

# ***GLAD TIDINGS***

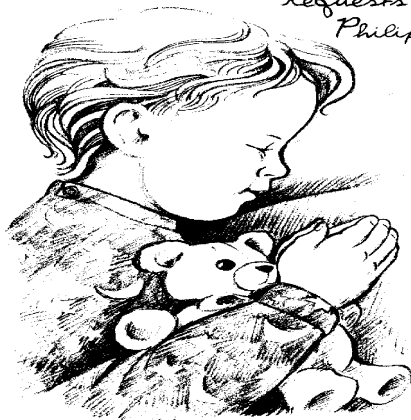
## ***FROM GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH***

### **FALL 2008**

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*do not be anxious about anything,  
but in everything by prayer ...  
with thanksgiving present your  
requests to God.*  
*Philippians 4:6*



It's the season of harvest and thankfulness again. These days watching the nightly news or filling our cars with gas sometimes makes us feel more woeful than thankful. But Paul, writing to the Philippians instructed Christians in all times not to worry about anything but, like children, to present our requests to our Heavenly Father with thanksgiving. Paul goes on to assure us that if we do this "Then the peace of God which is of far more worth than human reasoning will keep guard over your hearts, in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7, New English Bible)

Another way to find the peace of God is to spend time in study of God's word, praise, worship, and fellowship. At Grace Fellowship Church there are lots of opportunities for all these activities. We invite you to read this newsletter to learn more and to join us in finding the peace that passes all understanding.

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# Summer Happenings

In July Grace Fellowship Church was happy to welcome Dr. Kevin Pettus as our Associate Pastor. We have been blessed with the presence of the Pettus family since they first came to Grace Fellowship and we look forward to serving with Brother Kevin, Andrea, and their family.

◆ June 15<sup>th</sup> was a busy day at Grace Fellowship. Father's of all ages were recognized for their hard work in the morning service. In the evening, the **Lincoln County Changers** (LCC) team hosted by GFC for their mission week joined our service. The LCC team spent the week roofing a home in the Waynesburg area. This year, two GFC teens worked with the Changers on other projects. We appreciate all the hard work of the Lincoln County Changers and thank everyone who helped in delivering lunches and snacks to our team.

◆ Once again, GFC offered **Free Parking** to people attending the Lincoln County Fair June 30<sup>th</sup> to July 5<sup>th</sup>. Cold bottled water and flyers including information about our church and the plan of salvation were given out each evening.

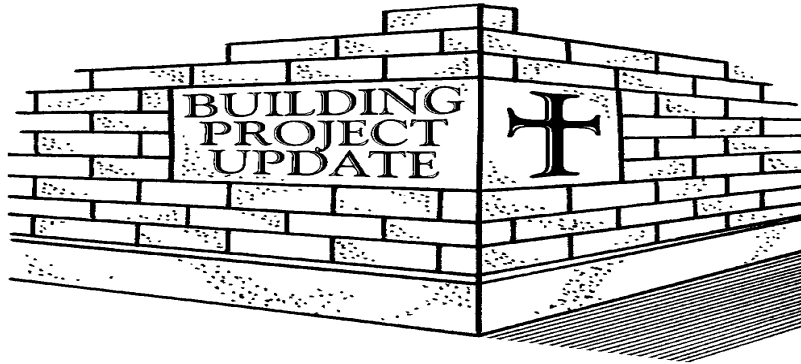
◆ **Vacation Bible School** was July 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. This year the theme was Outrigger Island. Psalms 81: was the focus scripture. The weather was good and the children had a wonderful time. Average nightly attendance

was 55 children & adult workers. For the VBS Celebration Sunday July 27<sup>th</sup> there were 122 students, family and church family in attendance.

◆ Throughout the summer, the **Youth and Children** have continued to meet Wednesday evenings. They have enjoyed lots of good food and activities while learning about Jesus and the Christian life. The fun, food, and fellowship will continue this fall. All children and youth are welcome to attend every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.

◆ **Senior Friends** have been meeting regularly. Among the activities they have enjoyed this summer are a cookout and a trip to "Bread of Life" in Liberty, KY. They are looking forward to a trip to the Renfro Valley Gospel Show September 20<sup>th</sup>.

◆ August 3<sup>rd</sup>, GFC had a special time of prayer for **Students, Faculty and Staff** returning for the 2008-09 school year. There were 20 elementary, middle school, and high school students, 4 college students, and 7 faculty and staff in attendance. Continue to pray for our schools throughout the year.



We are seeing the hand of God at work as He helps us progress toward the construction of a new church building. It looks like we are going to be able to begin the new building in the spring of 2009. If all goes well, we should be worshipping in it before the end of the year. Please continue to pray for God's leadership in all areas of this great endeavor. It is a joint effort as we work together with God as our Helper. Let's ask the Lord how we might personally contribute. Our ministry is growing in a great way, and we believe God wants us to have this new building to accommodate this growth.

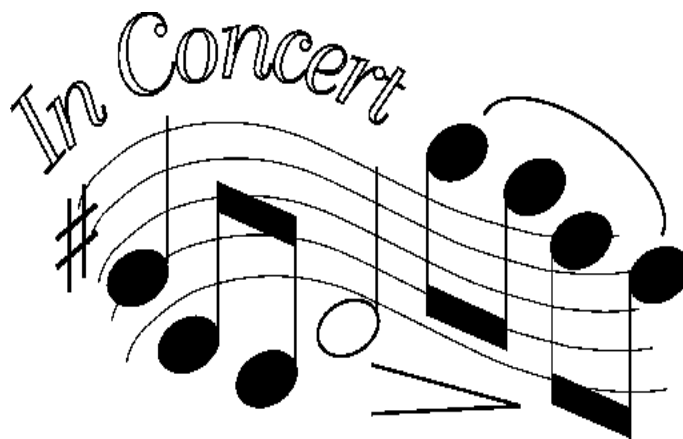
### *Brother Vola*

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We invite everyone to join us for

# **The Puffer's**



Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 P.M.

## Journey to Kentucky



**“Trust in the LORD  
with all your heart  
and lean not on your  
own understanding;  
in all your ways  
acknowledge him,  
and he will make  
your paths straight.”**

**Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV**

Our journey to Kentucky was not a straight forward one. It required much prayer and the support of Andrea and the kids. Knowing my military obligation would end in September 2007, I started having telephone interviews, in September 2006, while deployed in Iraq, for job openings in various locations. I had decided to go through the Christian Medical and Dental Association for finding a job because I knew they would only advertise and help me get a job at either a Christian office or an office that was open to Christians sharing their faith. My initial screening criteria was simple; I wanted us to be in the southeast portion of the United States.

In January 2007, I remember talking to my father who had asked about how my job search was going and if I had decided on which places to formally interview. He also asked if I had thought about interviewing in one location where he had a close high school friend and of course in areas close to him and my mom. By the end of January, I had narrowed the field down to seven locations. After talking further with my dad, I decided, at the last moment, to add one more office to visit. This brought our total interviews to eight; 2 in Kentucky, 3 in Tennessee, and 3 in Georgia (all to be visited in a span of 10 days). Yeah, I know this was a lot to do in 10 days with 7 kids, but I had prayed about it and was at peace.

Well, we returned to the States and visited these locations. After interviewing, I developed a ranking spreadsheet to help sift through the choices. This spreadsheet included personal and family preferences and spiritual concerns. After going through the spreadsheet, I was able to quickly narrow it down to 3 choices (Johnson City, TN, Frankfort, KY, and Stanford, KY). I asked Andrea and Michael what their top three choices were and ironically it was very close (and they weren't using a fancy spreadsheet).

I returned to Germany before Andrea and the kids (I was on a regular flight whereas Andrea and the kids traveled on a free military flight that was subject to availability). After further reviewing the spreadsheet (and considering what Andrea and Michael had said), I choose Johnson City, TN. I called Andrea and told her. However, I didn't have peace about it. It scored the highest on my spreadsheet and was Andrea's and Michael's top pick as well. Logically this was the best choice. But the Lord stepped in and defied logic. I prayed more and told Andrea I didn't have peace about choosing Johnson City. She said she didn't either. She agreed to pray more too. The Lord guided me through prayer, scripture, godly counsel, and reflecting on the interviews. He reshuffled my priorities and refocused my view.

No one told me what to choose but the Lord redirected my heart and led me to choose the office in Stanford. It also happened to be the last interview added to my schedule and the one where

my dad has a close friend (actually in Danville). Andrea and I both felt at peace. We felt Stanford would be a better place to strengthen the family (certain temptations are not as prominent) and to grow in Christ. Yes, there are fewer entertainment options, but God didn't call us to be entertained, He called us to be faithful.

The process of moving to Stanford wasn't easy but God was clearly at work. Although the Army would ship our household goods for free, we still needed thousands of dollars in other expenses to complete the move (closing on a house in KY, paying final expenses in Germany...). The Army would only pay for one vehicle to be shipped (we had 3). To ship the other two would cost close to \$6,000. This among other expenses would be difficult but God provided. Ephraim Hospital was willing to pay for \$7,500 in shipping expenses. I asked them if vehicles counted. They said, "Yes", and paid for the remaining two vehicles to be shipped. Praise God! There were many other financial doors God opened but I will not go into detail. We also needed a big enough house (nothing fancy, just enough room) for a family of 9 and the house had to be in Lincoln County (a part of hospital contract). We couldn't find any houses when we visited. But we found one on the internet with a Danville city address but in Lincoln County (and within our budget). Not only was it big enough for our family, with some remodeling, it also came with 18 acres and a pool (I didn't know about the pool). I must admit, I wondered how I was going to cut 18 acres of grass. Our yard in Germany was incredibly small (maybe 1/32 of an acre).

There were more blessings. Andrea and the kids arrived in July to close on the house. None of our vehicles were here yet. However, friends of ours in Germany left their van in the States and asked if we could hold on to it so they could have something to use when they visited the States. Andrea was able to use the van. I arrived in mid August. I was able to fly into Atlanta, GA, visit my mom, dad, and sister and also pick up one of our vehicles. On a different note, we wanted to send some of our kids to private school (DCA). For other reasons my new job salary increased. God kept opening doors to make the transition smooth.

Well, we are here. We believe God has us here for a reason and I don't mean just pertaining to my job. Thanks to Bros. Vola and Jay who came to meet with me at the clinic, we believe Grace Fellowship is a major part of that reason. Sometimes God steps in and you have to just sit back and watch Him do His thing. Does this mean we always have it easy? Absolutely not! We have 7 kids, nothing stays easy. Also, persecution (of any kind) for living the gospel is not fun or easy. However, it is truly a blessed sight to see God "show up and show off".

So no matter what God calls us to do, go, or say, He will provide and take care of the situation. It doesn't mean it will go the way we like, but it not about us. It is all about Him who loved us and gave Himself for us that we might be with Him.

Thank you for your love and support Grace,  
Kevin and Andrea Pettus

### **Proverbs 3:5-6**

**Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.**

## Fall Birthdays

<b>9/2</b> Alyssa Miller	<b>10/3</b> Jacqueline Smith	<b>11/3</b> Alissa Doss
<b>9/4</b> Marie Douglas	<b>10/4</b> Lakyia Pettus	<b>11/4</b> Brandi Adkins
<b>9/8</b> Dana Brown	<b>10/13</b> Butch Leach	<b>11/7</b> Brian Hundley
<b>9/10</b> Michael Pettus	<b>10/19</b> Diane Haggard	<b>11/10</b> Sandra Hundley
<b>9/12</b> Barbara Cummins	<b>10/22</b> Steve Bailey	<b>11/11</b> Whitney Sims
Curtis Lynn	Marcella Blevins	<b>11/15</b> Jerry Atwood
<b>9/14</b> Jean Nickell	<b>10/30</b> Joey Duff	<b>11/16</b> Sharon Gooch
Joe Farris		<b>11/21</b> Jim Miller
<b>9/21</b> Linda Lynn		Vivian Spahr
<b>9/22</b> Rose Middleton		<b>11/23</b> Tonya Doss
<b>9/23</b> Roland Murphy		<b>11/25</b> Larry Peppard
<b>9/25</b> Mariah Vogler		<b>11/29</b> Maureen Walls
<b>9/27</b> Cody Harris		Tim Edrington
<b>9/28</b> Sylvia Sexton		<b>11/30</b> Kay Terry-Lane
<b>9/29</b> Autumn Horton		
<b>9/30</b> Tim Smith		
Lisa Taylor		

*We wish everyone a very happy birthday and a blessed year. I'm sorry if you aren't included on the list. Please let me know so that I can include you.*



# The Record Speaks

Date	Attendance			Offering	
	Sunday School	Morning Worship	Evening Worship	Offering	Building Fund
<b>June 1</b>	52	143	42	\$2472.57	\$3515.00
<b>June 8</b>	39	136	37	\$3538.94	\$ 300.00
<b>June 15</b>	44	140	48	\$2028.50	\$ 203.00
<b>June 22</b>	49	138	65	\$3928.07	\$ 410.00
<b>June 29</b>	51	150	48	\$2595.00	\$ 526.00
<b>July 6</b>	40	131	40	\$3052.25	\$ 205.21
<b>July 13</b>	35	142	42	\$1934.09	\$ 430.00
<b>July 20</b>	35	154	40	\$2476.86	\$ 81.00
<b>July 27</b>	35	144	122	\$1852.90	\$ 450.10
<b>August 3</b>	41	155	52	\$2356.00	\$ 750.00
<b>August 10</b>	52	140	52	\$3048.50	\$ 344.87
<b>August 17</b>	63	175	34	\$3434.22	\$ 425.00
<b>August 24</b>	68	150	55	\$1859.25	\$ 165.00
<b>August 31</b>	56	167	28	\$3323.71	\$ 555.00

**Building Fund Total as of August 31, 2008**                    **\$ 94,509.26**

**God's Storehouse\* Offering**    **\$ 400.00**

**Benevolent Fund Offering**

**June 29**    **\$ 411.00**

**August 31**    **\$ 141.00**

(\*God's Storehouse is the Food Pantry ministry of Grace Fellowship Church. This ministry has reached many people in our area in the past five years. It is available to anyone in an emergency situation. Donations of canned or dried foods are also welcome. We do not stock fresh or frozen foods.)

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

There is never a shortage of opportunities to serve at Grace Fellowship. The only requirement is a willingness to serve. Here are few ideas for service to consider:

- √ Nursery workers
- √ Pre-school children's church teachers and helpers
- √ Children's church teachers and helpers
- √ Ushers
- √ Nursing Home Bus Ministry
- √ Church Van Ministry.
- √ Wednesday evening Youth and Children teachers and workers.

We are also open to suggestions for new ministries. If you have an idea you would like to discuss, please see Brother Vola, Brother Kevin, or Shannon Hatter.



### Looking Forward



A **Camping Trip** to Holly Bay in London, KY is planned for next Friday and Saturday, September 5 – 6. There will be one night of camping and a day of recreation. Everyone is welcome. See Brooke Stone for more information.

**The Puffer's** will be with us in concert September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. Bob and Darlene's music is varied and includes traditional Gospel as well as Southern Gospel, country, folk and humorous songs. We hope you will join us for this evening of worship, fun and fellowship. Please invite your friends and family to join us.

The **Fall Round-up Festival** in October has been a yearly event since the beginning of Grace Fellowship and enjoyed by children and adults alike. This year we will be doing something a bit different and your help will be needed. Please see Deronda or Jeff Sears or Kathy Coffee for more information.

October 19<sup>th</sup> in the P.M. service we will have another long awaited "**Singspiration**". This is an opportunity for anyone who is hiding their talent under a bushel to let it shine. If you are willing to share your talent by singing, playing an instrument, or reciting please see Mike Stone. **November 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>** shoe boxes filled with gifts for children will be collected for **Operation Christmas Child**. Operation Christmas Child is part of Franklin Grahams Samaritan's Purse Ministry. The gift filled shoe boxes are sent to children in many countries as a mission to spread the word of God. Last year fourteen boxes were sent from Grace Fellowship. This year we would like to double that number. Please watch your church bulletin for more information or contact the church office at 365-0502.

**Secret Pals** are organizing for another year. This is a fun way for the women of GFC to get to know each other and make new friends. For more information see Teresa Padgett.

On our website at [www.GraceFellowshipStanford.com](http://www.GraceFellowshipStanford.com) you can listen to weekly sermons and special music, find information about upcoming events, and follow links to other helpful Christian sites. Visit often to keep up with changes.

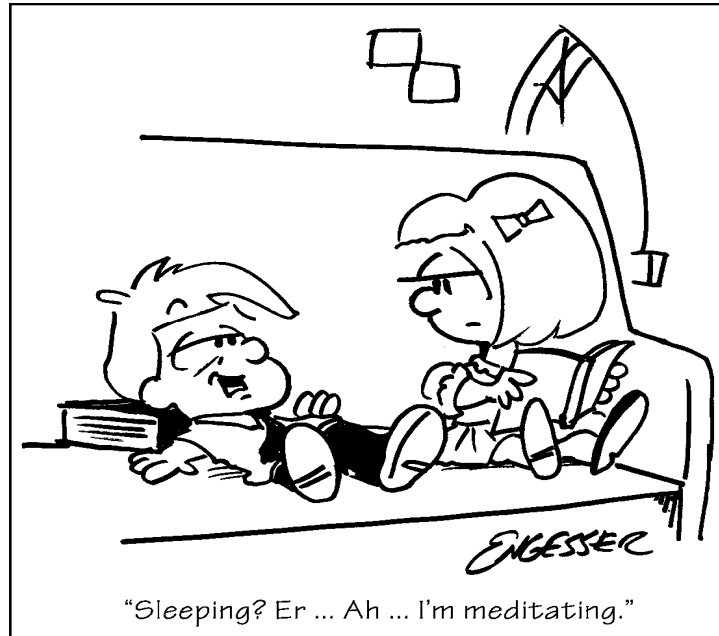
We are planning to send cookies to the troops again this year. We have set a tentative deadline for December 7<sup>th</sup> so that the cookies can be mailed in time for Christmas. Watch your bulletin for more information or contact the church office.



## Mark Your Calendar

<b>September 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Labor Day
<b>September 5 - 6</b>	Camping Trip Holly Bay, London KY
<b>September 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Start New Sunday School Quarter <b>Puffer's in P.M. Service</b>
<b>September 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Senior Friends 11:00 A.M.
<b>September 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Senior Friends trip to Renfro Valley 3:30 P.M.
<b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Regular Quarterly Business Meeting 7:00 P.M.
<b>October 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Fall Festival
<b>October 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Senior Friends 11:00 A.M.
<b>October 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Singspiration
<b>November 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Fall Back!</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends
<b>November 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Election Day --Vote Prayerfully
<b>November 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Senior Friends 11:00 A.M.
<b>November 17-24</b>	Operation Christmas Child Collection
<b>November 27<sup>th</sup></b>	Thanksgiving
<b>November 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Lord's Supper P.M. Service

# JUST FOR FUN



## Bible Quiz



What was God's plan for Adam in the Garden of Eden?

- A. To till it and keep it
- B. To manage the animals
- C. To enjoy its beauty and the food all about him
- D. To fill it with people

## Hay, there!

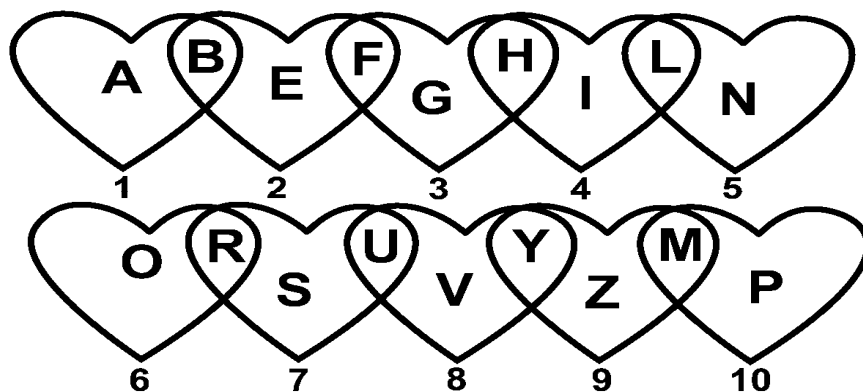
An elderly farmer was finishing his haymaking one Sunday afternoon when his pastor drove by. "I noticed you weren't in church this morning," said the pastor. "Don't you know that the Creator made the world in six days and then rested on the seventh?"

"Yes," replied the farmer, as he looked uneasily at the rain clouds gathering in the sky. "I know all about that. But he got done and I didn't."



# THE SECOND GREAT Commandment

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV).  
Do you remember what the second great commandment is?  
Use the code below to discover it.



“L  
 4,5 6 8 2 8,9 6 7,8 6,7  
 5 2 4 3 3,4 1,2 6 6,7  
 1 7  
 8,9 6 7,8 6,7 7 2 4,5 2,3”

Matthew 22:39, NIV

Answer: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

# Grace Fellowship Church

90 Fair Ground Road Stanford, KY 40484  
(606) 365-0502

Website: [GraceFellowshipStanford.com](http://GraceFellowshipStanford.com)

E-mail: [GraceFellowship@wimaxexpress.com](mailto:GraceFellowship@wimaxexpress.com)

*Office Hours*

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-2:00

<b>Vola W. Brown, Pastor</b>	<b>(606) 510-3444</b>
<b>Kevin Pettus, Associate Pastor</b>	<b>(859) 936-7263</b>
<b>Shannon Hatter, Administrator</b>	<b>(606) 365-2088</b>
<b>Mike Stone, Minister of Music</b>	<b>(606) 355-9235</b>
<b>Kathy Coffee, Secretary</b>	<b>(606) 379-2934</b>
<b>Deronda &amp; Jeff Sears, Children's Ministry Directors</b>	

**(606) 365-2722**

**Phillip Stevens, Sunday School Director**

**(859) 321-1698**

<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>10:00 A.M.</b>
<b>Sunday Worship</b>	<b>11:00 A.M.</b>
<b>Sunday Evening</b>	<b>6:30 P.M.</b>

<b>Wednesday Evening</b>	<b>7:00 P.M.</b>
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**Adult Bible Study**  
**Youth & Children In Action**