

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST PHILIPPIANS 4:13 WHO STRENGTHENETH ME



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Volume 4; Issue #1

Grace Klein Community Newsletter

January 2018

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February 2018: [Love Does](#)
 02/11/2018: [Mercedes Marathon - Volunteer](#)
 02/23/2018: [Help Move Food Boxes](#)
 02/24/2018: [Monthly Food Delivery](#)

EVENT HIGHLIGHT

Love Does – February Community Challenge

In Matthew 22, Jesus describes the two greatest commandments as “Love God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind,” and “love your neighbor as yourself.” As Christ-followers, let’s show our neighbors that we mean it when we say “I love you,” by expressing it to them in our actions, whether small or large. Here are some examples:

1. Show your love for an ill person in the hospital by visiting, bringing flowers, and maybe a meal for them to partake in. Sit and talk and pray with them. Come to GKC, and we’ll provide the flowers and the food.
2. Show your love for local teachers by running by GKC and picking up some sweet treats for them, and dropping them in a local school breakroom.
3. Show your love for your local police or firefighters by grabbing some food from the GKC Trade Market and stopping by to give them a blessing at their workplace.
4. Show your love for a single mama by stopping by with a food box, easing the burden of the grocery bill while also providing an opportunity for fellowship.
5. Show your love for your neighbor by inviting them over for a meal! GKC can provide the food! Hey, just because Grace Klein’s “[Come to the Table](#)” Challenge is over doesn’t mean you can’t still challenge yourself to invite your neighbors to come to the table!

Let’s use this February to express to our neighbors just how much God loves them, and how much we love them, with our actions. P.S. Remember to send in your “Love Does” stories to natalie@gracekleincommunity.com so we can share the stories of how the Lord worked through you in your “Love Does” efforts at the end of the month!

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GRACE KLEIN
<COMMUNITY>

OUR PURPOSE

To Demonstrate the Love of Christ

Grace Klein Community exists as an educational and charitable 501(c)3 non-profit 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

"In the end, love doesn't just keep thinking about it or planning for it.

Simply put:
Love does!"

Bob Goff



Have you seen "BIG Green?"

Through a generous grant from the [Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham](#), a collaboration of community members, including [Print Smart Inc.](#), [Flex](#), [Eric Dunkerley](#), [Keely Sapp](#) and our 2018 box truck sponsor and committed business partner, [Supreme Lending Birmingham](#), we have a new look for the road!!

Give us a friendly honk when you see "big green" and say a prayer for Birmingham.

If only this truck could talk... IMAGINE the stories it would tell!

"In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father." – Matthew 5:16

Local Efforts

2018 Food Delivery Dates and Volunteer Opportunities

Slight changes were made to our 2018 Food Delivery dates. See the corrected food delivery dates for 2018 [HERE](#). We would love to have you and your family serve alongside us to care for these families and share the HOPE of Christ through our simple acts of kindness.

Our monthly food delivery ministry is a great way to get involved in the community of Birmingham, Alabama. Volunteers go out, once a month, all over Birmingham to deliver food boxes to love on families. But, it's about so much more than food... we seek to build relationships with people and walk through hard times with them. We wholeheartedly believe that meaningful, long-term relationships are a key factor in alleviating poverty. [READ MORE](#) about how God uses Grace Klein Community to impact others through the monthly food delivery ministry.



January 2018 Update on the "Moon"

"The year 2016 was the year of Evan's brain cancer diagnosis and surgery. The year 2017 was the year of Evan's dad being diagnosed and treated for thyroid cancer. We are declaring 2018 as the year of continued healing and recovery.

Evan's December MRI showed "no change" from the October MRI which is wonderful news because the October report was "stable and decreased". The cancer area is visible as just a small scar tissue area. His doctors and therapists are very pleased with his progress and he will continue surveillance MRI testing every two months through this June."

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Global Efforts

Nathaniel Visits Birmingham – Madhuri's Mission

This month, we had the privilege of hosting Nathaniel Kodavatikanti, one of our Indian ministry partners. He has been in the US visiting his sister in Baltimore and his travel plans allowed him to spend some time with all of us in Birmingham. While he was here, we were able to introduce him to ministry leaders, friends and family members. He spoke to school groups and small groups and worshiped with us on Sunday. One of the highlights of his trip was serving with the Grace Klein Community Food Delivery on Saturday morning. Nathaniel was pleased to see so much food going to friends in need, and he enjoyed getting to be a part of it.

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When God Says “Go” What Do We Do?

“When your friends who live an ocean apart could do with a little more encouragement, what would you do? Get the cheapest flight possible and jump on it even if it will take you 72+ hours to get there. My wife and I get quite amped with seemingly random and spontaneous God assignments. We prayed and received peace that I should come and spend time with our friends this side of the Globe.

Experiencing the people we love and care for once again has been relieving. We have had times of laughter, sheer joy, worship and much longed for fellowship, making the two years that Prima and I have not traveled to the US seem like half a lifetime apart from some of our most treasured friends in the whole world.

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“For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.” – 1 Corinthians 3:9

„FOL WE ARE GOD’S FELLOW WORKERS. YOU ARE GOD’S FIELD, GOD’S BUILDING.” – 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9 **BETTER TOGETHER** „OD, 2 PUUQUINB” – 1 CORINTHIANS 3:9

“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.

All to Jesus

We need more insanely crazy Jesus followers in our community. Sud makes us better as he gives everything, working with all Christ’s energy that so powerfully works in him. It looks like simple, childlike surrender, maybe even a hint of over-zealous and appears excitement driven, but dear friends, the surrender has come with great cost and Sud has found that there in that deep cost is where the freedom lies. He has chosen to be a follower of Jesus, not a mere fan. He has chosen to want the more and the more and the more because what he has tasted of Jesus has left him with an insatiable thirst and longing for more.

Ready for the next Jesus conversation with Sud as we take another crazy ride in the box truck, go for a bike ride, sit around a campfire for worship, eat some more Indian food, and share the Word together. Come join in and get to know this brother whose joy is so contagious that you will be smiling, encouraged and finding yourself doing something you never thought you would do.

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Connector of Commonalities

Some people are connectors. God makes them to live so intentionally that they notice everyone around them and they can easily connect. They see the commonalities they share (with every person in the world!!) and they can go to those places within seconds of hello. One of our Grace Klein Community connectors is Monica McClendon. She’s magnetic, her life draws people to her and she instantly becomes your family.

If you haven’t met her, you will know the second you do. Connectors are so calming, thoughtful, engaging and others focused that we are draw to them. She’s someone that makes you feel safe in her presence and deeply wanted. Grace Klein Community is better for having Monica as a connector of all our various volunteers.

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Breaking Bread: A "Come to the Table" Lifestyle

"During the month of January 2018, Grace Klein Community issued the "Come to The Table Challenge," a challenge that would strive to bring community together to recognize the importance of, and recapture the joy in inviting a guest to our homes to share a meal. The challenge was simple: Using food provided by the Grace Klein Community trade market, invite a guest over for a meal, put down your phones, listen and share. Your guest could be a stranger you want to become a new friend, a family member, or even a person with which you have a conflict to resolve. The goal was simply to provide our community with opportunities to give grace, show generous hearts, share in our joys and pains, and lead us all to Jesus in praise and thankfulness for the bread being broken and the life being shared.

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"So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." – 1 Corinthians 10:31

HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED

Stevenson Klotz Beats and Books Surprise

When our brother and ministry partner of Beat and Books, South Africa arrived in Birmingham for a visit this month, he was SO surprised by a stash of books from Florida.

"This is amazing because we can see how much our friends in Florida still think about us. I am deeply grateful for the relationship we have with the [Stevenson Klotz Law Firm](#)." – Cornelius Ngosa

Dawson Family of Faith Serve Day

We were blessed to have over 100 students from [Dawson Family of Faith](#) serve at various Grace Klein Community assigned sites on January 13, 2018. The students were divided into groups that served at the [Grace Klein Community house](#) and the Grace Klein Community office, as well as with ministry partners, Metro CME, [Forward in Faith Ranch](#) and [Liberty Church Birmingham](#).

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When Worlds "Collide"

"On January 27, 2018, the halls of the Grace Klein Community office were filled with energy, singing, and laughter as 24 members of the Church at Brook Hills youth ministry gathered together for a "serve day" at the Grace Klein Community office. These 7th grade students showed a true heart of generosity and service..."

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THANK YOU to the 65 individuals & families who shared in tangible donations this month!



thank you



THANK YOU to the 67 individuals and families as well as the 10 businesses and churches who gave financially this month!

MEET OUR NEWEST BUSINESS PARTNERS

"Having worked with several Grace Klein Community friends over the past several months, I have found that this ministry is indeed being the "hands and feet" of Jesus in so many ways. As Executive Director of Alabama Justice Ministries Network, my role is to assist with the re-entry of ex-offenders into the Kingdom of God first and equip them to become productive members of our community by leading people to know Christ as they learn to know the Body of Christ here on earth. So many people have been preached at, but not taught. As we work together, our unity will demonstrate how ministry partnerships can effectively meet the needs of others through Jesus."

– Donna Singleton, [Alabama Justice Ministries Network](#)

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

