



## GBC events

Visit the website for a full schedule

### November

- 5 Daylight Savings Ends  
*Turn your clocks BACK 1 hour*  
African Children's Choir Concert  
6:30 PM, *Sanctuary*
- 11 Children's Mission Day  
Buddy Break, 9:30 AM-1:00 PM
- 12 Buddy Break Breakfast  
9:30 AM, *Fellowship Hall*
- 15 Church in Conference  
6:00 PM, *Sanctuary*
- 19 Children – Movie "Wonder"  
Time and place TBD  
Dinner and Variety Show  
5:45 PM, *Fellowship Hall*
- 22 No Wednesday Night Live
- 23 Church office closed  
*Happy Thanksgiving*
- 30 Lumberton Relief Effort  
(Nov 30 - Dec 2), *Lumberton*

## worship@GBC

### Sunday, November 5

All Saints Sunday  
Morning services, 8:45 and 11:00 AM  
African Children's Choir Concert  
6:30 PM, *Sanctuary*

### Sunday, November 12, 19, 26

Morning services, 8:45 and 11:00 AM

### Sunday, December 3

Morning services, 8:45 and 11:00 AM  
Hanging of the Green Worship Service  
6:30 PM, *Sanctuary*

## DYING TO LIVE

By Randy Ashcraft

A few years ago the preeminent church organizational strategist Lyle Schaller was asked this question, "Among all of the issues facing Christian organizations on the North American continent including; dwindling numbers, money shortages, social justice issues, leadership gaps, the growing dysfunction of ecclesiastical structures, the rise of social media, the great political and social divides, the meanness that can exist in Christian organizations, and the outright disdain that is shown towards the church, among all of these, which issue do you think is the most pressing and critical?" In one short phrase, he cited none of the above. He stated, "The number one issue facing the church today is the need to initiate and implement planned change from within the organization". This statement is not "rocket science" as some are prone to say. Like every other entity the church must change or die.

Recently I watched a fascinating documentary telling the story of Tower Records. Tower dominated the record, cassette, and CD scene for decades. I remember seeing the Tower building in San Francisco when Ann and I were on a trip years ago. Russell Solomon was considered a genius in his field and dominated record sales all across the world. He confessed that when Napster first came on the scene he scoffed at the notion that music would be bought and sold by merely pushing a button and "downloading" it. He had no vision for what Apple and iTunes would become. His business model stayed the same and Tower Records went bankrupt.

Christianity has been successful for centuries because people led by the Spirit have followed the Spirit into uncharted territories. Believe me every new idea was met with distrust and outright hostility. But thankfully God is faithful to those who step out in new

directions. When the church seeks to fulfill God's mission in the world undaunted by the constraints of "what has always been" amazing things can happen! Thanks be to God! See you Sunday! Randy

## A SEASON OF THANKSGIVING

As we enter into November, there is an inclination to consider gratitude. This month I am personally thankful for many things. I am thankful for:

- all of the volunteers who make Wednesday night dinners possible. They are faithful and enthusiastic and a delight.
- our adult study leaders on Wednesday. They do everything from in-depth Bible study to prayerful outreach. This month we will move deeper into Jeremiah, continue to reach out with notes of encouragement and spend time in prayer.

(Continued on back page)

## BUILDING TOWARD THE FUTURE

Greystone is currently in the midst of our 2017-18 Stewardship Drive, *Building Toward the Future*.



You should have received a mailing with a letter from the Stewardship Committee, a devotional guide and a pledge card. We hope that you will prayerfully consider how God would have you to respond to this opportunity to share your financial resources, as well as your time and talents. God has great plans for GBC in our community, and we need you to be a part of what the Lord can do through our church. On November 12, we will celebrate with everyone bringing their pledge cards forward at an appointed time during both worship services. You can mail or drop off your pledge card ahead of time to the church office if you are unable to attend on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Join us in *Building Toward the Future* at Greystone as we discover what God has in store for our church.

## NOVEMBER

- |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | Cathy Smith, Kay Meyer, Christopher Vandersip                     | 12 | Sandra Wilson, Maria Morton, Jamie Mabe, Will Fleming                 |
| 2  | Sarah Lannom, Jonathan Perkinson, Carson Sellers                  | 13 | Caralie Brown, Allyson Hawley   |
| 3  | Sandra Baxley, Pepper Choplin                                     | 14 | Donna Tunstall, Cecil Settle, Kristi Glover                           |
| 4  | Erin Choplin, Ben Cox   | 15 | Jim Womble, Carol Allen, Mary Sherron, Stephanie Milam, Robyn Sawyers |
| 6  | Hazel Perdue, Harrison Sherron, Gabriel Mallah, Sarah Gray Lesley | 16 | Mel Dickens, Pat Long   |
| 7  | Joanne Thompson, Bob Millikan, Noah Robinson, Nicholas Dreitzler  | 17 | AnaRita Eason, Louisa Steiner   |
| 8  | Darrell Staley, Todd Gentry, Brianna Brice                        | 19 | Barbara McGehee, Patricia Taylor, Eve Conner, Kerry Crabb             |
| 9  | Marcia Ostendorff, Mark Calder, Pamela Webb, Henry Wilder         | 22 | Laura Kirkham   |
| 10 | Virginia Villalobos, Bridgette Birth, Sarah Hunt                  | 24 | Grace Parnell, Perisa Nikaeen   |
| 11 | Alice Dickens, Bill Turner, Terry Nobles                          | 25 | Pete Cregger, David Turner  |
|    |   | 26 | Walter Mays, Natalie Herrmann, Keri Ashurst                           |
|    |   | 27 | Needham Ward  |
|    |   | 28 | Doug Cole   |

- 29 Missy Brookshire, Cassie Stewart  
30 Margaret Hilton, Fred Conner, Becky Thompson

## 90+ BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER!

Hazel Perdue (11/6)  
Caralie Brown (11/13)  
Mel Dickens (11/16)

## 50+ ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER!

Tom and Dora Pickles (11/9)

## Children's Ministry

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated in our annual Trunk or Treat. We served 240 hotdogs and 75 BBQ sandwiches, decorated 128 cookies, handed out buckets and buckets of candy and other fun treats. We bowled at Bedrock, played in the sand, hammered nails, visited Elsa in her spooky ice castle, sailed the high seas with Johnny Depp and fought off a ferocious T-Rex. The families who joined us all had a blast and it was thanks to your hard work, creativity and hospitality. Thank you for being the welcoming presence of Christ to our community.

## PASSPORT KIDS 2018

Passport Kids 2018 will be July 2-5 at Montreat. Reserve a spot for your 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

grader now with a \$60 deposit by December 31. See April for more information.

## WONDER

Our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade children have been reading the book Wonder by R.J. Palacio. This is an excellent book about a 5<sup>th</sup> grader who has facial differences and his experience entering a traditional school setting for the first time. We had a book club meeting on October 29 that allowed us a time of reflection and discussion. It was a great time to talk about acceptance, inclusion and how to be a good friend to others. Our younger children read the book We Are All Wonders, by the same author.

Our families will go see the movie based on these books together on Sunday, November 19. The official time and theater will be announced as soon as the theaters release their schedules.

## GREYSTONE NUMBERS

## Worship

[8:45] [11:00]

Oct. 1: .....78..... 165 .....  
Oct. 8: .....65..... 185 .....  
Oct. 15: .....58..... 136 .....  
Oct. 22: .....55..... 156 .....  
Oct. 29: .....53..... 170 .....

## Generosity (9/30/17)

2017 General Fund  
\$989,791.82

YTD General Fund needed  
\$740,843.91

YTD Operating Receipts  
\$616,105.89

YTD Operating Expenses  
\$624,711.45

## Music Ministry

## AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR IN CONCERT

Sunday, November 5 at 6:30 PM, we will welcome to our sanctuary 19 children from Uganda who make up the African Children's Choir. Offering their beautiful voices and lively African songs and dances, this musical program will feature well-loved children's songs, traditional Spirituals and rhythmic Gospel favorites. Come and experience a performance that shows the beauty, dignity and potential of each African child!

Admission will be free for all ages; a free-will offering will follow the Choir's concert. You'll not want to miss this special concert and the chance to support this ministry!

## STUDENT CHOIR IN WORSHIP

Sunday, November 5 (both morning services), the Student Choir will be sharing their music in worship. Students are to meet 30-minutes before each service begins.

## NO WED. REHEARSALS THANKSGIVING WEEK

All music ensembles, including WAM! Children's Choirs and Adult Choir will not be meeting for rehearsal on Wednesday evening, Nov. 22 in light of the holiday.

## HANGING OF THE GREEN SERVICE - Dec. 3

On Sunday, December 3 at 6:30 PM, we will usher in the Advent season with a meaningful Hanging of the Green Service. In this time of worship and celebration, we'll take part in

decorating our worship space, highlighted with Advent songs and readings. Make plans to have your family join us for this special service to begin the season of Advent.



## CHRISTMAS @ GREYSTONE - Dec. 10

Featuring the Adult Choir, Soloists, Grace Tones Ensemble, with Narration and Orchestra will take place on Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. Join us as our community gathers for this special time of music, reflection and celebration.

# Student Ministry

## STUDENTS DISCOVER THEIR GIFTEDNESS

The Sunday Night Youth program engages with students about topics relevant to their own faith formation. On Sunday nights this fall, students have been discovering their own giftedness and celebrating their own uniqueness. It reminds of Psalm 139:14: "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Students took a Spiritual Gifts inventory to learn how they have been equipped by God. Some found that serving God with their hands and feet came naturally, while others learned that teaching about God or listening to others was a gift. Additionally, students participated in a Passion Discovery Self-Test to reflect on where their

interests where. They are actively looking for ways to share their giftedness in areas where they are passionate.

Students also had an opportunity to reflect on how they are created uniquely by God. What a special night of self-discovery! Lastly, students studied the parable of the woman giving two coins from Mark 12 to consider what they could offer to God. Each student has giftedness that can be shared with God and with others.

## YOUTH VARIETY SHOW- SUNDAY, 11/19, DINNER-5:45 PM, SHOW-6:30 PM

The congregation and their guests are cordially invited to a "Grammy" themed youth variety show. Come walk the red carpet, allow the paparazzi to take your picture as a memento of the evening, enjoy dinner and an award-winning

show! Donations will be gladly accepted and all proceeds for the evening will be used to support youth mission events. Reservations are requested and may be made either by emailing [missybrookshire@gmail.com](mailto:missybrookshire@gmail.com), adding your name to the sign-up outside the sanctuary, or calling the church office at 919-847-1333.

## JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

Stay informed of all youth activities by subscribing to our weekly email, "*Happenings This Week*". Subscribe by emailing the church office at [office@greystonechurch.org](mailto:office@greystonechurch.org).

## RECEIVE TEXT MESSAGE NOTIFICATIONS

Sign up to receive text message reminders through Remind. Text the message @a963fd to the number 81010. If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @a963fd to (919) 336-5052.

# Other Ministry News

## SENIOR ADULT SPONSORED TRIP

We will be visiting the Black Mountain Chocolate Factory in Winston-Salem on Saturday, November 4. Come enjoy great samples & view the process through a large window. No admission fee. We will then have a delicious meal at Sweet Potatoes followed by a visit to Mast General Store. We will leave the Sawmill Parking Lot at 9:00 AM and, hopefully, return by 5:00 PM. A sign-up sheet is in the hallway outside of the Sanctuary. Contact Cathy Smith, [smithcat11@gmail.com](mailto:smithcat11@gmail.com) with questions.

## COAT SALE AT CEDAR POINT

The Missions Team is collecting gently worn men's, women's or children's winter coats for a Coat Sale at Cedar Point on 11/4/17. Please place coats in the designated box in the narthex.

## SOLOS FOR LUNCH

This is for any adult who is single or whose spouse is out of town, etc. Meet at the back of the Sanctuary after the 11:00 service. November schedule: 11/5 – Bahama Breeze, 11/12 – Olive Garden, 11/19 – Outback, 11/26 – San Marco

## GREYSTONE WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

How wonderful to see God at work as the world moves from summer to fall. We are excited to have added several new families to our weekday preschool. Our preschoolers will be learning to share with others over the next few months. We will be visiting our friends at Whispering Pines Retirement Center, collecting food to share with North Raleigh Ministries and coming together for a preschool fellowship meal to celebrate Thanksgiving. Please stop by the bulletin board in the preschool area to see some pictures of what we have going on!

# Community in Prayer

## HOSPITAL

- Duane Long, Duke Hospital

## HEALTH CONCERNS

- Virginia Creamer's son, Jack Creamer
- Linda Peterson's friend, Finlay Judy
- Vercie Eller
- Ron Thompson's friend, John Darr
- Jean Brown
- Amy Vandersip's sister, Jill
- Pam Ouzts
- Joanne Thompson's brother-in-law, Tim Marshall
- Dottie Thompson's grandson, Edward Thompson
- Cathy Perkinson
- Karen Brewer's sister, Nancy Jones
- Elizabeth Cregger
- Sylvia Goulding
- Roger Gardner
- Deanna Choplin's friend, Emily Kinlaw

## MILITARY SERVICE ABROAD

- Joe LeNoir III's friend, Kenny Yacynych, Afghanistan

## RESIDENTIAL/HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

**Rex Nursing Care:** Nancy Godwin

**Springmoor (SHC):** Vergie Baxley, Lib Daniels, Sallie Greene, Pauline Noble, Juanita Register

## SYMPATHY

- Deanna Choplin's family on the death of her cousins, Chris and Kathie Choplin, 10/22/17

The deadline for the December *CONNECT* is noon, Tuesday, 11/21/17.



## Greystone contacts

### Main Office

Hours: 8:30—4:30 pm (M-Th)  
Phone: (919) 847-1333

### Minister On-Call

Phone: (919) 817-8975

### Pastoral Staff

Randy Ashcraft  
Pastor in the Interim  
randy.ashcraft@greystonechurch.org

### April Alston

Minister of Children/Preschool  
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### Amanda Atkin

Minister of Faith Formation  
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### Mike Eller

Minister of Music  
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### Allan Smith

Minister of Students  
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### Office Staff

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Property Manager  
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### Annette Variano

Administrative Assistant  
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### Financial Secretary

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### Weekday Preschool

Pam Phillips  
Director  
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## Greystone Baptist Church

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Raleigh, NC 27615

### ADDRESS SERVICE

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### A SEASON OF THANKSGIVING (continued from front page)

- our Deacons who are beginning to put together a Search Team for our next Pastor.
- my fellow staff members. They are thoughtful, dedicated and extremely talented.
- Greystone. Your ministry to our community makes a difference. People are eating because you give, women are learning English because you take the time to show up with your flash cards, children are reading because you teach them, youth are growing in faith because you value them.

This list could go on and on. There is much to be grateful for because God is in our midst. So, in this season of Thanksgiving - Thanks Be to God!

Amanda

### YOU ARE INVITED TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Our Buddy Break program will celebrate 5 years in November and we want to thank you for your support of our ministry. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday November 12 from 9:30-10:00 AM for coffee, juice and donuts.



### AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

Greet the congregation as we come for worship, and gather in the gifts and offerings of the people - serve as an usher one Sunday each month, 8:45 AM or 11:00 AM service. Contact Mary Fran Perkinson, mfperk@gmail.com or 919-749-9748.

### THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATION

This Thanksgiving season, as we contemplate the many things for which we are thankful, let us remember our neighbors. We will be collecting food for Urban Ministries. If you would like to support our ministry partnership with Urban Ministries please consider donating non-perishable food items to one of the worship services on Sunday, November 19.

**SHARE A PIE** - Want a break from baking this Thanksgiving AND help 2 local ministries? Alliance Medical Ministry and Step Up Ministries will again be providing pies that can be purchased and delivered for Thanksgiving. For more information, to order or volunteer, go to <https://www.sharethepie.org>.

...where every member is a minister  
and is equipped to express God's  
love by word and deed to all people.



If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please unsubscribe by calling the church office.