



# The LifeVine

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church  
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### Servants, in His Service

Louis H. Humes  
Sr. Pastor

Mary Rumsey	Music Minister
Alan Kern	Youth Minister
Kay Edwards	Pianist
Pat Krider	Organist
Angela Humes	Secretary

### Worship and Study Times

#### Sunday

Sunday School	9:45am
Morning Worship	10:55am
Evening Bible Study	5:00pm

#### Wednesday

Children's Choir	5:45pm
Church Supper	6:15pm
Prayer Meeting	7:00pm
Children & Youth	7:00pm
Adult Choir	7:00pm

# News and Announcements



Our church is donating a basket for the EACM Fundraiser to be held March 5. The theme of our basket is Restaurant Gift Cards. We need \$25 cards for various restaurants turned in to me by February 14.

You can purchase these cards on your own (where you get the fuel points and PGBC gets the rewards if you are signed up) or you can donate money to the church and I will be glad to purchase the cards. If you donate to the church, be sure to designate for EACM. If you have any questions, just ask me! *Dorothy Gadd*

## February/March Fellowship Activities

Due to several scheduling dilemmas, I have done some re-arranging of our monthly activities. On Feb. 21th, from 5-8 here at the church, we will be having "Game Show Night". Come and be a participant in our audience, or you may be one of the lucky ones to be called on to participate in one of our games. Bring your favorite Italian dish for a fellowship meal before we begin. As usual, there will be drawings for door prizes, bring a friend and get a chance at our bonus drawing. This should be a fun night for the whole family.

Upcoming in March, we will be going to the Murder Mystery Dinner Theater on the 12th. So mark your calendars now and look for more info soon.

See me with any questions or give me a call at 541-6737

*Laura Griffin*

**THANK YOU**

Pleasant Grove Family,

I'd like to thank you all for the prayers and wonderful Christmas cards. They brightened my day. Thank you so much!

*Thank you, Blessings, Terry Newton*

To Our Church Family,

I really appreciate all the thoughts & prayers while we dealt with the illness and passing of my Mother, Shirley Whelan. I don't know what we would do without all your love & support.

*Sincerely, Will Branham & Family*



## Seven Reasons To Work in the Nursery

1. God is in the church nursery. This may come as a shock, but the Bible has specific promises about God's presence when children are welcomed and loved in Jesus' name.
2. Your service in the church nursery allows church goes to focus on worship, rather than worrying about their children. In a very real sense your ministry makes it possible for the pastor to fulfill his ministry.
3. The first (*and sometimes most lasting!*) feeling a child will have toward church is formed in the nursery department. While not everyone agrees, I believe that a positive experience in the church nursery is essential.
4. When you serve in the nursery, you are being entrusted with the most important (*and vulnerable*) members of the church family. There is no greater treasure on this side of heaven than the little ones God has given us. You must be someone special to have a job that is so important.
5. Your service is essential for your own spiritual growth. You may have never looked at it this way, but a *growing* Christian is a *serving* Christian. Jesus was known for putting others first and serving them. When you serve in the church nursery you are walking in his example!
6. The church nursery is often the first contact young families will have with your church. Your friendly greeting and exceptional care for their children can make a great first impression for your church. If they don't feel like their children are safe, they will not return – and rightly so.
7. Your service in the church nursery is a powerful opportunity for prayer. If every nursery worker would spend several minutes praying over the children in their care, imagine how God might begin to change this coming generation. There is no better way to create an environment of spiritual nurture than to pray while you serve in the nursery.

*Tony Kumer*

# February 2016 Calendar of Events & Birthdays

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Web Page [www.pgbcconline.org](http://www.pgbcconline.org) E-Mail [pgbcconline@bellsouth.net](mailto:pgbcconline@bellsouth.net)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	<b>1</b> 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Popeye's 7 Recreation	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8 Deacons' Mtg.  <i>Ernie Coulter</i>	<b>4</b> 2-7 Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>5</b>  <i>Bro. Louis</i>	<b>6</b> 10 Bowling
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Wendy's 7 Recreation	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7 Business Mtg.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  <i>John Belden</i>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 2:30 Masonic Home  <i>Krystal Miskell</i>	<b>15</b> 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Beef O Brady 7 Recreation	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <i>Mike Miller</i>	<b>19</b> 11:30 Silver Servants  <i>Maynard Mattingly</i>	<b>20</b> 8:30-6 Lifeline Screening  <i>Yib Hibbard</i>
<b>21</b> 5 Game Show Night  <i>Silas Lowry</i>	<b>22</b> 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Chick fil a 7 Recreation  <i>Charleen Gadd Helen Pedigo</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <i>Wendell Martin</i>	<b>27</b>  <i>Aubrey Williams</i>
<b>28</b>  <i>Sue Mullins</i>	<b>29</b> 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Arby's 7 Recreation				<b>Regular Schedule</b> <b>Sundays</b> 945 Sunday School 1055 Worship	<b>Wednesdays</b> 5:45 Kid's Choir 615 Dinner 700 Prayer Mtg. Children & Youth Adult Choir

## Pastor's Paragraphs . . .

Since we will have one of the biggest sporting events of the year this month, I want to share an article that first came out over 30 years ago. I have shared it with every church I've served and probably even shared it here before but it is good enough to share again as a reminder.

### **Reasons I'll NEVER Go To A Game Again!**

12. Every time I went, they asked me for money.
11. The people I had to sit with the last time didn't seem very friendly.
10. The seats were very hard.
9. The coach never came to call on me.
8. The referee made a decision I didn't agree with and it upset me.
7. I had to sit with some hypocrites who were only there to see what others were wearing.
6. Some games went into overtime and I was late getting home.
5. The band played some songs I had never heard before.
4. The games are scheduled when I want to do other things.
3. I don't want to take my children because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.
2. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.
1. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches, anyhow.

Now, seriously, how many people do you know who would skip watching the Super Bowl for any one of those reasons? Or skip watching the NCAA March Madness Tournament that is just around the corner? Or even, for that matter, skip watching a soccer or softball game in which one of their grandchildren or children are playing? It just doesn't happen, does it?

Yet every one of those excuses is often used by some individual to explain why they will not go to Church. (*Go back and read them and change just enough words to make it a church setting instead of a game setting and you'll see what I mean! I've actually heard every one of those excuses in my limited ministry at six churches over the past 36 years.*) Now, what can we learn from this?

That we will make excuses for not being faithful as a Christian and Church member that we would NEVER accept in other areas of life; not even in the recreation activities we participate in during our free time. Why is that an unfortunate truth? It is because we take almost everything else more seriously than we do Church, faith and matters of eternal importance.

My stars, read that last sentence again. It is actually frightening to consider the reality that we place the most serious issues and consequences of life LOWER on our list of priorities and in importance than the lesser issues of life such as entertainment and recreation. Now take a moment and consider one resulting consequence.

It is no wonder the world at large does not take us more seriously since we do not usually take ourselves very seriously in the issues that matter. Here are some observations that I have personally heard from people I've witnessed to that demonstrates clearly their view of what church people are like. Please note that they were not talking about our church in particular or even at all. They were talking about church people in general in a whichever denomination and church they belong. What do they think about us?

*We will fight over paint colors, carpet and flooring, chandeliers, jeans or shorts worn in church, drinks in the sanctuary, ball caps worn inside, people's political opinions and a whole host of other issues that, in the scope of eternity, do not matter at all.*

*At the exact same moment, we cannot seem to get to Sunday School or Bible Study on time; we are sporadic in our attendance; a majority of us only wants to attend church once in a while and never really share in the actual work of the church (These folks are often referred to as 'Pew Sitters' or 'Pew Warmers!'); we give less annually to the Church and its ministries than we do to: 1.) Keep our Phones, 2.) Go to the Movies or watch DVDs, 3.) Go to Ballgames, 4.) Go out to eat, 5.) Go on vacations, 6.) Buy new clothes, 7.) Spend on Christmas, 8.) Spend on our Pets, 9.) Spend on our Cable/Satellite and 10.) Spend on tools and toys throughout the year.*

Oh My Stars!!! If any one of those is true then our faith is less important than that one . . . and if several of them are true then our faith is less important than those issues . . . and if all of them are true then our faith is not even in the top 10 issues of importance in our life!!!

Now, I don't know how true those statements are for Christians in general and/or for you specifically. But these are what the pollsters say about us and these are what many unchurched and unreached people believe about us. To the extent that they are true, please consider what a powerful statement our LIVES are making about how important our faith really is to us!

So . . . and I know this is hard . . . how important is your faith in Christ Jesus to you? In other words, go back and read those two paragraphs again. First of all, what are the things that are important enough for you to argue or fight over? What upsets you? Will that, whatever it is, change someone's life for eternity or matter in eternity?

Secondly, what do you consider and treat as more important than the Kingdom of God? How many of those things are you putting higher on your own list of important things to have and give your money and time toward than His Church? Only you can answer these questions. Only you can determine if the answer is what it should be or whether you need to make changes. Only together can we make this church what it should be.

## *Fruit from "The Grove" . . .*

What does 2016 look like for our youth group? I wanted to share briefly three goals for our youth ministry as we move forward into this year.

The first is Bible reading. This seems like such a "Duh!" point, but it is remarkably overlooked in so many churches and small groups. Paul said that he would know nothing but Christ and him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2). In youth ministry, it is often too easy to get caught up in games and fun—as great as those are—and miss out on the serious need to intake the words of God. As such, my goal is to read through over half of the New Testament books by the end of the year.

Thus, those youth who regularly attend Sundays and Wednesdays will have read through most of the New Testament and have it explained in easy-to-understand pictures and stick figures.

The second is dedication to prayer. I am teaching our youth to expect answers to prayer. Prayer is not merely a 'good spiritual thing,' but a conversation with the living God. James 5 reminds us that Elijah actually stopped the rain for 3.5 years! We are going to ask for all sorts of things: help with family problems, cutting off addictions, and even physical healings.

The third is fellowship and fun! Down the pipeline, we have Summer camp, lock-ins, movie nights, service projects, sports recreation, and music learning. Here we have room for creativity and ideas, so your input and feedback is always welcome. I am always writing suggestions down.

If you are excited for us, please translate your excitement into prayer for our youth and for myself!

*Serving Christ,  
Bro. Alan*

## *The Children's Corner . . .*

"But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?"

### *Help Us Tell*

Think back to your earliest memory of being in church. More than likely you were there because your parents or grandparents took you. It's doubtful you just got up one Sunday morning and decided you were going to check out "church".

Do you remember your first Sunday School teacher and the songs and stories you were taught? Probably, you do. If you know the song "Jesus Loves Me", it's because someone sang it enough times that you learned it.

Do you remember the first time you were told about Jesus loving you so much He was willing to die so you could have eternal life? Do you remember the teacher who told you how to become a Christian? Do you remember the one who told you that even though you might be afraid of walking the aisle, Jesus would be with you every step of the way?

If you can remember these things then you are in a wonderful position to help the children at PGBC. You may feel you've already "done my turn" or you don't know exactly how you can help. Please talk to me or Pam Kirchem and we will be glad to answer your questions about how you can become a "teller" about Jesus.

There is also a great need for help with the youngest of our children, the ones in the nursery. This is an opportunity where some of our young adult men and women can serve. You may not consider working in the nursery to have much of an impact on the children's ministry at PGBC, but your prayers over the babies as you rock them or play with them really and truly IS the beginning of their walk with the Lord. Please talk to Carol Jean Epley if you need more information about how you can help.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Children's Ministry.

*Loving & Leading Our  
Children, Linda Beville*

## *Mary's Notes . . .*

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our music ministry. To say that "We Are Blessed" is so accurate. We have gifted and talented singers and musicians that are always willing to share their God-given talents. Because of our busy lives, it is hard to get everyone together at the same time, but when we do . . .

I want to remind you of the goals that I have set for 2016.

- ◆ Fill the Choir Loft every service. This means that we need more singers and musicians. Everyone is welcome to join. You might be pleasantly surprised at how much of a blessing this can be in your life.
- ◆ Recreate the Praise Team. Find singers and musicians that are willing to rehearse on an extra night each week to enhance our services.

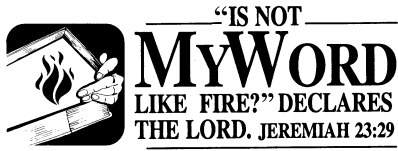
- ◆ Purchase and learn new music to keep our choir and musicians challenged as well as keep our services fresh.
- ◆ Find a leader to teach music to our children. Alan and Joelle have done a wonderful job getting our youth interested in Christian music, but our little ones need someone to take about 30 minutes each week to teach them Christian songs as well.

In 2015 our goals were to add choir member, add new music and learn new praise songs. All of these goals were met. Praise the Lord! So now I am asking you to pray for our music program, and if you have the desire to join in, please do so. The more the "Maryer"!

God bless us all in 2016!

*Singing God's Praises!  
Mary Rumsey*





**Daily Bible Reading Plan. . .**

**February**

- 01. Exodus 36-38
- 02. Exodus 39, 40
- 03. Leviticus 1-4
- 04. Leviticus 5-7
- 05. Leviticus 8-10
- 06. Leviticus 11, 12
- 07. Leviticus 13
- 08. Leviticus 14, 15
- 09. Leviticus 16-18
- 10. Leviticus 19-21
- 11. Leviticus 22, 23
- 12. Leviticus 24, 25
- 13. Leviticus 26, 27
- 14. Numbers 1, 2
- 15. Numbers 3, 4
- 16. Numbers 5, 6
- 17. Numbers 7
- 18. Numbers 8-10
- 19. Numbers 11-13
- 20. Numbers 14, 15
- 21. Numbers 16-18
- 22. Numbers 19-21
- 23. Numbers 22-24
- 24. Numbers 25, 26
- 25. Numbers 27-29
- 26. Numbers 30, 31
- 27. Numbers 32, 33
- 28. Numbers 34-36

**March**

- 1. Deuteronomy 1, 2
- 2. Deuteronomy 3-5
- 3. Deuteronomy 6-8
- 4. Deuteronomy 9-11
- 5. Deuteronomy 12-14
- 6. Leviticus 13



*"Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."  
Psalm 119: 105*

**Stewardship Report**

We want to express sincere appreciation for your faithfulness through Tithes and Offerings.

Here is our report through January 24. Please continue to be faithful so that we may bring glory to God and may He bless you richly as a result!!

**2016 BUDGET SUMMARY**  
**\$ 223,434.00    \$ 4,222.00 per week**

*Through week 04*

General Fund Needs	\$ 16,888.00
General Fund Receipts	\$ 14,931.07
Designated Receipts	\$ 2,526.00
Total General & Designated	\$ 17,457.07
Total Receipts to Date	\$ 17,775.07
CTL Fund	\$ 30,363.89

*Sunday School, a Place for YOU . . .*

We are seeing some new faces in Sunday School! And, that's with snow on the ground and a cold wind blowing. Just think when spring gets here what might happen!

Are any of those new faces here because of you (it wasn't me)? If not there is only one way to change that, invite someone you know who isn't in Sunday School to join you this Sunday. I happen to know that some of those new faces were invited over and over before they came.

As I have said before, you can start with something a little less threatening...like one of our fellowship activities. We had so much fun at Bingo Night! After a delicious supper of hot soup,

sandwiches, crackers etc. and don't forget some wonderful desserts, we had lots of activities all over Legacy Hall.

Bingo was more than fun, with the youth calling most of the games. A raucous game of Twister was going on in one of the side rooms. (It was rumored that Bro. Louis was in on it, but I'm not sure I believe that.) And, even a couple of girls were taught to crochet by Barbara Goins.

Our next activity here at the church is February 21. Invite someone you love to meet your church family. Then just maybe they will come with you to Sunday School.

*See ya Sunday, Angela Humes*



**Give The Gift Of Life!**  
This is Our Volunteer Blood Donor Month!!

Our next quarterly blood drive will be on Thursday, February 4, from 2 to 7pm.

The Red Cross tells me the blood shortage is beyond critical. So, I want to encourage all eligible blood donors to make every effort to come and donate blood, the life-saving gift.

Approximately every 2 seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. one donation can help as many as 3 people improve their quality of life, or perhaps help save a life,

I want to say thank you to all those who have given blood in the past 12 years. Also, thanks to all those who have supported our blood drives in so many other ways.

We will have home-made goodies again, thanks to June. Our door prizes that we will give out are: \$30 gift card to Jasmine's Café, \$25 gift card to Bob Evans, \$25 gift card to Dairy Queen, and \$25 gift card to Walmart.

*Yours, in Christ's Service, Russell G. Gadd*