



You can also download a copy of these announcements from [www.gcfweb.org](http://www.gcfweb.org)

## This Week

### December 2 - 8, 2007

#### Sunday, December 2nd

- 9:00 am – Worship Service  
Mid School Gathering, Youth Building
- 11:00 am – Worship Service  
High School Gathering, Youth Building
- 12:30 pm – Primetimers Christmas Party

#### Monday, December 3rd

- 6:00 pm – Advent Choir

#### Tuesday, December 4th

- 9:30-11:30 am – Moms of Grace

#### Wednesday, December 5th

- 4:30-7:00 pm – Open House for area businesses
- 7-8:30 pm – 3-5 Grade Break Out, Station Room
- 7-8:30 pm – Mid School Wildfire, Youth Building
- 7-8:30 pm – High School First Wednesday Activity

#### Thursday, December 6th

- 6-8:00 pm – Open House for residential neighbors

#### Friday, December 7th

- 6-8:00 pm – Open House for Grace family & friends

## Growing Grace

Envelopes for giving to the Growing Grace Campaign can be found in the office, information center, or the usher table in the back of the auditorium.

Pledges remaining: \$452,000

Total Given: \$1,379,184

Wish List giving: \$24,947

## Financial Update

	FYTD (7/1 – 11/30/07)	November (current)
Budget	\$223,630	\$44,726
Total Income	\$183,554	\$40,212
Total Expenses	\$212,140	\$45,486
Current Benevolent Fund Balance		\$908

## Ministry Opportunities

### "Get Ready for Company" Prayer Team

If you would like to spend some time in prayer for our church, please contact Rob Teigen at 463-1990 or [rjteigen@comcast.net](mailto:rjteigen@comcast.net). The "Get Ready for Company" prayer team meets every Sunday between services (10:15ish) in the Conference Room behind the Information Center and prays for the church, church needs, church body, and the community.

### Gift Giving this Christmas via Angel Tree and Abbie Lane

Update: Last Sunday all the gifts for the children of prisoners and for our neighbors at Abbie Lane were selected!! There are a few more gifts available this Sunday, too.

Remember, this effort helps families demonstrate their love for each other at Christmas in ways they may not be able to through presents. It is also our way of showing God's love in tangible ways with no strings attached...well, except a bow, maybe. Gift Tags are available on the tree next to the Information counter.

## Parking Attendants & Needs

Your help is needed. We are soon going to have greater parking problems than we already do. Two things are needed: 1. donated sets of walkie-talkies. They don't need to be fancy and can have limited range; and 2. volunteers to work once/twice a month as parking lot attendants before each service. Please contact Mel Wofford at 744-3848 if you can help.

## Other Opportunities

### Third Service

We will be kicking off a new service beginning January 6<sup>th</sup>. For this transition, we will also be changing the times for all of our Sunday morning worship services. Our new schedule will have three services, at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00, on Sunday morning. Nursery will be offered at all three services, with K-5<sup>th</sup> grade being offered during the 9:30 and 11:00 services. In addition to these changes, the Grace Institute for Biblical Leadership will also be moving from Wednesday evenings to being offered during the 9:30 service. With all of these changes taking place we ask you to be patient and remember our call to "love people where they're at and help them follow Jesus." Following this goal means that we make changes and take risks, remaining focused on loving God, and loving people.

## Primetimers Christmas Potluck & Exchange

Today, right after the 2nd service, the Primetimers (those over the age of 55) are having their Christmas Potluck & Ornament Exchange. Please bring one gift wrapped ornament per person for exchange and a main dish. Also, if your last name begins with A - J bring a salad to share; if it begins with K - Z, bring a dessert to share. Tableware and drinks will be provided.

## Men's Prayer Time

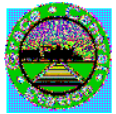
The men of GCF are invited to our monthly prayer time this coming Wednesday, Dec. 5, from 6:30 - 7:30am. We are not meeting in the Youth Building this time, instead we are meeting in the atrium area. Contact Tracy with any questions ([tracy@gcfweb.org](mailto:tracy@gcfweb.org)).

## Grace Institute Moves to Sunday

The Grace Institute for Biblical Leadership is a series of classes intended to provide a survey of biblical, theological, and spiritual life topics. Beginning in January, the Grace Institute will be moving to Sunday morning during the second (of three) services. For the winter term, we will be looking at the book of Genesis. For more information, including the winter term syllabus, visit the Institute web site at [www.gcfweb.org/institute](http://www.gcfweb.org/institute).

## Family Christmas Gingerbread House Night

On Sunday, December 9th from 6:00 — 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium, we are hosting our annual Family Christmas Gingerbread house night. We will have a contest for prizes based on different age categories! It's a time of fun, fellowship, snacks and listening to your favorite Christmas music! Supplies will be provided, but please bring your favorite candy to decorate the houses with. It's a one of a kind family time!



## Grace Central Station

2007 Children's Ministries Upcoming Events:  
12/9 — Family Christmas Gingerbread House Contest

## Women's Opportunities

Our winter Bible Study will be "Discerning the Voice of God" by Priscilla Shirer. Books will be available at the Information Center beginning Sunday, December 9th. The cost is \$12 for a book. Even if you can't purchase your book now, be sure to sign up so that your book will be reserved. We will continue to meet Monday evenings and Thursday mornings. You choose your best time.

## Leadership Development Program

The LDP is a course that is intended to deepen your faith and increase your effectiveness as a husband, father, or ministry leader. You will be prepared to meet today's challenges through a deeper understanding of God and His Word. You will be challenged but not overwhelmed. During this course you will be learning to lead like Jesus, develop a better understanding of the Scripture, and acquire practical ministry skills. We will begin in

January and meet on Monday evenings. The course is limited to 15 people and the cost is \$30 a month. Applications are available in the Information Center.

## Parking Information

Just a reminder for people of how things are going to flow. The parking area right outside the main doors should be reserved for seniors and those with physical limitations. Those who are able need to look toward the overflow areas around the outside buildings. Thanks. — Mel Wofford, Jr

## Check out the Website

Remember to check out the church web site at [www.gcfweb.org](http://www.gcfweb.org). On the website you will be able to find information about Grace ministries, as well as a calendar of events taking place in the church. In the diaBlogs, you will find regular thoughts and opinions from the church staff regarding matters of culture or whatever is on their mind (see "Got an Opinion?"). You can also check the library section of the website to download recordings of sermons and Grace Institute lectures for your own study time.

## Got an Opinion?

This week's blogs:

"It seems that we as Christians want for shopping for gifts and going to parties to be recognized as Christian activities, so much so that we're willing to wage verbal warfare for that cause. However, this year something gives me hope." — Pastor Jon

"So, last time I wrote about how our kids are "watching us" and used the video I found as an entertaining way to describe how this situation might look. You could say I was addressing the issue reactively. Now I want to challenge you Dads to think in a proactive way." — Pastor Tracy

Our pastors (and missionaries when possible) take turns writing on various topics pertaining to our culture, our community, and whatever is on their minds (which is sometimes scary). You can view their blogs on our website at [www.gcfweb.org](http://www.gcfweb.org) and contribute your thoughts as well -- if you want to.

## Happy Days

Birthdays — Today: Karl Laube

December 3: Cherri Rose

December 4: Christian Grossnicklaus, Alexander Pierpoint, Mark Truitt

December 5: Joey Felix, Kylie & Nelson Zaludek

December 6: Tammy Blanton, Eliana Colonia

December 7: Amanda Witham

December 8: Matthew Crandall, Tara Hammer, Zach Kiehle

Anniversaries — Today: Lee & Wendy McCourry (#1)

December 3: James & Glenda Downing (#19)

December 4: Brian & Wendy Lindsey (#14)