

# February 2022



Dear friends,

*My wise professor of pastoral counseling, the late Dr. William Oglesby, used to say, “with every gain there is loss and with every loss there is gain.” Perhaps more than ever, at this juncture in life those words resonate with me. As we peer into what promises to be our future (if the Lord wills), Diane and I see loss as well as gain. This past year and the pastoral overlap period have been helping me prepare for the loss and gain that the future holds. My hope is that it has been helpful for you as a church family as well. We will each experience some gain and loss in the process. I hope we can all see how both loss and gain can result in blessing. I truly believe they can.*

*Think about the mother and father experiencing the birth of their first child. There is in that event a sense of loss. There is a certain loss of freedom to come and go as they please. Spur of the moment getaways become major events that require thought and planning. There is a loss of the rhythms and patterns of life that have become familiar, not to mention the loss of sleep.*

*These losses are quite real. But they come as a direct result of tremendous gain. Every parent knows the great gain that manifests itself in the joy and wonder of holding a little one. Parents recognize the gain that is evident in the depth of their ability to love deeply when at first there is actually no discernable love in return. The gains that are experienced in parenthood would not be possible without the necessary losses that come as well.*

*There is a loss in sending our kids off to college but there is gain in seeing them flourish and become young adults with their own hopes and dreams.*

*I hope that in the transitions we are experiencing, necessary losses will blossom into beautiful opportunities for tremendous gain.*

*Perhaps you will experience some loss in what has been familiar for a long time. But you will gain fresh insights and fresh ideas and new voices to speak God’s Word into your life that I know will reach into the deep places of your heart.*

*Even with the losses that Diane and I will experience being away from Triangle Grace, we are confident that God has some great gains in store for us as we are able to spend more time with our children and grandchildren and as we remain open to new avenues of ministry.*

*For a while I have been experiencing what I will call a variety of “lasts.” As an example, just over a month ago I had a role in leading this congregation through the Advent and Christmas seasons for the “last” time. As Easter approaches it occurs to me that I was not even aware last year that it would be my “last” lent and Easter as the pastor of Triangle Grace. At the end of the year 2021, I led my “last” staff meeting. In December I also led the session meeting for the “last” time. Just recently I moderated the annual congregational meeting for the “last” time. These “lasts” may seem, at first glance, as places of loss, but I see them as stepping stones for the church that lead to great gain. The gain of new leadership for the church is a good thing and I encourage you to embrace it and support it. Kris and Molly have joined a great staff that you have known and loved for many years and already they are making wonderful contributions. I am looking forward to seeing how God continues to bless Triangle Grace Church and the new leadership team that is now in place with many “gains” in its future.*

*As I write my “last” newsletter article and as Diane and I take our leave, we would both say what an absolute privilege it has been for us to be your pastoral family for over 34 years. You have loved our family well. There are simply no words to express the depth of gratitude that we feel in our hearts for how you have cared for us and supported us through these years. God gave us a tremendous gift when He called us to serve this marvelous church. I pray that in some way we perhaps have touched your lives with God’s grace as well.*

Together with you on this journey of faith,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ray', is placed below the text 'Together with you on this journey of faith,'.

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## JOIN AN ADULT EDUCATION IN-PERSON/ZOOM CLASS AT 9:45 AM!

Check your weekly emails with the link to each of these classes

### **Fellowshipping Disciples: Parables**

*Facilitator: Jeannie Phelps      Location: Meeting via Zoom only*

The class will be studying many of the parables. Parables can help us understand some of Jesus' most important teachings. They demand crucial responses from us, just as they did from those who first heard them. They call us to examine our world view and our values. Parables illustrate important truths about Christ's Kingdom.

### **Equipping Disciples: Whisper by Mark Batterson (A RightNow Media Study)**

*Facilitator: Aaron Messer      Location: Family Life Center*

Many people have a tough time believing that God still speaks. We've learned from Scripture that God spoke to His people in ancient times and in mysterious ways, but how do we hear His voice now? The truth is God still communicates with His people, but He often speaks in a whisper—not to make it difficult to hear Him, but to draw us close.

### **Establishing Disciples :**

*Facilitator: Joe Bustamante      Location: Room 206*

Are you a young adult in your 20's or early 30's looking to find community with other people your age and explore Scripture together? All young adults are welcome, whether you're still in school or working, married or single, or whatever stage of life you're at. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Joe Bustamante ([josephmbustamante@gmail.com](mailto:josephmbustamante@gmail.com)).

### **Hybrid Wednesday Bible Study with Molly Williamson**

**Wednesday Nights In person (Fellowship Hall) & via Zoom at 6:00PM**

### **I Samuel**

Email the church office if you need the link.

## Wednesday Club is starting February 2

**It's not too late** to register for our Wednesday Clubs program, which begins Wednesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:15 in person. We meet on the big playground for an outdoor snack and brief playtime. We then move into the Family Life Center for a physically distanced music time with Ms. Erika as we prepare our musical program.

Other activities include games and bible study and drama practice for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Thanks to our Wednesday Clubs staff for their dedication and flexibility in making our Club program a gift of time and love to kids, their families and each of us who participate. Our bible theme is "God's Faithfulness to His Promises". We will present our musical on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Call, text or email Nancy with questions at 919-630-1851 or [nancy@trianglegrace.org](mailto:nancy@trianglegrace.org).

### Honoring the season of Lent



Lent is a time for remembering what Jesus did to give us salvation, and to prepare our hearts to rejoice at EASTER when we celebrate His triumphant victory over death! The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and culminates on EASTER Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. The Children's team has planned a series of special activities for kids on specific Sundays during the Lenten season, as well as study topics for Children's Worship and Sunday clubs, aligning with the events of Holy Week, the last week of Jesus' earthly life. Look for information on the Seder meal for kids, coming April 3<sup>rd</sup>!

### Communication opportunities:

**Want to receive periodic family ministry updates from Children's team?** Please make sure you are on Nancy's mailing list so you can receive the most up to the minute plans. Please register with Nancy by texting 919-630-1851 or emailing at [nancy@trianglegrace.org](mailto:nancy@trianglegrace.org).



## Ongoing Sunday morning opportunities:

**Nursery care:** We are so happy to be able to offer nursery care for infants through 3 years, with bible stories at both early and late services in the toddler nursery. Our nursery is staffed each week by one of our capable and dedicated paid caregivers and one of our faithful volunteers. To volunteer to help with our youngest church family members, please contact Nancy at [nancy@trianglegrace.org](mailto:nancy@trianglegrace.org) or text or call her at 919-630-1851.

**Children's Worship is available** for ages 4-9 during worship, following the Children's message. We include our children in the first part of communal worship and offer an age appropriate children's bible study during the sermon portion of sanctuary worship.

**Sunday Morning Clubs:** During the Adult Discipleship Hour, from 9:45-10:45 Children's Ministries offers small group bible study for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders in room 100. The small group study for 4 years-2<sup>nd</sup> graders meets in room 107. Each room allows enough space for kids to distance around a table. Groups are led by teams of experienced and loving teachers.

### Children's Ministries Opportunities to put on your calendar for 2022!

**Wednesday Clubs Spring Session** begins Wednesday, February 2, 5:15-7:15 pm for 12 weeks

**Exploring Science Experiences for families and kids:** Saturday, February 19, from 9:30-11:30 am

**Lenten Season Seder Meal:** Sunday, April 3, for Children's Worship and Sunday Clubs

**Walk Through Resurrection Stations:** Sunday, April 10, during Children's Worship and Sunday Clubs

**Easter Sunday:** April 17 with 6:45 am Sunrise Service

**Wednesday Clubs Musical:** Sunday, April 24 at 6:00 PM

**Vacation Bible School 2022:** Monday, June 20 – Wednesday, June 22, 5:30-7:30 pm

*Want to volunteer or get more specifics? Contact Nancy at [nancy@trianglegrace.org](mailto:nancy@trianglegrace.org).*

# Youth Ministry

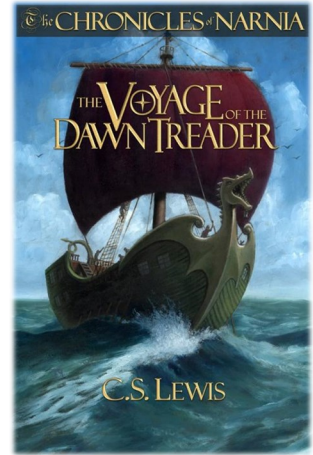
## “The Voyage of Truth”

### WINTER 2021 Calendar

#### Varsity & MLY

#### February

- 2 6:30-7:30 Varsity Bible Study
- 6 1:30 – 3:00 Confirmation Class, 3:30 – 5:00 MLY,  
5:30 – 7:00 Varsity
- 9 6:30-7:30 Varsity Bible Study (Prep for Youth Sunday)
- 12 9-11:00AM Varsity Youth Sunday Rehearsal Sanctuary  
(9:00-10:00 AM for MLY)
- 13 7:15AM YOUTH SUNDAY (Sanctuary), 3:30 – 5:00 MLY,  
NO Varsity
- 16 6:30 – 7:30 Varsity Bible Study
- 20 1:30 – 3:00 Confirmation Class, 3:30 – 5:00 MLY,  
5:30 – 7:00 Varsity
- 23 6:30 – 7:30 Varsity Bible Study
- 27 1:30 – 3:00 Confirmation Class, 3:30 – 5:00 MLY,  
5:30 – 7:00 Varsity



Contact Pastor Jeff for more info  
on youth activities.

[jeff@trianglegrace.org](mailto:jeff@trianglegrace.org)

#### Regathering Note

We meet in-person for youth. Both MLY & Varsity Sunday School meets together in-person in the Varsity room at 9:45 AM and will offer a hybrid option as needed each week. Please let us know if you require a zoom link.

# Outreach

## Iglesia Food Pantry

We continue to collect monetary donations as well as food for our sister church in north Durham. They recently service almost 600 people. Earmark your checks Food Pantry or give online on our website.



Meals on Wheels Durham needs volunteers to help deliver meals in the southwest part of Durham. Choose how often you want to volunteer. The food is picked up from Holy Infant Catholic Church anytime between 9:00 & 11:30AM and It normally takes about an hour to finish your route. They deliver meals Monday-Friday. Even if you can only do one day a month, that would help. To volunteer, visit [www.mowdurham.org](http://www.mowdurham.org). If you have any questions, please contact Dick Valenti at [awirv1@gmail.com](mailto:awirv1@gmail.com).

## Announcements



Our service times are now at 8:30 and 11:00 AM on Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary. Our Discipleship hour begins at 9:45 AM. If you are ready to come back to in person worship but prefer less people, at this point the early service may be your best option. We will also have Sunday Worship every Sunday at 11:00 AM on [Facebook Live](#). You can also access our service on the [LIVE STREAM page](#) on our website each Sunday as well as to access all previous sermons on our [Sermons page](#) at any time. Remember to refresh our website if you are on before 10:50 AM. Feel free to share our Livestream link with those you'd like to invite through email. Don't forget to "like" and "share" our livestream experience as we seek to share the good news of the Gospel with a world that needs to experience God's grace. Perhaps you have a Facebook friend who might benefit from joining us on Sunday. We look forward to worshipping with you!



This group is currently meeting monthly via ZOOM. We discuss and share ways to meet the needs of our older loved ones with special focus on how to care for others while providing understanding, support, and fellowship with each other. Anyone is welcome to participate. If you are interested in being on our TGC Care Giver distribution list, contact Sue Verrillo at [Sue.Verrillo@icloud.com](mailto:Sue.Verrillo@icloud.com).

**Next meeting is February 13 at 2:00 PM**



## You're invited!

**JOY Group Luncheon**  
celebrating Ray & Diane's ministry at TGC

Thursday | February 10 | 11:30 AM  
Triangle Grace Church Fellowship Hall

RSVP to Beth Murphy  
[bethmurphy228@gmail.com](mailto:bethmurphy228@gmail.com) by 2/8/22

**The JOY group** ( Just Older Youth ) will meet in person for a very special luncheon on **Thursday, February 10** at 11:30 AM in the **Fellowship Hall**. Come and enjoy great fellowship with Ray and Diane! A box lunch will be provided from Honey Baked Ham for \$9/person. Please RSVP by February 8 to Beth Murphy at [bethmurphy228@gmail.com](mailto:bethmurphy228@gmail.com).

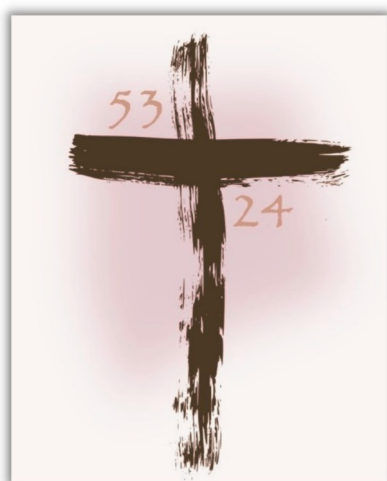




## Don't miss this!

You are invited to join in celebrating Ray and Diane Cobb's 34+ years of ministry at Triangle Grace Church. We hope you will attend our celebration! In addition to taking part in this event, there are other ways you can honor Ray and Diane. Please see your email for details.

Ray will preach his last sermon as our Senior Pastor on Sunday, February 27. Plan to be here for this very special day at TGC!



## LENTEN DISCIPLESHIP INITIATIVE

*A Study of Isaiah 53 and the last 24 hours of Jesus' life*

It is hard to make sense of suffering and hardship. Yet we read of these realities as one of the central experiences of Jesus. Both the Old and New Testaments speak of Christ as one who "was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." (*Isaiah 53:3*) He overcame, so that we might overcome.

Join us for our Lenten Discipleship Initiative (LDI) as we consider the sufferings of Jesus during his last 24 hours leading up to the cross from Luke 22 and 23. LDI small groups will meet every Sunday morning in the Family Life Center from 9:45-10:45 am, March 5 - April 10. [Click here](#) to find out more information about the Lenten Discipleship Initiative.

# Finance



## December Budget Report

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$84,998	\$110,679	\$278,498	\$113,029	+\$165,469

### Year to Date

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$1,019,980	\$1,328,150	\$1,174,488	\$1,123,838	+\$50,650

# Birthdays

2 Brandon Mauney	16 Won-Kyoo Lee	27 Ella McAndrew
4 Juli Spring	17 Kenneth Cato	Ray Rutledge
Mihsong Lee	Ray Cobb	Mary Tanne
5 Jodie Mayton	Nicolle Mercer	28 Beth Murphy
6 Nancy Holton	Bill Scott	Sam Robbins
7 Retha Newbold	Scott Shadoan	
9 MJ Rogers	18 Serena Palmer	
10 Ethan Barber	19 Catherine Hartwell	
Kim Richter	Cannon Odell	
11 Teresa Meriwether	24 Leah McAndrew	
Scott Riley	Kay Walker	
12 Nicol Anderson	25 Rosiland Jerkovich	
Mironda Robinson	JP Dilweg	
Wally Guertin	26 Alice Decker	
14 Chloe Simmons		



# Anniversaries

26 Randy & Catherine Hartwell



## Thank you

Dear TGC,

Thank you for participating in the Birthday for Jesus program of the Gideons International. Your gifts of \$1025.00 will allow us to place 201 Bibles or about 800 New Testaments somewhere in the world this year. As we share God's word and the love of Christ in 200 countries, you are right there with us. May God continue to bless you all.

In Christ, Mike Bunch *(Gideons International representative)*



# February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Discipleship Hour 11:00 AM Worship/Facebook Live 1:30 PM Confirmation 3:30 PM MLY 5:30 PM Varsity	<b>31</b> EGO National Gathering	<b>1</b> 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Congregational Care/100 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 6:00 PM DivorceCare/DC4K	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Communion</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Discipleship Hour 11:00 AM Worship/Facebook Live 1:30 PM Confirmation 3:30 PM MLY 5:30 PM Varsity	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM Session	<b>9</b> 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 11:30 AM JOY Group Lunch 6:00 PM DivorceCare/DC4K	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 9:00 AM Youth Sunday Rehearsal
<b>13</b> <b>Youth Sunday</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Discipleship Hour 11:00 AM Worship/Facebook Live 1:30 PM Confirmation 2:00 PM Caregiver Support Zoom 3:30 PM MLY 5:30 PM Varsity	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30 PM Deacons	<b>16</b> 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 6:00 PM DivorceCare/DC4K	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Discipleship Hour 11:00 AM Worship/Facebook Live 1:30 PM Confirmation 3:30 PM MLY 5:30 PM Varsity	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7:00 PM Session	<b>23</b> 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 6:00 PM DivorceCare/DC4K	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Discipleship Hour 11:00 AM Worship/Facebook Live 1:30 PM Confirmation 3:30 PM MLY 5:30 PM Varsity	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Ash Wednesday 5:15 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Praise Rehearsal 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> 6:00 PM DivorceCare/DC4K	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>