

GLAD TIDINGS

FROM GRACE FELLOWSHIP

WINTER 2008-09

BUILDING FOR THE LORD



Building the spiritual kingdom for the Lord through seeing souls born again and becoming a part of God's family should be every Christian's desire. This has been our desire at Grace Fellowship Church since our beginning more than five years ago.

Building the Lord a physical structure (church building) is important as well. As you probably know by now Grace Fellowship Church has plans to build a new church building on highway 27. We need the church building so that we can present Jesus to large numbers of people. When Jesus is presented, He will draw people to Himself. The church building is also an important tool in disciplining those who have come to know the Lord.

Through a long journey on different avenues, God has brought some people to us to build His church. *John Edwards, director of*

Kentucky Baptist Builders, connected us with *Carpenters for Christ* and *Steve Brackenbury who will be our project manager*. Members of Carpenters for Christ, Billy Pollard, Billy Love, and Ron Davis, as well as John Edwards and Steve Brackenbury were at GFC November 21st – 23rd. It was so good to have these men with us for the weekend.

We have seen what Godly men they are and that they have a heart to serve. However, they will need all of us at Grace Fellowship Church to assist in every way we can. This will come through our willingness to serve on committees along with other assignments. I encourage you to be willing to be involved in every way you are able through giving of your finances, time and any other abilities you have.

The Bible says, **“Unless the Lord builds the church, they labor in vain that build it”**. I believe that God is in the process of building His church, but He uses His people – you and me – to let this become reality.

In the coming months, you will be reminded through the church bulletin along with sign-up sheets where you are needed to serve. Let us be thankful that God is providing us the means whereby we can build Him a building which will bring honor to Him. He wants us to be a Great Light in this community, and He is providing us a way to do this very thing! I believe God wants to use Grace Fellowship Church to make a great impact on Lincoln and the surrounding counties. God is already using us to do this to a certain degree, but He wants to reach many, many more people through us!

The Lord is the reason for success in any church and He gets involved through our prayers. Let us give Him thanks for what He has already done as well as what He is going to do!

Serving together,
Pastor Vola

A decorative graphic for 'Autumn Events'. The word 'Autumn' is written in a brown, cursive font on the left. To its right is a central illustration featuring a large orange pumpkin, a purple eggplant, yellow flowers, and green leaves. The word 'Events' is written in a larger, brown, cursive font on the right. The entire graphic is framed by white, swirling lines and small autumn-themed icons like leaves and pumpkins.

Autumn Events

◆ Senior Friend attended the Renfro Valley Gospel Jubilee Saturday September 20th. The Friends will be attending “Christmas In the Valley” December 5th. Tickets for this event have already been reserved. Watch the weekly bulletins for future Senior Friend activities.

◆ The Puffer’s were at Grace Fellowship Sunday evening September 7th. Everyone had a wonderful time listening to Bob and Darleen’s wide variety of music.

◆ Several intrepid members of Grace Fellowship spent an evening camping out at Holly Bay in London, KY September 5-6.

◆ Before sharing their musical talents, members of GFC shared their chili cooking talents at the October 26th Singspiration. Afterwards, Calvary Hill puppeteers shared a fun puppet show.

During the Singspiration, Miss Deronda and her helpers met with the children to paint pumpkins and share other fun fall activities. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the goody bags, and other supplies. Depending upon the weather and other arrangements, we hope to have another Singspiration in January or February.

◆ The new Directory with pictures finally came out in October. Hard copies are available at the church. Ask Kathy for one. A secure PDF color version is available at our website

www.gracefellowshipstanford.com.

The password is founded03.

Speaking of the website.... You can access PDF’s of the plans for our new building and the newsletter as well as the color version of the directory. There are also recordings of past worship services and music. Visit often. You never know what you will find.

◆ November 24th fourteen boxes for the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry were delivered to our local drop-off sight. These boxes with many, many more will be given to children worldwide as part of Samaritan’s Purse mission work.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming activities in December are the Christmas Program December 21 at 6:30 P.M. and a New Year’s Youth Celebration December 31st starting at 8:00 P.M. for 7th to 12th graders. Watch the Sunday bulletin or website for announcements of other upcoming events and activities.

Sunday School



Our Sunday School program continues to grow and develop. A new adult class for ages 20 to 40 years old began meeting November 30th. This class will meet in the Sanctuary. We also have classes for nursery, preschool elementary, and high school age as well as two other adult classes. For more information about any of the Sunday School classes, see Phillip Stevens, Sunday School Superintendent.



December 21, 2008

6:30 P.M.

GFC's Building Plans Getting Underway

After many months of prayer and meetings, the GFC Building Team feels that God is enabling us to begin our new building soon. If all goes well, ground will be broken in early spring and construction will continue through 2009.

We will be receiving help from many volunteers and donations of materials, etc, to help save on the final cost of the building. Carpenters for Christ, headed by Brother Billy Pollard, of Alabama, will bring a team of 75-100 mission minded men who will volunteer their time and labor. They will be with us from May 27th to June 6th to put the building under roof.



Steve Brackenbury, also of Alabama, will be our project coordinator and will be donating his time as well to see that the project runs smoothly from beginning to end. Steve will also coordinate other smaller groups of volunteers to help complete our building project.

What can you do to help? The greatest way to help is through your prayers. You can also help support with financial contributions. And be ready to give of your time and labor as these volunteer mission groups arrive to give of their own time and labor. As the project gets closer, look for opportunities to bring in supplies (from paper plates to ladders) and to help with sight clean-up, laundry, refreshments, an occasional meal, and accommodations.

Remember that these volunteer groups are *helping* Grace Fellowship build our church building. We need to do our share in helping them while they are doing God's work in Lincoln County.



December 5th	Senior Friends attend "Christmas in the Valley"
December 21st	Christmas Program 6:30 P.M.
December 24th	Christmas Eve service 7:00 P.M.
December 25th	Christmas Day
December 31st	New Year's Eve Youth Party 8:00 P.M.
January 1st	New Year's Day
January 7th	Quarterly Business Meeting 7:00 P.M.
January 19th	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 14th	Valentines Day
February 16th	President's Day

Plans for activities are subject to change. Please watch your Sunday bulletin for more details or contact the office at (606) 365-0502.



Snow Cancellations

We will have information about cancellations of services or activities on the Lexington television stations, our website www.gracefellowshipstanford.com, or the message on our phone answering service at (606) 365-0502. The information will be made available as soon as possible.

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BIRTHDAYS

December		January		February	
12/7	Betty Tackett	1/2	Sandy Duff	2/3	Otto Terry
12/8	Joyce Haggard	1/5	Christine Ollish	2/5	Patsy Reed
12/11	Rachael Miller	1/7	Herrica Pettus	2/6	Jim Smith
12/14	Greg Padgett	1/8	Cindy Hardwick	2/7	Joyce Leach
12/14	Kevin Pettus	1/10	Pat Sanders	2/16	Matthew Pettus
12/24	Joe Judge	1/13	Kathleen Carman	2/18	Warren Ochsner
12/26	Namia Brown	1/15	Kay Peppard		
12/26	Dusty Miller	1/18	Andrew Pettus		
		1/21	Katherine Hall		
		1/21	Lamesha Pettus		
		1/21	John Stevens		
		1/24	Leona Belcher		
		1/29	J Smith		

The Record Speaks

Date	Sunday School	Morning Worship	Evening Worship	Offering	Building Fund
9/7	54	165	97	\$2391.85	\$ 350.00
9/14	50	135	40	\$3543.56	\$ 838.63
9/21	60	136	56	\$1693.98	\$ 50.00
9/28	56	157	75	\$3165.13	\$ 320.00
10/5	56	172	35	\$2928.06	\$ 550.00
10/12	43	139	50	\$2848.00	\$ 150.00
10/19	45	140	47	\$3116.47	\$ 270.00
10/26	63	161	155	\$3297.90	\$ 317.00
11/2	63	167	57	\$2811.22	\$12,155.00
11/9	67	147	42	\$2679.28	\$ 5,300.00
11/16	57	156	49	\$2565.00	\$ 152.00
11/23	62	145	65	\$2677.91	\$ 200.00
11/30	63	149	46	\$2504.31	\$ 625.00

Building Fund Total to Date (11/30)	\$118,667.52
Benevolent Fund Offering (11/30)	\$ 586.00

Youth News



The youth and children's programs that meet on Wednesday's are going strong. Many of the kids come to the Wednesday service straight from after school activities and don't have opportunity to eat. Jeff and Deronda Sears have prepared menus and have been serving the hungry kid's delicious meals. Even if you are unable to attend on Wednesday's, you can contribute to the meals. Lots of chips, cookies, drinks, etc. are needed. These items can be dropped off on Sunday or during office hours if you are unable to attend the Wednesday service. The kid's will really enjoy and appreciate the food and learn better because of it. See Deronda for more information.

Kid's in grades 6 to 12 are meeting with Sarah Stevens on Sunday evening's for study and discussion. This is a group that is growing in more ways than one. We encourage all our youth to come to one or both groups and bring friends.

The Youth led the Sunday Evening Worship Service September 28th and November 23rd. Beginning in January the Youth will be leading services on the fourth Sunday of each month. Come out and support their efforts and learn from a new perspective.

Plans are being made for a New Year's celebration for the Youth at GFC. There will be fun, food, and fellowship. Watch your bulletin for more details.



New Years Youth Party

December 31, 2008

8:00 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.

7th to 12th grades

**Invite your friends for food, games,
music, and fun!**



Bible Quiz

In John 8:12 (NRSV), Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will"

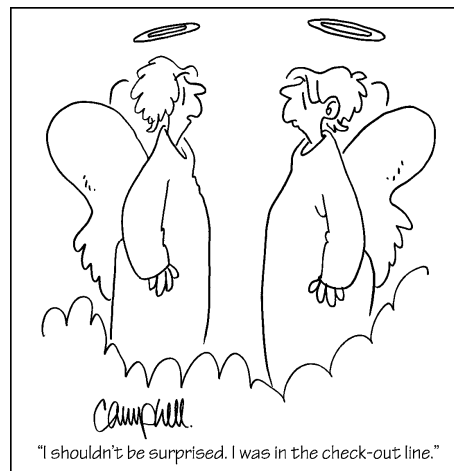
Choose the phrase below that correctly completes this sentence.

- A. never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.
- B. never walk alone.
- C. be my companion always.
- D. sit at my right hand.

A nutty explanation

A young pastor tried to comfort a widow as they stood looking at her husband's body in a casket.

"I know this is very hard for you," he said. "But we Christians have hope. The body is only a husk. It is only the shell. It is what we see. But the nut that was in the shell has already gone to heaven."

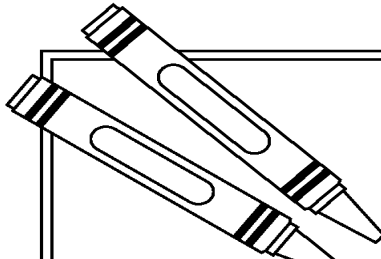


How to keep warm in church

1. Rush to the front of the sanctuary. That will warm you up and you'll avoid the draft in the back of the church.
2. Invite your neighbors and friends, and sit 12 people to a pew.
3. Seat yourself near the pulpit. Much hot air is emitted from that area.
4. Wait for an unfamiliar hymn-and then watch the sparks fly!

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Answer to quiz: A (See John 8:12, NRSV)




Just for **KIDS**

CHARACTER THAT PLEASES

The New Year is a time for renewed commitments and changes in our behavior. Complete the puzzle below to see whose example is worthy of imitating or copying.

Match the blocks of spaces and letters to finish the NIV Bible verse.




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S	T
1	1

L	L
A	M
F	O
	T
A	M
C	H
C	O

O	W
P	L
L	L
H	E
P	L
R	I
R	

F	O
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I	
E	X
1	



Answer: Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. 1 Cor. 11:1