



**Grove Park**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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# The Messenger



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF GROVE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH | OCTOBER 2024

It seems impossible to believe that 20 years ago this month I was preparing to move to Enfield and assume the pastorate at EBC on November 1. It feels so long ago and also so recent. I was so young, just 26, and had not a clue how dramatically different the future would unfold from what I imagined. I have found myself wanting desperately to tell that young kid a few things recently to make life a little easier for him in the years ahead. I thought I would take the opportunity to share some of that list with you as it might help you on your journey, for these revelations have certainly changed the trajectory of mine over these last 20 years.

November 1, 2004

Dear Marc,

Welcome to Enfield! I know you are nervous and a little overwhelmed at the present, but that's ok it's the nature of the job. You will quickly learn what an amazing gift you have received to be called to this community of faith, one you will soon come to cherish as much as you do the one I/you currently serve. You will weep more when you leave here than you did two days ago when you left Chapel Hill. Your tenure will prove difficult at times, but in years to come you will awaken in the night thinking you are in Enfield and be sad when you realize you aren't. Treat each day ahead of you for what it is, a precious gift of God. And while I'm dispensing wisdom, here's a few other things to keep in mind.

—Sunday you will be preaching on "One Sure Thing" from Job 19. Remember the surety of hope on those inevitable dark days that will occur in days to come.

—Take care of yourself, it's a task no one but you can do. Remember also mental health is as important as physical health. Exercise more.

—Recognize a function of grace is the ability to change your mind and is a sign of growth. Dead things do not grow, so see these changes as a sign of life and embrace them.

—Realize your task is obedience and faithfulness, the rest is up to God and other's doing the same task in their lives.

—Write more of your journey down, particularly concerning Roger, Larry and Wayne. Memories will fade, your in the moment reactions won't and will be a valuable testament of God's unfading faithfulness and your growth when the memories grow fuzzy.

—Plan and take more trips even if it's by yourself. It will clear your mind and make you sharper.

—Spend more time with Julius, James, Peggy Jo, Daddy, Bill, and particularly a guy you will meet next week named Allen. I won't tell you when, but they will be gone before you're ready and the ache of unasked questions never leaves.

—Trust me, you will miss that organ one day.

—And one last thing and this is important! You're going to meet this girl one Fall day in the next few years. She's cute, smart, and talks fast. Trust your instincts and don't delay proposing and setting a date. You'll thank me one day.

Grace Abounds,  
Marc September 24, 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sundays	5:00 p.m.	Family Night
Mon., Wed., Thurs.		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
October 2	Noon	Romeo's at Southbound Sandwich
October 3	1:00 p.m.	SIA Planning
October 6	10:00 a.m.	World Communion Sunday
October 17	10:00 a.m.	SIA Christmas Craft Day
October 26	4:00 p.m.	Fall Festival

thankful ♥ grateful ♥ blessed



...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...

(Romans 3:23-24)

Today I want to share with you the lyrics to an upcoming song the choir is going to sing. It's entitled "Come As You Are," by David Crowder, Matt Maher, and Ben Glover. There's a message in this song for all of us!

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been.  
Come, brokenhearted, let rescue begin.  
Come find your mercy; O sinner, come kneel.  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal,  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.  
All who are broken, lift up your face.  
O wanderer, come home; you're not too far.  
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,  
Come as you are.

There's hope for the hopeless and all those who've strayed;  
Come sit at the table, come taste the grace.  
There's rest for the weary, rest that endures.  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure.

Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.  
All who are broken, lift up your face.  
O wanderer, come home; you're not too far.  
So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,  
Come as you are.

Come as you are, fall in his arms,  
Come as you are.

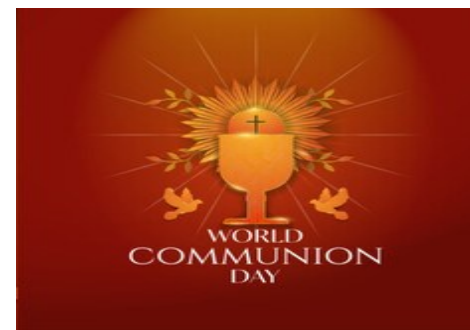
There's joy for the morning. O sinner be still.  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal,  
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal.

Lay down your burdens, lay down your shame.  
All who are broken, lift up your face.  
O wanderer, come home; you're not too far.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,  
Come as you are, come as you are.

So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart,  
Come as you are, come as you are, come as you are.

Dale



**October 6, 2024**  
**World Communion Day**



### Hope Boxes

Thank you for your continued support. Our need this month is for socks. We need women's size 6-10, men's size 9-12 and kid's size 1-4. We are also still in need of any school supplies that you may find on clearance. This includes water bottles, headphones, pencil boxes, pens, erasers, highlighters, etc.

### October Food Pantry Needs

Thank you for your continued generosity to our Food Pantry. Our needs for this month are canned meats, instant potatoes, cereal, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Please drop them off by the church office or place them in the food pantry bin located in the vestibule.

We are beginning our work on the Alternative Christmas Market for the holiday season. If you have suggestions of organizations to include, please let the Church office know and the Missions Committee will evaluate it for inclusion in our market.

### SIA Craft Event

**SIA will be hosting a Christmas Craft Day on October 17th at 10:00am.**  
**The cost is \$10 to be paid the day of the event.**  
**Please sign up if you plan to attend.**

### Ministers On Call for the Month of October

*Oct 3 thru Oct 6*

*Deacon Derek Denard*

*Oct 10 thru Oct 13*

*Deacon Benjy Overby*

*Oct 17 thru Oct 20*

*Deacon Caleb Warren*

*Oct 24 thru Oct 27*

*Deacon Matthew Byrd*

*Oct 31 thru Nov 3*

*Deacon Jason Bogart*

(our known)

### October Birthdays

Nancy Webster	October 01
Olivia Trull	October 01
Jennie Palmer	October 04
Donna Lawson	October 06
Bob Webster	October 07
Debbie Loy	October 07
Sharon King	October 10
Joan Smith	October 11
Lauren Willets	October 13
Julie Bogart	October 21
Diane Stalls	October 24
Wallace Wood	October 24
Mitchell Denard	October 26
Jean Vines	October 26
George Britton	October 27



**Grove Park will be staffing the concession stands at the WHS Football game on Nov. 1. Please sign up if you can help.**