

#### **CHURCH FAMILY**

James Earl Greene Naamon Culver Ray McAllister Erin Eggler

#### **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Our Nation, State, Community & Schools Adrian Reynolds Darin Roberson \*Sue Roberson's Son Michael Hayes Judy Pemberton \*Lois Seifert's Daughter Christina Lee (& Parents, Courtney & Michael) \*Family Member of Ben & Heidi Lee Sarah \*Christina Dick's Mother Samuel Motley \*Kadie Motley's Grandfather **Bobbie Brewer-Cancer** \*Gary Barnett's Sister Betty Lee- Cancer Danny Stone- Cancer \*CR Beggs Friend Freddy Greene- Cancer \* The Reynolds' Family Friend Amanda Harrison-Cancer \* Terry Kincaid's Assistant Gail Henderson-Cancer Jerry Snow- Cancer \*April Carden's Father Gail Rhodes-Cancer David Hodge- Cancer \*Naamon Culver's Great Nephew Mark Roberts \*Fred Bouchet's Cousin **Connie Jemison** \*Alan Jemison's Mother **Boston Smith** Wyatt Greene Grant McDaniel

# FAMILY & FRIENDS IN ASSISTED LIVING/ HEALTH CARE/REHAB Jo Ann Brasher-Sylacauga Health & Rehab L J White- EJYS Homes for You, Birmingham \*Lynda Chick's Son Joyce Arnold-Columbiana Health and Rehab \*Jo Landers' Classmate Judy Greene- Coosa Valley Medical Center

# HOMEBOUND

Judy Aycock Nadine Jackson Katherine Justice Lois Seifert Pat Barber Sarah Campbell Floyce Sumners Janette Russell Carolyn Hassett Terri Wills

#### **MISSION SERVICE**

Evan & Rachel Clinkscales-Mexico Bill Morrison-State Missions Sharise Riether- Republic of the Congo \*ecmafrica.org/project/beautiful-blessings Chris and Leah Moore-Redeemer Church in Dubai \*Friends of Mark & Beverly Smith Pastor Joe Lutaaya Fathers in the Field

#### **MILITARY**

John DeWeese-Navy \* Mary Lee Reynolds' Grandson Logan Dodson-Army \*Ray & Evelyn McAllister's Grandson Korey Barber & Alex Kincaid-Air Force \*Terry Kincaid's Sons Michael Johnson-Army \*Gail Williamson's Grandson

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

VBS Kickoff Meeting- March 30th 4PM

#### **RECORD FOR SUNDAY**

March 23, 2025	
Sunday School Enrollment	80
Sunday School Attendance	35
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$5,903.85
Budget Offering	\$2,953.59
Annie Armstrong	\$710
Kids Camp/Bake Sale	\$1,237.00
Year to Date	
Budget Requirement to date	\$70,846.20
Budget Offering to date	\$65,406.94
Donations to General Fund	\$25,000.00



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Help us reach our church goal of \$2,500 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.
- How Can We Pray for You? Check out our Prayer Wall located by the Sanctuary doors. The Prayer Team will pray over your requests each week whether they are anonymous, spoken, or unspoken.
- Men's & Women's Bible Study-Sundays 5PM
- Children's Drama- Sundays 5PM- Children and Youth- meet in the Sunday School classrooms until warmer weather. Unlimited Classroom open for younger children. New play is Heavenly Express planned for April 6th - speaking and non-speaking parts.
- The preschool committee is also compiling an Amazon Wish List to update the classrooms. Any donation, great or small, would be appreciated!
- Check out our Little Library for Adult and Children's Books!-Located by the Parking Lot in front of the Fellowship Hall
- Unlimited Ministry- We invite families with special needs to worship and grow with us. Please let us know ahead of time how we can meet your needs.

# **FROM THE PASTOR**

# WHAT DOES GRACE ACTUALLY MEAN?

Last week I wrote about the two identities we live with: **sinner, and child of grace**. The identity we assign ourselves is critically important, because it impacts everything we think, say, and do.

Let's unpack what it means to live out of our identity as a child of grace, when the rubber hits the road of our street-level Christianity.

Grace enters our life in three powerful forms:

### 1. The Grace of Forgiveness

It's inconceivable to think that all our sins of the past, present, and future have been completely covered by the blood of Jesus. We don't have to work to excuse what we've done or make our conscience feel better by blaming someone else. No, we can stand before God just as we are, without fear, because in Jesus Christ we're fully accepted!

The grace of forgiveness not only gives us confidence and assurance; it mobilizes us for ministry. When we've experienced God's forgiveness, we want others to know the joy, rest and hope we have.

Finally, the grace of forgiveness makes us want to obey. In our gratitude for the One who has forgiven us, we desire to think, do and say things that are pleasing to him (see Luke 7:36-47).

## 2. The Grace of Enablement

Because of forgiveness, we can live without fear of God's judgement. But a new fear should grip us: **the fear that we don't have what it takes to live as we should.** 

Sin not only leave us guilty; it leaves us unable. It cripples our ability to be what we're supposed to be and do what we're supposed to do. Along with daily forgiveness, we also need daily power.

In grace, God gives us the only thing that can truly help: **himself**. The Spirit of God unzips us and gets inside us, enabling us to desire, think, do and say the things that fit within the boundaries of his plan and purpose for our lives (see Galatians 2:20 and Ephesians 3:20).

God will never assign us a task without first giving us the grace to accomplish it. He animates and strengthens us with his presence, so that we can say "no" to sin and "yes" to the call of his kingdom.

## 3. The Grace of Deliverance

One day, sin will die and we'll live forever, permanently liberated from the tyranny of sin. It'll be the only funeral we joyfully accept the invitation for!

Until then, our dissatisfied Redeemer Father won't rest until every microbe of sin has been eradicated from every cell in our heart. Moment by moment, he wars on our behalf to deliver us from the sin that still remains.

To summarize, grace means that we're never alone in our struggle with sin. God doesn't grow discouraged, tired or weary. He never leaves us alone to deal with the temptations and realities of life in a fallen world.

Our gracious Father is resolute in his determination for us to experience the complete spoils of the victory he gained over sin and death through his crucifixion and resurrection.

Now that's a reason to get up every day!

#### By Grace Robbie