

GCC MOBILIZED COMPASSION MINISTRIES ON AND OFF CAMPUSES

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:35-36, 40

Christ-followers extend the compassion of Christ. At Grace Covenant Church, we have a vision to see every neighborhood transformed by the love of Christ and one of the ways we accomplish that is to reflect the heart of Christ – demonstrating His care and compassion to our neighbors. Compassion Ministries empowers Christ-followers to bring help and hope to vulnerable, at-risk and struggling individuals in our congregation and our communities.

CHRISTMAS JOYLAND TOY STORE

Each year, in early December, the Christmas Joyland Toy Store provides families in our church and the Lake Norman community with assistance to purchase affordable new gifts for their children. There are many ways to get involved with this event, from donating new toys, or volunteering at the store, or referring a family to shop. More details will be available in November. Contact *tyler@gracecovenant.org* for more information.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE VISITS

Grace Team Care Ministers visit church attendees who are hospitalized, in a care facility, or home-bound. If you would like to learn more about becoming a Care Minister, contact *careministry@gracecovenant.org* to learn more.

GRACE FEEDING GRACE

The Bible clearly teaches that we should share our food with the hungry (Matthew 25:35). On the fourth Sunday and Monday of each month, we provide non-perishable food items for families in our church. To contribute food, place it in the collection bins located throughout the church. Contact *careministry@gracecovenant.org* to serve in this ministry or to learn how to receive groceries.

GRIEFSHARE

A guided 13 week dvd seminar that provides information and comfort to those that have experienced the death of a loved one. For dates and times - or to become a facilitator - contact us at *careministry@gracecovenant.org*



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NEIGHBORHOOD C.A.R.E. CENTER

The acronym, C.A.R.E. summarizes the focus of the center: **C**onnect people in need to community resources and volunteers to community partners, **A**dvance people with life skills and recovery programs, **R**educe pressures on single parents and families in distress, **E**quip the next generation for success. Visit *neighborhoodcc.org* to find out how you can get involved.

PRISON MINISTRY

Before and after walking out, those that are incarcerated need constant encouragement to make their "second chance" successful. Through our partnership with a number of different organizations, there are various ministry opportunities available for men and women at Grace Covenant Church to touch the lives of those in prison. For more information, contact *tyler@gracecovenant.org*

THE FATHERS HEART

Father's Heart is an adoption and foster care ministry at Grace Covenant Church founded on James 1:27 "Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that we must care for orphans..."

Whether your family seeks to adopt, foster, or support other families who do, our goal is to provide opportunities for YOU to get involved caring for orphans! The possibilities are endless: making meals for families who have just received children, providing resources to be given in times of need, prayer and encouragement, serving our county and agency workers. Contact *fathersheart@gracecovenant.org* for more information.

THANKSGIVING BLESSING BASKETS

Each year, on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, we prepare and distribute Thanksgiving dinner boxes to families in our community that are facing a challenging holiday season. You may donate to purchase food for the baskets, help assemble the baskets or deliver them, or refer a family to receive a meal. More details will be available in October. Contact *tyler@gracecovenant.org* for more information.