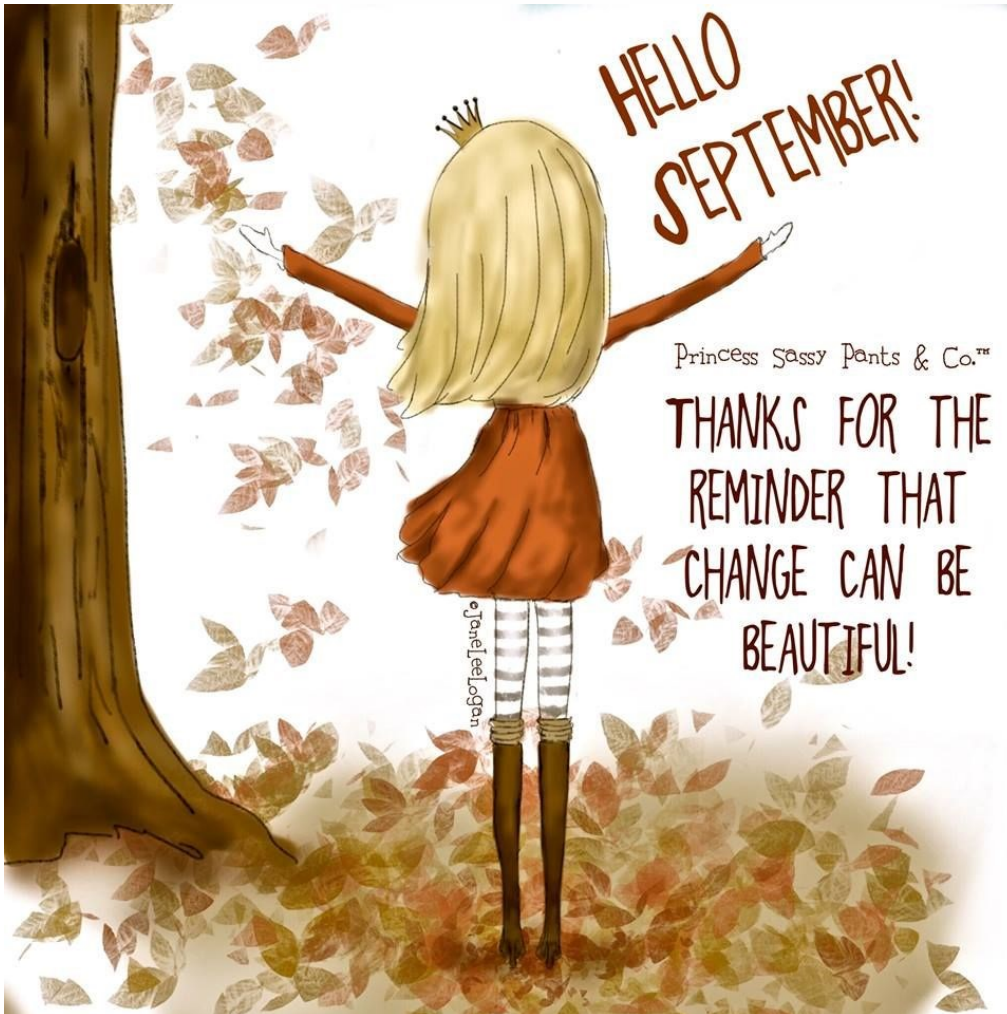


September, 2023

Glennville First Christian Church Newsletter



A new chapter. Excitement as life gets full of new opportunities & adventures. Crazy and unpredictable, Autumn is the time for new beginnings!



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We've Got Talent!



Erin Parker (smiling face to the left)...mom of two, Elementary School Teacher, and TALENTED SINGER! Who knew?

Well, the secret is out now! Erin shared her beautiful voice with the congregation on July 30th. What a treat it was!

Volly Nelson, shown below, honored the congregation with his golden voice August 13th. As many know, Volley was born blind. He has not let that stop him from being involved in our church and activities. Thanks to several Elders and Board members, there are few Sundays that he does not make it in these doors!

Pastor Stuart is in the process of getting a choir together. Practices are after the church service on Sundays, as of now.

Plans are in the making as to when and what type of programs we would like to have the choir do.

Easter and the 4th of July were wonderful examples of the talent in our midst. So, we know that we have the capabilities to have some wonderful musical worship.

Please consider being a part of this effort!



Splinters from the Board

- The board is looking into putting new carpeting into the sanctuary. Stains and wear are taking their toll. It was decided to replace the carpeting with carpet tiles, rather than traditional “roll out carpeting”. It will be much easier to replace when there are stains or damage. Estimates are being gathered for this project.
- The trees on the church property are in need of pruning. This will be done in October to maintain their health, and prevent damage from breaking limbs and weather.
- The church parking lot is very much in need of attention. Pot holes, cracks, and large water gathering areas are getting worse. Estimates are being gathered for this project.
- The church has a defibrillator that is presently inoperable due to damaged parts. They have been ordered (2 months ago). As soon as they come, several in the church will be trained in its use.
- New signage has been mounted for the Men & Women’s bathrooms.
- The possibility of having a “Fishing Rodeo” at the church pond was discussed.

THANK YOU Board members for your time and commitment to our church!



Back to School PARTY!!

8/5/2023...We finally had our party! They say “third time is a charm”, and it WAS. After being postponed twice, Saturday the 5th ended up to be perfect!

Thirty children and 20 adults gathered on a hot and humid day to cool off, bounce around, eat, and have some fun. It was great.

There were three bouncy/water houses plus a “Slip N Slide” . Middle School and under “dove” right into the activities after being registered by Linda Woods and getting their wrist bands. You’d think they’d get pretty tired out, if you saw the energy as they came sliding down the ramps and catapulting into the pools. But it seemed as the afternoon continued, the energy increased!



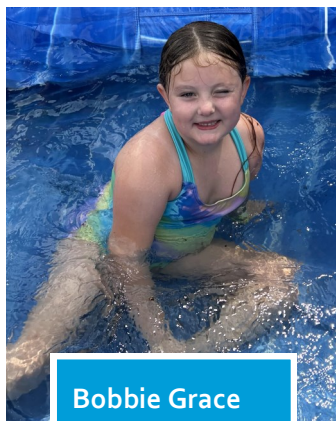
Grandma & Baby
River Stewart

The church provided hotdogs, juice, water, chips, dessert, and an abundance of free entertainment by watching these youngsters and their antics! Why, there was even a DAD that joined in the fun (Tyler Stewart)! I’m sure it was because he didn’t want to be shown up by his one-yr-old daughter, River! This hilarious little acrobat (River that is!), wasn’t the least bit afraid of sliding and dunking with the big kids!

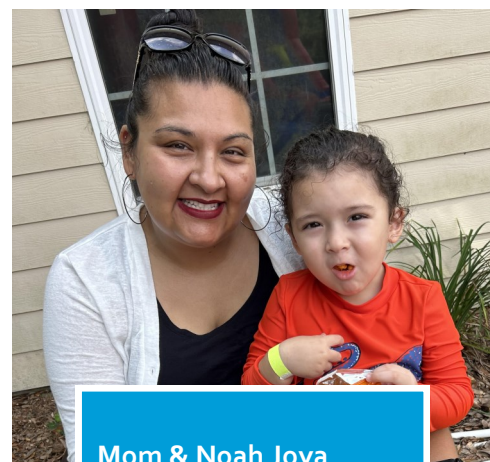


Just about the time when you’d think the kids would be getting tired, Pastor Stuart brought out the water balloons! There was renewed energy as they patiently (Ha!) waited for them to fill.

In addition to all of the other food, children were also treated to slushies. What a blessing on such a hot, humid day.



Bobbie Grace
Anderson

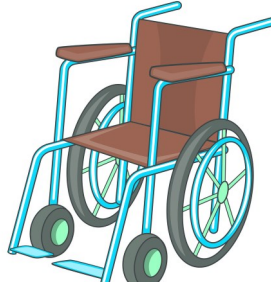


Mom & Noah Joya

Walkers, Wheel Chairs, Crutches

Anyone?....

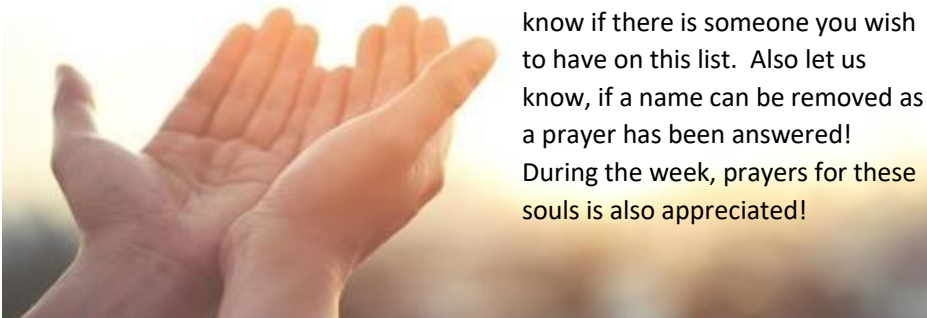
We have a collection of a few things we hope you'll never need at GFCC! But IF YOU DO, we want to be ready. If you need a walker due to knee replacement or surgery, come borrow ours for whatever length of time you need it. If you need a wheel chair to get around, we got cha. Sprained an ankle? Use our crutches. AND IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE THINGS HANGING AROUND YOUR CLOSETS, PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING THEM TO OUR CHURCH!



Good friends, Jackie and Alex Lehman, have visited our church several times. They are transitioning an involved move to Glennville, as they are farmers in California at present. Their son, Josh, and his wife, KaLea just had a baby 6 weeks prematurely due to complications. Little Jacob is only 4 1/2 pounds, and is fighting for his life. He has been taken to Winchester Hospital NICU, and will likely be there for several weeks.

We know that God can travel any distance. We also know your prayers have no travel restrictions. Please include them in your prayers.

Don't forget the many on our prayer list ! They are sent out weekly in our church bulletin, and prayed for each Sunday. Let us know if there is someone you wish to have on this list. Also let us know, if a name can be removed as a prayer has been answered! During the week, prayers for these souls is also appreciated!



STILL LOOKING...

We are still in need...

*Can you help by teaching "Children's Church" on a Sunday morning?

*We are also looking for Wednesday Night Elementary Age teachers!

Please let Bess Stone know if you can help out with either of these needs.

912-432-2473

ALSO...

Backpack Buddies has begun again with the beginning of school.

If you can help assemble those food gifts once a month (or deliver them to

school) please contact

Amanda Durden

912-237-1396

The Pastor's Pen....

Direction

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths. Prov. 3:5&6

It is not for us to tell the Lord how to lead us. We are to let Him lead us any way He wants to! But it is for us to find out from the Word of God how He does lead. And He leads, first of all, by the inward witness.

We can also see in the Book of Acts and elsewhere how at times some believers receive guidance through a vision, others receive guidance from an angel who appeared to them and told them certain things. This occurred once or twice in their lifetime.

Often God is trying to bear witness with our spirits, trying to guide us, but we won't listen, we won't listen to that "Still small Voice", because we want something spectacular, such as a vision or an angel. But we must remember that anything God does is supernatural and we need to give Him our best!

Remember this, when listening to God, He never said to you (you won't find it in the bible), "What do you think?" God doesn't need our opinion, He needs our willingness, your witness and your listening skills.

One thing we are never taught in school, college, church, or anywhere, is how to listen. I think maybe a class on listening would be good, not only for me, but everyone.

*Yours in Christ,
Brother Stuart*



Baptism...

“Baptism **declares that you are a follower of Jesus Christ.** It is a public confession of your faith in, and commitment to, Jesus Christ. It is the next step after salvation through repentance and faith and is an important foundation for Christian life.”

The following young people have made the decision to be baptized! This is a very personal decision and one we, as a congregational family, are so happy to be included to be a part of. Congratulations to:

Adam Bland
Cooper Carlson
Aiden Parker
Ava Mincey
Emmie Claire Parker



Ava Mincey and Parents



Aiden Parker and Parents



Emmie Claire Parker and Parents

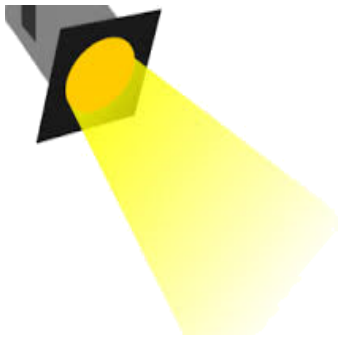
Matthew 28:19

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:”

Ephesians 4:5

“One Lord, one faith, one baptism,”

Spotlight on Linda Woods



Linda's Birth Story....Linda is the daughter of John and Ruth Lance. Her dad was a pastor. In the 1950's in order to graduate from Southwestern Seminary, a student had to pastor a small church outside of Ft. Worth, Texas. Linda's dad left for his church with daughter, Louise, one Sunday morning. He left his wife, Ruth, home...who was overdue with the birth of their baby! A member of his church stayed home that day, just in case the hospital called to say Ruth was in labor. (There was no telephone at the church!) Right in the middle of Pastor John's sermon, the lady ran into church shouting "Ruth is at the hospital having the baby!" Pastor John stopped mid-sermon, jumped in the car with 5 yr. old daughter, Louise, trying to keep up, and drove the 100 miles to the hospital to meet his new baby daughter, Linda! And Linda has been full of surprises ever since!

Linda moved with her family to another church in Tyler, TX before finally coming to LoveJoy, GA where the family became friends with Mr. & Mrs. Truitt Cathey (ring a bell? Think Chick-fil-A!) Linda's dad pastored several churches in Atlanta before his health declined and he had to retire. Linda and her three siblings grew up in Atlanta. After graduating from Walker High School, she pursued her education at Georgia Southern College.

Enter Joe Woods...Linda's cousin introduced her "date" to Linda while out with friends one night. Later Linda found out this "date" had been drafted, so her cousin went on to find and marry a new guy. As fate would have it, this "guy" returned to the states and she ran into him with her roommate....and he remembered her! And that is how she became Mrs. Joe Woods!! Linda and Joe were married 48 years. Two days after their anniversary, Joe went to meet Our Savior.

Life was very busy for both Linda and Joe. Joe had a career at Ft. Stewart working in Civilian Personnel. He was an Elder, a Deacon, a member of the board, and A Sunday School teacher for many years.

Linda started her teaching career at Seckinger Elementary, later moving to Hinesville as an administrator. She retired in 2003. During her career she was named Georgia's Outstanding Assistant Principal and a Georgia Distinguished Principal. She currently works for the Professional Association of Georgia Educators and provides legal/liability, lobbyist, and professional development for school employees. As you can imagine, her job involves a lot of travel. Linda has served on many committees throughout her years, having been a member since 1988. Chair of CWF, Membership and Evangelism Committee, Church Board, Float Building, Turtle Race Committee, Christmas Party Committee, Homecoming and many more. There aren't too many church events that she isn't a part of. She is presently serving as the first woman to be the President of the Board of our church.

They have two daughters. Angelyn (Don) Tuttle live in Richmond Hill. They have 3 children. Angelyn is a pharmacist at Strickland's in Glennville. Don works at Mingledorff's in Savannah.

Jennifer (Phil) Carlson live in Glennville. Jennifer is starting her 23rd year of teaching at S. Tattnall M.S. Phil has a home remodeling business. They have 4 children.

One of the biggest challenges this family has faced was when Jennifer was pregnant with Griffin. He was diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia, which meant his stomach and intestines were in the chest cavity. Jennifer and Mom Linda moved to Atlanta to be seen weekly at Emory Hospital. For many weeks, Phil was bringing the children to Atlanta to see their mom. This church and community was so supportive of this family , bringing meals daily to the house for Joe, Phil and the kids, loving and supporting the kids at school, and offering to do anything to help. Through many prayers from people across the world, our prayers were answered .

Griffin is now 6 years old and about as normal and rambunctious as any little boy around! He is PROOF that miracles happen with the touch of God's hands.

Linda feels blessed with her family at First Christian Church. She has been "adopted" by the Parker, Sands, Anderson, and Taylor families, often being invited to celebrate holidays with them!

Her best friend and "partner in crime" as they were known, was Juanita Branch. She misses Juanita daily, as she is also with our Lord. When it comes time to decorate the church for any occasion, memories of fun times with Juanita come rushing back. Now Linda, and granddaughter Chloe, are often found arranging pumpkins in the sanctuary, or centerpieces in the Fellowship Hall.



Front: Griffin, 1st grade Middle:
Logan, 4th grade & Cooper, 8th grade
Back: Lucy, University of GA , Chloe,
Sr. at Tattnell HS. Charlie, Jr. at
Kennesaw State University



Grandson, Joey, Air Force, stationed
in Columbus, Mississippi where he
is a fire fighter

Between Linda and Joe's two daughters they have 7 beloved grandchildren. Their grandchildren are so very treasured by Linda, as they were by Joe as well. She is proud of every single one of them, and they love her dearly. When she is not working or traveling for work, you can bet she is doing something with her grandchildren!

“He has never closed a door that He didn't open another one with even better opportunities. I am so blessed with everything and everyone that has been in my life. I know that God will continue to bless me now and forever more.” Linda

Tell me something good!

We often get caught up in so many bad things going on in our world today. Sometimes we even are drawn to “topping” someone’s sad story with a worse one! Let’s look for the GOOD and share!

- 16 yr. old Wesley Joya was born unable to hear. This makes so many things in life a challenge. Fortunately, his mom and dad (Yesenia & Jorge) knew something was wrong and got help when he was very young. He has had a hearing cochlear implant since the age of one. Like many innovations, time often improves them. Wesley was able to be approved for an UPDATE, and now has an improved version of this cochlear implant with better hearing capabilities. God’s timing was great, as a new school year is just starting as Wesley enters his 2nd year of H.S. He has never let his hearing stand in the way of attempting new challenges. We are so happy for you, Wesley!
- The school year is off to a running start for so many of our kids! All the teachers in our congregation look like they’ve survived well so far!
- Soon Busy Little Beavers will start after Labor Day, and even more little ones will be on their way to learning!
- Our church board has been very busy doing the work of our church. Sometimes it is behind the scenes, so we are unaware. They are caring for, maintaining, and repairing things that have needed attention. Be sure to tell them thank you!
- We have wonderful attendance at weekly Bible Study groups! The conversations and learning that go on at these sessions is one of those gifts hard to measure...but we know it’s positive.
- Ava Mincey has become a celebrity with her Lemonade Stand. Why she’s even been on TV! She is a personal friend, now of anchor man, Frank Sulkowski. She has raised many dollars for research on Alzheimer's disease. Keep up the great work, Ava!
- New babies are being born to members of our church! We look forward to hearing their voices upon their arrival. There’s nothing sweeter than the sound of babies in our congregation... even if they might be crying now and then!
- The “Builders” Adult SS class had 24 in attendance on 8/13/2023. Not bragging, but WOW! OK, maybe bragging a little bit.
- We had 5 wonderful baptisms in the month of August.



Calendar of Events for September 2023

Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Sunday morning Worship at 10 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Youth Mtg. at 7:00 p.m.

"Never be afraid to
trust an unknown future
to a known God."

CORRIE TEN BOOM



womans day

Glennville First
Christian Church

9224 GA Hwy 23

Glennville, GA 30427

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Give God your weakness...and He'll give you His strength.