



108 TRAIL ONE
BURLINGTON, NC 27215

CONTACT US:

Phone: 336-227-2910

Email: office@groveparkchurch.com

Online: www.groveparkchurch.com

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BURLINGTON, NC 27215
PERMIT NO. 140

Return Service Request

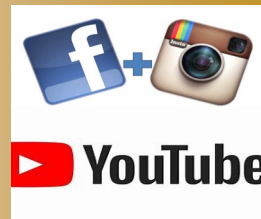
Check us out on:

Facebook.com/groveparkchurch

Instagram: groveparkchurch

YouTube: YouTube.com/

@groveparkchurch



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GROVE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH | SEPTEMBER 2024

September 1 brings with it an end to winter and the promise of warmer days ahead something I know many have been anticipating following the frigid cold we experienced in July. Now, some of you may be thinking that whatever pain meds they gave me during my recent gallstone attack are continuing to work their magic. I assure you that is far from the case. My sentence would make perfect sense if we were one of the countless millions who lived in the Southern Hemisphere where they have been enjoying a nice winter while we have baked in the summer heat. Well Marc, you should know your audience and recognize that we are neither in South Africa, the Falklands, nor Australia. While this is true, maybe I do know my audience and am trying to help us experience a some other things.

One thing this exercise has helped me to accomplish is the necessity of seeing things from another perspective. We live in a very dogmatic and divided world and very often once we set our teeth into a particular view we do not relinquish our hold. Yet, is this the model of Jesus? Does not Jesus repeatedly offer some version of "consider" or "you have heard it said, but I say to you?" Beloved, God is constantly calling us to examine things from shoes other than our own, we just prefer our own slippers most of the time. Yet, in our increasingly pluralistic society we must be willing try on those other shoes if for no other reason than to be able to engage in conversation with our neighbors. It is inconsequential whether we like the multi-cultural society that we inhabit, for that ship has most assuredly sailed and is never returning. It is consequential whether we will be conversant with other perspectives so as to be better equipped to share the love and joy that is found in a relationship with Jesus for that is truly at the end of the day, at the end of time, all that will matter.

Additionally, it is helpful to remember that simply because we are going through a particular season of life it does not mean that everyone else is accompanying us. Just as our neighbors in the Southern Hemisphere are in a completely different climatological season than us, so too can our neighbors and friends be experiencing a completely different life season along with entirely different sets of priorities, emotions, and experiences. Just was we cannot wrench the Southern Hemisphere out of winter until this globe we inhabit spins around, so too must our friends and neighbors walk through the season they find themselves. It is incumbent on us however, to provide a listening ear, attempt to inhabit their space with them that they may experience the ministry of presence, and above all respect their journey by offering kindness and compassion.

I believe by doing so we will make all the seasons of life easier to handle and for those who are not looking forward to this upcoming winter, make it a little more bearable as well, by creating a nice equilibrium for all to enjoy.

Grace Abounds,
Marc



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sundays Mon., Wed., Thurs.	5:00 p.m.	Family Night Devotional on Facebook Live
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesdays	6:30 p.m.	Facebook Prayer Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Prayer Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal (unless otherwise noted)
Thursdays	7:00 p.m.	GPBC Book Club
September 4	Noon	ROMEOS
September 11	10:00 a.m.	Red Cross Blood Drive
September 26	10:00 a.m.	SIA Millstone Creek Orchard
September 27	4:00 p.m.	WHS Football Feed the Team



**When I am afraid, I put my trust in You.
(Psalm 56:3)**

Sometimes profound truths are packaged in simple statements. Take this verse, for example. It's just 10 words. It only takes a second to read, and on the surface, it seems pretty simple. "When I'm afraid, I'll trust You. Got it."

When you think about it, though, this truth is much easier to say than it is to do. It's easy to say that we trust God, no matter what. But, what happens when the smoke alarm wakes us up in the middle of the night? What happens when the car starts going sideways on a slick road? How about when the doctor's office calls and the voice on the other end of the phone says, "We need to talk about your test results?"

It's easy to trust when no trust is required. Anyone can say they trust God when everything is going well. But when everything is crashing around us? That's different.

How do we trust God when the world is on fire around us?

We have to understand that trust is not a feeling. It's a decision, an act of the will. Trust is something we decide to do, not something we feel. It's a skill to develop, a "muscle" that needs to be exercised in order to grow.

I believe that an essential first step in trusting is to stop. Instead of immediately going into panic mode and reacting out of fear, it's essential to stop for a moment and take a breath.

While we're stopped, we need to take a moment to consider where to place our trust. It's not about depending on our own strength or on the faithfulness of our friends. It's not about looking to the government or to karma to fix the problem. Instead, we need to decide to place our trust in the living, loving, omnipresent, omnipotent Father. We need to remind ourselves that whatever is going on is certainly not bigger than Him.

Sometimes this first step - to stop and consider - may only take a moment. Sometimes it may take much longer. But don't rush it. Take a moment to call to mind a verse of Scripture (like the one above) and breathe out a quick prayer - or even a longer one if you can.

Personally, I'm learning that once I stop and consider, I have a much better idea about how to react. Remembering Who God is and calling to mind what He has promised - seeking His face and His guidance - may not put out the fire surrounding me, but it gives me what I need to deal with it.

When we learn how to trust - when we grow to understand that trust is a decision, a strategy, a practice - that begins to change how we see times of difficulty. We may not ever feel good about our struggles, but at least we can begin to see them as opportunities to grow.

Dale



Hope Boxes

We are in need of toothbrushes this month. If you have an upcoming dentist appointment check with your dentist to see if they are able to donate to a non-profit organization. School supplies that may be on clearance are still appreciated. We always need water bottles, pencil pouches/boxes, headphones, erasers, pens, highlighters and any fun items you may like to pick up. Thanks for your support with this outreach ministry.

Join us for our annual Fall Festival on Saturday, October 26th. This will be a fun event for the entire family. If you are willing to help please sign up on the bulletin board sign up sheet.

North Carolina Missions Offering (NCMO) is a special offering received during the month of September that supports the ministries of Baptists on Mission, Church Planting, mission camps, associational projects and mobilization ministry projects. Below is a link where you can see the many, many ways the NC Missions Offering assists ministries in impacting the lost for Christ!
<https://ncbaptist.org/article/offer-relief-for-today-hope-for-tomorrow=through-ncmo/>

WHS Feed The Team

Our next feed the team event will be September 27. Please contact Janice Byrd if you are able to help.

**September 11
Red Cross
Blood Drive
10am-3pm**

Alternative Christmas Market

We are beginning to work on our ACM for this holiday season. If there is an organization you would like our Missions Committee to evaluate for inclusion in our market, please contact the church office.

September Birthdays

Barbara Dodson	September 02
Bruce Joplin	September 05
Marcus King	September 05
Naomi Taylor	September 07
Dave Bolick	September 08
David Stalls	September 15
Benjy Overby	September 19
Glea Haithcock	September 20
Ann Hayes	September 20
Mike Bouldin	September 22
Robert Padgett	September 23
Joanne Griffith	September 28



Please remember we do not have a fully operational phone system. If you need to contact the church please call 336-226-0929. The most reliable way to contact the church is to email ahammack@groveparkchurch.com and we will get in touch with you as soon as possible. We should have all issues resolved by September 6. Thank you for your patience and understanding with this issue.

Ministers On Call for the Month of September

<i>Sept 5 thru Sept 8</i>	<i>Deacon Matthew Byrd</i>
<i>Sept 12 thru Sept 15</i>	<i>Deacon Jason Bogart</i>
<i>Sept 19 thru Sept 22</i>	<i>Deacon Mirian Brewer</i>
<i>Sept 26 thru Sept 29</i>	<i>Deacon Beth Canada</i>

Contact Marian Brewer if you are interested in helping with Operation Christmas Child.



September Food Pantry Needs

Thank you for your continued generosity to our Food Pantry. Our needs for this month are:

- Peanut Butter**
- Grape Jelly**
- Saltines**
- Instant Potatoes**
- Stovetop Stuffing**
- Cereal**
- Canned Meat**
- Spaghetti Sauce**

