

WORDS OF GRACE

VOLUME 1: NO 5

• FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS! •

March 31, 2023

Community Chapel

By: Selena Shaw

3/23/23, a special date for a special chapel. As usual, Mr. Bowman opened up the chapel with a prayer. Our middle school got the honor of singing for us. They sang *I'm so Blessed* and *Honey in the Rock*. At first middle school was a little quiet and nervous to sing. But while singing *Honey in the Rock* they began to get a little more comfortable. One of the middle schoolers really stood out to me. Jordan Evans, a 6th grader. She was the only one who had her eyes closed and arms in the air. It made me really happy to see that. It was something that really showed me how beautiful the Lord is, and how brightly He can shine through us. During a certain part of the song there was a rap scene, and 2 of the boys in the front row got out of line and began to dance.



The whole audience laughed, until

they got back into line. As I looked around the sanctuary I noticed a lot. That is always my favorite part of chapel, looking around to see all the little things. I noticed Coach Qualls singing along with all the students and teachers around him. I saw children in front and behind me dancing to the music. I get goosebumps every time.

Daniel Howell prayed at the end of the song and began playing *Spirit Come Move Over Us*, in the middle of the song, it says, "Fire and wind, come and do it again. Open up the gates and let heaven on in." After a quick prayer the middle schoolers exit the stage as Mr. Bowman enters. He greets the audience and we give another round of applause for the students. After that Jon Laing enters the stage with enthusiastic greetings. He introduced himself then asked for all of our names. After the audience yelled out their names he says, "I know all of your names by heart now!"-getting a laugh out of the audience. He then thanked the GCA staff for all they do. Even calling Mr. Bowman the best principal he has ever met.

He began getting into his speech,

starting with one of his biggest fears. Killer whales. He spoke of a time he went to Sea World saying it was the most terrifying place on earth. Then about the 1993 classic, *Free Willy*, describing that as the scariest movie in the world. He spoke of the



main character, Jesse. "He made bad choices, got put into foster care, went through a few families, people didn't get him so he became besties with a killer whale." He exaggerated the story a bit and spoke of the plot saying how he was terrified when Willy made the big jump over Jesse. "Let me just say, when life gives you lemons, don't go jump on the back of a killer whale!" After speaking about the movie for a bit longer everything got very serious with one word. "Fear."

“We all have very different fears. With our fears we fail to see the common enemy we all have.” 2 Chronicles 20:1-2. That is where we started. “Jehoshaphat.” To sum up the story, it was revealed to him that 3 armies were all coming for him. And instead of being filled with worry, he turned to the Lord and asked for help. “Now Jehoshaphat had a choice.” He chose to go to God even though people would talk. They would say things like “What are you doing praying to a God you cannot see?”

Jon replied with, “But little do they know it’s things like this that strengthen us...Everything pales in comparison with our God...We will put fear in its place because we are just so overwhelmed with our God.”

He then told us a scenario, if he was sitting right next to us and handed us a piece of paper saying *I am living in God and with God*, would we be able to sign our names on the sheet of paper. If not, what is blocking you from that?

“Your prayers are powerful”. Imagine if over the next month, all of us, all the families associated with Grace, could sign that paper. Can you imagine the light that would shine through that? That would spread through that?... I never dream small dreams, that’s ridiculous. Dream big. Our God is big... I want to see miracles just burst out of this place!” Finishing up his time, he begins a prayer. “Father, I thank you. I know God, that a family prays with and for

each other, and I pray that will take place here. I pray that revival starts today. Thank you for the opportunity to just speak here, Lord. For the middle schoolers worshiping. May we never take that for granted. Thank you for staying in my heart. Amen.”

Mr. Bowman comes back onto the stage and tells us, everyday is a new day. Take his challenge right now and answer that question everyday. When we do that, God takes over. The impact isn't in this building. It's in this community. Let's go chase after God. I appreciate you. Have a great day.

High School/Middle School Worship

By: Rayden Thompson and Holden Wilson

Mapping your life. On Friday, March 24, GCA’s Middle and High school had a second combined time of worship. They played four songs: *Build a Boat* by: Colton Dixon, *Rattle*: by Elevation Worship, *Firm Foundation* by: Elevation Worship, and *Way Maker* by: Leeland. A lot of kids were singing the songs and worshiping. In the middle of worship when Mr. Howell changed songs, he called up a couple kids to the front to sing with the music. After the praise and worship was over, Dr. Turner gave a lesson about life mapping that she learned at the ReFuel Conference that she recently attended in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. It had different analogies like mountains (obstacles you are facing), woods (areas of temptation), fields (times of refreshing), rivers (things that can drown you), switchbacks (places where you have to turn around), and backpacks (things to take with you in your daily walk). After that the kids split up into small groups and went and talked about these and what we wrote. We talked about how we can apply this to our lives and how our friends can too. We ended the session with prayer.

Good News

By: Makenzy Ward

- Seventh grader Samuel Ramsey entered a writing competition that was hosted by The Burlington Writers Competition. He won honorable mention. Congratulations, Samuel!
- 5th grader Georgia Anne Canup competed in a Jiu Jitsu competition on February 25th. She won 2 matches! She did very well in her matches, especially since she hasn't competed since the lockdown in 2020! Good Job and congratulations to Georgia Anne!
- 5th grader Isaiah Bradley placed 3rd in a four wheeler race.
- 5th grader, Analise Demauro competed in her first dance competition on March 18th. The competition was called On Stage New York, and it was held at the Durham Convention Center. She dances for a studio called To The Pointe.

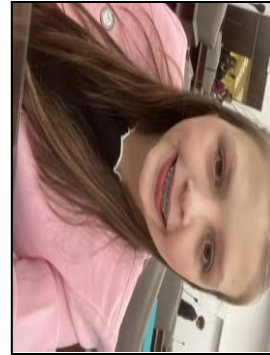


Student Spotlight

By: Holden Boone

Debate time!! Brianna Bowden is a 9th grade student here at GCA. She attended the Youth Legislative Assembly on March 17th -19th. They practiced passing a bill and they also passed laws in the House and the Senate. The bills and the laws they practiced passing were laws that were getting passed anyway. Brianna said that this is really fun if you love arguing. This prestigious event is only for grades 9th through 12th. You have to submit a form with all your information and it is like a lottery. Students who are accepted to the program receive an email informing them of acceptance. The cost to participate in the program is \$400. Brianna heard

about the Youth Legislative Assembly through the House of Representatives and Steve Ross. Congratulations, Brianna for being selected to participate in this once in a lifetime event.



Pre-School News

By: Emma Lugo



These past few weeks, preschool has had some very exciting events. They have been practicing recently for the next chapel. They have been singing on the stage in the sanctuary. They also have some baby chicks that have been hatching. So far, four

eggs have hatched. One is still in the incubator drying out. Many of the eggs are moving around and are expected to hatch soon. Mrs. Holmes, a preschool teacher, will be taking the chicks home. Preschool has more exciting events coming up soon!



Elementary School News

By: Selena Shaw



Exquisite elementary. Recently some of the kindergarten classes have started going out in the hallways before the day officially starts, and singing to a playlist the teachers made of worship songs. It has become a part of their morning routine. Jumping up to second grade, they will soon have little chicks! They've been raising their own little chicks. The eggs take about 21 days to hatch. There are 16 students in Mrs. Smith's second grade class. All the students got to take turns watching over the temperature of the incubator. On the 26th I got the opportunity to go see some of the eggs myself. At the time none of the eggs had hatched yet. But Mrs. Smith reassured



us that they should start hatching the 27th or 28th. What a wonderful scientific experiment to do with your second grade class. In the end only 4 of the eggs hatched, and will be taken home by some of the teachers. Third grade had a book tasting with hot chocolate and donuts. Students were exposed to different genres of books and picked a book for their next book report. They had so much fun! They got to look through books that maybe they wouldn't ordinarily choose to read.



Middle School News

By: Jackson Brannock and Holden Wilson



What's that sound? Middle School has been doing some great things over the course of the past two weeks. They have been learning about sound. They made homemade duck calls with Mr. G, the science teacher. It was surprisingly noisy. The purpose of the assignment was to define sound and how it moves. The two characteristics were volume and pitch. Then the kids identified ten natural sounds of a turkey and explained it. The kids made the call, used it, and observed the results. Middle school students have also been rehearsing for the Easter Chapel service. It is going to be amazing! All kinds of great things are happening all in GCA's middle school!

High School News

By: Rayden Thompson

Cupcake Wars! The kids had a great time making cupcakes. I interviewed Makenzy Ward who was in the Krabby Patty Group, but it was “it was very the Cupcake they were in. they needed supplies and to fit the waiting for,



The winning group. I asked if it was hard and she said “It wasn't hard still a little challenging to make everything come to life. She also said, fun to decorate the cupcakes and hang out with friends”. Here's how Wars went down. First they picked numbers to decide which group In their groups they decided themes and jotted down the materials to decorate the cupcakes and the scenes. Wednesday they got their started making the backdrops. Thursday they decorated the cupcakes themes and got everything ready. Friday was the day everyone was especially the judges. The groups put on the finalling touches and let the judges do their thing. *The Krabby Patties* came in first with *Out of the Blue* in second close behind. In third still very close was *Sesame Street* group. Congratulations to everyone who won.

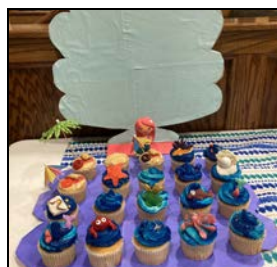
Tech Presentations. The two technology classes made presentations about the email they have been learning about. They all got on a website called Powtoon.com and started creating. They picked out a theme and started editing it to fit the guidelines. When they finished on Monday they presented and everyone did amazing. They were funny but also very informational. Great job to everyone who made a presentation.



The wonderful Math Beats. The boys and girls in Mrs. Durham's 8th grade math class were given an assignment to make a song about exponent rules. Each song had to include each rule and how it operated. For example, the boys in the class used *Ice Ice Baby* by Vanilla Ice to rap the rules. The girls sang to *Party Rock* by LM, both of these songs were great and the boys ended up winning. Congratulations to the boys and girls for creating the amazing songs that rang throughout the sanctuary.



More Photos from Cupcake Wars



Update GCA Movie Night

By: Holden Boone



The best movie ever!!! Update on the GCA movie night. It is happening on Friday, April 28th at the Lamb's Chapel Airport Campus. This event will be hosted in the back parking lot facing the playground.. In the case of rain, it will be moved to the gym. The tickets will be \$5.00 per person. The tickets include; popcorn, soda, candy and 1 person admission ticket. We will have fresh popcorn when you arrive! The movie will be Despicable Me 3. Holden Boone will start selling tickets right after school in the car line at 2:25pm on March 28th for this amazing movie!

Upcoming Events At Grace!

By: Makenzy Ward

New fun and exciting things that are coming up in the next few months!

- April 6th (Thursday) Community Chapel/Dismissal at 11:30 am (Students may go home after chapel).
- April 7th-16th Easter Break!!
- April 22nd, (Saturday) Middle/High School Dance! Make sure you dress sharp!
- April 28th, (Friday) GCA Movie Night at Airport Campus
- May 6th, (Saturday) Mother's Day 5K! We, GCA, are looking for one official sponsor. Contact Mr.Bowman for more information.
- May 9th - May 11th Standardized (Iowa) Testing
- May 18th, (Thursday) Feed the Hunger Field Trip
- May 19th, (Friday) Field Day Preschool-4th grade and Early Dismissal
- May 19th, (Friday) 5th-9th grade to Bowling Alley and Early Dismissal.

April 2023

School Lunch Price - \$1.00 Retain this lunch calendar for your records. Teacher's take lunch accounts each morning. If your student is not eating school lunch please make sure they have one from home. All students should bring their water bottle each day.

Grace Christian Academy

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
03 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	04 Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit	05 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	06 Early Release Day No Lunch or After School Care Easter/Spring Break Begins!	07 Easter/Spring Break No School for Students/Staff
10 Easter/Spring Break No School for Students/Staff	11 Easter/Spring Break No School for Students/Staff	12 Easter/Spring Break No School for Students/Staff	13 Early Release Day No Lunch or After School Care	14 Easter/Spring Break Begins No School for Students/Staff
17 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	18 Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit	19 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	20 Grilled Cheese Sandwichs Vegetable Fruit	21 Hot Dog Vegetable Fruit
24 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	25 Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit	26 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	27 Grilled Cheese Sandwichs Vegetable Fruit	28 Pizza Vegetable Fruit

GCA Skate Night

By: Holden Boone

Let's get skating!! GCA's skate night on Monday, March 27th was a blast! There were a lot of people there. We had tons of families come out, over 200 people. It was a great time to spend with family and just to hang out and relax with friends. We raised over \$500 for the new playground.. Thank you to the PTT for organizing another fun and successful event!



March Habit of Grace



Habits of Grace/Courage

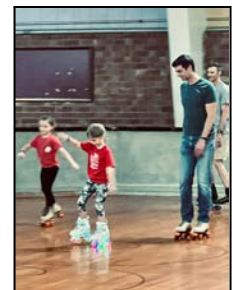
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| Academy | Christian | Chronicles |
| Corinthians | Courage | Daniel |
| David | Ephesians | Esther |
| Gca | Grace | Habits |
| Jesus | Joshua | Lion |
| Love | March | Moses |

Joshua 1:9

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go".

More Photos from Roll-A-Bout Night



GCA Pledges

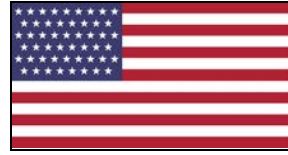
By: Holden Wilson

Every day before class, every student recites the three pledges that they have memorized while here at GCA. We say these three pledges to help us remember what this school is about.

Pledge of Allegiance- I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Christian Pledge- I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands; one Savior, crucified, risen and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.

Bible Pledge- I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path and I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.



Drivers Education

By: Gabby Jenkins

We've got wheels! On Thursday, March 23rd, Mr. Britt came to talk to the *Words of Grace* newspaper staff about the Drivers Ed program. He stated that we got Drivers Ed in fall. He is certified to instruct Drivers Ed. Mr. Bowman, Mrs. Bowden, and Mrs. Moore are currently attending a class to become instructors. To participate in the Drivers Ed class, a student must be 14 ½ years old. We asked him where the Drivers Ed car came from, he said that The Lamb's Chapel provided the car. GCA is in the process of awaiting a state license. Mr. Britt said we should have that by summer. We have a state approved modified car. It has two rear view mirrors and a brake pedal on the passenger side. We are so grateful that we were able to get a Drivers Ed class! A special thank you to The Lamb's Chapel for the car!



Mind Blowing Thoughts

By: Holden Wilson

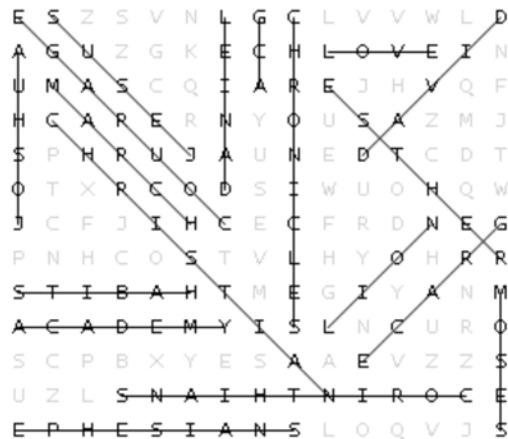
- If you work as security at a Samsung store, does that make you a Guardian of the Galaxy?
 - If life is unfair to everyone, does that mean life is actually fair?
 - How does a sponge hold water when it's full of holes?
 - If you're invisible, and you close your eyes, can you see through your eyelids?
-

Jesus Jokes

By: Gabby Jenkins

- What kind of lights did Noah have on the ark? *Floodlights*
 - Why couldn't the Israelites initially enter the Promised Land? *It wasn't the Pinky Promised Land.*
 - What did pirates call Noah's boat? *"The arrrrrrrk."*
-

Habits of Grace/Courage Answers



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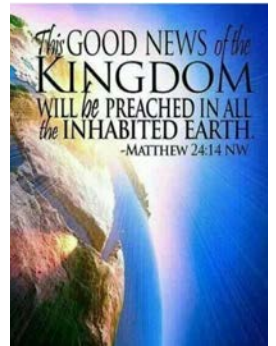


Holden Boone

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Words of Grace is a student newspaper published every other week for the students by the students and is not meant to be a professional publication. Every effort was made to report positive, encouraging and accurate information. If you have a student or story that you would like to see spotlighted, please email information to elaine-austin@gca-nc.com.



If you have a business that would be interested in sponsoring the printing of the Words of Grace Newspaper so the students can have a printed copy to read, please contact Elaine Austin - elaine.austin@gca-nc.com - for details.