



FROM THE PASTOR



SERVICE PROJECT  
SUNDAY - NOV. 3



LIVE GENEROUSLY!  
AND SEASON OF  
GIVING EVENT  
DETAILS



WELCOME ARBOL DE  
VIDA!



### GRACE IS WHY WE'RE HERE!

**Grace** is why we're here....

by Grace Alone are we saved through faith.

(Ephesians 2:8)

Grace **is why we're** here....

making disciples by sharing the Good News of His Grace with others.

(Matthew 28:18-20)

Grace is why we're **here**....

God has called us by name to this place (Cordova, TN) and  
to wherever He will lead us to go.

**Here to Worship, Here to Serve, Here to Make Disciples.**

**Here to do His Works, which He has prepared for us to do!**

**(Ephesians 2:10)**



*Grace Celebration Lutheran Church*  
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**One of the great gifts that a person can give to another person is commitment.**

Jesus said “if a marriage is going to work, a man has to leave father and mother and cleave to his wife.” Love is never cheap. There is always a price that it is willing to bear for another.

**When God loved us, He let go of His one and only Son, and let him be born for us.**

Jesus, too, because of His love for us, let go of his life and willingly suffered and died on the cross. “No greater love can a man have than this, than to die for a friend. You are my friends,” Jesus said. In a similar vein, Jesus said that if we loved Him we would feed his sheep. We would pick up our cross and follow him in living our life for God and for serving others.

**Our church is going to celebrate God’s call to be in ministry on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> in our worship service.**

We are calling this Sunday **CONSECRATION SUNDAY**, a day when we consecrate ourselves and all that we have to the Lord.

**CONSECRATION SUNDAY** will really be a celebration as we take a moment to be together and witness to our call to be in ministry. **There will be a special celebration luncheon at 11:30 A.M. following worship.**

*Please pray that God will use CONSECRATION SUNDAY to review our faith and our commitment to Him.*

Pastor Terry Tieman

# Service Project Sunday

## November 3, 2019



In the book, Irresistible Evangelism, by Steve Sjogren, a working definition of kindness is suggested as “demonstrating God’s love by offering to do humble acts of service, in Christ’s name, with no strings attached.” (Irresistible Evangelism p.91) The author goes on to say,

*We’ll never shine brightly in the kingdom of God until we can sign up for activities that bring us no immediate, tangible, specific gain. We need to learn the lesson Jesus taught in Luke 6:35 about giving without expecting to get anything back, not even gratitude. The only reward we need is knowing that we’re acting like sons of the Most High. The watching world will never be genuinely interested in our message as long as we come across as self-seeking promoters of our little piece of the kingdom. However, the world hungers for generosity in Christ’s name when those expressing it don’t care who gets the credit. If we don’t take seriously the phrases In Christ’s name and with no strings attached, we’re just using a manipulative marketing strategy. (Irresistible Evangelism p.94)*

When we serve another, with no strings attached, we are operating in a way that is counter-cultural. Doing something for nothing is unheard of these days. A posture of a servant can easily be drowned out by the “me, my, and mine” slogans of Madison Avenue. But let’s remember...it is the kindness of God that has drawn us into a saving relationship with Him. Through His kindness, God has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and pulled us out of the miry clay. Through His many acts of kindness in the New Testament, Jesus gives us a model of what it means to be kind.

We will be reflecting this model on **Sunday, November 3**, as we go out into the community after an abbreviated worship service at 10 am. Here are the Service Projects from which you can choose:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Homeless Survival Kits: Pack bags of non-perishable food items for homeless    | • Grace Grounds: Cut down dead trees and remove underbrush from NE corner                 |
| • Adopt a School: Landscaping work at Riverwood or Cordova Elementary School     | • Prayer Walking: Prayer support for those doing Service Projects                         |
| • Water Bottle Distribution: Distribute bottles of water at local parks          | • Lunch: Prepare lunch for everyone going out on Service Projects                         |
| • Trash Pick Up: Pick up trash and garbage from streets around Grace Celebration | • Child Care: Watching small children who are unable to participate in the above projects |

We will have Sunday School & Bible Class at the regular time and lunch will commence at 11:30 am, after we have been working on our projects for about an hour.

**Let’s get irresistible!**

**Pastor Tieman**

**By Pastor Jim**

We're entering a wonderful time of year. The holiday season is nearly upon us with celebrations that include family and friends, the community at large, and our church.

What do we celebrate? As Christians our celebration really has no season. In fact our church's name attests to our continual attitude of celebration for the grace God so freely gives through his Son Jesus Christ. I'm excited to celebrate that truth. I'm excited to celebrate my relationship with God and my eternal citizenship in his kingdom which has no end.

Wow! It's a great season with an opportunity to give thanks as a church and a nation. Follow that up with the advent of Christ's coming. His first coming resulted in our salvation and his second coming will result in



the resurrection of the dead and a new heaven and earth. As we reflect on all God's goodness we respond with a spirit of generosity. After all, God has extended his

limitless generosity to us by giving his beloved Son to die on the cross. It was a great cost.

That's why I love the slogan written on the t-shirts we receive from the Thrivent grants for our outreach events. Live Generously! That's what we do as Christians. God's love flows through us to live generously in a world that so desperately needs the gospel.

This season we will explore the principle of what it means to live generously through our Consecrated Stewards program. It's going to be life changing experience as God generously teaches and blesses us to live in the way of our savior.



## Season of Giving Friday, Dec 6, 6-8pm

October is almost over and it's time to start thinking about the holiday season already. Grace Celebration is hosting our **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Season of Giving** outreach event on **Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm.**

Children ages 4-12 years are invited for a jam-packed evening of holiday fun. This year's event will be similar to a one-day VBS. In groups of 10, children will move through 6 stations during the evening. They will make two crafts to keep or give as gifts, decorate cookies, visit with Santa, play games, hear the story of Jesus' birth, and get to act out the story for themselves.

Although welcome to stay with their children, parents can also drop off the kids and enjoy an evening out for dinner or shopping.

We need lots of volunteers to help with the six stations, to register families as they arrive, and to supervise small groups of kids.

This is sure to be a fun evening! What a great blessing to share the joy of the Christmas season with children in our Cordova community! Please make time in your busy holiday schedules to help out this year. Look for a signup in the coming weeks

-Jean Belles, Youth Ministries

# GOD CONNECTS

## God, Are You There?

Everyone, at some point, asks this question. It can come at moments of sterile reflection or in times of deep despair. “God, if You are there, why don’t You show Yourself to me?” In this confusing world where authenticity is so elusive, it seems like we cannot connect to God.

We could not connect to God, but the good news is that God connects with us. He has been doing this from the beginning in amazing ways. The most direct way God connected to us is when He became one of us in Jesus Christ. When Jesus was on this earth, He was the very revelation of God as He taught and healed and loved.

Then to restore our connection to God, which had been shattered because of sin; on the cross, Jesus willingly paid the penalty for our sins—in His own death! This is the most authentic, startling and determined love the world could have ever imagined.

Now God connects to us by revealing Himself in the Bible. This God-given book has an amazing story. It tells of God’s constant and compassionate work to restore our relationship with Him.

*God Connects* wants to share that story with you. *God Connects* is a course that tells this unique, unequalled story.

Whether you do not believe in Christ as Savior or want to deepen your faith in Him, as you delve into *God Connects* you will explore what the Bible says about this remarkably loving God, and how this love gives direction and meaning to your life today and forever.

So let’s get started ....

**The class begins Sunday, November 17th during the Bible Class hour (8:45 am – 9:45 am). We will be meeting in the Classroom next to the Youth Room in the East wing of the church.**

If you are new to Grace Celebration, the Christian Faith, or have been a Christian your whole life, this class is for you! I have been a Pastor over 35 years now. Of all the things I do in ministry, teaching this class and getting to know the people is the most rewarding.

Many Blessings,

Rev. Dr. Terry Tieman

P.S. If you would like to preview the videos and discussion questions that we will be using in the class, please go to <http://www.lhm.org/godconnects/default.asp>.



# Happy Birthday!

Proverbs 9:11

*11 For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life.*



## WE CELEBRATE WITH YOU!

**MARK HODNICA - NOV. 1**  
**JEAN BELLES - NOV. 3**  
**JOEL BELLES - NOV. 22**  
**DAVE BORCHARDT - NOV. 26**  
**MILTON CARROLL - NOV. 28**  
**FRANK ADCOCK - DEC. 1**  
**BILL CHASTEEN - DEC. 1**  
**ASHLEY WILHITE - DEC 2**  
**DONNA BRANTLEY - DEC. 3**  
**MATTHEW LESMES - DEC. 9**  
**JOYCE CHASTEEN - DEC. 10**

## SEPTEMBER OFFERINGS

<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
\$22,853	\$22,640.95

# Happy Anniversary!



## Song of Songs 8:7

*Many waters cannot quench love;  
rivers cannot sweep it away.  
If one were to give  
all the wealth of one's house for love,  
it would be utterly scorned*

## MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU WITH MANY MORE!

**JIM AND JEAN BELLES - NOV. 26**  
**BILL AND JOYCE CHASTEEN - DEC. 16**  
**MIGUEL AND ASHLEY LESMES - DEC. 17**  
**STEVE AND BARB PODAWILTZ - DEC 23**

## PARKING LOT UPDATE

<u>Needed</u>	<u>Raised To Date</u>
\$8,100	\$5,992.03

# SPECIAL SERVICES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

## NOVEMBER

### Sunday, November 3:

Service Project Sunday

Please see the article on page 3 for detailed information

### Saturday, November 9:

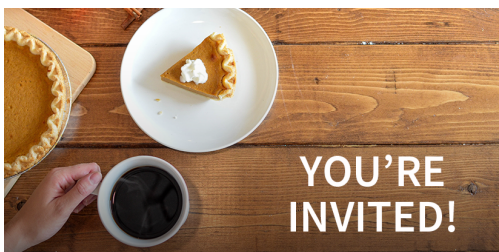
Super Saturday Worship, 6pm

Super Saturday worship features a very informal service with a great live band, biblical discussions, table seating, snacks and drinks and much more! It's a great place to bring a friend!

### Wednesday, November 27:

Praise & Pie, 6pm

Start the Thanksgiving holiday with us. Bring family and friends and your favorite pie to share.



## DECEMBER

### Friday, December 6:

Season of Giving, 6-8pm

Parent's can drop off their children for an evening of crafts, games and music. Register Online.

### Saturday, December 14:

Family Christmas Party, 6pm

Don't miss the Family Christmas Party on December 14. We will be singing Christmas carols, noshing on our favorite Christmas goodies, and watching a wonderful video entitled *The Life of Mary*. This charming movie walks down Mary's road of faith as she journeys through a life of unbelievable events that ushers in Jesus Christ. This Christmas video captures the entire ministry of Jesus in twelve minutes - from birth to His resurrection!

### Sunday, December 15:

Consecration Sunday & Stewardship Banquet, 11:30am

### Sunday, December 22:

Christmas Brunch Theater, 10am

Enjoy dinner theatre? How about brunch theatre? *Grace's first ever Christmas Brunch Theatre will feature:* Live Skits, Puppets, Christmas Carols, The Christmas Story, Table Seating, Food, Wait Staff and more!

### Tuesday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, 6pm



# Welcome Arbol de Vida!

**We are so excited and pleased to welcome Arbol de Vida (Tree of Life) Church to our campus!** This Hispanic Evangelical Church meets on Sundays at 4 pm for worship and on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm for prayer. If you see Pastor Oscar (and Pilar) Gonzalez, their family, or members of the church, please say hello and ask them how you can pray for them and their ministry.

For more information about Arbol de Vida, go to their website at <https://www.arboldevidadamemphis.com/pastor>. Especially note the 5 Solas on the “Pastores” page. These are identical to our Lutheran solas, Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone, Scripture Alone, and Glory to God Alone.

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## Stay Connected!

[www.gracecelebration.org](http://www.gracecelebration.org)



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<https://www.facebook.com/gracecelebrationlc/>



[twitter.com/familyofgrace](https://twitter.com/familyofgrace)

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