

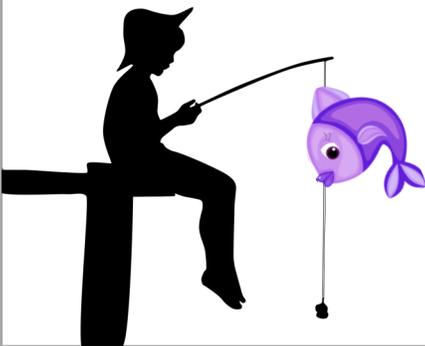
## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

Beginning on June 6th, Carolyn Phillips will resume teaching the adult Sunday School class. Much appreciation to Thad Noto for serving as the interim teacher during these months of adjustments and reschedulings pursuant to COVID. Thad, of course, remains as the Chair of Christian Education. Everyone is encouraged to join in our Sunday School program.

Other education opportunities continuing on a regular schedule include the following:

- Children's Church—Sundays, 11 a.m.
- Root 2:7 Youth—Sundays and Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
- Grace Cadets—Sundays and Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

Coming in July!....



**“Playing In The SunLight”**  
[1-Day VBS]

**“Let’s Go Fishing!”**

July 25th  
Sunday—2-4 p.m.

Includes games, crafts, lesson, and ice cream  
*\*All Children Invited\**



## MISSIONS UPDATE

The GCC missions program continues to support 13 missions. Monthly support is extended to 5 missions and rotating support to 8. In addition, the following outreach ministries are continuing:

- Ballad HV “Hospitality Snack Cart Collection: (Snacks are delivered monthly by Kay Cook and Patty Turner);
- GNJPM “Bars of Soap Collection” for the Sullivan County Jail Ministry. (Jeff Arrington keeps inventory of the soap and reports we now have 895 bars!);
- AJS “Clorox / Lysol Wipes Collection” (NOTEL The collection for the 2020-2021 school year was completed in May. The collection will resume in the fall on an as-needed basis. Robert Thompson has been delivering the wipes to the school since last September.);
- Last Sunday “After-Church Lunches” for the Hope Haven residents (Lunch hostings rotate monthly as per sign-up).

**\*MISSIONS QUOTE**

“The United States of America today is a mission field and you are the missionary”  
[by Myron Taylor, 2003—in “A Faith For Tough Times”]



## GEMS OF WISDOM FROM OUR FOREBEARS

“If we understand the providence of God and love the God of providence, we are able to worship Him with the sacrifice of praise He inherently deserves when things occur that bring pain, sorrow, and affliction into our lives. This understanding of providence is vital to all who would worship God. It is a worship of faith that is rooted in trust”.

[by R. C. Sproul, 1939-2017—in The Invisible Hand, 1996, p. 11]

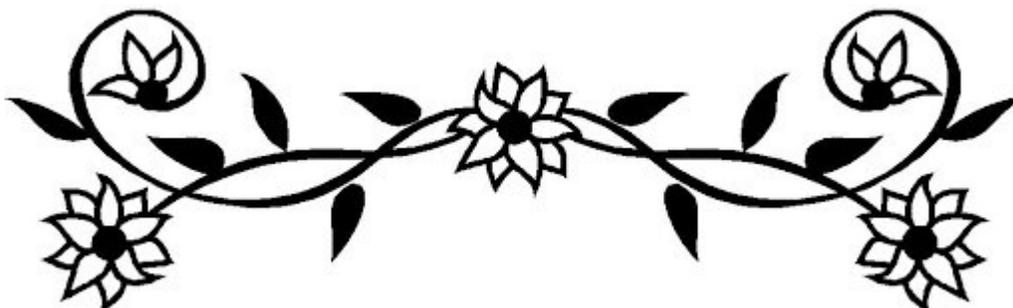
## graceFULLY-noted

- Thanks to all those who served as responsive reading worship leaders in May. Appreciation is extended to KAY COOK (May 9), ROBERT THOMPSON (May 16), CAROLYN PHILLIPS (May 23), and GARY BEVERLY (May 30).
- Thanks to the GCC PRAISE TEAM who continues faithfully serving in the ministry of music each and every week. Regular practices are held on Sundays at 5 p.m. as well as at other called times during the week. The prep work for practices are held on Sundays at 5 p.m. as well as at other called times during the week. The prep work for practices is led by VICKI CLEVINGER, JULIE DAVENPORT—PIANIST, PATTY TURNER, and KAY COOK. The time, commitment, and musical excellence of these ministers of music are appreciate beyond words. Special music for the month of May included, “Led By The Master’s Hand” (May 2), “For The Beauty of The Earth” (May 9), “Jesus You Are My Life” (May 16) and “Holy Spirit, Come” (May 23). For Memorial Day (May 30—observed) PATTY TURNER shared a beautiful solo rendition of “Another Soldier’s Comin’ Home,” preceded by a most inspirational “Memorial Day Tribute” including her father’s courageous survival of the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941.
- Prayers of Condolence are extended for the FAMILY OF LINDA LIVELY BROCK who passed away at Memorial Manor Hospital in Bainbridge, Georgia on Thursday, May 6th. She was 73. Linda made her home in Pelham, Georgia, but grew up and lived her early adult life in Kingsport. She served as the first paid staff secretary of GCC (formerly Oakwood Forest Christian Church) in the 70’s. Linda is survived by her daughter Lisa Brown (also born in Kingsport) and several step-children, grandchildren, and step-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister Barbara Spangler. Linda’s administrative service to GCC /(OFCC) is forever appreciated. May God’s peace, comfort, and rest fill the lives of Lisa and all of Linda’s family.
- GCC congratulations are extended to our family of faith 2021 graduates. Those include BLAKE BUSICK graduating from Dobyns-Bennett High School, JULIE DAVENPORT graduating from Sullivan South High School, CLAIRE POSTON graduating from John Battle High School, TAYLOR RIGSBY graduating from Dobyns-Bennett High School, and EMILY HODGE graduating from The University of Tennessee College of Architecture and Design with a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Architecture. Our graduates were honored on Sunday, May 16th and presented graduate gift Bibles during the morning service. Much appreciation to JOSH LAWSON, Youth Minister who led the graduate recognition part of the service and to TAYLOR RIGSBY and ASHLEIGH GRIFFITH (2020 graduate) who shared most excellent thoughts and reflection about graduating and growing. GCC is so proud of these graduates’ stellar accomplishments and pray God’s leading and guiding of their lives for all the times ahead.
- Thanks to THE MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE led by WAYNE & LISA DARNELL for organizing and preparing the “Pizza / Salad Lunch” in honor of our graduates on Sunday, May 16th. Also, thanks to EVERYONE for sharing salad and dessert items as well as donating money for the pizza. The food was delicious, the fellowship was delightful, and the day was filled with Christian family celebration.
- GCC was blessed to honor all ladies of the church for MOTHER’S DAY on Sunday, May 9th. Thanks to EDWARD THOMPSON for faithfully distributing the carnations and to JAMIE ABERNATHY for her masterfully-prepared and excellently shared “Tribute to Christian Womanhood / Motherhood”. Jamie’s inspiring reflections truly made the day.
- Words of hearty welcome are extended to DAVID MCCREADY who placed his membership at Grace Christian Church on Sunday, May 9th. David is a baptized believer in the Lord and his presence is a blessed addition to our family of faith.

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### graceFULLY-noted, cont.

- Thanks to BRIAN BROOKS and CLEAN EXPRESS for doing an excellent job to “spic & span” our carpets in the fellowship hall and foyer. Looks great and smells fresh!
- Thanks to GARY BEVERLY for his selfless labors to make repairs on the Oakdale House and to tend to all the details of contractor scheduling and work at the East Sevier and American Way campuses.
- Thanks to WAYNE DARNELL and TONY TIPTON for their continued faithful service to keep both our campus lawns mowed, trimmed, and groomed.
- Thanks to the VOLUNTEERS (mostly from ADELPHAI CIRCLE) who have been cleaning and tidying up the church each week. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall if you want to pitch in and help with some of the light housekeeping duties.
- GCC prayers of praise are lifted for the safe and healthy arrival of Levi and John Funkhouser. They are the twin sons of Henry Jr. & Sarah Funkhouser born in Prosperity, South Carolina on Friday, May 21st. Levi and John are also the twin grandsons of our own HENRY FUNKHOUSER, SR. Congratulations to Henry and praise be to God for the miracle of new life!
- GCC extends a hearty appreciation to TN STATE REP. GARY HICKS for sharing his thoughts and convictions about Memorial Day, public and military service, and Christian faith on Sunday, May 30th. Gary represents the 9th District of Tennessee that includes Hawkins and Hancock counties. The western portion of Kingsport is in Gary’s district. As evidenced by his shared reflections and insights, Gary well-represents his constituents, his counties, the State of TN, and His Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. What a blessing to have him as a GCC friend and Christian influence in Nashville.
- Thanks to the ROOT 2:7 YOUTH and VICKI CLEVINGER for hosting the Hope Haven residents for an after-church spaghetti lunch on Sunday, May 30th. Special thanks to ASHLEIGH GRIFFITH for preparing food and to PATTY TURNER, KAY COOK, BOBBY COOK, JULANA MCCLELLAN and HENRY FUNKHOUSER for extending Christian hospitality. Also, much appreciation to BOBBY COOK for his servant’s heart to provide transportation to the residents.
- Thanks to EVERYONE who prepares communion each week and cleans up afterward. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board if you are interested in volunteering for the upcoming quarter.
- Thanks to THAD NOTO for serving since last October as the interim adult Sunday School teacher. His leadership during these last 7 months has been vital to the post-COVID resumption of our Sunday morning education program. In addition, thanks to Thad for his weekly work to update and maintain our website as an effective source of information and outreach tool.
- Thanks to KAREN JAYNES for her donation of a laminator to the church office. It will be a tremendous asset for our children’s program.
- Thanks to KITTY BEVERLY for sharing her media arts skill to keep our morning services creatively supported. Her preparation and operation of the PowerPoint screen projection is vital to the spirit and cadence of our weekly worship experience. Be sure to thank Kitty personally.... NOTE: She’s in the balcony!



Honoring all men of the church...

### FATHER'S DAY

June 20th  
Sunday—11 a.m.



Sermon— "Our Father"  
Matthew 6:7-9

### 5th WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

June 30th  
Wednesday—6 p.m.

"Taco-Theme"



Everyone invited!

Celebrating 245 years of freedom...

### INDEPENDENCE DAY



July 4th  
Sunday—11 a.m.  
[No Service on Sun. PM]



3-Part Sermon Series

#### "GOD IN OUR NATIONAL LIFE"

- June 13th— "God in America's Past" (Ps. 33:12)
- June 27th— "God In America's Present" (Deut. 11:26-32 / Joshua 24:14-15 / Mt. 6:13-14)
- July 4th— "God In America's Future" (Prov. 29. 18 / Ps. 2)

### ELDERS AND DEACONS...

#### Elders' Meeting

June 8th  
Tuesday—6:00 p.m.

#### Board Meeting

June 8th  
Tuesday—6:30 p.m.

[Both Meetings at the American Way Campus]

### LADIES CIRCLES...



#### Dorcas Circle

June 8th  
Tuesday— 10:30 a.m.

#### Adelphai Circle

June 10th  
Thursday—6:00 p.m.

[All Ladies Invited!]

### CADETS' CORNER

Our theme for the month of June is "Forgiveness.". Get ready for our "Playing in the SonLight" kids' event on Sunday, July 25th from 2-4 p.m.. Our 2021 sub-theme is "Let's Go Fishing!" Come join the fun!



### ROOT 2:7 YOUTH

#### Coming Up:

Cleaning the Youth House (TBA) and assisting with the "Playing in the SonLight" kids event on Sunday, July 25th. Your help is needed and appreciated!