The Grove Zone Newsletter



Upcoming Events

March 1: Black History Figure Trivia Contest @ 5PM via social media accounts March 2: Prayer and Paint @11am March 16: Family Conference Meeting at 10am March 31: Resurrection Sunday with

Children Play Day

Weekly Events

PRAYER: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3pm via the conference line

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 7pm via conference line

Conference Line Info (978)-900-5000 Access Code: 655019#

Snapshots of The Grove

We recently celebrated Black History Month at Walnut Grove. Here are a few pictures from the 'Who Am I' spotlight competition from Sunday services held February 18, 2024.





Send Us Your Pictures WGBCmedial@gmail.com

March 1, 2024



A Message from Pastor Stroud

As mentioned in the February newsletter, I will continue to expound on some things I said in our January family conference. We previously discussed my thoughts on what I mean by cutting edge. I want to further explain what I mean when I say I want us to be a learning and loving church.

It is my desire that we continue to be a people who love learning the word of God. It is through God's word that we get to know Him and strengthen our faith. Not only is it my desire for us to love learning, but I also hope to ensure that we are all aware of how to correctly apply the word that we are learning to our lives. Scripture admonishes us to be both doers and hearers of the Word (James 1:22). I want to help us do just that.

It is this same word that I speak of that will assist us in accomplishing the second part of this month's explanation. Loving is an integral part of who God is. I would dare say it is who He is as God is love (I John 4:8). A loving church endeavors to walk in the love of God, loving one another according to Christ's example and God's design.

Like I have already started expounding on through the message I preached on February II, 2024, the love of God is our identity. We should be known by our love one for another (John 13:34-35), and if we are not, we will not be able to be the church (not the Walnut Grove Baptist Church sanctuary but the people) Christ will return for- individuals who can stand in the presence of God because they are without spot and wrinkle.

A Word of Wisdom from Lady A

The first time the word love is mentioned in the Bible is in Genesis 22:2. The father of our faith, Abraham, is being instructed by God to take his son, Isaac, to be offered as a burnt offering. God makes it a point to acknowledge that Issac is Abraham's son whom he loves maybe to further demonstrate the enormity of what He is asking Abraham to do. It would be one thing to ask Abraham to offer up as a sacrifice something he could replace or do without it, but to ask him to "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest" and offer his life upon an unknown mountain, is a huge ask and God knows it. How does He understand the weight of it all? Because he'd already prepared for His only begotten son to be a sacrifice for us because He "so loved the world that He, too, gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth on him shall not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

What do these two accounts teach us? What's love got to do with anything? EVERYTHING. Order (the word *world* here means order in the Strong's Concordance) is based on love. Restoration is birthed forth because of love. Obedience resides in love. Our salvation is wrapped in love. Life eternally is all because of love. When some of the things that sustain us here- prophesies, tongues, knowledge- fail, love shall remain. Love beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never fails.

Let us remember that the greatest gift we can give and receive is love. Faith, hope, charity, these three all abide; but the greatest of these is love (1 Corinthians 13:13).

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"Learn." Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster, https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/learn. Accessed 13 Feb. 2024.

join us



April 14, 2024 | 3pm *Pr. Marcus L. Stroud* Pastoral Installation





The Power of Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs

Throughout the Bible we see the command for us to praise and worship God, which sometimes manifests itself in the form of songs and dance. This includes examples from the likes of David, the author of countless psalms in the Bible, and Miriam who played a musical instrument and danced before God (Exodus 15:20-21). The moments in Scripture where we see the power of singing should remind us that music is a powerful source we have in our spiritual arsenals as weapons of warfare. For this reason, we should be mindful that it does matter what we listen to as it pertains to music, and better yet, what words are spoken forth out of our mouths.

Colossians 3:16 takes the power of singing to another level as it enlightens us that we should teach and admonish one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. This is not always an act of outward expression as the latter part of the verse says that we should do these things [singing] with grace in our hearts to the Lord.

The songs provided in this month's newsletter are not even the beginning of songs we can use to teach and admonish one another. Just touch on the various circles and be encouraged about how much God truly does love us and let us endeavor to love one another as He hath loved us.

What's Your Love Language?

We all need love, patience and kindness in different areas of our lives. Likewise, we like to receive love, and thus, we know someone loves us when it manifests in certain ways.

Take the LOVE LANGUAGE QUIZ to identify your love language by clicking on the picture to the right. When you are done, go to the <u>Newsletter Tab</u> on the website to share your results. Click on the pencil to get started.



Have a prayer request?

Please visit our website at wgbc1866.com and fill out the request form.

