
| Allen McKinney | November 05 |
| Mable McKinney | November 06 |
| Carol Williamson | November 07 |
| Tucker Williamson | November 08 |
| Nancy Murchison | November 16 |
| Leigh Anne Snead | November 18 |
| Nancy Beck | November 21 |
| Sue Ellen McKinney | November 25 |
| Vivian Crawford | November 26 |
| Linda Wood | November 26 |
| Ben Bouldin | November 27 |
| Miller Dunn | November 28 |
| Sue Etheridge | November 29 |
| Pat Sizemore | November 30 |



Ministers On Call for the Month of November:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Nov. 02 thru Nov. 05 | Deacon Benjy Overby |
| Nov. 09 thru Nov. 12 | Deacon Caleb Warren |
| Nov. 16 thru Nov. 19 | Deacon Bob Webster |
| Nov. 23 thru Nov. 26 | Deacon Joan Smith |
| Nov. 30 thru Dec. 03 | Deacon Jim Etheridge |