

### Looking for Something to do?



What do we do now? In the aftermath of the earthquakes and the tsunami that have devastated Japan, this question is being asked. The story has been front and center of every major newspaper and TV station and rightly so. It is an event that stirs our hearts and minds to prayer for those who are suffering great loss. It reminds us that, although distant as this tragedy might seem, miles do not shelter us from the pain. And maybe on a smaller scale, events eerily as devastating to the body and soul occur daily, but simply get lost in a wave of neglect due to our flooded personal schedules and routine busyness!

For just a moment, look around you! It doesn't matter if you are alone in the comfort of your home, or sitting at the doctor's office, or with coworkers, at church worshipping, or shopping at Wal-Mart. In that moment, ask yourself one question while you are looking around. "What opportunity do I have right now?"...It's really not that difficult a question, but here is where it gets tricky. Unfortunately something can go terribly wrong if we stop there, satisfied that asking and answering is enough, and we are unwilling to act on whatever answer we conclude. As profound a question it might be, we mustn't lack the follow through that could really bring about change. My Dad has always quoted this friend of his while I was growing up.

I'm not really sure where it originated from but I will give credit to Rev. Byron Beck for passing it on to our family. He would say, "Many are stirred, but few changed."... "But Mr. David, aren't you being a little cynical?" I wish I could say "yes", but "honest" is a better fit than "cynical". I see no statues in the city parks of those who took no action. Movies and books are seldom written about the accounts of the "bystanders". It's why we cheer on the underdogs who slay their giants and admire those who take action and move off the paved path in efforts to serve others. We secretly wish we had the "drive" or the "guts" or the "commitment" to follow through after the question.

Matthew 25:34-46 reminds us that we have opportunities

Growing Grace



CONWAY INTERFAITH CLINIC  
3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL  
DR. JACK LOGAN MEMORIAL  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
Saturday, April 16th, 2011 at 8am

Tannenbaum Golf Course, Greers Ferry Lake  
4-Person Scramble/Shot-Gun start at 9am  
\$300 per team entry fee (includes cart, breakfast and lunch)  
Entries limited to the first 36 team registrations received  
Mulligans and Skins game available  
Putting Contest- \$2.00/putt for chance to sink the longest putt

The Conway Interfaith Clinic operates like a doctor's office. They offer examinations, laboratory tests, referral to CRMC for x-rays and tests along with referral to specialists as needed. An APN provides the medical services under the supervision of a local physician. They see patients by appointment only. Their goal is to provide medical care for the working uninsured and dental care for children with ARKids or Medicaid.

For more information contact them at 501-932-0559 or visit them at [conwayinterfaithclinic.org](http://conwayinterfaithclinic.org).

(Continued from Mr. David)

all around us. "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? The king will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did it for Me."

What will it take to be "Stirred" and "Changed"? Where is the "Giant" that needs slaying or the "Path" that needs trodden? What is God calling you to do?. Not for personal glory and self recognition, not for a statue in the park or a book to be written. But that God's name is lifted up and all honor is given Him!

Look around one more time. Do you see the hungry and thirsty? Do you know that stranger who needs inviting, or clothed? Right next to you could be the sick and imprisoned! "Whatever you do for the least of these, you did it for Me!"

Today is a great day to be "changed"!

Mr. David

Changing Lives



United Methodists respond to Japan Quake

### Humanitarian Relief in Japan

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has partnered with the United Church of Christ in Japan and first-responder GlobalMedic to bring immediate relief to communities in Japan affected by the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami that occurred on March 11.

UMCOR is receiving donations to help with the most pressing humanitarian needs in the wake of the crisis, including clean drinking water, food, basic cooking and eating supplies, clothing, and fuel (mainly for heating). In conjunction with GlobalMedic, they have offered Japan's government a rescue team with specialized dog units, the use of an inflatable field hospital; and the distribution of water purification units to the region.

You can help by supporting UMCOR's efforts through our partners in Japan to bring food, water, and other necessities to earthquake and tsunami survivors. Your support will allow UMCOR to provide not only immediate assistance by long-term rehabilitation.

You can make checks to Grace, Memo: Japan Tsunami.



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### Who is Grace Church?

We exist to help you develop into a spiritually mature follower of Jesus Christ. At Grace, you can grow in your understanding of the Christian faith, experience the presence of God through worship and small groups, and become the hands and feet of Jesus as God's chosen people in our community and around the world through you.

### Reaching People

### Growing Faith



"Our mission is to develop spiritually mature disciples of Jesus Christ (around the corner and around the world)."

### Changing Lives



### Music Notes

I love this time of year. Every time I look outside a feel a sense of peace, wonder, and renewal. It's compounded by the fact that we are moving in the church year toward that greatest of blessings, the resurrection of our Lord.



It's constantly on my mind as we prepare for the services this time of year as well. That wonder is always present. If you haven't sung with the choir, I invite you to take part in the service in a different way. It seems that singing amplifies feelings and adds layers of meaning. At least, it always has for me.

On that note, I had an "hmm" moment this week. A friend at church told me she would enjoy singing with the choir but couldn't commit to two services. Since we have several in choir who can't, and don't sing in both service I was taken back. Please, do not let this be a deal breaker for you! We are so grateful to those who can do both, but those who sing for only one service still enrich the group, both with their voice and with their presence.

One more thing, I'm going to be giving an "A B C's for Do Re Mi's" class in May and June. This is basic music reading and understanding. If you're interested, please drop me an email so I can plan materials for you. kim.allison@graceconway.org.

Peace,  
Kim

### The Youth Corner!



**A Challenge from Mr. David:**  
Make this month a time of action! Seek out what God is calling you to do! Follow Christ where He is leading you.

*"Be Doers of the word and not hearers only." - James 1:22*

#### Upcoming Events:

- \* April 2: GracYouth Field Day / Come and join us for a day of fun and fellowship!
- \* April 10: GraceYouth Council Meeting @ 4pm
- \* April 16: Grace Easter Egg Hunt @ 2-4pm/ This is a great way to serve the young children of our community and church!
- \* April 17: Confirmation Sunday @ the 11am Service! A very Special Day!

#### A Special Thanks:

Thanks to all of you who have prayed and worked so hard to help out our confirmands and their families during the last year. Our Youth Families were so committed and I am so proud of our confirmands who asked great questions, listened and learned in class, and who found ways to serve the church.

Michael Stanley has been amazing as he has stepped up to lead our 5th and 6th graders every week in their classes. Each mentor who has taken the time to get to know the youth and their families have impacted the lives of their confirmands and the church as a whole. We pray for these relationships to last a lifetime!

Pastor David and Pastor Greg have spoken with our youth and given such wonderful advice throughout this process, so thanks for all you have done.

And more than anything, we thank you God for your guiding hand on the hearts of everyone involved and for your constant word in our lives.

**Mr. David**



**What Difference Does Jesus Make?** from the *Tough Questions* series will be the focus of a six session series in the **Cheers Sunday School Class beginning April 10**. The series deals frankly with objections commonly raised about Christianity. You'll engage in the kind of spirited dialog that shows the Christian faith can stand up to scrutiny. Weekly questions will be:

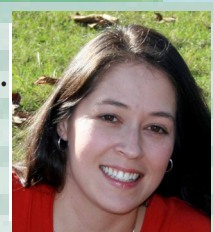
- \* Who Was Jesus?
- \* How Is Jesus Different from Other Religious Leaders?
- \* Did Jesus Really Claim to Be God?
- \* Why Focus on Jesus' Death?
- \* Isn't the Resurrection of Jesus a Myth?
- \* What Difference Does Jesus Make Today?

Everyone is invited to attend. **Cheers meets in Room 113 at 9:45 on Sundays.** For more information, please call Todd or Ashley Outlaw at 501-730-4152 or outlaw.jt@att.net.



**PARENTS NIGHT OUT**  
Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Sign-up in the Children's Wing.  
\$15 for one child  
\$25.00 for two children  
\$35.00 for three children  
**MUST PAY IN ADVANCE** so that we are staffed appropriately.



*Sunday Night Kingdom Kids* will meet on **April 3, 10, 17, May 1 and May 15 at 5:00- 6:00 pm.** We will begin the study "Three Simple Rules for Following Jesus."



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
VBS July 10-14



**Easter Celebration**  
Saturday, April 16 from 2:00-4:00pm  
We need volunteers. Sign up in the children's wing.

#### Children's Choir

The Children's choir will perform on Easter Sunday in all three services. **COME JOIN US** for practice!  
Sundays at 3:30 - 3:55 p.m. Pre-K/ K  
Sundays at 4:00 - 4:50 p.m. 1st-4th Grade



#### KIDS with a MISSION

We are partnering with the youth and taking an offering to purchase an ark for Heifer International. This mission project will continue until we have met our goal of **\$5000**. Currently we have raised **\$3,970.00**. Encourage your children to bring an offering each week to Sunday School!! Thank you to one of our Adult Sunday School Classes for their support.

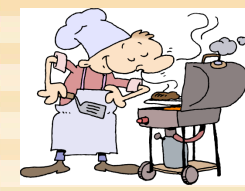
## Baptisms

**Natalie Nicole King,**  
Born on November 19, 2010  
Daughter of Bert & Sandra King  
was baptized on Sunday, March 20, 2011.

*Grace rejoices in welcoming Natalie into the Body of Christ!*



**Discover Grace**  
Are you new to Grace or have you recently joined?  
Join Bro. Greg Comer on **Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:15pm in Room 112** to learn more about who Grace UMC is and opportunities to plug in. To participate, contact Bro. Greg at greg.comer@graceconway.org or 329-6056.



### UMM Annual BBQ Chicken lunch Fundraiser

**Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**11am-1pm**  
**\$5.00**  
(Chicken leg quarter, baked beans, coleslaw, roll)

**Grace Parking Lot**

**The United Methodist Women Genesis Circle will be making cookies, cakes and all sorts of yummy goodies for you to enjoy.**

**So, come ready!!**  
Proceeds to benefit Graduating Seniors Scholarship. If you don't wish to eat, you can donate to United Methodist Men. For more info, contact James Ross at 428-1247. **Tickets will go on sale on April 3rd.**

#### New Giving Opportunity

- We are now able to receive contributions in the office by Debit or Credit Card.
- You can make a one time gift to any budget or mission or set up as a periodic withdraw.
- Call or come by the office during the week and we will get you set up.
- We hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity for supporting the work of Christ at Grace.



**PALM SUNDAY**  
April 17<sup>th</sup>

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
April 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 pm

**GOOD FRIDAY-SERVICE OF TENEBRAE**  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 pm

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
April 24<sup>th</sup>



**GENESIS CIRCLE UMW**  
Thursday, April 28 at 9:30 am at Grace.  
All women are welcome!

**The WORD**  
Upcoming Sermons

**APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>** - *Who's Fault Is It?*  
*John 9:1-41, Bro. Greg Comer*

**APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>** - *ATU Circuit Riders*

**APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>** - *(Palm Sunday)*  
*"Firmed Up" 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:3-13*

**APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>** - *(Easter Sunday)*  
*"The Rest of the Story..."*  
*Matthew 16:1-18*

|                                    |                       |                     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
|                                    |                       | prayers             |
|                                    |                       | presence            |
| <b>Stewardship</b>                 |                       | gifts               |
|                                    |                       | witness             |
| <b>our</b>                         |                       | service             |
|                                    |                       |                     |
| <b>March Giving and Attendance</b> |                       |                     |
| <b>Date</b>                        | <b>Attendance</b>     | <b>Giving</b>       |
| 03/06/11                           | 262                   | \$ 10,678.00        |
| 03/09/11 (Ash Wed)                 | 108                   | \$86.00             |
| 03/13/11                           | 246                   | \$ 8,184.00         |
| 03/20/11                           | 253                   | \$13,472.00         |
| <b>March Avg.</b>                  | <b>254</b>            | <b>\$ 10,778.00</b> |
| <b>YTD Funds Received</b>          | <b>\$ 115, 986.52</b> |                     |
| <b>Budget Needs for 2011</b>       | <b>\$ 575,357.00</b>  |                     |

### Grace United Methodist Church Service Times

Worship Services . . . . . Sunday: 8:30 AM (Traditional), 9:45 (Contemporary), & 11:00 AM (Blended)  
 Sunday School. . . . . 9:45 AM & 11:00 AM  
 Childcare provided.