

# GRAY ROCK CHURCH

Independent Methodist \* Ministry and Missions

## Letter from Pastor Brandon Hendricks



Greetings Gray Rock Church Family,

We are entering the most important season on the liturgical calendar!

This month, we enter the solemn and sacred season of Lent, a time of reflection, repentance, and preparation as we culminate with the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection during Holy Week. I encourage you to approach this season with an open heart, allowing God to refine and strengthen your spirit.

One of the most significant moments in our Lenten journey will be **Ash Wednesday**, which we will observe together on **Wednesday, March 5th, at 7 PM**. This service marks the beginning of Lent, calling us to repentance and renewal as we prepare our hearts for Easter. It is the kickoff for a series of special events we will be having, where we are looking to celebrate the fullness of this season in reverence and spiritual renewal.

I cannot stress how spiritually transforming these next few weeks leading up to Easter will be if you invest in your spiritual health by participating in these holy observances, which begins with our special Ash Wednesday service. It is a time to reflect on our dependence on God's grace and our need for spiritual transformation. I invite you to join us as we humble ourselves before the Lord and seek His guidance in the weeks ahead in anticipation of what He is going to do here at Gray Rock, with His people.

Later in the month, on Sunday March 30th, we will gather for our Relay for Life contemporary service—a time to lift up those affected by cancer, remember those we have lost, and pray for healing and hope. This evening of reflection and encouragement reminds us that we are called to be a light in the darkness, offering love and support to those in need.

As we journey through this season, let us take to heart the words of 2 Corinthians 4:16: "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." True renewal is not just about outward change—it is a daily transformation of the heart as we draw closer to God. At the end of this season, we will be able to look back and see the miraculous things that God has done if we faithfully invest in the process of His transforming grace over these next few weeks.

May this March be a month of transformation, drawing us into deeper communion with God and one another. As we set our eyes on the hope of Easter, let us embrace this time of renewal with faith, fasting, and an open heart.

Blessings and peace,  
Rev. Brandon Hendricks, MDiv

## WHAT'S THE SCHEDULE ???

<u>NURSERY &amp; CHILDREN'S</u>	<u>DEVOTION</u>	<u>SANCTUARY CLEANING</u>
<b>CHURCH</b>		
<b>MARCH 2025</b>	<b>MARCH 2025</b>	<b>2025 CLEANING LIST</b>
2 BETTY & SYDNEY	2 <b>NO SS - BREAKFAST 10am</b>	JAN. - OLLIE
9 SONDRRA & BROOKE	9 JARVIS NEWTON	FEB. - MELISSA
16 OLLIE & ELIZABETH	16 PAT NEWTON	MAR - JARVIS & PAT
23 CINDY & PAM	23 JOHN PREDDY	APR - BETTY & JOE
30 DAWNEE & ADDISON	30 SYDNEY HOCKADAY	MAY - CINDY & KIM
		JUN - KATHY & PAM
<b>APRIL 2025</b>	<b>APRIL 2025</b>	JUL -
6 STACY & SYDNEY	9 JODI HICKS	AUG -
13 TERA & ELEANOR	16 STACY HOCKADAY	SEPT -
20 MELINDA & PAM	23 TERA AUTRY	OCT - KYLE & MELINDA
27 ASHLEY & ADDISON	27 TYSON BRAGG	NOV -
		DEC -

### CHOIR PRACTICE

#### **MARCH 2025**

2 **SUN** - 5:00 pm  
 13 **THUR** - 7:00 pm  
 16 **SUN** - 5:00 pm  
 27 **THUR** - 7:00 pm

### **WEEKLY MINISTRY CALENDAR**

#### Sunday Mornings :

Sunday School 9:45 am  
 Worship Service 11:00 am

Koinonia / Bible Study : Monday's 1:00pm Fellowship Hall -7:00pm Parsonage

Every Tuesday - Singing Volunteers



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## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

**Men's Group Sunday Breakfast** / Sun, Mar 2nd / *Before Church*

**Ash Wednesday Service** / Wed, Mar 5th / 7:00 P.M.

**Children's Ministry** / Volunteering at ACIM / After Church

**Men's Fellowship Meeting** / Tue, Mar 11th / 7:00 P.M.

**Women's Fellowship Meeting** / Thur, Mar 13th / 7:00 P.M.

**Mission Team Meeting** / Sun, Mar 16th / *After Church*

**Children's Committee Meeting** / Sun, Mar 16th / *After Church*

**Brunswick Stew Fundraiser** / Sat, Mar 22nd / 1:00 P.M.

**Youth Group Fellowship Outing** / Sun, Mar 23rd / *After Church*

**Relay for Life Service & Dinner** / Sun, Mar 30th / 7:00 P.M.

**Prayer Huddle** / Wed, Apr 2nd / 6:30 P.M.

**Holy Week Revival** / Thu, Apr 17th – Sat, Apr 19th 7:00 P.M.

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### LOCAL FOOD MINISTRIES -

Please give where you feel led.

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**ACIM:** **Don't forget ACIM always needs our monthly food donations!** Please bring in food items during February and **place them in the basket in the fellowship hall.** Our youth group volunteers monthly at ACIM restocking shelves and preparing food boxes - anyone is welcome to volunteer with us, not just youth. We usually volunteer on the first Sunday of each month. This month we went on Feb. 2nd at 6:30pm. Thanks for your support of ACIM!!



**BACK PACK BUDDIES:** We need monthly donations of snack items for Wilton's Backpack Buddies program if anyone can help please. Items needed include granola bars, cereal bars, fruit gummy snacks, trail mix, mac and cheese cups, oatmeal packs, and Ramen noodle packs. If you could purchase any donations in quantities of 24 that would be great. **Just put your donations in the container labeled Backpack Buddies located in the fellowship hall.** Thanks for your support of Backpack Buddies!

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## **Mission Team News and Updates:**

Our Summer 2025 mission trip will be July 13-19 to Western NC to do rebuild work with Steve Burkart "Preachee" from AIM. Thanks for everyone's help with our Boston Butt fundraiser! We raised right at \$2000! Our last fundraiser is a Business Sponsor t-shirt fundraiser where we put business information on the back of our mission team t-shirts - we are looking for businesses to donate \$200 or more to be listed on the shirt. We are in the process of trying to schedule a short volunteer trip to western NC as well as a day trip on May 3. Our next mission team meeting will be after church on March 16th.

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## **MYF News :**

During February, the youth volunteered at ACIM and enjoyed a Super Bowl Party. During our other two meetings, we enjoyed Bible study time as well as fellowship time playing games. We have a lot going on in March. We also ask everyone to save the date for April 27th for Youth Sunday!

## **Our March plans:**

March 2 - ACIM 6:30 pm

March 9 - Youth meeting 6:30pm

March 15 - Tentative worship event at  
United NC

March 16 - Youth meeting 6:30pm

March 22 - Church stew -

### **need youth volunteers**

March 23 - Youth outing after church

March 30 - 6:00pm Church Relay for Life event - youth encouraged to attend

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**Above:** Greg Shaeffer, Gray Rock Griller Extraordinaire !!! cooks the Boston Butts, with a little help from Jason Hockaday.

**GOD is so good!  
He is our source of  
food and fellowship,  
that strengthens our  
Church Family ties !**



**Right:** Looks like an awesome Super Bowl party was enjoyed by the faithful.



**Above:** Thank you to all our cooks that made the Senior Citizens luncheon a good time for all.





### **Brunswick Stew**

Our Spring Stew fundraiser is Saturday, **March 22nd**. Stew tickets are currently on sale for \$10 a quart. See Tyson for more information.

Proceeds from the stew will be split equally. Half will be applied towards the parsonage note and half will be used for youth group activities.

We need everyone's help to make this a success. **Please sign up to assist with the stew.** There is cooking, stirring, packaging, cleaning, delivering and the need for cheerful moral support!!! Even if you can only spare a brief while, please volunteer. **Many hands make light work and we need your hands.**

### **Please remember to pray for:**

David Hatcher, Cassidy Bragg, Greg White, Judy's granddaughter, Oxford Baptist Church, Brooke's transition, Tracie Bragg, Scarlet O'Hagan, Jada's mom, baby Ian, Linda Tingen, Terry Tingen, Sandra Tripp, Allred family, Judy Priode, Joe O'Hagan's sister, family of Ben Hughes, Smith family, Jarvis and Pat Newton, Nolan Boyd, Bill Welsh, Savannah Hendricks and family, Ruby Hesler, Dawnee's Mom, Watson family, Jackson family, Samantha Barrett, family of Mike Wood, victims of fire in California, people of New Orleans, Kent Hendrickson, Horace and Lucille Sherman, Jarvis' neighbor Ben, Hope House and the homeless, Joan Sincovich, Kelsey Summers, Elijah Daniels, Children at hospitals, JW Carroll, Savannah and family, Janie's daughter Abby, Brooke and family, Phyllis Gill, Ann Skipwith, Grecian Windley, William Hight, Haage family, family of Luanne Adams, Ingram family, Riley's grandmother, family of Frank Lemons, Meghan Bunn, Rita Daniel, Sallie Harris, those who've lost loved ones, Gage Hennessy, Marty Saunders, Bonnie & BJ, Junior Boyd, family of Bonnie Moore, Rachel Jones, and Phyllis Wilbur.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Matthew 4 - Jesus' Temptation

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

forty nights	scriptures	forty days	ten towers	temptation
followers	Jerusalem	nazareth	kingdoms	mountain
worship	galilee	matthew	prayer	andrew
serve	bread	rocks	simon	jesus
test				

# March

2025

## February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

## April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
23	24		25	26	27	28
						1
2	3		4	5	6	7
BD - April Shaeffer	BD - Millie	ANV - Henry & Millie	PRAYER HUDDLE MEET - 6:30 PM		BD - Brooke	BD - Donna
9	10		11	12	13	14
						15
			BD - Margaret	WOMEN'S MEETING 7:00 PM	BD - Greg Shaeffer	
16	17		18	19	20	21
MISSION TM MEET - AFTER CHURCH CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE MEET - AFTER CHURCH				BD - Celia BD - Amber		STEW FUNDRAISER
23	24		25	26	27	28
				ANV - Mike & Lisa Scott	ANV - Joe & Dawnee	ANV - Billy & Jenni
30						
RELAY FOR LIFE SERVICE AND DINNER 7:00 PM						

\*\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS - HOLY WEEK REVIVAL THURSDAY APRIL 17TH - SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH AT 7:00 PM\*\*\*

( Please refer to the newsletter for additional classes and events )







