



## Pastor's Corner

This past Sunday was very special in the life of Grace Presbyterian Church, as the Nashville Presbytery was present with us to install Mr. Andy Berg as Associate Pastor of our congregation. Dr. Jim Baird and Mr. Wayne Herring, along with ruling elder Dale Lewellen of Covenant Presbyterian Church, participated in the service. It was a great privilege to have Dr. Baird and Mr. Herring, both present at the founding of the PCA back in 1973. It could very well be the closest contact our church might have with the men whom God used to raise up our candlestick in the darkness. Dr. Baird was Andy's college pastor, and he was the man who humanly speaking got me my job out of seminary; the search committee asked him if he knew of anyone looking to be a solo pastor, and my seminary gave him my name. How providential, then, that Andy and I would end up at the same church in Cookeville, TN, of all places, and Dr. Baird would be available for this service! God must delight in working out His sovereign will, and it is our joy both to sit back and watch Him work, and to join Him in the harvest fields.

I am excited about having Andy on board, and look forward to his ministry among us. His wisdom and experience are invaluable as we grow as a church, and his piety and humility spur me on in my walk with God. Already he has developed relationships with many of you, but if you haven't gotten to know him and Carol and Reece yet, I encourage you to have them over to your house for supper.

I have had the wonderful opportunity the past few months to do premarital counseling for several couples, and I wanted to share with you several books that have come out on marriage during the past few years. In the past I've used several different books for premarital counseling: *Reforming Marriage* by Doug Wilson, *Each for the Other* by Bryan Chapell, *Strengthening Your Marriage* by Wayne Mack, *Christian Living in the Home* by Jay Adams, and others. Two books have lately made my list – *When Sinners Say "I Do"* by Dave Harvey, and *What Did You Expect?* by Paul David Tripp. These books aren't just for newlyweds; in fact, they're probably much more for those of us who have been married for some time. Whether your marriage seems to be clicking along nicely, or struggling to get out of first gear, I want to encourage you to read one or both of these books.

Here's a taste from Paul David Tripp: *"Everyone's marriage becomes something they didn't intend it to be. You are required to deal with things you didn't plan to face. In every marriage sin complicates what would otherwise be simple. In every marriage the brokenness of the world makes things more complicated and difficult. In every marriage either giddy romance wanes and is replaced with a sturdier and more mature love, or the selfishness of*

*sin reduces the marriage to a state of relational détente. So, what do you do when your marriage becomes what it was not intended to be? What do you do in those moments when you aren't so attracted to your spouse? Where do you look when you are irritated, hurt, or discouraged? Where do you reach? Where do you run? Where will you find the reasons to continue working on your marriage in those disappointing moments when those reasons are most needed? Well, you won't find them in your spouse. He or she shares your condition; your spouse is still a flawed person in need of God's transforming grace. You won't find them in the ease of your circumstances. You still live in a world that is groaning and broken. You won't find them in surface strategies and techniques; your struggles are deeper than that. You will only find your reasons to continue by looking up. When your heart rests in the amazing wisdom of the choices of a powerful Creator, you have given yourself reason to continue. When your heart celebrates the myriad of careful choices that were made to bring your stories together, you have given yourself reason to continue. When your heart is filled with gratitude for the amazing grace that you both have been and are being given, you have given yourself reason to continue. You are not alone. Your creating, ruling, transforming Lord is still with you. He has brought your stories together and placed them smack-dab in the middle of his redemptive story. As long as he is Creator, as long as he is sovereign, and as long as he is the Savior, you have reason to get up in the morning and love one another, even though you aren't yet what he created you to be" (pages 32, 40). May the Lord give our marriages the commitment and humility and zeal for God's glory and love that we need to make it for the long haul.*

Don't forget to continue to give to the building fund! We need to raise at least \$60,000 to build, and \$160,000 to have extras like a steeple, brick veneer, covered entryway, landscaping, etc. We hit the doldrums in February, but God is able to move in our hearts to see this building to completion. Be praying that the architect's drawings and contractor's bids will come back at the price we can afford, and that we will be able to break ground later this spring or early summer. God is at work, so let's pray fervently.

We're about to finish up our study of Isaiah 1-12 on Wednesday evenings. Beginning the first Wednesday night in April and running for 5 weeks, we will have an Inquirers' Class. This class is for anyone who is interested in joining or learning more about Grace Presbyterian Church (for those who are coming from a non-PCA background, it is required for membership; and it's strongly encouraged for all!). It's also a great class for current members to be refreshed in what it means to be a Presbyterian. We'll meet from 6:00 - 8:00 in the Library at Algood Elementary School.

*Pastor, Caleb*

# What Else Is Going On At Grace?

## Spring Quarter Sunday School Classes

1. *The Book of James* – How do we live out our faith in the nitty gritty details of life? What does the Christian life look like? The book of James answers those questions and more, covering topics such as rejoicing in trials, sin and temptation, anger, true religion, discrimination, faith and works, the tongue, wisdom, conflict, wealth and poverty, and prayer. Bob King will teach through this very practical book written by the brother of Jesus.
2. *He is There and He is Not Silent* – God has spoken, in creation and in His Word. Yet there are so many questions surrounding His revelation of Himself in creation and in His Word. This class, taught by the elders and Todd Burks, will think about the Bible and about God's revelation in creation. We'll consider the necessity of the Bible, the inspiration and authority of the Bible, the inerrancy of the Bible, how we know the Bible is God's word, how the canon came to be formed, how the Bible relates to various scientific disciplines such as Astronomy, Physical Science, Chemistry, Biology, Physiology, and Geology, and how the knowledge of God's revelation in creation should change the way we live our lives today.

## Wednesday Evening Programs

- \*6:00-6:30 PM—Snack Supper (\$1). If you would like to help set up the supper, please contact Andy Berg at 931.397.9952.
- \*6:15-7:30 PM—Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study. We are studying Isaiah 1-12.
- \*6:30-7:30 PM—Kid's Skill & Drills is for preschool through sixth graders. We have a nursery for babies/toddlers
- \*6:00 PM—Youth Group

- **Sunday, March 13th** - Lord's Supper at the Morning Worship Service
- **Sunday, March 20th** - Lord's Supper at the Evening Worship Service
- **Saturday, March 26th** – 12:00 PM the JOY Club will meet for its quarterly luncheon at Made With Love. Come meet, greet, share great fellowship and food. The JOY Club is open to all members and regular attendees age 50 and over. Please contact Wes & Jan Stevens at 432-2443 or 267-0273.
- **Sunday, April 24th** - Easter Sunrise Service, followed by breakfast (if anyone is interested in organizing the breakfast, please contact the church office).
- **April 29th-May 1st** - WIC retreat (see front page)

**WIC Ladies Bible Study**—new study in Philippians starting the first Wednesday morning in April (4/6) at the Meeting House at 10:00-11:30 AM. Childcare provided. Study questions will be emailed a week in advance. See Jan Stevens for additional info. If you are not able to attend, questions can be emailed to you.

## Youth Group News from Larry:

I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you—the church family—what a great time we had on our Youth Winter Retreat. To begin with we stayed in a beautiful, 5 story, cabin/resort just outside of Gatlinburg. There were beautiful views from the deck and dining room as well as many of the bedrooms. We had a great time go-carting, putt putting, and all of the other things that go along with going to Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. Thanks to Mary Richards and Cheryl Burks we not only didn't starve, but we ate GREAT food the whole trip. We were all blessed by Andy's three talks on "Making God your God" and the following discussion groups. We also had an opportunity to visit another church in the PCA called Evergreen Church and hear an encouraging sermon over Romans 8:28 and experience some of the different range of worship and style in the PCA. Overall I would say it was a good experience for everyone. Thanks to all the chaperones and people who made the trip a great time.

## ~March Nursery/Greeter Volunteers~

	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
SS Babies	A. Seitzinger	Mitchell	R. Nyhof	Robson
AM Worship	Richards	Kincaid	Bleasdale	Enochs
PM Worship	Hadlock	Walker	Parker	Cangelosi
Greeters	J/A Farris	Parker	Morse/Berg	Barnhart

# Meet the PCA

Since many folks at Grace are new to the Presbyterian Church in America, we hope to use these newsletters each month to highlight one of the ten different committees/agencies that carry out the work of the denomination as a whole. The permanent committees are the Administrative Committee, Mission to the World, Mission to North America, Reformed University Ministries, and Christian Education and Publication; the denominational agencies are Covenant College, Covenant Theological Seminary, Ridge Haven Conference Center, PCA Retirement and Benefits, Inc., and PCA Foundation. You can learn more about our denomination at [www.pcanel.org](http://www.pcanel.org).

Mission to North America (MNA) “serves PCA churches and presbyteries as they advance God's Kingdom in North America by planting, growing and multiplying Biblically healthy churches through the development of intentional evangelism and outreach ministries” (from their website, <http://pcamna.org/>). There are many different aspects to the ministry of MNA: church planter development and training, chaplains, special needs ministries, disaster response, English as a Second Language, and church planting ministries to various demographics – African Americans, Haitian Americans, Hispanic Americans, Koreans, and others. Dr. Jim Bland, the Coordinator of MNA, together with his staff have this vision for the PCA: *That God, by His grace and for His own glory, will transform the PCA into a grassroots church planting culture that is: exponentially reproducing a growing number of biblically healthy churches, seeing these churches characterized by significant conversion growth and ministries of mercy, and reaching the diverse communities and people groups of North America.* There are currently approximately 300 church plants in North America, and by God's grace we will see even more. Jesus has promised to build His church, and therefore we have great hope as we go forward as a denomination. Let us pray for God to raise up church planters, and to enable us to bring the gospel to a lost world with boldness and humility.

## Missions Minute:

Hey everyone at Grace. This is Andy. Thank you for a wonderful installation, all your kind words and the great cake and food. It was so encouraging to me. It has been 15 years since I was officially working as a pastor in a church. I look forward to serving you all. Please pray for me that I would hear God, do what He desires and that I would be faithful!

Speaking of Prayer- Please pray for El Roi and Jeff Trowbridge in Ethiopia. They need their van repaired and to finish work on their home. He gives praise for the children placing very high in their respective classes and for actually receiving over 10k in donations last year.

Also for Perry Heusmann, please ask the Lord to work in the hearts of the many politicians who came to his seminar on Faith and Politics last month. Ask God to open doors so Perry can be a witness of the Gospel. More missions to come in the coming weeks!

## ~March Birthdays/Anniversaries~



3/1-Malcolm Vick, Anna  
Grace Wilkins  
3/3-Ian Robson  
3/6-Dusty Williamson

3/28-Estella Nyhof, Rusty Tatum

3/29-Isaiah Mitchell

3/30-Matt Norrod

3/31-Grace Henderson, Joshua Elmore



3/3-Cangelosi

3/7-Christian

3/26-R/K Farris

3/30-Burks

3/7-Kathy Rust

3/11-Isaac Dobbins, Jessica Guthrie

3/12-Jonathan Richards

3/17-Brandon Winston, Spencer  
McClearen

3/22-Hampton Cunningham, Tara  
Decareaux

## GRACE PRESBYTERIAN BUILDING FUND

**Our goal is \$60,000 for the basic building and approximately \$160,000 for the building with extras. As of today, we have received \$33,534.**