



# GVPC Happenings

OCTOBER 2021

## From the Pastor's Desk

As the days shorten and the temperatures cool in the Desert Southwest, I am always eager to celebrate the fall season at GVPC. This month we celebrate World Communion Sunday on October 3. I will also begin our new fall sermon series: "People of Joy: A Study in Philippians." Throughout our fall series, we will examine Paul's many reasons for choosing to live a life of joy – even in the valleys, disappointments, and setbacks of life. I am excited to begin this study of one of my favorite New Testament books with you.

Once again there are so many activities for all of us to enjoy together this October. One favorite is our annual Gingerbread Fair. This year's fair takes place on Saturday, October 9 and will feature crafts, artwork, ceramics, and home-baked goods made and donated by members and friends of our congregation. Each year our Gingerbread Fair Committee raises money to further our mission giving

and support non-budgeted needs throughout the church. It always promises to be a favorite outreach event among our congregation and neighbors. I hope you will join us.

On Sunday, October 17 we will kick off our annual Stewardship campaign as we plan for the 2022 year of ministry. Your generous giving to the work of Christ through the ministries of GVPC has enabled us to thrive as a congregation and to support our mission partners during these uncertain times. Because of your faithfulness, we are able to live out our mission statement to "*Glorify God – Grow in Christ – and Generously Share God's Love and Grace.*"

If you are interested in learning more about our church or if you want to become a GVPC member, plan on attending one of our future New Members Inquiry Classes: Wednesday, October 20 (11:30 am to 2:30 pm ) or Saturday, November 13 (9:00 am to 12:30 pm). I am thrilled to see how our

newest members have already jumped in with their involvement in our church.

On Sunday, October 31 we will be observing Reformation Sunday, another annual favorite. Our worship service will celebrate our rich Protestant traditions and the influence of the Protestant Reformers on the Church today. We hope you will show up early to enjoy the sounds of bagpipes in the courtyard as we begin the day.

Don't forget that during the month of October we are inviting everyone to wear their GVPC nametag. With so many new members in recent years, it is important for all of us to get to know each other better as we celebrate the fellowship and community God has given us.

As always, I am grateful for the gift and privilege of being your pastor and "*I thank my God upon every remembrance of you*" (Phil. 1:3).

Pastor Adrian

## Thursday Events in October

Please mark your calendar for the following events that are coming up on Thursdays in October.

### Ladies' Luncheon

The monthly GVPC Ladies Luncheon will be held on October 7 at 11:30 am at The Willows, Sun City McDonald Ranch, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy, Henderson. To RSVP please contact Linda Rauenbuehler.

### Shopping with Anna Mae and Janeen

We have scheduled another shopping trip to Chico's in the LV Premium Outlet Mall on Thursday, October 14 at 10:00 am. All ladies are invited to join us for this event. Shoppers can meet at the mall located at 7400 Las Vegas Blvd. or meet at the church at 9:30 am to carpool. After shopping, we will go to the Food Court for lunch.

### Bunco

Everyone is welcome to join us for Bunco on Thursday, October 21 from 10:00 am-noon in the Fellowship Hall. You don't need to know how to play. We will teach you. Please join us for laughs and a good time as you connect with others.

For further information or to RSVP on any these events, please contact Linda Rauenbuehler at (702) 558-7829 or [lrauenbuehler@cox.net](mailto:lrauenbuehler@cox.net).

## Backpack Offering Thank You!



The outpouring of support and generosity of our entire GVPC congregation, along with the dedicated work of faithful

volunteers, made it possible to meet our goal of providing **312 backpacks** filled with necessary school supplies for children in need at 14 of our local area schools, as well as various supplies to the teachers! We wish to sincerely thank all of you who financially contributed and gave of your time in helping assemble and deliver the backpacks in making this such a successful and touching Backpack Offering: bringing hope and the tools to succeed in school for so many elementary, middle, and high school students in these challenging times.

GVPC is truly the “I” in KIND as noted in a thank you letter received from one of our partnership schools. The

Missions Committee would like to share a sampling of other letters received:

*“We cannot thank you enough for the blessing your church has been to our school over the years. Thank you for your continued support. Please know that you are directly and continually making a difference for our families.”*

*“There is such a need in our community, and we are so grateful for the heartfelt donation. Thank you so much!”*

*“We cannot thank you enough for your generous donation of backpacks filled with supplies for our needy families! We appreciate you!”*

We would like to recognize the “A++ Backpack Team” of Cynthia Dakus, Katherine Rowley, Cheryl Wagner, Lora Wichmann, and Melinda Araujo who helped coordinate the backpack drive and shopped local and on-line back-to-school specials that enabled us to capitalize in streamlining the purchase of many types of

school supplies at great prices. Kurt Ricketts was such a tremendous help in tracking and storing supply shipments to the church. We would also like to thank Pastor Adrian and Carol Johnson for sharing information of this meaningful community outreach mission in the weekly church bulletins and services during the summer months. We thank the children who helped fill backpacks as part of the Blessing of the Backpacks children’s sermon. A grateful thank you to all of you who helped assemble the backpacks and to those who delivered the backpacks to the schools: Kay Benge, Pat Benke, Bug Bond, Cindy Brum, Dan Davis, Vic Dunn, Nancy Fontana, Alice Hoesler, Joy Lein, Bill and JoEllen Lewis, and Dorc Morss.

God bless you all for being such a generous and loving neighbor in Christ’s service,

The Missions Committee  
Susan Walker, Elder

## Gingerbread Fair



### GINGERBREAD FAIR

Saturday, October 9

Fellowship Hall 9:00 am - 2:00 pm



It's finally going to happen again!

Visit our **pantry** for homemade goodies of all types cookies, brownies, fudge, breads, and cakes.

**Handmade gifts**, decorations and practical items will be everywhere for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and kitchen items for everyday use. This is a great opportunity for some early Christmas shopping for gifts for all your family and friends.

**Don't forget our raffle!** Tickets can be purchased in the Narthex before and after the services and on the day of the fair. One ticket for \$1.00 or 6 tickets for \$5.00. Take a chance on one or all items offered. The drawings will be held at the end of the fair. You do not need to be present to win.

Homemade crafts and bakery items are welcomed and gladly accepted from the congregation. Please bring your craft items to Fellowship Hall on Thursday, October 7 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; bakery items may be brought to Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 8 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Mark your calendars and join the fun!



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## Grieve-Mourn-Live

GVPC will offer a continuation of the *Grieve-Mourn-Live* grief support program beginning on Sunday, October 10 at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room. There will be five sessions of *Grieve-Mourn-Live*, followed by GriefShare's "Surviving the Holidays" on Sunday, November 14.

The session topics are:

- October 10 - Is This Normal?
- October 17 - How to Ask for Help.
- October 24 - Lessons of Grief – Part 1.
- October 31 - Lessons of Grief – Part 2.
- November 7 - What Do I Do Now?
- November 14 - Surviving the Holidays.

The program will be led by Mia Rochelle Rios and Dave Cornell. Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP with the church office (702) 454-8484.

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## Women's Fellowship Event

The Women of Nevada Presbytery are invited to a one-day conference featuring nationally known author and conference speaker, Liz Curtis Higgs on Saturday, October 16 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm at Mountain View Presbyterian Church in Summerlin.

Liz is the author of 37 books, with

4.6 million copies in print. Her messages are biblical, encouraging, down-to-earth, and profoundly funny, helping seekers embrace the truth of God's amazing, unchanging grace. In her recent devotional, *31 Verses to Write on Your Heart*, Liz explores 31 favorite verses chosen by more than a thousand women.

Tickets must be **pre-purchased** through the Mountain View Pres. website: [www.mviewpc.org](http://www.mviewpc.org). The cost per ticket is \$50 including lunch or \$30 not-including lunch. For more information e-mail Bernadette O'Neill at [bmburke99@yahoo.com](mailto:bmburke99@yahoo.com).

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## Children's Ministry Programs

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

GVPC offers a one-room Sunday School class for elementary age students during the 10:30 am worship service, featuring the Simply Loved curriculum (Group.com). Children attend the worship service and are dismissed after the Children's Sermon and go to Sunday School.

Registration forms are available in the Christian Education Building and on the

church website under the Ministries/Children tab.

For more information, call the church office (702) 454-8484 or email [children@greenvalleypres.com](mailto:children@greenvalleypres.com).

### NURSERY CARE

Care for infants through age 5 is offered at the 10:30 am worship service. The nursery has been updated with new

décor, equipment, and toys; thanks to the Gingerbread Fair Committee for funding this special project!

### WEEKLY CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS

These coordinate with the Pastor's sermon. They are posted on the church website and are also available in the Narthex.

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## Women's Bible Study

Please join us for Women's Bible Study on Monday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm October 11 through November 29. We will be watching and discussing the series "The Chosen."

"The Chosen," tells of the most amazing story ever told: the life of Jesus. What was it like to encounter Jesus face-to-face? How would he have made you feel?

Would he have changed your way of thinking about God? Would he have turned your world upside down?

Journey to Galilee in the first century and see the difference he made in the lives of those he called to follow him and how they were forever transformed. Experience the life and power of the Son of God as never seen before

through the eyes of everyday people just like you.

Please contact Regina Golenkov at [reginagolenkov@gmail.com](mailto:reginagolenkov@gmail.com) or (702) 497-9697 with questions.

## Monthly Money Matters

The Financial Statement for August 2021 shows that the total income exceeds total expense for a net positive cash flow of \$148,817 for the year. Total expense for the year is \$71,328 lower than the budget. We are very grateful that the congregation continues to generously give to the operating fund. We can't thank you enough.

On October 17 we will kick off the 2022 Stewardship Campaign. Many of you may have questions regarding stewardship. The following Frequently Asked Questions may answer your queries.

### Why should I pledge?

The spiritual practice of generosity begins with a promise, a promise to share. It is a promise to ourselves and to God. In the church we record our promises by signing pledge cards. A pledge card isn't a contract, of course. It can be adjusted if need be.

### How much should I pledge?

More important than the amount is that we promise a portion of what God has shared with us. Generosity isn't measured by the amount but rather by the proportion of the giver's abundance. The important thing is that you make a promise to God by completing a pledge card.

### What happens if, due to unexpected circumstances, I am unable to fulfil my pledge?

This can happen to anyone, especially during these unsettled times. Do not worry. We have been blessed that while you may not fulfil your pledge next year, there are others who often give more than their pledge. We will never contact an individual that falls behind in their pledge.

### Does Pastor Adrian know what I pledge?

Not only does Pastor Adrian not know

what you pledge, he does not know what you give. Your pledge and amount of giving is confidential and only a select few know the amounts.

### I give on a regular basis through the GVPC website. Do I still need to complete a pledge card?

Yes; your pledge helps the Session plan the church's budget for the coming year. The website and pledge card databases are two separate systems. If you have made the commitment to give regularly through the website or an automated bill pay system, why not make that additional promise by completing a pledge card with that amount?

Dave Tyrrell, Co-Chair  
Administration Committee

Financial Statement --August 2021					
Current Income & Expense				Building Fund Income & Expense	
		Year- to-Date			
		Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	
Offerings		\$544,793	\$492,391	Building Fund Offerings	\$15,400
Cell Tower Utilities		\$7,302	\$6,866	Building Fund Transfers	\$5,000
Other Income		\$170	\$0	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$20,400</b>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$552,265</b>	<b>\$499,257</b>	Expenses	
Total Expense		\$403,448	\$474,776	Building Fund	\$7,429
<b>Net Income/(Loss)</b>		<b>\$148,817</b>	<b>\$24,481</b>	Total Expense	\$7,429
				<b>Income Over/(Under) Expense</b>	<b>\$12,971</b>
Temporary Restricted Funds		<u>August</u>	<u>2021</u>	<b>BF Checking Account Balance</b>	<b>\$55,986</b>
Beginning Balance		\$90,971	\$78,450		
Restricted Income		\$9,397	\$91,274	<b>Custodial Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$319,691</b>
Restricted Expense		\$12,338	\$81,694	<b>Mission Develop Certificates</b>	<b>\$80,005</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$88,030</b>	<b>\$88,030</b>	<b>Total Synod Investments</b>	<b>\$399,696</b>
<b>Checking Account Balances</b>					
	<b>Operating Fund</b>		<b>\$351,608</b>		
	<b>Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$88,030</b>		