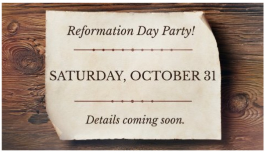
Grace Community Church of Topsail

October 18, 2026 - Jesus Has Authority Over Every Storm in Your Life
Matthew 8:23–27

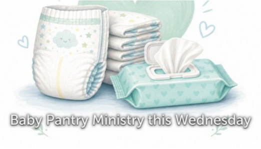
GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL



Reformation Day Party!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Details coming soon.


Baby Pantry Ministry this Wednesday

Matthew 8:23–27 ESV

> And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.”...

Continue reading »

Behold our God

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

It is Well

Kingdom Culture
HOW HEAVEN TOUCHES EARTH

- Today's Sermon -

What is Beyond Your Control is Never Beyond Christ's Authority

Matthew 8:23–27

Matthew 8:18–27 ESV

Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the...

Continue reading »

Five Truths About God, Ourselves, and the Storms We Face

— 1 —

Following Jesus Does Not Exempt Us from Life's Storms 8:23–24

Matthew 8:23–27 ESV

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing."...

Continue reading »

The question is not whether storms will come.
The question is whether we will trust the One who is with us in the boat when they do.

Philippians 1:29 ESV

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake,

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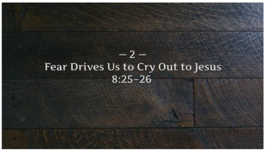
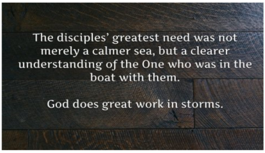


– 2 –
Fear Drives Us to Cry Out to Jesus
8:25–26

Matthew 8:23–27 ESV

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.”...

Continue reading »



The disciples’ greatest need was not merely a calmer sea, but a clearer understanding of the One who was in the boat with them.

God does great work in storms.

John 14:26–27 ESV

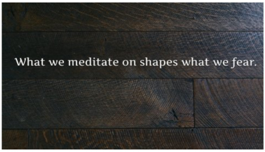
But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you....

Continue reading »

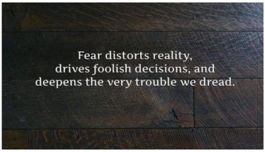
Revelation 21:7–8 ESV

The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in...

Continue reading »



What we meditate on shapes what we fear.



Fear distorts reality,
drives foolish decisions, and
deepens the very trouble we dread.

Psalm 118:1 ESV

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

Continue reading »

Psalm 50:15 ESV

and call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

Continue reading »

Psalm 34:4 ESV

I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

Continue reading »

Psalm 46:1–2 ESV

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

Continue reading »

Psalm 121:1–2 ESV

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

Continue reading »

Hebrews 4:16 ESV

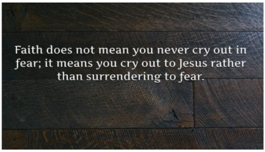
Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Continue reading »

1 Peter 5:7 ESV

casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Continue reading »



Faith does not mean you never cry out in fear; it means you cry out to Jesus rather than surrendering to fear.

– 3 –

Jesus Has Authority Over What We Cannot Control

8:26–27

Matthew 8:26–27 ESV

And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"

Continue reading »

The Bible repeatedly portrays the sea as subject to God's sovereign power.

2 Samuel 22:14–16 ESV

The LORD thundered from heaven,
and the Most High uttered his voice.
And he sent out arrows and scattered them;
lightning, and routed them.
Then the channels of the sea were seen;
the foundations of the...

Continue reading »

Psalm 104:6–7 ESV

You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.
At your rebuke they fled;
at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.

Continue reading »

Psalm 106:9 ESV

He rebuked the Red Sea, and it became dry,
and he led them through the deep as through a desert.

Continue reading »

Psalm 107:28–29 ESV

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.
He made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.

Continue reading »

Isaiah 50:2 ESV

Why, when I came, was there no man;
why, when I called, was there no one to answer?
Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem?
Or have I no power to deliver?
Behold, by my rebuke I dry up the sea,
I make...

Continue reading »

Nahum 1:4 ESV

He rebukes the sea and makes it dry;
he dries up all the rivers;
Bashan and Carmel wither;
the bloom of Lebanon withers.

Continue reading »

By doing the very works that the Old Testament insists only Yahweh can perform, Jesus demonstrates His identity as Immanuel, God with us.

What overwhelms you is never beyond the authority of Jesus.

— 4 —

God’s Sovereignty Gives Us Reason to Stand Firm in the Storm 8:26–27

Matthew 8:26–27 ESV

> And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And the men marveled, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?”

Continue reading »

God, from all eternity, according to the perfectly wise and holy purpose of His own will, freely and unchangeably determined everything that comes to pass. Yet God is not the author of sin;

He does not force His creatures to act against their wills; nor does His sovereign decree eliminate the genuine freedom and responsibility of human choices or the uncertainty of events brought about by created causes. Rather, God’s sovereign plan establishes and governs these very things.

Westminster Confession 3.1

Psalm 107:23–32 ESV

> Some went down to the sea in ships,
> doing business on the great waters;
> they saw the deeds of the LORD,
> his wondrous works in the deep.
> For he commanded and raised the stormy wind,
> which lifted up the...

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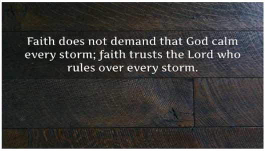
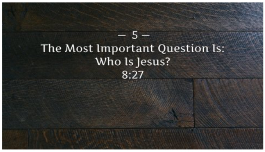
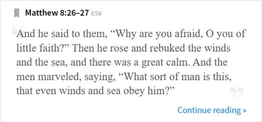


Faith does not demand that God calm every storm; faith trusts the Lord who rules over every storm.



— 5 —

The Most Important Question Is:
Who Is Jesus?
8:27



Matthew 8:26–27 ESV

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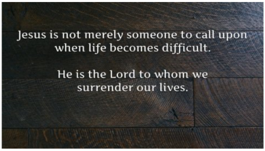
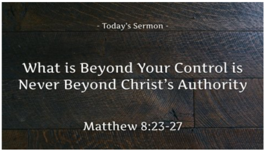


Jesus is not merely someone to call upon when life becomes difficult.

He is the Lord to whom we surrender our lives.



- Today’s Sermon -

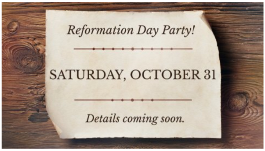
What is Beyond Your Control is Never Beyond Christ’s Authority

Matthew 8:23-27

Kingdom
Culture
HOW HEAVEN TOUCHES EARTH

♫ **Your Word**

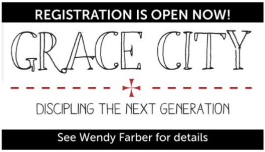
♫ **Reformation Song**



Reformation Day Party!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Details coming soon.

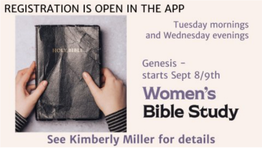


REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW!

GRACE CITY

DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION

See Wendy Farber for details



REGISTRATION IS OPEN IN THE APP

Tuesday mornings
and Wednesday evenings

Genesis –
starts Sept 8/9th

Women's Bible Study

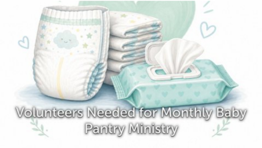
See Kimberly Miller for details

Accountability & Discipleship

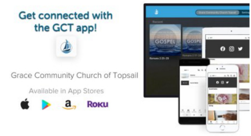
Men's Group

Tuesday Morning @ 6am
GCT Building

Discussions on Biblical Manhood



Volunteers Needed for Monthly Baby Pantry Ministry



Get connected with the GCT app!

Grace Community Church of Topsail

Available in App Stores

Prayer Before Sunday Morning Worship, meets at 9AM in Media classroom. Open to all!

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances." — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Malachi 3:16 Prayer Group

Meets Fridays @ 10am

GCT Business Directory

Looking for a handyman?

Need your house power washed?

Need a babysitter?

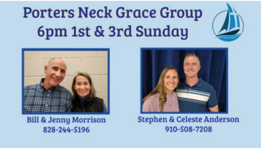
Need an Uber?

Send your business info to Stacy Leicht to be added to a list of services provided by GCT members

Yellow Pages
New! Easier to use
Great days out
Local maps

GRACE GROUPS

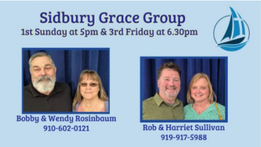
Ready to Grow in GRACE Together? Contact any of our Grace Group Leaders for More Information



Porters Neck Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Bill & Jenny Morrison
828-244-5196

Stephen & Celeste Anderson
910-508-7208



Sidbury Grace Group
1st Sunday at 5pm & 3rd Friday at 6.30pm

Bobby & Wendy Rosinbaum
910-602-0121

Rob & Harriet Sullivan
919-917-5988

Washington Acres Grace Group
6pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

David & Shawna Hirt
630-301-2953

Warren & Miriam Rich
910-622-1711

Country Club Drive Grace Group

6pm Every Friday

Tom & Kimberly Miller
920-737-6445

Max & Melissa Luke
910-619-0168

North Hampstead Grace Group

6pm 1st & 3rd Friday

Jim & Deborah Farmer
910-470-0424

Evan & Micaela Head
910-547-1999

North Belvedere Grace Group

5pm 1st & 3rd Sunday

Bob & Necey Highet
910-785-1247

Tom & Barbara Sheldon
410-610-7123

Surf City/Holly Ridge Grace Group

6pm Friday, Every 2 weeks

Joey & Tianna Rutledge
309-202-2189

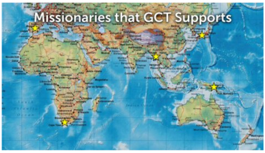
Sneads Ferry Grace Group

6pm Friday, Every 2 weeks

Stephen & Teresa Smith
360-969-9288

Joshua & Kay Sanders
910-741-9004

Missionaries that GCT Supports



Pray for our Missionaires

Brett &
Taylor Ray
Japan

Steve &
Rissa Curtis
Asia

Lauren &
Pablo
Spain

Job & Eunice
Mayanmar

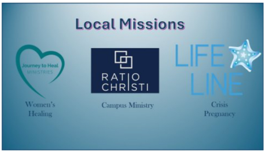
Pray for our Missionaires

Warren
Rich
Global

Meghanne
Brunsink
Japan

Martin
McCrory
Asia

Laurel
Brunsink
YWAM

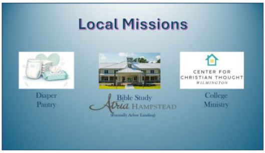


Local Missions

Journey to Heal
MINISTRIES
Women's
Healing

RATIO CHRISTI
Campus Ministry

LIFE LINE
Crisis
Pregnancy



Local Missions

Diaper
Pantry

Bible Study
Atria HAMPSTEAD
(Formally Arbor Landing)

CENTER FOR
CHRISTIAN THOUGHT
WILMINGTON
College
Ministry

GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL

Grace Community Church of Topsail

11 members