

THE GRAND COMMUNICATOR



Published by Grand Community Baptist Church
The Community Church in the Heart of Grand

February Newsletter "God Loves You"

Pastor's Note



One of the more interesting behaviors among birds is the egg laying pattern followed by Brown Headed Cowbirds. They will not build a nest but instead will lay their eggs in the nest of other, smaller birds. This occurs while the owner is away. When the momma bird returns, they will accept the egg as their own, caring for it and hatching it. Then raise the overgrown interloper.

As the Cowbird chicks are raised it can be disastrous for the other chicks because the adopted one will be bigger, pushier. The energy needed to care for it takes away the time and resources needed from the natural babies. Often the smaller, natural chicks do not survive. It becomes sacrificial love for one who, honestly, doesn't even deserve to be there.

It surprises me that despite all the ruckus and trouble that the momma bird experiences, it will still make a commitment to the cowbird. Loving and raising it as their own. Perhaps they are more like humans than we realize. Parents often pay extra attention to the child that needs it most at that moment. Our compassion and our love compel us to behave in this manner.

What's Inside

- Page 1: Pastor's Note
- Page 2: Pastor's Note
- Page 3 Greetings Pastor Gary
- Page 4: GriefShare
- Page 5: Lunch Bunch
Cookie Table
- Page 6: Clarity to Confusion
- Page 7: Women's Conference
- Page 8: Missions
- Page 9: February Calendar

Pastor's Note

But it is not just people and birds. **Jeremiah 31:3** says, ***“Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore, with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”*** This is God committing His love to us. We are loved. God loves us. And the best part of this news is that His love for us is not about our character, looks, intelligence or any other such personal attribute. It's all about His character.

So, you are loved. Rest in God's love. Life might be hard, but that does not change the fact that God loves you. You might be broken or broken hearted, but that does not change the fact that You are loved. Breathe easy. It won't change.

But then take another step and decide that if you are loved you can love others. Another favorite verse about love is the **Love Chapter, 1 Corinthians 13**. **The middle verses 4-7 describe how to express love to one another.**

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

One of the most joyful things about being among God's people is enjoying those who do this well. And it is also joyful to notice that God is giving you progress in the art and practice of loving others. He loves us and He will continue to bless us in these ways.

Pastor Chip

Greetings in the Name of the Lord



January has been a busy month. The Prophecy Conference was very well attended. We averaged 87 people in attendance with a high attendance of 90 on day two. If you missed this conference, you can watch most of it on Facebook (churchgrandbaptist). Many people have said that this one was the best Prophecy Conference that we have had.

February is an incredibly special month. Love is in the air. This is a good time to share with people that God loves you. He loves you just the way you are, but He loves you too much to let you stay that way. God wants our love to grow for one another. God wants us to share the Gospel with the people we encounter.

The Bible tells us ***“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life”*** (John 3:16).

Share Jesus with someone this month. The definition of evangelism is: taking the initiative to share Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results up to God.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Lord here at Grand Community Baptist Church. You are a blessing to me.

In His Service,

Brother Gary



GriefShare Ministry

We Care About Those Who Are Grieving

Grief

Grief creates an internal, unbearable, emotional storm:

- ✓ Generates a feeling of aloneness.
- ✓ Attacks each person differently.
- ✓ Brings on an ocean of tears that just keep coming.
- ✓ Makes one question one's perception of guilt and anger.
- ✓ Clouds the mind.

LET US HELP YOU

We know about the devastating and raw emotions of grief, because we have experienced them. Our experienced Grief Support Team is here to help you ease your PAIN. If you have lost a loved one or have a friend that is grieving, please invite them to join.

We will start a new session of Grief Share, February 4th at 10 AM in the Ministry Center Classroom.

I'm also in need of helpers. *If you are interested in helping others with the same grief you have been through you will find this a very rewarding ministry.* **Jeri Williams**

13-week session

Every Tuesday 10 AM

GCBC Ministry Center

Starts: Feb. 4, 2025

Ends: May 5, 2025

**Your Journey from
Mourning to Joy**

The Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch community meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

This month we will be dining at Babbo Italian Restaurant on **February 11th, 11:30 AM**. Babbo's is located at 16433 W. Bell Road in Surprise, near highway 303. This restaurant is delighted to host us and has been most cooperative and been the easiest to work with of all our dining sites.



Please join every 2nd Tuesday of the month for great food and even greater fun and harmony! Virginia King

COOKIE *Lady*

The Cookie Table is up and open again. As you found out, when we have a lunch over at the Ministry Center we closed the Cookie Table. It only happens a couple times a year. The Deacons put a lot of work into making a nice lunch and trust a lot of cookie eaters attend the lunch.

In case you didn't notice, I missed a couple of Sundays! But Linda McKindrick stepped up and the Cookie Table went on. As I was at home, I knew Linda would do a great job and take care of all the cookie eaters.

We can all be replaced; but when one of us can no longer do the job someone is there to help until we are back on our feet again. That is what the Church is about, **we help each other with love.**

I know that Jesus loves me because the Bible Tells Me So! They will still bear fruit in old age. Ps 92:14. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we reap the harvest if we do not give up. Gal 6:9.

I am not ready to give up the Cookie Table yet! I am going to bounce back and serve you with all my heart, as always. ***The Cookie Lady, Marie Miller***

From Clarity to Confusion:

Healthy Age-related Brain Changes vs. MCI and Dementia

March 5, 2025

10 am to 11:30 am

We will be hosting this conference at our church and inviting the community to learn about brain changes. Many people are helping a spouse or loved one going through these transitions, and most people worry at some point about their own clarity. This conference will help.

Dr. Gallagher will highlight the distinctions between common shifts in cognition as we age, and the onset of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and dementia. This discourse aims to empower individuals with knowledge to proactively engage in brain health strategies and seek appropriate medical intervention for early signs of cognitive decline that may indicate a progression towards more severe neurocognitive conditions.

Dr. Gallagher directs Hospice of the Valley's Dementia Program, which has received national and international awards for its innovative approaches to dementia care. She is a psychiatric nurse practitioner with a doctoral degree in nursing. Her commitment to improving dementia care was initially inspired by her own experience as a family caregiver, sharing the journey with her loved one from diagnosis to death.

Participants will:

- **Understand dementia and how it progresses from early to advanced stages.**
- **Learn to develop strategies to make and maintain meaningful connections with people with dementia.**
- **Further value the caregiver role and explore ways to reduce stress**

This conference will help all of us understand memory loss. Please invite your friends and neighbors.

Grand Community Baptist Church presents ...



Date: March 22, 2025,

Time: 10 am to 3 pm

Senior focused event

Younger Women welcome

Lunch provided

**Cost: \$20 per person
Register early!**

SPEAKERS:

Shelia Jones



Simone Lake



MUSIC LEADER:

Rezwana Derbyshire



Session 1- Identity in Christ

Session 2- Rewriting Your Future

Session 3- Spiritual Warfare & Spiritual Disciplines

Session 4- Finishing Well

Mission Committee News

What can \$1200 do in a West African country? A lot.

As the song goes “**Little is much when God is in it**”. Much praising of God and rejoicing has been done for the \$1200 the Mission Committee sent to Angel, one of our missionaries in a west African county, to fund 2 hand dug wells for those that needed access to physical and spiritual water. One well was dug to provide water for a village of 400 people.

“The village elder, a 105-year-old man, whom nearly everyone in the village of 400 were related to him (including 20 who are Christians), was carried to the newly dug well. As he tasted his first drink of water, he cried. He said that he never thought he would ever drink water from his own well. The people of the village just showered the men who provided the well with blessings, as well as asking to pass on their blessings to the people who gave the money. “

A teacher of another faith had gone to the dedication of a well that had been given by our group and he asked how he could get one - how much did it cost? The men we had sent said that we do this because we are Christians and if we can, we will come back and get a well for you. The money was provided, and a well was dug right in front of the mallam's house. He invited our believers to address the school where he was the teacher to tell them about Christianity. Four of them became believers. Because our guys visited and shared in the area while the well was being dug, twenty-three more people became believers.

Jesus was lifted up and praised as 57 people received Him as their Savior from the digging of these 2 wells that provide accessible water to sustain their physical lives. These people understood that Jesus loves each of them by providing the funds through those at our church who give to missions. The funds along with the timing of the end of rainy season and the availability of the people who knew how to dig the wells, helped the people learn about and accept the God who gives eternal life—The Living Water, Jesus. Don't take your water for granted. Especially, don't take your Savior, the Living Water, and His salvation He extended to you for granted. Rejoice and praise this Jesus, who loves you.

\$1200 for 57 salvations (initially) is a great investment in God's Kingdom! Thank you.

*Check out the lobby bulletin board for stories of how God is impacting lives through GCBC!
Look what God is doing when we join Him in His work!*



18350 N. Goldwater Ridge Dr.
Surprise, AZ 85374

Pastor Chip Short, Senior Pastor
Dr. Gary Harr, Associate Pastor

Phone: 623-975-6262

E-mail: office@grandbaptist.com

Website: www.grandbaptist.com



Magnify God, Proclaim the Gospel, Care for the Community!

The Church office is open Mon. – Thur. from 8:00am to 1:00pm
Please call if you have any questions or concerns 623-975-6262.

Come Worship with Us

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Services

Bible Study at 9:00 AM ... Ministry Center
Worship at 10:00 AM ... Worship Center
Evening Worship at 4:00 PM ... Worship Center

Wednesdays

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting at 4:00 PM ... Worship Center