

Volume 3; Issue #11

Grace Klein Community Newsletter

November 2017



GRACE KLEIN < COMMUNITY >

OUR PURPOSE

To Demonstrate the Love of Christ

Grace Klein Community exists as an educational and charitable 501(c)3 nonprofit providing relief to the poor, the distressed and the underprivileged, lessening community tensions, eliminating prejudice and discrimination and combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency.

www.gracekleincommunity.com

December 2017: Gifts for the Forgotten 12/5/2017: Christmas Party/Gift Drive

12/6/2017: Galleria Woods Christmas Wrapping

12/9/2017: Fill the Truck

12/15/2017: Help Move Food Boxes 12/16/2017: Monthly Food Delivery

there is always hope

EVENT HIGHLIGHT - Christmas Party/Gift Drive

Save the date! Swamp Monster BBQ will be hosting our year end Christmas Party and Gift Drive this year! Bring an unwrapped gift to love on "the forgotten" this Christmas. We are accepting NEW TOYS, WARM CLOTHING and NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS to share with friends this winter.

Swamp Monster BBQ will be providing a 10% giveback on all sales, between 5pm and 8pm, to the ministry efforts of Grace Klein Community.

Location: 1843 Montgomery HWY, Suite 105, Hoover, AL 35244 Invite your friends, bring your favorite board game, and come enjoy a time of good eats and fellowship! ALL ages welcome! This is a family friendly event!

Beautiful handmade items from various parts of the world will also be available for purchase at the event. Perfect opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done, while supporting the ministry. Here is a sneak peek: BeMoreRandom

Let us know you are coming! RSVP TODAY!





Fill the Truck

As we began to spread the word about "<u>Gifts for the Forgotten</u>" for Christmas 2017, SkyZone was a local business that jumped in! On November 18, 2017, SkyZone hosted their first Fill the Truck with ministry partner, <u>WayFM Birmingham</u>.

SkyZone also set up a Christmas tree where families coming in to jump and play could take one of our referred children to sponsor for Christmas. The next <u>Fill the Truck</u> is scheduled at SkyZone on <u>December 9, 2017</u>. If you are around, drop by with <u>non-perishable food items</u> that would stop one person from being forgotten this Christmas.

Each Christmas, every "Gift for the Forgotten" is a symbol of Jesus coming. A reminder to each of these "forgotten" people that they are not forgotten. They are remembered. We remember them because Jesus does.

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"I was pushed hard so that I was falling, but the Lord helped me." - Psalm 118:13

Local Efforts

I was pusheu naru so tilat i was falling, but tile toru helpeu nie. – Psalm 116:1

Our China Doll - Forever Family Update

"The journey began when I was a young girl, God began tugging on my heart about adoption through television shows and the story of Moses from the Bible. I know you remember the brave and determined Hebrew woman that laid her son swaddled in blankets in a basket and sent him up river to be found by Pharaoh's daughter. We had a picture Bible when I was growing up and I will forever remember the basket holding the baby above the water and the woman peeping through the tall grass as she watched her son be adopted by Pharaoh's daughter. I have always talked about it and dreamed about it. Keith and I talked about my desire before we were even engaged. Our best friends adopted before us and we were blessed to be a part of their journey, but it wasn't the time for us. About 7 years ago, I started researching adoption and stalking others' blogs.

"Once our eyes are opened, we can't pretend we don't know what to do. God, who weighs our hearts and keeps our souls, knows what we know, and holds us responsible to act." - Proverbs 24:12

I would journal about adoption, pray to the Lord to open a financial door for us, and weep about the orphans out there who needed us. As you know, when you ask God to provide a way, He does, especially for something so dear to his own heart.



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Love Does America

"On a recent holiday trip, we took four boxes of Love Does toiletry kits. If only we could have fit in double that amount. In no time, we were out. I threw one out to a homeless guy prematurely when he was able to walk up to our window when we were actually stopping at the red light. Don't take the "throw" approach!! Oops. Wait and talk to the person face to face. You are not going to get cooties. We shared love to 36 gas station workers in one location, McDonald's staff, three other gas stations and even a food line where families needing food could receive ready to heat dishes for Thanksgiving. Even the grouchy guy smiled and received gladly a Love Does kit. Love is easy to share and any age can do it. Isn't it fascinating that a small bag of toiletries can quickly lead to a conversation about Jesus!! One funny moment was when my son asked the gas station attendant how many people worked at the store, she asked on her head set, the question came back "who's asking?" and she answered "a kid." Even bystanders are blessed as they watch the exchange. Everyone is smiling." – Jenny

Are you traveling for Christmas? Take a box of Love Does with you and see what God does. He will use you to share His love across America. One of our partner ministries shared ready to give away <u>Love Does</u> toiletry kits with Grace Klein Community. Our friends completed some for us that we can share with you from our office or you can make your own.

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Global Efforts Pearls of Slum, India

"I was born and raised in Andhra Pradesh State. We now live in Kochi City, Kerala State. Kerala is like America for other Indian states, therefore other state people come here for jobs as well as to beg. They might have homes in their native state, but due to draught, unemployment, or health issues, they come Kerala to beg. During the night they sleep on the street and cook food on the road side. These people are desperate to survive and send help to their families in their native villages. These beggars ages range from young to old, and sometimes we can even find a mother with her tiny baby. I have spent many hours with them in teaching and preaching the gospel and Biblical truths. I have heard many heartbreaking stories, and we cry with them while praying with them for their families and lands."



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"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" - Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and pleasa **BELLEK LOGELHEK** dwell in unity!" – Psalm 133:1

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12: 4-5

Our "better togethers" introduce various members of Grace Klein Community and help us understand how our different giftings work together to form one body. We are better together.



A Community for the People, by the People

Have you visited the GKC Trade Market on Sundays? A group of volunteers host a bountiful trade market on the main level of our offices for two hours, most Sundays. (We are closed the Sunday of Food Delivery weekend.) Food available on Sundays is provided by our many rescued food donors who care far beyond their business sales. Each donation surprises the palates of friends, neighbors, family and "strangers" who receive a blessing when Grace Klein Community members stop by their homes after visiting the GKC Trade Market.

There are many who make Sunday Market possible, but today we want to focus on the ones who have committed one night every single weekend to go pick up the food. A team of young singles embrace Friday night donation pick-ups like the society embraces the nightlife. Another team of two families share their Saturday night's serving together, taking full advantage of their family time with their teenage children...

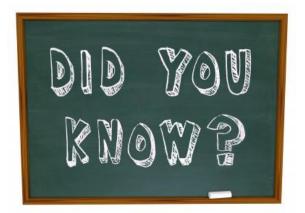
Taste and See What the Lord has Done

When Natalie Spronk came in 2014, she came with the clothing on her back, and maybe a few other items, as her suitcase was filled with products that would help her raise awareness about Kwathu Children's Home. Thanks to the sharing of many community members, she has never lacked for anything and has been gifted with clothing, jackets, shoes, toiletry items, food, dental care, and even a guitar. Through the organization, she is provided means of communication (a computer and cellphone), lodging and a vehicle for transportation. Her bedroom is a busy place of rest, worship, storage, fundraising and event organization. She has trusted God big time and He has shown off big time. Through her faith, persistent and courage, she has learned American culture, web and graphic design, marketing, creative writing, worship, Bible knowledge, simplicity, leadership, food rescue, photography, event planning, fundraising, mentorship, social media management, global team coordination, preservation, and constant flexibility.





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Do You Know How Much Your Contribution Mattered in 2017!?

2017 Grace Klein Community Fun Facts

(*stats calculated from 1st 3 quarters, estimated through the end of the year)

- 67,884 individuals fed through monthly food delivery and the GKC Trade Market
- 17,521 visits to our website from 6 continents
- 4,382 pictures, media link encouragements and educational training ideas shared to the GKC Market WhatsApp group
- 3,403 likes on Facebook
- •

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"And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony." - Colossians 3:14

HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED

Remember Our Smallness

Mighty Oaks Homeschool Co-op and Shelby Crossings Christian School hosted non-perishable food drives in support of the Grace Klein Community food delivery ministry.

A small army of Mighty Oaks families prepared 100 Thanksgiving bags while Shelby Crossing Christian School incorporated their share into a serve day at Grace Klein Community.

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I Cared Enough

On November 21, 2017, <u>Daniel Cason</u>
<u>Ministries</u> hosted their 12th annual "I Cared
Enough" Thanksgiving week meal and food
distribution at Fair Park Arena.

Grace Klein Community provided warm clothing, of all sizes, to keep friends warm this winter, and groceries for participants to take with them as they left the love feast.

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A Different Kind of Gift

Grace Klein Community strives to be active in the local business community. One way we stay involved is participating in events hosted by both the Hoover and Vestavia Hills Chambers of Commerce. In November, Grace Klein Community attended 7 different Chamber of Commerce events with more than 750 businesses owners represented.

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THANK YOU to the 168 individuals & families who shared in tangible donations this month!



thank you



THANK YOU to the 102 individuals and families as well as the 15 businesses and churches who gave financially this month!

MEET OUR NEWEST BUSINESS PARTNERS

Grace Klein Community would like to express our sincere thanks to our Business Partners for their support.



"We, here at Sky Zone Hoover, are in the business of awesome, healthy fun with a core value to "Do Good." When we learned about Grace Klein Community, we jumped at the opportunity to partner with them. What better way to express our motto and core value than to help reach our community's most basic needs creating an atmosphere of awesome, healthy fun for everyone! We look forward to working alongside Grace Klein Community to "Do Good" and bless the people in our area." – Sky Zone Hoover