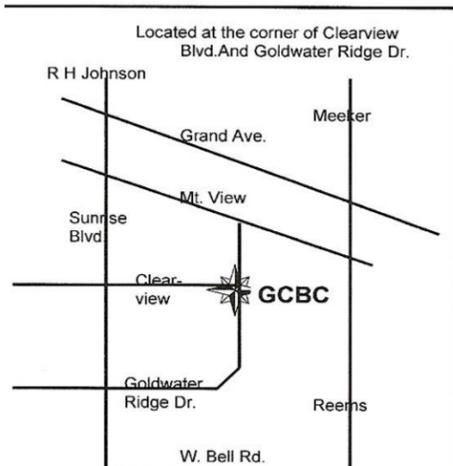




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THE GRAND COMMUNICATOR

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

Joan Miner, Editor

New Year Edition

January – February 2023

From Your Pastor



Are you one of those people who every year make new year's resolutions? I am not.

I make resolutions with myself much more often than that, as I see needs developing. Recently I have been overeating again. So a resolution to get control of my sweet tooth. I notice that the weeds started to grow in the rocks at home, so a resolution to walk the yard and pull the weedlings while they are small.

In case you are wondering, yes, I made up the word weedlings. It means a small sprout of a weed in my rocks. I digress. Back to discussing resolutions.

We all need to maintain the skill of noticing whatever needs to be changed and then following through on the change. When we stop actively supervising our own habits and patterns, we unintentionally start giving control of our life over to culture, circumstances and our enemies, especially the devil. Nobody wants this to happen, and since I am the preacher, I am allowed to be invasive, so allow me to make a number of suggestions on areas to change and recommend specific actions for each./

Spiritual Disciplines: Read your Bible at the same time and place, every day. Pray and maintain a prayer list. Seek the first and greatest skill God has uniquely given you to use in serving Him, then make it your first priority for serving in the church.

Social Health: Watch for patterns of isolation and combat them by attending events at church or in the community. Seek a way to befriend lost people who you can encourage towards Christ. Beware of the possibility of, and honest with yourself about, any crossover between social patterns and sinful failures.

Financial Realities: Rethink your budget and cashflow based on the new highly inflationary economy. Double check your giving to verify you are giving a true tithe, that is ten percent of your income, and additional offerings as the Lord leads. Considering that time is money, evaluate what is wasting time which could be used by the Lord if you redirected yourself.

What other areas would you suggest? What specific actions might you take?

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

Mondays	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study, Ministry Center Classroom
Wednesdays	4:00 pm	Bible Study & Prayer Meeting, Worship Center
Thursdays	9:45 am	Women's Bible Study, Ministry Center classroom



Please Welcome Our New Member!

Linda Yancheck

Joined November 6, 2022

Greetings in the Name of the Lord!



“For I know the thoughts that I think towards you says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). Jeremiah spoke these words to the Hebrews in Jerusalem as the Babylonian army surrounded the city. It was a time when people were losing hope. It is very similar to today. The supply chain is broken. The price of gas is up. The price of food is up. And through it all, our nation has turned her back to God. Pray for a great awakening for our nation. Pray that we will repent as a nation and turn back to God.

There are at least two big events coming up in January and February. The Prophecy Conference will be held January 10-11 with Dr. Paul Benware and Pat Neff. The Liberty Quartet will be with us on Sunday, February 5th in our morning service. We will also continue Pray & Go sometime in January. We have prayed over 3,500 homes in Sun City Grand.

Keep Looking Up Jesus Is Coming Soon. Each day that we live we are one day closer to the second coming of Jesus. Keep on sharing the Good News!

In His Service, Brother Gary

Merry Christmas From Your Deacon Body

We are blessed to have five men joining the Deacon Body for 2023. Our new Deacons are Jay Cameron, William King, Robert Peterson, Larry Templeton and Gary Thornhill. They are joining our current Deacons: Russ Baldwin, Kent Edwards, Hugh Flisyn, Ross Jones, Frank Plahutnik, Ed Smith, Rod Thompson and Dutch Vander Maten.

We are planning our Annual Deacon Church Dinner for January 15th. Sign up sheets will be in the foyer. We are looking forward to gathering together.

The Deacon Body feels blessed to be working with Pastor Chip and Pastor Gary in caring for our church families.

Blessings as we celebrate our Savior's Birth.

In His Service, Hugh Flisyn, Chairman

Grace Notes



The Grace Notes sang for the last service in November. In December they sang for Community Bible Study on December 12th and they sang again on December 15th for the Ladies Christmas Tea.

The New Year includes new members and new music. The Grace Notes meet on Thursday mornings at 9 AM in the choir room. Ladies welcome, sorry fellas!!!!

Virginia King

Bible Studies



Hello ladies! I'm glad so many of you could join us for the Christmas tea! Good fellowship, good music and good eats! Thursday morning Bible Study class will be resuming our study in Proverbs on January 5th. All of you are welcome to join in.

Happy New Year my Brothers! After we complete the present study in Philippians, we are going in a new direction with a study in Christian Beliefs. This is a new study that I hope will bring us a new concept in our belief system. May I say to you that I really appreciate your fellowship in the past and am looking forward to another year of Bible Study with you. Sincerely, Russ Baldwin



Cookie Table



Marie (Cookie Lady) gave a thank you lunch at her home for her cookie table helpers. Pictured left to right: Sue Pettett, Linda Mickelson, Dottie Lingenfelter, Marie Miller, Linda Austin, Mary Buban, Sandra McCauley, Linda MacKendrick and Marty More. Not pictured: Diane Cooper and Lavonne Buetner. All enjoyed a good time of fellowship and a yummy lunch.

From Your Missions Committee

Because of your generosity in gifts to missions through the missions committee, we were able to distribute \$5,900 to the Derbyshires for their new church plant in Baan Pho, Thailand. This will allow a church to be placed in a city where no church has ever existed, and a ministry called Thai Country Trim started, which will allow the poor of that country to have income lifting them out of the threats that poverty brings to women and children. This is a part of the over \$35,000 that will be distributed to missions throughout 2022 by the missions committee, because of your generosity.

Remember if you wish to give money to the missions committee to distribute to mission causes locally and globally, you can mark that portion under 'Missions' on the front of your offering envelope. Please give these additional offerings after giving your tithe to the regular budget needs of the church.

Musically Speaking



By the time you receive this you will likely have forgotten who I am. I am the guy who did the music before my good friend Phil Carr. I just want to thank you one last time for the wonderful opportunity you gave me to serve you these past 3 plus years. You have truly become my 2nd family and I will never forget you. The choir, Virginia, Gay, Marilyn, and the Media Team have been great to work with and all of you have been so supportive. I also received great support from our church staff Pastor Chip, Pastor Gary, Kelli, Joan, and Michael. I will miss our staff meetings.

Thank you for the get together on the 18th. I couldn't believe so many people gave up their nap or football game to come. Thanks to all for the many cards, gifts, and goodies I have received over the past several weeks. I will occasionally make a return appearance. I may need a new wardrobe however, after all those goodies. **Here's signing off for the last time, Russ**

Upcoming Events In 2023

The Lunch Bunch has been eating our way through the Surprise, Sun City West area ... Babbo's, Chili's, Outback, Betty's Roost, Tivoli Gardens – to name a few. Such joy to sit down with our family members and share our journeys!! January will find us dining at Olive Garden on the 3rd Tuesday because of a conflict in the church schedule but February will be back on the 2nd Tuesday at Longhorn Steak House. This group is such a blessing ... so come join us with your smile and heartiest laugh!!!!

Virginia

GriefShare will start Tuesday, January 17th, 2023, at 10am. If you have lost a loved one please join us. If you know someone that has lost a loved one, please invite them to attend. You do not have to attend this church to join Grief Share.

We are planning a monthly 2:00pm Saturday afternoon **Open Table Games Day**. It will start on Saturday, January 21st. The February Game Day will be on the 18th. We will bring some of our games for your consideration, but feel free to bring any game you are particularly fond of. Bring friends or neighbors and let's see what we can get going! (Munchies that don't mess up cards or game pieces will be welcomed)

Check your calendar for more events such as the Men's Breakfast, the Liberty Quartet, the Prophecy Conference and the Dementia Conference.