

**The Purpose of  
Grace Presbyterian  
Church**

*is to glorify God by  
gathering and grow-  
ing His people in ac-  
cordance with His  
word.*

**U  
P  
C  
O  
M  
I  
N  
G**

Sunday,  
May 1st  
Lord's Supper  
Morning  
Worship Service

Sunday,  
May 15h  
Lord's Supper  
Evening  
Worship Service

**M  
A  
Y**

Saturday,  
May 21st  
2-4 PM  
9th Annual  
Cangelosi  
Strawberry Festival  
and Crawfish Boil

**A  
N  
N  
O  
U  
N  
C  
E  
M  
E  
N  
T  
S**

Wednesday,  
May 25th  
3rd Annual  
Cookout for the  
Cookeville Rescue  
Mission

Sunday,  
May 29th  
Joint Worship  
Sunday Evening at  
First Presbyterian  
Church in Crossville

# Grace Press

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA  
WWW.GRACECOOKEVILLE.ORG  
PHONE NUMBER: 931-537-6400

Volume 5, Issue 5

May 1, 2011

## Grace Group Signups This Sunday and Next

This Sunday and next, we will have signups for our new Grace Groups. Our hope and prayer is that these Grace Groups will allow us better to experience God's grace in community, and that they will help our church gather and grow God's people to His glory. Each group will be spending a portion of its time discussing God's word, whether by reviewing the Sunday morning sermon, studying a book of the Bible together, reading a book or articles together, thinking about current events in light of the Scriptures – but these groups are not primarily Bible studies, as much as they are about developing strong and ongoing relationships in a community of grace. They are for encouraging one another, helping one another grow in the knowledge of the truth, in godliness, and in good deeds, spurring one another on to walk in God's grace and in holiness, praying for one another, and confronting one another. They are for sharing life together, as well as allowing unbelievers to see firsthand what the Christian life and the body of Christ looks like.

There are ten groups starting up this month, led by the following men:

Ray Barnhart	(931) 261-8441	raybarnhart@hotmail.com
Andy Berg	(931) 397-9952	acberg@ymail.com
Bradley Bleasdale	(931) 316-3041	bradleyt1776@gmail.com
Will Enochs	(731) 234-5193	wmenochs@gmail.com
Tyler Hodge	(615) 418-6887	dttylerhodge@yahoo.com
Andrew Martin	(931) 544-0582	admartin23@gmail.com
Dennis Parker	(931) 267-1094	parkit@blomand.net
Darryl Richards	(931) 239-0284	ricards6@frontiernet.net
Wes Stevens	(931) 267-7838	wesley.stevens@state.tn.us
Landon Vick	(931) 319-8534	landonvick@gmail.com

If you are interested in learning more about these Grace Groups, feel free to contact these men or talk to them on Sunday.

Sunday evening, 5/1, we will sing your favorite hymns and have a time of Q&A with Pastor Caleb. Feel free to email him your questions at [calebcangelosi@gmail.com](mailto:calebcangelosi@gmail.com), or just bring them with you this evening.



## 3rd Annual Cookout for the Cookeville Rescue Mission

Wednesday, May 25th we'll be having our 3rd annual cookout for the Cookeville Rescue Mission. The main dish will be sliced pork shoulder right off the grill. We would like to invite everyone to attend if possible, and to invite friends, and family also. This is our way to kick off the summer for the people at the mission, and to reach out to a stranger in need. Of course we are in need of side dishes, desserts, drinks, and servers. So if you can help out with any of this or you just want to come eat and hangout please R.S.V.P by the 18th of May so we know how much food to cook. We are also looking for a dunk tank to use for this event, so if anyone knows where we could rent one that would be great. Take time to reach out an extra hand to those in need. For more information, see Matt Nyhof.

## Pastor Caleb's Corner

Mark your calendars: the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Cangelosi Strawberry Festival and Crawfish Boil is Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you've never been before, my family had a strawberry festival most years when I was growing up, and once Elizabeth and I got married we restarted the family tradition. A couple years ago we started having a crawfish boil at the same time, because I missed getting to eat those little mudbugs, and it turns out there are several Louisiana expatriates who miss them as well – and lots of people who want to try them out for the first time. So, bring your favorite strawberry dish/dessert and a chair, and come enjoy the afternoon with us. If you want all-you-can-eat crawfish, potatoes and corn, they'll be \$10 per person, \$20 per family max. I've taken RSVPs in the past, but not this year – just show up with your money, and I'll have the crawfish.

As your pastor, I obviously desire that being at corporate worship every Lord's Day, morning and evening, when you are in town, is a priority for you. But I particularly encourage you to be at church this Sunday. Not only do we have the privilege of meditating upon Psalm 51 together, we also will be coming to the table of our crucified and risen Lord, feasting upon His body and blood spiritually, by faith, that we might be nourished and cherished by our bridegroom as we journey up to the Celestial City. After morning worship, we will have a sign up table for our new Grace Groups; as we've been telling you the past few weeks, we are really anticipating God to do great things in the life of our church through these Grace Groups, so I encourage everyone to get involved. (If you're unsure what group will be the best fit for you, feel free to visit several.) Another exciting thing going on Sunday is a joint meeting between our elders and deacons. A meeting, exciting? Has Caleb finally drunk the poisoned Kool-Aid of Robert's Rules to the dregs? No, as much as I love Robert's Rules, this meeting is exciting because we will be finalizing, Lord willing, a recommendation to the congregation about our building! We are so close to breaking ground and having a building on our property, I can almost see the big machines and taste the dirt! Daniel and I will have to pull out his old video, "I Love Big Machines" – or maybe we can make our own while W & O is working. Please be praying for your officers as we discuss, especially since parts of the discussion will be about money, and unless the Spirit is present, those sorts of conversations can be hard. The Lord has been so gracious to keep us unified and committed thus far, and I can't wait to see how seeing a building being erected strengthens our faith, hope, and love. Now is the time to start looking at your budgets again, and ask what you might be able to sacrifice/cut out so that you can give regularly to the building fund. Even if it's just \$25 a month – every little bit helps. Of course, some of you can give thousands; no matter the amount, I humbly ask you to seek the Lord to see how generous you might be able to be. We'll have more exact numbers at the congregational meeting, so stay tuned!

At our Session retreat back in March, we spent time discussing our purpose statement, "To glorify God by gathering and growing His people in accordance with His Word." One thing we realized was how poor a job we do as elders, and as a church, at *gathering* the lost out of darkness into God's kingdom. Jesus came into this world that He might "gather together into

one the children of God who are scattered abroad" (John 11:52). Jesus says that the fields are white for harvest, and that those who do not gather with Him scatter (John 4:35-38; Matt. 9:36-38; 12:30). And yet we rarely see adult conversions or baptisms. We were convicted by our lack of boldness and zeal to tell unbelievers about our Savior and the grace to be found in Him, as well as by the poor example we set for you the congregation in inviting unbelievers to hear the gospel preached at worship. Please pray for us, and for yourselves, that our passion for God in Christ would overflow in a more articulate witness to the saving power of the gospel. As God told Paul in Acts 18:9-10, He has many people in our city, and therefore we must speak boldly and fearlessly. Our belief in God's sovereignty in election must not lead to apathy in evangelism, but to fervent pleading with sinners to come to Christ.

You see this dynamic of "belief-in-sovereignty-leading-to-fervent-pleading" in Jesus Himself in Matthew 11:25-30. After declaring that salvation is according to God's free will, and that no one knows the Father except those to whom the Son wills to reveal Him ("I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight. All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him."), Jesus goes on to call and invite and plead and command sinners to come to Him ("Come to me, all who are weary and heavy-laden..."). Jesus knew that God had given Him a people before the foundation of the world, and that all that the Father had given Him would come to Him (John 6:37), and that no one could come to Him unless the Father who sent Him drew him (John 6:44), and that it was the Father's will that Jesus should lose nothing of all that He had given Him, but raise it up on the last day (John 6:39) – but none of this stopped Him from declaring that He was the bread of life, and that the one who comes to Him would never hunger, and the one who believes in Him would never thirst (John 6:35, 51). Though many are called (externally) but few are chosen (Matthew 22:14), the confidence that God will gather His elect into the fold through our words should lead us to speak humbly and boldly. Hell is real, and our hearts should beat with compassion for our friends who don't know God through Christ Jesus. So let us invite our neighbors and acquaintances and co-workers and friends to come hear the Word preached at worship and to hear it discussed and lived out at a Grace Group. Let us not be afraid to speak to them of the good news of what God has done for sinners through Christ's life, death, and resurrection, and the saving power of the gospel in our own experience.

Please be praying for me next weekend. I will be speaking at a men's retreat in Mandeville, Louisiana, for a friend of mine who pastors a PCUSA church there. We're looking forward to seeing our families, and I'm looking forward to teaching of godly manhood from the pastoral epistles. I'll be looking at three commitments of a mature man: committed to the gospel, committed to godliness, committed to God's word. Pray that the Lord would open ears and cause His word to bear much fruit.

# What Else Is Going On At Grace?

**Two Sunday School Classes**—*The Book of James* and *He is There and He is Not Silent*

- **Sunday, May 1st**— Lord's Supper Morning Worship Service
- **Wednesday, May 4th**—6:30-7:30 PM—Last Catechism class for children
- **Sunday, May 8th**—Youth Group Parent's Meeting
- **Sunday Evening Worship Service, May 15th**—Lord's Supper
- **Saturday, May 21st, 2-4 PM**—9<sup>th</sup> Annual Cangelosi Strawberry Festival and Crawfish Boil
- **Wednesday, May 25th**—3rd Annual Cookout for Cookeville Rescue Mission

**WIC Ladies Bible Study**—at the Meeting House every Wednesday 10:00-11:30 AM. Childcare provided. Study questions will be emailed a week in advance. See Jan Stevens for additional info.

## **Joint Worship Service Sunday Evening, May 29th, at First Presbyterian Church in Crossville**

On Sunday night, May 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m., we will be having our "fifth Sunday" joint worship service with First Presbyterian Church of Crossville (PCA) and Faith Presbyterian Church of Cookeville (OPC). Matt Figura, the pastor of Faith Presbyterian, will be bringing God's word to us. We'll be leaving from the church offices at 5:15 to caravan up to Crossville.



## **Save the date everyone- June 20-23, 2011 for Vacation Bible School!!!!**

**We are looking for Sea Explorers (children) and Captains and First Mates (volunteers) to fill our cruise that sets sail in June. We will chart the waters of the Bible to discover the Sovereign God who has wondrously provided the Ultimate Rescuer, Jesus Christ. We will learn to take soundings (scripture reading/memory work), discern what the ship's bells mean (music), locate the mess hall (snacks), work on ship design (crafts) and enjoy shore leave (recreation).**

**NEEDED:**

**Sea Explorers-** must be 2 years old up through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Captain's-** must be adults to teach lessons, crafts, music, registration, photographer, etc (many jobs- but sign up early to get the one you want)

**First Mates-** can be junior and senior high young people

**Landlubbers-** people to make snacks or to pray who can't actually join the cruise

**Sign up sheet at the Greeter's Table on Sundays or talk to Cruise Director, Cheryl Burks or Deck Hand Quartermaster, Andy Berg**

### **~May Nursery/Greeter Volunteers~**

	5/1	5/8	5/15	5/22	5/29
SS Babies	Mitchell	R. Nyhof	Robson	E. Nyhof	Morse
AM Worship	Kincaid	Bleasdale	J/D Enochs	Rust	Hoepner
PM Worship	Walker	Parker	Cangelosi	Twitty	A. Farris
Greeters	Wilbourn	Winningham	Williamson/McCall	Niemann/Earnst	Fesler/Morse

## Youth Group News From Larry

Well, the summer is almost here! There are exciting events coming up, and one I want to draw your attention to is the Youth Group mission trip to Philadelphia, PA. This trip is going to be a great chance to serve those in need, and to let our youth be exposed to an entirely different culture and kind of poverty than they're used to here in Cookeville. We will be leaving Saturday June 25th early in the morning and be returning Friday July 1st in the evening. We will attend Liberti Presbyterian Church Sunday morning, historical Tenth Presbyterian Church to hear Paul David Tripp speak in the evening, and then Wednesday Epiphany Fellowship to hear Pastor Eric Mason speak. During the days we will be helping out with Urban Farming, meals for homeless, food pantries, and clothing stores for inner-city poor. In the afternoon and early evening we will be visiting some historical sites in Old City Philadelphia such as Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Penn's Landing, etc. The cost of the trip will be \$100 a person, and it is open to youth 14 and older. If you are interested please contact me and I will do everything I can to answer any questions you may have. We will be having a parent's meeting next Sunday, May 8th, immediately following the morning worship service to discuss more details.

### From Andy's Desk

I guess every person learns that aging is not an elective you choose to sign up for. Turning 50 has been a new experience in humility for me. I knew I wasn't as fast as I used to be, but the not seeing up close without cheaters or the amazing ability of those white hairs to crowd out dark hairs, oh boy. And of course teen age children are so frank- "you are old, dad". A church member in Mississippi once told me I wasn't getting older, just getting better. I am not sure they were right. At least the Bible tells me I am being made more like Jesus each day. Or I am getting closer to heaven each day! If you have any suggestions or coping mechanisms, let me know...soon.

Exciting times we live in - both in the church - with Grace groups starting soon, the building, VBS, youth mission trip..... as well as in our world. Let's be thankful for the blessings we do have....family, each other in the church, our eyes, ears, the beautiful spring flowers, jobs, our freedoms..... I am asking God to help me be thankful each day and to express thanks to others. Won't you join me!

**Prayer requests:**

We need children's Sunday school teachers for the summer, for VBS workers, for wisdom for the Grace group leaders and courage for everyone at Grace to follow God's call to be salt and light around us.

### ~May Birthdays/Anniversaries~



- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 5/2-Kay Mitchell                  | 5/18-Helen Morse                |
| 5/4-Jeff Wilkins                  | 5/21-Joshua Mitchell            |
| 5/5-Cody Winston,<br>Quinton Bain | 5/23-Samuel Hadlock, Todd Burks |
| 5/6-Joe Stewart                   | 5/24-Karelyn Pruitt             |
| 5/12-Jake Garner                  | 5/26-Jeanne Niemann             |
|                                   | 5/27-Ryan Steele                |
|                                   | 5/29-Brandy Winston             |
|                                   | 5/31-Alexander Hadlock          |



- 5/13-Walker
- 5/18-Parker,  
Wienke
- 5/21-Berg

- 5/13-Matthew McClearen,  
Michael Elmore
- 5/14-Jason Morse
- 5/16-Deon Nyhof, Liz Hawk

- 5/23-M/E Nyhoff
- 5/26-B/J Bleasdale
- 5/29-Martin

## 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 \$39,366.