Happy New Year!

May God Bless You
As We Enter This
Exciting Year
of 2016!
Greetings,

The year of **2015** was exciting for Grover. We reached new people, exceeded goals, baptized believers, and we voted to build a new Worship Center. It is hard to believe that we are now well under way in seeing that vision become a reality. The contractors say it will be completed this July. I am planning in my own mind for its completion by September 1st. I love to hear all of the positive comments when I talk to people in Warrensburg about community events like Freedom Spectacular, Easter Extravaganza, Fall Festival, our Christmas Musical, and Living Nativity. It is all preparatory for sharing with them our Savior’s free gift of eternal life.

The month of December could not have been better with all that went into our celebrations of Christmas and the many avenues for which we proclaimed the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I was so pleased with the response this year as about 3000 people came to witness the Christmas Musical, Living Nativity, and Christmas Eve Services for the glory of God. The Star Telegram did a wonderful job of covering the Nativity this year with a front page article. Our many thanks go to those who pitched in to make it all happen. With an 8% increase in worshippers over last year in December, celebrating the birth of Jesus the Sunday before Christmas with 421 other believers was an awesome experience. While no count was made, I would imagine that there were even more than that here on Christmas Eve night.

**Missions Offering:** I am excited to share with you that we have **surpassed our goal** of $9000.00 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. To date, we have now given **$10,805.73** to International Missions. What a blessing it was to have the Wilbanks family here on December 20th to share what they have been doing for the Lord as missionaries in Birmingham England.

Our **2016 Offering Envelopes** are in the foyer for you to pick up now. **Contribution records** will be mailed in January. Be sure to check the Christmas Card Mailbox every Sunday for cards that you might have received. They are alphabetized by last names. We will leave the box up for a few weeks into January.

**New Building Update:** The workers have now poured the foundation and cement floor for the new Worship Center. Once that has been inspected, the construction engineers will begin putting up the skeletal steel framing. We have now given right at **$260,000.00** to the New Building Fund. That concludes a great effort from our church for the 2015 year. Our church continues to faithfully and sacrificially support this new ministry tool from our Lord. If you are wishing to
make contributions to the new building, just designate it on the line on your envelope that says “New Building”.

I will be launching a **New Sermon Series in January** as we go verse by verse through the Book of Philippians. This Sunday series of messages will be titled, “You Can Be Happy Again”. Let me encourage you to begin reading this wonderful letter of the Apostle Paul to the church at Philippi which was written while he was imprisoned in Rome about A.D. 60. I know this Book in God’s Word will bless our hearts as we are reminded of all the ways that He can bring genuine joy into our lives no matter what we might be going through.

**Attention All Men:** We are signing men up now for our **2016 Ironmen Summit** on January 23, 2016, in Emporia, KS. The cost is $40.00 each. I made my reservation last week. The theme this year is, “Soul Shepherding”. Some really great speakers are lined up for the event. Call our Men’s Ministry Leader Steve Fox at 909-1720 or Pastor Brent in the church office for more details and get your reservation in while they last. There is a sign-up sheet on the information table. We already have over **25** who are committed to going. Call this week or register online at [http://www.flinthillschristianchurch.org/ironmen-summit/](http://www.flinthillschristianchurch.org/ironmen-summit/).

**Wednesday Nights:** We will be resuming our Wednesday night suppers and services again on January 13th, having taken a little break for the holidays. I will be starting our **Winter Bible Study** on Wednesday nights through the Book of First Thessalonians. This Book of the Bible is central among the Ecclesiastical letters of Paul.

On behalf of the church staff, we want to wish you all a very blessed New Year ahead. It will be momentous in many regards as we plan even more creative ways to reach our community for Christ as we “Build for Life”

Blessing for 2016

Pastor Randy
What an outstanding effort by so many to make the Chorale’s seasonal mission presentations of “All The Difference in the World” a HUGE success. These presentations are a direct reflection of many servants’ hearts at work. Each individual was doing their best to do their part, and using their spiritual gift(s) and/or talent(s) to provide unity in the body through their diversity. GPBC members living out scriptural mandates...

Deuteronomy 6:5 - “Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”

1 Corinthians 12:5-6... 5 - “There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.”

1 Corinthians 12:12 - “Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:27 - “Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

It is my pleasure to publicly thank each and every one who took part in any way to make this presentation a reality for our community. In no particular order..... THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU singers, instrumentalists, actors, actresses, secretaries, costume designers, writers, directors, tech crew, meal providers, make-up artists, set designers, set builders, set movers, greeters, and of course our Pastor, Randy. God’s message of his son’s birth and significance were proclaimed in a mighty way.... seeds planted, seeds watered. I can’t wait to watch how God will use these presentations in not only the attendees, but also in the presenters’ lives.

As I write this just a few days after our last presentation, the usual “postpartum syndrome” is settling upon me as one of the presenters. With all of the work, care, and concern that went into the final productions, it seems a void of some sort has formed. My mind keeps remembering portions of rehearsals, songs, and presentations and doesn’t seem to want to let go. As I reflect on why this might be, I can come up with one very possible reason... that God wants me to remember Him and that HE is the one that can fill that void... PERMANENTLY!!

This month’s encouragement comes in the form of recognizing that God is sovereign and that the resolutions that we might try to embark upon in the New Year should be formed and led by HIM. We should continue to recognize that many of the “things” that we spend our time and money on directly reflect our attitudes and priorities. We should ask ourselves, “do I reflect a God-centered life or a self-centered life?”; “Do my New Year’s resolutions have to do with becoming more like Christ, or just a better me without His direction?”

Let’s start the New Year by acknowledging, believing by faith, and living out that God is our number one priority. If we do this, then all of our earthly endeavors (and resolutions) will be in line with HIS will and our voids filled.

In His Service,

- David
Sunday School teachers and class leaders of all ages will not want to miss this great evening of training as we better equip you with principled and practical advice for building and strengthening your classes. We will be using Ken Brady’s Sunday School material as an edited outline for the evening. Shelly Cantwell & our Children’s Ministry will also be having a special time of training as well. Here is a taste of our valuable training time together, see you then!

Pillar 1: Reach Out – The group that reaches others operates as an open group – open to the possibility that new people might be present any time the group comes together for Bible study. It acknowledges that one of the primary tasks of groups is to act as missionaries to the culture. A welcoming environment is intentionally created, and guests are treated extremely well by group members. Our motivation for reaching out is always the Gospel. If our classes are built on political discussion, a common interest, or only life stages and not upon the Gospel, they will attract people with those interests and never truly transform one more into the image of Christ. We must pray and speak often of the Gospel in our classes. This should impact everything from our leadership to our classroom layout.

Pillar 2: Teach – It is exactly what it appears to be – how well the teacher of the group leads his/her members to engage in Bible study. As teachers, we will never be perfect. Our goal must always to improve and better communicate to our people the transforming principles of God’s Word. People learn best in different ways. A Sunday School class that does not teach the Gospel and unpack the Scriptures is not a Sunday School class, it is a club that meets on Sundays.

Pillar 3: Worship – The things that take place in a Sunday School class should lead people to worship the Lord both publicly and privately. And Sunday School can be a place to prepare people’s hearts for a worship experience, or it can be the place to continue a worship experience, depending if you go to Sunday School before or after service. But at the end of the day, as we learn more about God’s Word and obey it, our obedience becomes an act of worship to the Lord. As class members and teachers we should always try to tie things to the service and highlight the applications. Speak well and build expectation for the joy that we are able to share in corporate worship. Sunday School should feed a love for Grover Park Baptist Church and appreciation for the people.

Pillar 4: Care – This pillar has to do with the ways group members demonstrate Jesus’ love to one another in practical ways. Some group members actually drop out of groups when they believe their needs have not been met by the group. It is important for groups to be sufficiently organized to provide care to hurting members. We will never be perfect at caring for each other, but we can control if there is a system for care in our classes. That may or may not meet an individuals perceived needs, but only they can control that. The opposite of caring is simply consuming. Enforce practical ways to show care that are expected and celebrated from everyone and the consuming mindset will likely decrease.

Pillar 5: Fellowship – Here’s another pillar that most groups do well. Fellowships should be regular, and they should always include members and visitors. If the core members of the group are the only ones getting together, you’ve probably got a clique on your hands. Not good. Do your best to intentionally invite and meet with visitors and recent members of your class. We want everyone to know the joys of the meaningful relationships that Sunday School can offer.

Pillar 6: Apprenticeship – Here’s the cold hard reality we all need to be reminded of, “I am temporary and a day will come when I will not be here in this class or in this community.” You may leave because you move, you get sick, or you die and go to be with the King. Regardless, none of us will be here forever. What will happen to your class when one of those three options happens to you? A healthy class places an emphasis on multiplying herself. That includes leaders, teachers, greeters, care team leaders, coffee makers, fellowship planners and the like. When we multiply ourselves and train others for current and future responsibilities we prevent there from being a massive leadership hole as well as lay the foundation for future classes to better minister to other believers.

- Pastor Brent
“Who is Jesus?”

Who is Jesus? This is one of the greatest questions anyone can ever ask. From January to March on Wednesday nights, we will be diving into this question as a youth group. Youth ministry done right is a supplement to ministry done first in the home. We with this to be a spring board for conversation in the home as well as to reinforce Biblical training already taking place. Studies have shown that we have the highest rate of comprehension when we actually teach things. This is why it is so valuable to ask your child/grandchild to do their best to re-teach you what we talked about. They should also have a handout with them that they can use as notes to communicate it to you. A very simple question you can be ready to ask is this, “What exactly did you learn about Jesus & why does it matter?” Here is our immediate schedule leading up to Students Living A Mission (SLAM) Weekend on March 11th-13th.

JANUARY:
Jan 3rd: BIG Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “The Redeemer is Worthy of Praise”
Jan 6th: Huddles @ 6:15-7:45pm “Learn to Share your Testimony”
Jan 10th: Big Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “The Redeemer's Wilderness Test”
Jan 11th: FIRST Memory Monday (2:30-5:00pm) of 2016
Jan 13th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus I: More than Just a Good man”
Jan 17th: Big Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “Rebellion against the Redeemer”
Jan 18th: NO MM due to No School for Martin Luther King Jr Day
Jan 20th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus II: King of Israel & King of Kings”
Jan 24th: Big Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “The Loving Lawgiver”
Jan 25th: Memory Monday 2:30-5:00pm
Jan 27th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus III: The Great I AM”
Jan 31st: Big Church @ 9:30am, Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “God of Relationships”, 5th Sunday @ 6pm

FEBRUARY:
Feb 1st: Memory Monday 2:30-5:00pm
Feb 3rd: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus IV: He is One of Us”
Feb 7th: Big Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “The Lawgiver’s Tabernacle”, SUPER BOWL PARTY from 5:00-8:45pm
Feb 8th: Memory Monday from 2:30-5:00pm
Feb 10th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus V: The Victory of the Last Adam”
Feb 14th: Big Church @ 9:30am & Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “Atonement Sacrifices Part I”
Feb 15th: NO MM due to No School for Presidents Day
Feb 17th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus VI: Lamb of God & Sacrifice for Man”
Feb 21st: Big Church @ 9:30am, Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “Atonement Sacrifices Part II”, Life U @ 6pm
Feb 22nd: Memory Monday from 2:30-5:00pm
Feb 24th: Dinner @ 5:30pm & Huddles @ 6:15pm “Jesus VII: Resurrected & Reigning Lord”
Feb 28th: Big Church @ 9:30am, Brunch w/Jesus @ 11:00am “Blessings & Curses”, Life U @ 6pm
Feb 29th: Memory Monday from 2:30-5:00pm

MARCH 11th-13th SLAM WEEKEND!
Girlfriends Café

WHERE: **Family Life Center**
     **Grover Park Baptist Church**

DATE: January 7th
TIME: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker is Heidi Wheeler,
she will be speaking on Forgiveness & Healing!

Bring your favorite mug and a snack to share.

Free childcare will be provided.

“For we are the aroma of Christ” - 2 Cor. 2:15
Come for an evening of Girl Talk, Good Times And God’s Word!
You won’t want to miss it!

“For we are the aroma of Christ” - 2 Cor. 2:15

BSU

Once a month (second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.) The GPBC Women’s Ministry Council prepares a meal for the students at the Baptist Student Union. This Month we will be hosting this wonderful event January 12th, and we will be serving a Taco Bar, Spanish Rice, Beans, and Desserts. If you are able to help out in anyway and to share in this wonderful outreach to our College Students, please sign up on the information table or call Debbie Weigand, at 909-4930.

What’s Coming Up... Mark Your Calendars Now!

**Women’s One Day Retreat** - April 9, 2016
We have scheduled a one day Spring retreat on April 9th at Life Change at their new facility Lake View Hall.

**Women’s Annual Weekend Retreat** - September 9-11, 2016
The Women’s Ministry has decided to change the season of our weekend retreat to fall so put Sept 9-11, 2016 on your calendar, at LifeChange Camp and we will get to enjoy the fall colors and the swimming pool!

More Details to Follow!
I chose this scripture to illustrate how all parts of the body are needed to make the Living Nativity successful! Kevine Colburn, has spent countless hours planning each scene’s ambiance. She has been blessed with a creative mind and a willing husband. Thank You for all your dedication and willingness to serve.

Rene Mayden is the keeper of the costumes and finder of the actors. This year we had more actors participate than any other year I have been involved. Great job guys. I would also like to share with any of the ladies that like to sew that perhaps these winter months might be a great time to make more costumes. We are going to need more for next year and these cold days might be the time to create. If indeed you would be willing to sew, please contact me at (660) 238-6501.

Grover Park’s nativity gift to the community (our Jerusalem) told so many the story from the cradle to the grace. Since I have been involved with this presentation I believe this was the greatest. We average 2000 folks that heard the gospel not to say how many drove by and seen it along with the many that read about it in the paper. As Kennedy Wilbanks said, “be a missionary where ever you are”.

A huge thank you to Elaine Thompson for overseeing the “Christmas Store” contributions from Grover again this year. She reported she took 20 sacks of groceries full of food along with monetary donations to the distribution center. The final report was 1305 people, 473 families were served and $16,785 in donations. We do live in an amazing community!!!

Our Lottie Moon Offering is going to be well over our Goal of $9,000.00. We were blessed to have had our own IMB workers (Rachel Weigand and Terry, Sheila, Kennedy, & Caelyn Wilbanks) with us during this time. Their testimonies told us how the “Lottie Moon” Christmas offering supports and fund their work.

2016 is full of promises for Grover Park to continue to be an “Acts 1:8 church. Please pray for us all as we share the truth with those who have not heard or have heard but not taken that first precious step to become His child.

- Jeannie Campbell
Go Paperless
Hundreds of Newsletters go out in the mail each month.

There is an alternative. You May also get your monthly newsletter electronically. If you too would like to start receiving your monthly newsletter in your E-mail’s Inbox, please call Tammy in the church office, at 747-7196 or email, her at gpbconline@gmail.com with E-Newsletter in the Subject line.

Deacon of the Week Schedule:

1/3/2016 - Jeff Gibson
1/10/2016 - Dennis Scherer
1/17/2016 - Steve Fox
1/24/2016 - David Dahlhoff
1/31/2016 - Greg Greer

Board of Directors Mtg.
Wednesday, January 13th,
at 7:30 p.m.

F.A.I.T.H. Riders “Bike Night”
Thursday, January 28, at 6:00 p.m.
Anyone is welcome to join us for a great time of fellowship together. Call Kevin Colburn for more information, at 909-9415 or email, at faithriders2007@yahoo.com

Sunday School Life Workshop
“Mark Your Calendars Now”
Tuesday, January 26th we will be having our Quarterly Life Workshop at 6:30 p.m., in the Family Life Center. If you are a Sunday School teacher or worker plan now to attend.
Call Brent Bullard for more information, at 909-2699.
Food Pantry Drive
On Sunday January 17th, we will be collecting Non-Perishable Food Items, Paper Products, & Cleaning supplies for the Food Pantry. Please help those in need in our community.

Needs List:
Toilet paper, Kleenexes, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Cereal, Hamburger Helper & other box meals, Tuna, Salmon, Canned Meats, Shampoo/Conditioner, Laundry Stuff, Dish Soap, Box potatoes, noodles, & stove top stuffing mixes, Vegetables such as carrots, asparagus, canned potatoes, mixed vegetables, beets, & peas, and Condiments.

Nursing Home Ministry
Wednesdays at 10:00 p.m.
Please feel free to contact Gene Short, at 429-1214, for more information.

Memory Monday
Every Monday, from after school until 5:00 p.m.
Contact Pastor Brent for more information.

“Prime Time” Senior Adult Choir
This group is open to all adults 50+ years of age. If this is of interest to you, contact Dave Robinson at 909-4062 for more information.

Upcoming Dates:
- Tuesday, January 5th, at 9:00 a.m. for Practice in the Sanctuary & 10:00 a.m. at Country Club Care Center
- Tuesday, January 19th, at 10:00 a.m. Warrensburg Manor
- Tuesday, January 26th, at 10:00 a.m. Harmony Gardens

Come join the fun!

Attention ladies!
You’re invited to join us for the upcoming “Quilt Class.” The class will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Learn how to make an attractive quilt top of your own with the help of experienced quilters. Bring a sewing machine, ext. cord, fabric, and basic sewing supplies (thread, scissors, seam ripper, rotary cutter, ruler, and mat).
For more details about the class and the fabric needed, call Penny Roberts at (660) 624-0977 or Pat Breon at (918) 906-1037.
Sunday -
Amy Hayward, Hughes Family, Jerusalem Ministry, Melissa Woodson, Wilbanks

Monday -
Those who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Tuesday -
Miscellaneous Requests
Brandon Shanks, Brian & Travis Bonham, GPBC Families, Joshua Woodard, Katrina & Jeff Butts, Lee Johnson, Patsy Terry, Small Business owners, Unspoken

Wednesday -
Those with health problems
Anthony Lewis, Betty Grace Fowler, Betty Smith, Carol Holder, Cathy Hallock, Christina Pieczynski, Don Hough, Dorothy Jacobs, Fred Busker, Jack Wittman, Jane Whiting, Jerry Schildknecht, Joe Elliott, Judy Clossin, Keno Haag, Kody Caldwell, Kristen Morgan’s sister, Lucille Clifton, Mark Montgomery, Pat Vaughn, Raymond Vaughn, Sujamanas Badger, Trudie, Yvonne Bostick

Thursday -
Those having and recovering from Surgery.

Friday -
Those with Cancer
Ann Hayashi, Bev Lloyd, Billy Carter, Chuck Campbell, Debbie Casey, Dorothy Nickell, Gail Edwards, Gene Ording, Hal Hanrahan, Howard Bullard, Iris Pinkston, Joe Wooldridge, Joyce Barber, Kathy Kelsay, Kevine Colburns’ brother-in-law, Kara Sherrin’s Grandpa, Kenny Miller, Mark Carter’s sister, Martha Stewart, Mary Bennett, Mary Winters Nephew, Norman Powers, Randy Collins, Rich, Rosey, Shirley Mayden, Stan Ritzer,

Saturday -
Military serving our country and their families, those who have lost their jobs, wisdom for our President and government.

The Financial Corner...

October 31, 2015

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These reconciled figures are provided in this format which is for your convenience only. Complete financial statements which include a balance sheet and income statements are on file and available in the church office.

Now it’s as easy as ever to give online, with our easy online giving. Just go to our website at www.GroverParkBaptistChurch.org and click the “donate now” link on the home page, and follow the easy steps.
Our Staff…

Dr. Randall S. Neal - Senior Pastor
David Robinson - Music Minister
Brent Bullard - Associate Pastor of Youth & Education
Mark Wigginton - Children’s Minister
Tammy Shirley - Administrative Assistant
Ray Fann - Custodian

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday
Bible Study 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Worship 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:00 a.m.
Shepherd's Place (Children) 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday
Dinner 5:30 p.m., Family Worship Night 6:30 p.m.
Kids Korner 6:00 p.m. & WNL Kids 6:30 p.m.
"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." - 2 Corinthians 4:6 (NIV)

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<td>6:15 - 7:45 p.m. Youth Group Huddles</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Worship Service</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. Heartland Parl.</td>
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<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</td>
<td>&quot;Prime Time&quot; Sing at Warrenburg Manor</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. Nursing Home Ministry at Ridgecrest</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. Men’s Game Day</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. New Vision (Monica Fox)</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Quilt Day</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m. Memory Monday</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. &quot;Prime Time&quot; Sing at Harmony Gardens</td>
<td>6:30 p.m. Life Workshop</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. Nursing Home Ministry at Ridgecrest</td>
<td>12:00 p.m. Men’s Game Day</td>
<td>5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Master Gardener</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30</td>
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<td>&quot;If any of you lack wisdom, you should pray to God, who will give it to you; because God gives generously and graciously to all.&quot; - James 1:5</td>
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## January Birthdays

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Heidi Mersman</td>
<td>Wil Codilla</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Mary Collins</td>
<td>Keri Docheff</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brian Freer</td>
<td>Marjorie Poisal</td>
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<td>Virginia Haller</td>
<td>Barbara Nelson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joyce Johnston</td>
<td>Kalib Phelps</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Marilyn Thompson</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Yvonne Bostick</td>
<td>Shannon Clawson</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Mark Morgan</td>
<td>Rachel Vaughn</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Joshua Sherrin</td>
<td>Brenda Brooks</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Becky White</td>
<td>Jerry Schildknecht</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Elia Cram</td>
<td>William Hughes</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Jane Colster</td>
<td>Neicey Jackson</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Jenny Healey</td>
<td>Emma Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Trinity Battles</td>
<td>Chuck Barry</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Ken Fowler</td>
<td>Katherine Garneau</td>
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## January Anniversaries

**January 3 ~ Kenneth & Regina Hicks ~ 9 Years**

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**Birthday & Anniversary**

Are you on our Birthday or Wedding Anniversary List?  
If not please call the church office, at 747-7196, so that we may Celebrate with you!
Hey Guys,

December was such a great month. So grateful to see our Grover families involved so much during the holiday season. We have been blessed with our donations of shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, we have been blessed with our donation of canned foods during our Food Drive. We have been blessed with an amazing turnout at the Living Nativity and we have been blessed with a truly spectacular Christmas Program. As I write this I look forward to our Christmas Eve service, with so many great chances for families to interact and love on each other. This last month we have seen kids ask questions about baptism, pray to receive Christ, and wrestle with the true meaning of Christmas. God has been working in a powerful way! I am so blessed to work with such a great group of volunteers! It has been neat to see growth in our Sunday School ministry. As I have walked down the halls in second service, I have seen full classes of disciples! The Lord is truly moving at Grover, and it’s cool to see.

Kids Church Teaching Calendar for the month of January!

- January 3rd—God’s Rules
- January 10th—Living for our Heavenly Home
- January 17th—Godly Awesomeness
- January 24th—God Can Use Our Failures
- January 31st—God Can Use Our Dreams

January is here and we are so thankful to be able to minister to you and your family during this season. We know life can get busy; however, we also know that we have so many reasons to praise our Risen King during this holiday season. If you would like more info on some of Grover Kids Ministry opportunities, please let Mark know today!
Hey guys, Mark here. I just want to start off by saying Happy New Years! New Years are always exciting but even more so when we see so many of our Grover families expanding. We are excited for Sam and Emily Livingston with the expectation of their young one, Troy and Melissa Plummer with their expectation, and a special congratulations to Brandon and Katherine Garneau as young Zoey has just come into the world. Congratulations also go to Doug and Lauren Collins in the birth of their child, as well as Bonnie and Eva. Christine and Mark Morgan, Ashley and Brandon Cowperthwaite. The Bible says that children are like arrows in a quiver - some of our families are looking like Robin Hood! We do take seriously our commitment to pray and be available for families who are in transition or who may be going through a difficult time. We remember that the holiday season can be difficult on some who have lost loved ones, know that we are here, and we are praying for each and every Grover family. God has great things in store for His people. God bless you this month and all of 2016.

Melissa Plummer
(Nursery Director)

Melissa is pregnant! As a church we are super excited for Melissa and Troy as they prepare with great expectation the arrival of their precious baby. Of course, being pregnant has not slowed down Melissa at all. She still works tirelessly with our teachers, parents, and children. We are so very proud of all that God is doing in and through our Nursery Director!
WHEN 1 TEACHES
2 LEARN
PARENTS CORNER:

One of the most difficult things for Preschoolers is to wait!! Hey, even grown ups have a hard time doing that!! As we wait for God to answer our requests we need to be patient. He is in control and we need to fully rely on HIM!! In Psalm 37:7a it says, "Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him;" Lamentations 3:25 says, "The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him." God knows what is best for all of us. He wants us to come to Him with our requests. He also wants us to be patient on His timing. So when you open your Time Capsule with your child next year after being so PATIENT take this opportunity and talk about your prayer requests. Did God answer them?? Did He say yes, no or maybe later. Maybe you will need to put that request back onto next year's slip and continue to pray.

CREATIVE ORNER:

Making your 2015 Time Capsule

First you need to find a shoe box or use a plastic tub with a lid. Have fun coloring and decorating the outside of the capsule. Collect pictures of family, friends, pets, or anything you would like to look back on in the future in the box. Make sure to include a favorites list of what your child's likes and dislikes and favorites are for that year. Maybe your child would enjoy including things they would like to achieve by next year.

The next thing you want to put in the capsule is slips of paper with prayer requests on them that you would like God to answer. Make sure to pray over the requests. Last thing you need to do is seal your capsule and put it somewhere safe and out of the way till the next year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!