

WORDS OF GRACE

VOLUME 1: NO 2

• FOR THE STUDENTS BY THE STUDENTS! •

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Feel The Love This Valentine's

By: Holden Boone



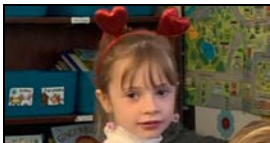
Let's make this the best Valentine's day! According to History.com, Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14th. It originated as a Christian feast day honoring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine. Through later folk traditions, it has become a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world.

Valentine's Day has been observed for 1,528 years. So, show your friends and family some love this Valentines!!! Make sure to buy some chocolates or some flowers to make this Valentine's count. The kids here at GCA love this holiday and love doing crafts. We have to love each other this holiday and every day for that matter because God has loved us like we should each other.

Preschool and Elementary Valentine's Day

By Rayden Thompson, Jackson Brannock and Selena Shaw

Preschool had a great Valentines filled with fun and love. They made goodie bags filled with delicious candy and decorated the hallways with great art work. They were jumping around and laughing with each other and showing their love. One kid I talked to even said "This is my favorite holiday being able to show my love for others. They loved being able to eat so much candy and just hang out and love others.



Elementary had an Exquisite Valentine's Day! While walking around the school with the rest of the newspaper staff, I got the opportunity to go into some of the elementary classrooms. There was artwork on all the walls, all the children were making crafts or learning new subjects. Some children wore beautiful red dresses or shirts, some classes even had a buffet for the kids. Valentine's Day was wonderful for just about everybody. All the children had smiles on their faces all day. It was a beautiful thing to see. Love surrounding everyone, not just love, but the love of God shining through children. God was in the building, hugging all of us throughout the day.



Jaiden Hedrick (3rd grade) made a toilet in the Valentine's box contest. He won funniest box!



Middle School's Hot Take on Valentine's Day!

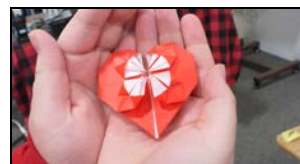
By: Makenzy Ward

What do middle schoolers think about Valentine's Day? I asked a few students to answer some questions. "What is your favorite gift to get for Valentine's Day?" I asked Zeta Everett. "Candy! I prefer candy over flowers." she responds. I asked other students as well, Graysen Thorton said, "TEDDY BEARS!" I think she likes teddy bears, don't you? Mackenzie Cates said, "I don't like Valentine's day. We should love each other everyday. Galentine's day is everyday!" I asked 6th grader Eli Hebert and 5th grader Georgia Ann Cannup, "What does love mean to you?" Eli said, "An action of kindness that shows your love for people and family." Georgia Ann replied, "A way to show appreciation to the people you love." These students have an amazing way with words and telling how they love others. For fun, Boone and I asked, "What is your favorite candy to get for Valentine's Day?" The students responded with Fun Dips and Caramel. The last question we asked the students was, "What is your favorite thing to get from your parents for Valentine's Day?" Georgia had a very selfless response. She said, "Appreciation from my family." Eli said, "Mine is kind of basic but, candy!" Overall these students have very kind and respectful responses. Middle schoolers enjoyed a day of festivities filled with treats from students and teachers and Chick-Fil-A sandwiches. Worship songs were sung and the students in Bible class focused on friendship and God's love for them. They studied 1 Corinthians and 1 John in Bible class and history. It was a joyous Valentine's Day and to top it off - it was Georgia Ann's Birthday!!

High School Valentine's

By: Holden Boone

Make Valentine's special. This Valentine's here at GCA was great. Some teachers did amazing things, like bringing sweets, making cake pops, and bringing doughnuts. One of our high school teachers was teaching a lesson on how to make an origami shaped heart because it involves geometry and love. The high school had a really great Valentine's. Some of the things we did was the boys wore crowns to represent that we are kings of God and that we will be the head of our household one day and we are God's prophet. Dr. Turner bought the boys breakfast with candy goodie bags and some drinks. Mrs. Durham's class got Valentine's ducks from her and it was so cute and precious. Ms. Barefoot's class made origami hearts because it includes geometry and fun! During Mrs. Ross' class we all got really great goodie bags. In Mrs. Austin's class all the kids got fun-dip. When lunch time fell we did not feel like eating at all. By the end of the day we all felt tired because we went through a sugar rush, then we crashed.



Daddy Daughter Dance

By: Selena Shaw

Daddies and daughters danced the night away on February 11th. Grace had their first Daddy Daughter Dance. Me along with two other girls were the only 8th grade girls to attend. Everyone danced and had a wonderful time. There was great food! Some 8th graders in Mrs. Austin's Family Consumer Science class made most of the cakepops that were served. There was also lemonade, cookies, chocolate, etc. There were kids there of all ages, from preschool to 9th grade. It was a great bonding experience for the daughters and their dads.



At some point, Daniel Howell played the song 'Call Me Maybe', for the dads to have what was called a 'Daddy Dance-Off'. All the dads that wanted to participate got into a line on the north side of the gym and danced in 10-15 second intervals. Even Mr. Bowmen participated, he was at the start of the line. Going down the line, it ended with a break-dancing dad, Josh Jarmin. Winning the competition was; the break-dancing dad.



This dance was such a wonderful thing for Grace to do. It brought so many fathers and daughters together, I know it brought me and my dad closer. This was such a wonderful tradition to start, I can not wait for the next one.

Galentine's Day

By: Emma Lugo

High School Girl's Bible celebrated companionship with a memorable party, filled with love, and sugar. Everyone was in awe when they walked into the classroom filled with red and pink hearts and a variety of sweets. On everyone's desk was a rose, candy with other various gifts. Dr. Turner gave all the girls tiara's to show how special we all are. They passed out cookies, cake, and other treats everyone made for the class. After everyone got their food, everyone shared what they loved about the teachers, fellow classmates, and friends. Everyone talked, laughed, and showed each other how much everyone meant to them. You could tell the light of God shone through every girl in the room.



Praise and Worship

By: Selena Shaw

Praise and worship are all you need. Grace had another wonderful chapel. Mr. Bowman opened the chapel, with a short speech. We began worshipping for about 50 minutes, beginning with *'Honey in the Rock'*. The students began clapping along. The last line of the song says, *"How sweet it is, to trust in you Jesus."* Daniel Howell asked the students "What does it mean to trust someone?" Moving around the sanctuary, he got some children's responses.

"It means to trust God." "You believe in Him with all your heart."

He then asked again, "But do you trust Him? Do you believe in your heart, believe in Him? Worship is more than just singing. We began worshipping again, singing *'I'm so Blessed.'* After the song was over, all the students began singing the chorus, clapping to the rhythm. Looking around and at the children, some danced together, others put their arms around each other. The singers' voices fit so beautifully together. I know I wasn't the only one who got goosebumps. Even the 8th and 9th graders sang, which they never do. Most of the teachers got really emotional. Daniel asked the audience what worship is? "Worshipping wherever you're scared." "Believing in Jesus." "Bow down to God." "Taking a moment to thank God for all that He has done." Daniel replied, "Not just taking a *moment*, but praising Him through your whole life. We say thank you all day long. You are blessed today."

We sang *'Better Than You'*. Howell spoke once

again, "No matter how old you are, you've seen His goodness... Sometimes life seems hard sometimes, and when it does He will take what was meant to harm you and turn it to His goodness." We sang *'Goodness of God'* and *'No Longer Slaves'*. Listening to the singers, their voices were so beautiful. Ending with that last song, Howell prayed, then Mr. Bowman came back on the stage. "A high level of worship is what we get to be a part of... Don't take for granted the power that is in this process... The word, worship, and prayer are what this school is built on." He gave us 30 seconds to look back and think, what do we need to surrender? "Help us know that we are not alone in this... Let us be a light, a beacon to this world... We are so fortunate and I thank you for that." That is how he ended the chapel. Afterwards 8th and 9th grade stayed to speak to Mark McKinney, from Christian Adventurers. Kevin Hunter opened with a speech about the mission trips they have been going on for 23 years. It's a week-long camp for children to come and learn to play sports and to learn about Jesus. They lead the trip, but the students lead the sports. All the teachers encouraged students to go, as it would be the most memorable trip of your year.

Mark said, "It doesn't matter what your personality is, God will use you just as you are."

"You need those Christian friendships that are forever lasting, because they are held together by Jesus. This could be the start of something great in your life."



Student Spotlight

By: Holden Boone

Live And Breathe Volleyball. Gracyn Lee and Sarah Doby are great volleyball players here at GCA. They both play for Aces, it is a really experienced team. Their most recent game was in Tennessee and they played really well, the team they played was called Vortex. Sarah is a setter and right side hitter, and Gracyn plays the same position as Sarah. They both do really well at keeping the ball off the ground and making sure they get the points. Reagan Teixeira and Ella Ann Robinson both play for Aces as well.

They played the team Aim. Regan and Ella are both outside hitters. Aces started volleyball six short years ago, they have accomplished so much in these six years. They have 16 coaches. It is amazing seeing how far all these girls have come in their volleyball career. They will go on and do great things with their volleyball skills.



Gracyn Lee, Sarah Doby, Ella Ann Robinson, and Reagan Teixeira playing volleyball.

Upcoming Events At Grace!

By: Makenzy Ward

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

- February 17th, (Friday) Teacher Workday - No School for Students!
- February 24th, (Friday) Last day to purchase a yearbook!
- February 27th, (Monday) Field trip to the movies- 5th-9th grade.
- February 28th, (Tuesday) PTT spirit night at Zack's Hot Dogs (All locations, All day)
- March 10th, (Friday) Mother/ Son Nerf Wars
- March 15th, (Wednesday) PSAT for 8th and 9th grade. Good luck High School!
- April 22nd, (Saturday) Middle/High School Dance! Make sure you dress sharp!
- May 6th, (Saturday) Mother's Day 5K! We, GCA, are looking for one official sponsor. Contact Mr. Bowman for more information.

February 2023				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		01 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	02 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	03 Pizza Vegetable Fruit
06 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	07 Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit	08 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	09 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	10 Hotdog Vegetable Fruit
13 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	14 Cheeseburger Vegetable Fruit	15 Beefy Cheese Melt Vegetable Fruit	16 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	17 Teacher Workday No School for Students
20 President's Day Holiday No school for students/teach	21 Crisp Day Vegetable Fruit	22 Chicken Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	23 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Fruit	24 Pasta Salad Fruit
27 Chicken Nuggets Vegetable Fruit	28			

School Lunch Price - \$3.00. Retain this lunch calendar for your records. Teacher's take lunch counts 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

Habits Of Grace

A F E E H K B W Y Z
 U C U V A I M O T C
 M E G O P S T R I R
 T F G L P S Q S R O
 Y T L A Y O L H G S
 H H E A R T S I E S
 J E S U S U C P T C
 V Y T S E N O H N Q
 F L O W E R S C I Z
 E X C E L L E N C E

- | | | |
|---------|---------|------------|
| COURAGE | CROSS | EXCELLENCE |
| FLOWER | GCA | HAPPY |
| HEARTS | HONESTY | INTEGRITY |
| JESUS | KISS | LOVE |
| LOYALTY | WORSHIP | |

Veteran's Boxes Update

By: Selena Shaw and Emma Lugo

In November of 2022, GCA students packed boxes for the veterans stationed overseas. These boxes were shipped on January 23, and arrived to the Army soldiers on February 4th. Around the same time the boxes were sent, a soldier got the promotion he has been working so hard to achieve. He was promoted to Captain. His name is Sean Bermel, he also happens to be the father of one of the kindergarteners, Amelia Bermel, the uncle of another kindergartener, Ella Bermel, and 9th grader, Selena Shaw. There were about 250 boxes that were shipped out to the troops. All of the boxes got there safely, and the veterans were very happy to receive them.



Soldiers receiving boxes.

GCA Pledges

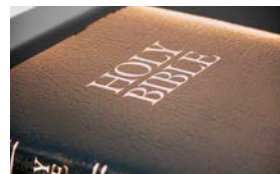
By: Holden Wilson

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.



February Habit of Grace: Integrity

By: Rayden Thompson

The Habits of grace are a thing we do here at Grace Christian Academy. It explains the character traits that we want the kids to show. They are monthly habits that we are challenged to display in our actions. Whether this excellence, responsibility, or friendship, they show how the kids of Grace truly are. The habit of Grace for the month of february is Integrity. Integrity is doing the right thing when no one's watching. Show Integrity this month!



Philippians 4:8, ESV: "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things".

Additional Valentine's Day Photos



Mind Blowing Thoughts

By: Holden Wilson

- If Apple made a car, would it still have windows?
- When we yawn, do deaf people think we're screaming?
- If you're waiting for the waiter, aren't you the waiter?
- How do you throw away a garbage can?
- What happens to the car if you press the brake and the accelerator at the same time? Does it take a screenshot?

Jesus Jokes

By: Gabby Jenkins

- Where did Jesus go to college?
- Why couldn't Jonah trust the ocean?
- Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?

Answers to Jesus Jokes: 1.) Bless U 2.) Because he knew there was something fishy about it 3.) Because Noah was standing on the deck

GCA Hersey's BBQ Fundraiser Update

By: Gabby Jenkins

On Tuesday, January 31st, the PTF hosted a fundraiser at Hershey's BBQ at the locations in Mebane and West Burlington. You probably remember! At the time we did not know the exact amount of money we made, but now we do! We raised \$500 for the school playground!



WORDS OF GRACE STAFF

REPORTER



Gabby Jenkins

REPORTER



Holden Wilson

REPORTER



Emma Lugo

REPORTER



Rayden Thompson

REPORTER



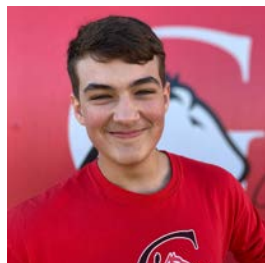
Selena Shaw

**REPORTER/
PHOTOGRAPHER**



Makenzy Ward

REPORTER



Jackson Brannock

**REPORTER/
PHOTOGRAPHER**

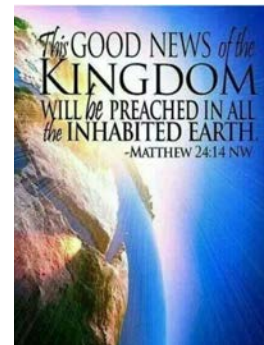


Holden Boone

ADVISER



Elaine Austin



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.