



Grove Park
BAPTIST CHURCH

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The Messenger

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GROVE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH | AUGUST 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS:

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Sundays | 5:00 p.m. | Family Night |
| Mon., Wed., Thurs. | | Devotional on Facebook Live |
| Tuesday | 7:00 p.m. | Bible Study |
| 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 |
| August 7 | Noon | Romeo's |
| August 9 | 6:00 p.m. | Vacation Bible School |
| August 10 | 9:00 a.m. | Vacation Bible School |
| August 11 | 5:00 p.m. | Church Ice Cream Social |
| August 12 | 7:00 p.m. | Publicity Committee Meeting |
| August 18 | 6:00 p.m. | Quarterly Church Conference |
| August 22 | 4:00 p.m. | GPES Open House |
| August 23 | 4:00 p.m. | Feed The Team |
| August 30 | 4:00 p.m. | Feed The Team |

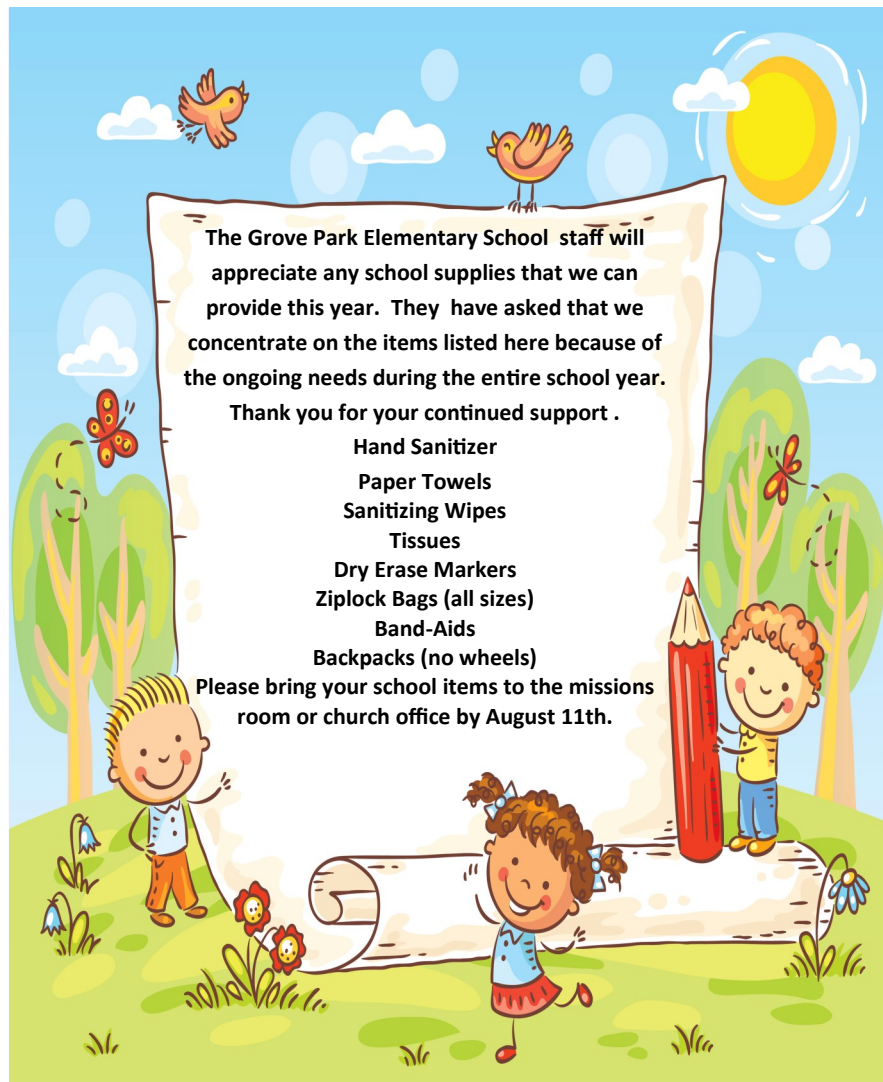
"Do you ever think about death?" It's a question that is often posed by a fictitious social media personality in response to some outrageous revelation in the news. I generally find it quite amusing when I read it, but recently after reading it I snuck down a different rabbit trail. I probably give more time to thinking about death than most folks because of the nature of my position being around those who are sick and facing death. Yet, I began to wonder if I properly acknowledge death as I should. For instance, is the outrage that I offer about death moving into things I cherish misplaced or warranted? I am often outraged and aflutter about issues that seem spiraling towards death, and for the sake of argument here I'll use ACC expansion in sports, that in the grand scheme of things truly do not matter. Please hear me, I am not saying that these are unimportant things. I am confident that anyone who grew up on Tobacco Road and listened to Thacker and Packer call games have multiple cherished memories. However, when viewed in light of the thousands of children every day across our world who are dying from malnourishment or gun violence and we are silent about it, are all outrages whether they be personal, ecclesial, cultural, or political match this level of importance?

Secondly, I cannot escape the fact that it is an inherent part of God's plan for the world that things live and things die. "To everything there is a season" Ecclesiastes offers along with some specificity about growing and dying. Jesus teaches in John 12:24 that a grain of wheat must die so that it can bear much fruit. Do we recognize those occasions where we are limiting growth as we work so doggedly to prevent death? Our prayer should be as we rush the ramparts to battle back Death's approach is to ask ourselves is this really what God would have me do? Is this God's battle or my battle? The older I get the more I realize that some of my battles were just that, mine and not God's, and when that is the case all lose.

Yesterday, I heard a colleague share that a potted plant she had on her apartment balcony had died and she threw in some cucumber seeds not knowing what would happen. She had never grown cucumbers and did not know what to do when things started sprouting. I conclude by asking us, where in our lives are things that are dead or dying that we need to just pluck up and put some seeds into the pot that new things might grow? Our actions are not a condemnation of the beauty the plant once had, but a desire to see fresh expressions of beauty in the world. Furthermore, are we on the lookout for those fresh sprouts that seek to bring beauty to our world and are we nurturing them or are we consigning them to death because we do not like what's growing? May we choose to allow beauty to cover the earth.

Grace Abounds,
Marc





The Grove Park Elementary School staff will appreciate any school supplies that we can provide this year. They have asked that we concentrate on the items listed here because of the ongoing needs during the entire school year.

Thank you for your continued support .

- Hand Sanitizer
- Paper Towels
- Sanitizing Wipes
- Tissues
- Dry Erase Markers
- Ziplock Bags (all sizes)
- Band-Aids
- Backpacks (no wheels)

Please bring your school items to the missions room or church office by August 11th.

Grove Park Elementary School Open House
August 22, 2024 4pm-6pm

We will have a blessing of our Backpack Program during morning worship on August 18th. We truly appreciate your continued support of this important ministry.

Ministers On Call for the Month of August

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| August 1 thru August 4 | Deacon Marian Brewer |
| August 8 thru August 11 | Deacon Beth Canada |
| August 15 thru August 18 | Deacon Derek Denard |
| August 22 thru August 25 | Deacon Benjy Overby |
| August 29 thru Sept 1 | Deacon Caleb Warren |

August Food Pantry
SpaghettiOs
Canned Ravioli
Spaghetti Noodles
Spaghetti Sauce
Instant Potatoes

August Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Erle Medford | August 03 |
| Mark King | August 04 |
| LaRae Bolick | August 04 |
| Mark King | August 04 |
| Lance Denard | August 06 |
| Dee Noah | August 10 |
| Lynn Murchison | August 17 |
| Bunnie Overby | August 17 |
| Danny Overby | August 17 |
| Steve Williamson | August 18 |
| Arnetta Petty | August 19 |
| Michelle Toy | August 19 |
| Jackie Patillo | August 21 |
| Jesse Medford | August 23 |
| Krissy Szczepanski | August 26 |
| George Owen | August 27 |
| Pat Thompson | August 28 |
| Bernice Crenshaw | August 31 |
| Makensie Culler | August 31 |



FEED THE TEAM
AUGUST 23
AUGUST 30
SEPTEMBER 27
OCTOBER 11

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING, PLEASE CONTACT JANICE BYRD.

August 26, 2024
ABSS
First Day of Class

Fantasy Football Sign-up Is Located On The Church Bulletin Board

Hope Boxes
This month we are requesting crayons, markers and colored pencils. Items can be placed in the bin in the vestibule. Thank you for your continued help with this program.

Our Bible Study (The Gospel of John) and GPBC Book Club ("The Jesus I Never Knew" by Philip Yancey) will start back this month via Zoom. Please be on the lookout for more details.

Our quarterly church conference is 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 18th. If you or a committee you serve on have any reports or motions to bring before the conference, please let the church office know as soon as possible.

You are invited to join us for

When: August 9 - 6:00pm- 8:30pm & August 10 - 9am-1pm
Who: Children Ages 3 - Grade 5
Where: Grove Park Baptist Church
What: Join us for Wild Wonder Year 2! This year's theme is care. The wonder we feel when we look at something beautiful leads us to care for it. Christian creation care is also hopeful. It allows us to ask the question, "How might I bless creation? How might I bless the Lord?" Year Two is all about exploring hopeful ways to care for creation while also discovering how deeply the Father cares for us.

Sunday Sundae Fun Day

Everyone is invited Sunday, August 11th at 5:00pm in the gym for our ice cream social. Ice cream is provided by Maple View Farms. There is a sign up sheet if you would like to help with cookies, cakes and brownies. We hope to see you here for fellowship and a sweet treat.