

# Grace Hills Baptist Church Newsletter – May 2024

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## PASTOR'S NOTE

What do I have to give? That is one of the questions from this past Sunday's sermon I have encouraged our members to ask and answer. As we prepare for a summer of ministry, that is the question that we are asking of all ourselves. We are making plans to celebrate our 20th anniversary. As a part of that anniversary, we are reaching out to our community. It begins with our block party kickoff on July 7 which is also the kickoff for our Vacation Bible School. VBS begins on July 8 and concludes on July 10. We need volunteers on all fronts. Our 20th anniversary planning team is coordinating worship services, fellowship gatherings, and ministry sharing opportunities. Pray for their work.

During the summer, we are taking a break from our Wednesday night gatherings so as to reach out to our community during that time. The question of what do I have to give applies here too. We have time and table to give to our neighbors. We have the opportunity to hear their story and to also share ours. Expanding connections provides the key to our future, and it starts with opening our homes to those around us.

I am looking forward to the opportunities that I have in the coming days and weeks. We continue our practice of monthly birthday clubs on the 4th Sundays of the month. We also have the privilege of hosting the Early Learning Center graduation on May 10. It provides an opportunity to celebrate our children and connect again with their families. Pray for those who join us. Pray for each other as we share what God has given us.

Grace and peace,  
Michael

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## DEACONS PREPARE FOR ELECTION OF NEW DEACONS

The GHBC Deacons have been hard at work planning for the next deacon election in August, as we have four deacon positions that need to be filled. Please prayerfully consider serving Grace Hills as a deacon. If you nominate someone for deacon in June, be sure to ask that person if he/she is willing to serve as deacon before nominating them. There will be a called business meeting on May 5th to review the upcoming deacon election process.

The Deacons are exploring ideas for summer outreach projects. Our first project will be a reception for the ELC graduates on May 10th.

To date in April, the deacons have assisted seven families with \$683.00. Our Benevolence Account is getting low and could use a boost, if anyone would like to contribute.

Your Deacon Co-Chairs,  
Nancy Williams & Lara Peterson

*Deacons for May: Lara Peterson (434) 942-1998 and Mike McCormick (434) 352-2767*

## MUSIC NOTES & SPRING DAYS

Thank you to each of you who participated in the Commonwealth Chorale Concert Saturday afternoon. It was extraordinary to have them at Grace Hills. We appreciate the "village" that set up, took down, attended, decorated, prepared food, and celebrated both the music and the singers. It was an astounding afternoon.

May worship will feature two new faces at the piano. Susie Thomas will take some well-deserved rest, and Margaret Davis will play for us on Mother's Day, May 12. Lucas Hunter will fill in on May 19, Pentecost. I appreciate the willingness of these pianists to help us in worship. They are each familiar to you, but have not played in worship in some time. Welcome, Lucas and Margaret!



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## SUNDAY SCHOOL

CEO Class begins a video unit (also Bible study and discussion) on the book of Esther.



Sanctuary Class has a study of the book of Daniel and of the life of Peter in their new quarter of lessons.

Seats are available in all classrooms!



## GRACE HILLS IS TURNING 20! LETS CELEBRATE!

The year was 2004 and a small group of believers decided to meet together at the American Legion Hall for worship. From that small group, Grace Hills Baptist Church was formed. Now we are preparing to celebrate together our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The church council has asked some members to assist in the planning of events this summer. We will begin with a kickoff for VBS and the anniversary with a Block Party on July 7. Our BIG DAY of celebration will be August 4 with worship and lunch to follow. Then on August 18, we will have Summer Song music program. And we will conclude *continued...*

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our celebration in September with our church picnic. Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to be a part of our big celebration. You will be hearing more about these events and more soon! If you have thoughts, please share with one of these committee members.

Your 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee:

Rev. Michael, Carolyn Mayberry, Linda Jo Mays, Mike McCormick, Dennis Torrence, Ashley Walker, Nancy Williams, and Ray Wingfield

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## GRACE HILLS YOUTH NEWS

May 4th is Relay for Life at Courtland Field! The Puzzle Tournament raised \$550 for the American Cancer Society. The GHBC team has raised a total of \$1,980. Thank you for supporting our team!

We will have Youth Group on May 5th from 4:30 to 6:30. Feel free to bring a friend!

Will will not have Youth Group on May 12th. Happy Mother's Day!

The Appomattox County High School Baccalaureate Service is May 19th at the ACHS Auditorium. We will not have youth group May 19th or May 26. Happy Memorial Day!

### **You're Invited!**

The Peterson and Harrison families would like to invite our church family to a joint graduation party for Gray Peterson and Camden Harrison on Saturday, May 11th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Grace Hills Family Life Center. Please RSVP to Lara Peterson (942-1998) or Josh Harrison (664-7510) by May 5th.

### **Attention Graduates!**

We will be recognizing the 2024 high school and college graduates in the May 19th worship service. Please contact Lara Peterson if you have a graduate to honor by May 12th.

### **Vacation Bible School**

VBS will be July 8th - 10th from 9 a.m. to noon. Our theme is SCUBA - diving into friendship with God! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lara Peterson. A link for registration will be forthcoming!



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children in action & mission friends

The Children in Action/Mission Friends and Young Adult Bible study for May will be on May 5. We will have lunch after worship and the children will visit Babcock Manor to deliver cards and sing. The parents will have their usual study time together. Please mark your calendar since this is a change in time and first Sunday.



Happenings at the Good  
Neighbor Center

May 2024

*Let us love one another.* 1 John 4:7

Good Neighbor continues to be a strong presence in our church and community. We thank all of you for your prayers and support of this mission in numerous ways.

GN has been at work in the following ways:

- Paid a \$200 bill for a senior individual to avoid power disconnect
- Provided baby supplies for a needy grandmother taking in children
- Teamed with the Sayers to provide a used truck for a couple with no resources and no transportation due to the husband's heart surgery and dialysis. (This was an extenuating situation in which we were able to help along with a generous donation from the Sayers.)
- Provided love gifts to three individuals in the community with significant health/ medical issues
- Gave additional financial support along with Benevolence for two individuals with significant electric bill situations
- Delivered food to one family seeking help
- Visited several individuals in nursing homes or at home with gifts of cheer through the GN Sunshine mission

Other planning in process:

- July 21- Good Neighbor Sunday at Grace Hills
- Senior Fair 2024 or Health Fair 2024

We thank Grace Hills for the budget support for Good Neighbor and the Appomattox Moose for generous donations to our work.

Blessings,  
The Good Neighbor Team

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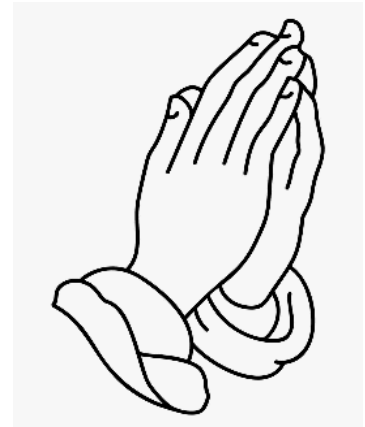
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## REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

*Those with urgent needs:*

*The families of:*

*Congratulations to:*



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## COMMUNITY/PRAYER COMMITTEE

We have rescheduled our trip to the National Center for Healthy Veterans for May 9. We will meet at Grace Hills at 1 pm and carpool to traveling with us, please let the church office or Linda Jo know by May 8. Thank you!



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
HEALTHY VETERANS**  
RETURNING HEALTHY VETERANS TO AMERICA

Altavista. If you are interested in returning healthy veterans to America, please contact the church office or Linda Jo by May 8. Thank you!

Our May ministry collection will be for the Pregnancy Support Center. In prior years we have filled baby bottles. This year **we are collecting baby wipes**. They are having a diaper drive at Walmart in May and this will be in connection with that project. Please leave them in the fellowship hall in the box provided. Thank you!

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## HOSPITALITY NEWS

Our thanks to all who have made the past church events possible providing beverages and food. What a great time of fellowship at all of these meals and and receptions! The pasta meal by Elizabeth Hunter and Company was enjoyed by all and provided funding for her Abigail Girls Project in Peru.

Special thanks to choir members, Kay Lair, Mary Dickerson, and Terry Jamerson for helping with the reception for the Chorale performance. And to Larkin Harris for so graciously arranging flowers for the tables.

How sweet to have so many willing hands to help the Hospitality Committee members who always certainly do their share.

Ellen Jamerson, Chair

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## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Our April Tithes and Offerings to date are \$15,242.00 (with one week left in April at the time of printing). We need \$19,886 each month in order to meet our 2024 Budget requirements. Our Treasurer gives a full report at the Regular Business meeting (May 19). Please email the office (ghbcoffice@yahoo.com) or call (434-352-8847) if you would like a copy of the report.

**We now have Online Giving available on our website, [gracehillsbaptist.com](http://gracehillsbaptist.com), and you can give on your mobile device by texting GHBCGIVE to 73256.**

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## GRACE HILLS EARLY LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Director: Leslie Galloway Bookkeeper: Lisa Dawson  
Phone: (434) 352-2273 Email: [gracehillselc@aol.com](mailto:gracehillselc@aol.com)  
Attendance: Full Time Students: 105 School Age Students: 60

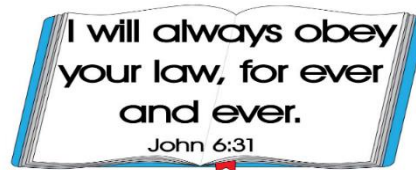
### April Happenings:

#### Monthly Themes:

**Flower Shop** - Summer is just around the corner and flowers are blooming. During this theme, the children pretended to play flower shop. They learned how flowers grow, engaged in simple gardening and discovered garden insects.

**Animals All Around** - The children learned fun facts about animals from all around the world. This theme focused on different habitats, pet care, and animal safety rules.

#### *Christian Lesson:*



#### ELC Dates:

Friday, May 10th Chapel and Muffins with Moms at 10:00 am

Friday, May 10th ELC Graduation at 6:30 pm

Monday, May 27th Closed



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## Grace Hills Baptist Church

[gracehillsbaptist.com](http://gracehillsbaptist.com)

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