



GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

January 2026

Grace Community Church is a Holy Spirit led movement for all people to discover and demonstrate a growing relationship in Jesus Christ.

Service Every Sunday 11 am | Prayer Time 10:30 am

Fellowship meal immediately after service

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Send Me

That's what happens when someone commits to something new. What happens? They change. January is like a beacon for doing new things. We will most likely all think about what could make next year better than the previous one. We could make a commitment to eating no more sugar. Going to get fit with a workout plan we saw on Facebook. Aim to be kinder to others. Those are all good goals. And if they work, not only you, but others will see improvements. I wonder how many make a commitment to the Lord so that he will see our improvement.

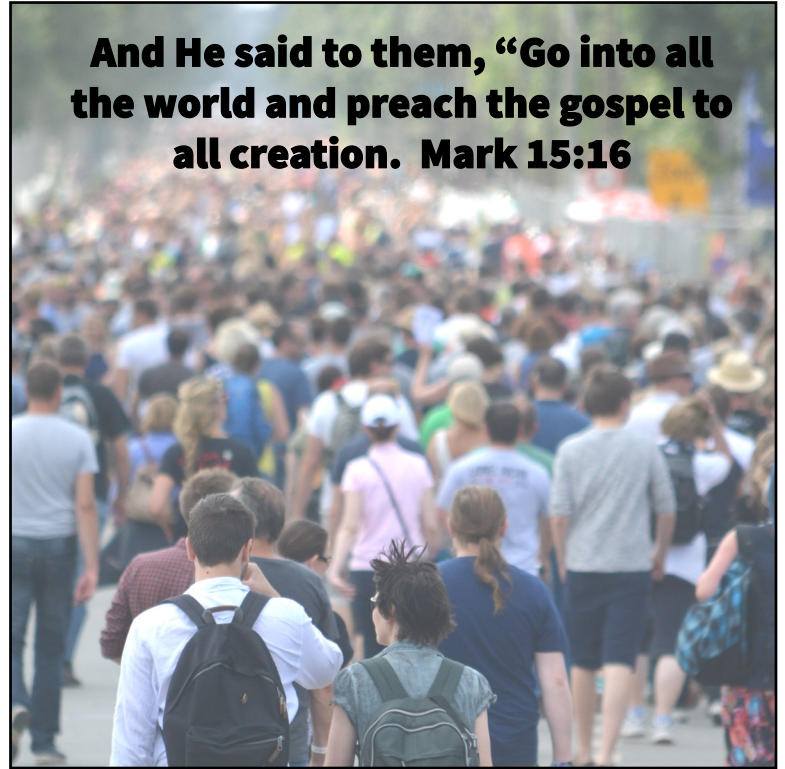
This brings me to the subject of what will improve our relationship with the Father. Well, we could pray more, have a better church attendance, sing a little louder, give a little more in the offering. We might even move our seats to another part of the room to get to know people *on the other side*. The gathering might become a priority.

Those are worthy goals, and all of us would benefit from more attention to them. But what if there was something more we could do to improve our representation of Christ in our life? 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 says, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." Did you see that? God *gave us* something to do. Every person that God calls "son" or "daughter" is given a task. Now that task may look different amongst us.

God has given everyone a talent that can be used for the glory of his kingdom. The more God is glorified, the more light will illuminate to draw people to Jesus. (That is the reconciliation that Paul is talking about.) Each of us has a role to play. Paul gave the analogy of the body – eyes, ears, hands, feet, etc. The idea is that we all fit together perfectly when we function in relation to our orchestrated calling. But there is the crux. Too many Christians today are nonfunctional. They refuse to do their part. In other words, they make excuses.

Have you ever seen that preacher that has no arms or legs? Someone must carry him to the stage, affix a microphone to him, and then stand near in case he starts to tip. That guy makes no excuses. He has a voice...and he uses that voice to glorify the name of the Father through Christ. Should he wait until his situation improves...if that is even possible? Should you wait? Do you have it worse than a guy with no arms and legs?

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Mark 15:16"



Look, I am not trying to give you a guilt trip. Rather, I am inviting you to something that is far greater in impact than the negative things in life. You were made for more than to be a victim, sick and stressed out. You were made to be a son and daughter of the Most High God. And, you and I have the great privilege of doing a God-given ministry.

For me, I have always felt the most at one with God when I take my eyes off myself and fix them on Jesus. It is in those times that even without realizing it, my hands and feet begin to move in sync with what the Spirit wants. You see, it is not about effort. It is about humility. Pride tells me to think of myself, my circumstances first. Humility tells me to embrace the newness God wants to do through me. I pray, "Lord, help me to be humble so that I may serve you." After that, I just have one more thing to do – show up and say, "Here I am Lord, send me!"

Pastor Robert

This is What Truth and Training Look Like

Kids' seemingly endless pursuit of likes, followers and extracurricular glory gets a lot of attention in the media. And it's a hot topic in child discipleship, too. How do we help kids look beyond what the world tells them to be and instead become who God *calls* them to be?

All that heaviness subsides a bit when we hear stories like this one from the Awana Truth & Training™ (T&T) club at Arbor Christian Fellowship (ACF).

Each week at T&T, kids in third through sixth grade memorize and recite Bible verses to their Awana leaders. They learn invaluable lessons about God's Word.

But as rich as the rewards of learning Scripture may be, every kid needs a little motivation. Enter: Awana Dollars. For every Awana Dollar the kids earned by learning Scrip-



ture, the congregation matched it through their giving.

The kids could have spent the Dollars on fun rewards. Instead, they went "shopping" in the Compassion International Christmas Catalog to give life-changing gifts like Bibles, seeds to help with food sustainability,

water filtration systems, and food for moms and babies an ocean away.

Awana leaders at ACF say, "These kids have not only blessed others on Earth; they've stored up treasures in heaven. Their selflessness is a testament to the power of child discipleship, not just in their own lives but in the lives of those around the world."

That's what the mission of Awana is about – shaping kids who know, love and serve Jesus Christ. The ripple effect is inevitable and immeasurable. The more children become like Him, the more they carry His love to those around them. We're grateful to our church partners, organizations like Compassion International and you for being on mission with us so every child, everywhere knows the hope of Jesus.

JANUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Men's Bible Study 10 am	3
4  COMMUNION	5	6 Worship Team Practice 4pm; Men's/Ladies Bible Study 7pm	7 Youth Bible Study 7am	8	9 Men's Bible Study 10 am	10
11	12	13 Worship Team Practice 4pm; Men's/Ladies Bible Study 7pm	14 Youth Bible Study 7am	15	16 Men's Bible Study 10 am	17
18  Monthly Birthday Celebration!	19	20 Worship Team Practice 4pm; Men's/Ladies Bible Study 7pm	21 Youth Bible Study 7am	22	23 Men's Bible Study 10 am	24
25	26	27 Worship Team Practice 4pm; Men's/Ladies Bible Study 7pm	28 Youth Bible Study 7am	29	30 Men's Bible Study 10 am	31

COMING SOON



Awana's Kicks off at Grace January 11 at 5pm! If you would like to volunteer or register your child, go online to connect2gcc.org or see Yvette Perrin. Feel free to speak with Betty Shook, Grace Director of Awana or Pastor Robert.



Pastor Robert & Yvette Host **Super Bowl LX 2026**
Sun Feb 8 at GCC.
Kick off 6:30pm!
Night of fun, food, fellowship & worship



Last Sunday of the month after service

GCC Birthdays This Month

Tom Carmen

Foster Children Ministry

1/1/15	10 year old	Male
3/6/23	2 year old	Female
5/20/09	16 year old	Female
6/5/08	7 year old	Male (sponsored)
8/23/24	1 year old	Male (sponsored)
9/18/14	11 year old	Male
11/13/18	7 year old	Male
12/7/19	6 year old	Male
12/10/15	10 year old	Male

If you would like to sponsor a child see Patricia Johnson

Charlotte County Senior Needs

Grace is supporting local DSS by donating the following items: Depends sizes Medium/Large, Boost, Ensure. See Yvette for more information.

Hospitality

Our fellowship meal is an extension of our service where we gather together to share the love of Jesus. The meal is served buffet style with guests and seniors going first. **VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.** If you would like to help out by bringing food, setting up or cleaning up, please see Diana Matthews

Join Our Family

If you are interested in becoming a part of the Grace family, see Pastor Robert.

Supplemental Bag Ministry

Each month GCC prepares and distributes bags filled with paper products, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items to members of our community. Help is needed to pack and deliver bags as well as donation of items. For more information, see Patricia Johnson.

GCC Online

Want to watch our sermons online? Go to www.connect2gcc.org. scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the watch or sermons link. This will take you to our YouTube channel, where you will find one years worth of sermons. Or if you prefer, go to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/connect2gcc to watch live every Sunday morning or whenever you like!



January Fellowship Menu

January 4: Pasta
January 11: Burgers & Dogs
January 18: Meatloaf
January 25: Soup & Sandwich

