

Volume 4; Issue #4

Grace Klein Community Newsletter

April 2018

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May 2018: <u>May Miracles</u> 05/18/2018: <u>Help Move Food Boxes</u> 05/19/2018: <u>Monthly Food Delivery</u> 05/25/2018: <u>Camping Week Starts</u>

EVENT HIGHLIGHT Camping Week: May 25 – June 2, 2018

Camping week will be here before you know it! Register your family now to join us for a meal, a night or multiple nights! Camping week will start Friday, May 25, 2018, and end Saturday, June 2, 2018, at Oak Mountain State Park. Site numbers A35-43 have been booked close together and we will share all common meals on one of these sites.

CLICK HERE to register!



For each night you wish to book, please contribute \$35 per family, per night. If your family exceeds four, please add an additional \$5 per person, per night. If coming as a single, sleeping in your own tent, please contribute \$20 per night. Then, you may add extra if you feel led to donate towards food, drinks and paper products etc.

We will plan unique meals every evening, salads, dips and sandwiches for lunches and a mix of hot and cold meals for breakfast options. As a frame of reference, some meals we've shared in the past include: fishfrys, kabobs, grilled chicken, shrimp and grits, hamburgers and hotdogs, grilled veggies etc. We eat good!

Each family/tent, will be asked to prepare a meal and clean up during camping week. Everyone jump in and help to make camping week fun for all. If you have snacks, paper products, ice and drinks to share, please bring them along to contribute.

In the past our activities have included: night hiking, star gazing, team workouts, canoeing, fishing, communion, worship, prayer, swimming, biking etc. You'll have a blast!





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





May Miracles

For the month of May, let us pause and remember the miracles that God has given us (so far) in 2018. Email your testimonials to natalie@gracekleincommunity.com and every day in May we will share a 2018 miracle on our social media platforms.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." – Matthew 7:7

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

CLICK HERE to read one of our favorites from April!

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." – John 13:35

Local Efforts "Moon" Progress

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"Home physical therapy continues including an almost daily routine with the exercise bike, in preparation for Evan to return to cycling using a three wheel cycle. Plans are in progress to obtain an adult tricycle through **Redemptive Cycles**. Evan's physical and occupational therapy at Emory will resume in May. Evan's latest MRI results are wonderful. The medical report says good and stable. What a wonderful gift! MRI testing will continue every two months. Evan stays busy with therapies, doctor appointments, wonderful visits from friends, Sunday night church, Lego building, occasional trips, and he is participating in an online discipleship class that a friend graciously gifted him. He had a relaxed and enjoyable camping trip near Hiawassee that included campfires and meeting new friends. The Lego display shelves are filling up with kits and some of his own creations. Thank you to family and friends for gifting him with Legos for fun and therapy.



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God Speaks to All of Us

Our community members are the heartbeat of Grace Klein Community. Without volunteer leadership, we would miss so many cool ideas and opportunities to share God's love around Birmingham.

Margaret Wilson gave us ideas on how to use stale bagels. She used chocolate chip bagels to make a bagel bread pudding for her neighbor. Then, with the whole wheat bagels she made bagel chips, picked up some spinach dip and delivered that yumminess to her local fire station.

Another member, Angela Warren, made cake bits for Teacher's Appreciation week with rescued doughnuts. <u>READ MORE</u>

Hope Restored

One important facet of Grace Klein Community is empowering community to care for one another in Jesus' name. Each person is noticing other people, hearing their stories, meeting friends in brokenness, ministering to neighbors, sharing food with those who are struggling, really listening and stepping out in faith for one another. As community members discover legitimate situations, that need a big dose of love and community support, they bring the scenarios to Grace Klein Community as a referral for our Assistance Program.

One such approved referral, from April 2018, was the following story that a community member emailed to her friends: <u>READ MORE</u>





<u>Global Efforts</u> Bambelela Drum Circle

Do you know the meaning of Bambelela?

Bambelela is a Zulu word, one of South Africa's native languages, meaning "Hold on." Though we named the event purposefully to encourage participants, perhaps God had other reasons.

What you might not know... two weeks prior to the Bambelela Drum Circle we were *still* begging God for the provision of drums, ultimately making the event possible. All those working behind the scenes were literally "holding on" to the edge of our seats in patience, trusting the Lord would provide in His perfect timing. <u>READ MORE</u>

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." – John 15:13

BETTER TOGETHER

"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.

Her as the Herald

Rachael contributes to the GKC in ways, that can make a heart very happy, and at ease, with a full grasp of: what happens at Grace Klein Community; what its mission is; and what effects it has on its surroundings. As our herald, she is spreading all the when, where, why, how, and what to the ears and eyes of the rest of the world and ultimately building a bigger and better community.

Now to illustrate this young lady, in my own personal account, would be to use this word broken into syllables... EN-ER-GY! She's like a little super fly that's impossible to squash! She has great focus and resolve, and is quite educated in her field. I also don't know if I'm aware of a funnier or goofier girl. Rachael makes me laugh a lot, especially when she tries to dance (please stop Rach, please!). Her spirit is remarkably infectious, and working with Rachael through marketing and networking, for GKC, is always such a delightful pleasure for me. Rachael has more ambition then the amount of gravitational force holding her to the floor, and she's without a doubt going to achieve her goals in life, and all because of His Glory. <u>READ MORE</u>





Volunteer of the Heart

Tish discovered Grace Klein through Liberty Church and through her friendship with Joel and Gayle Gilbert. Tish very diligently helped with GKC when it was still in its infantile stage well before food pickups and many of the different outreaches of today's mission. Tish was also involved in her church quite well and has spent some good time being a Christian counselor in the past. I definitely can tell by speaking with her what a fine counselor she still is.

Now, because of her ailing back issues and health concerns, Tish cannot get out to physically volunteer her efforts to GKC, like she did in the past, or really get out just about anywhere for that matter, but where she does shine, in the volunteer aspect, where she matters on such a magnificent scale the most, is in the heart, is in the mind, is in the spirit. From a spiritual stand point she prays and believes blessings for Grace Klein and everyone who makes it what it is today. In my uneducated opinion, I'd say her volunteer-ship is a gold standard warranting the highest of praise.

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5 Loaves and 2 Fish

At the beginning of April, two serve days were on the calendar. Two. Perhaps we thought we would not have sufficient help for the month ahead... God had other plans. As each day of April unfolded, so did the surprise calls of news that more churches and schools wanted to get involved with various Grace Klein Community serve projects. With all that God continues to bring our way, a serve day is never turned down. Help is always appreciated, and so desperately needed. Two serve days turned into six! (Kinda reminds me of the 5 loaves and 2 fish story!) God is in the business of multiplying... no area left unmet.



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"In the same way, let your light shine before all men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." - Matt 5:16

HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED

Boys Scouts Speaking Engagement April 2, 2018

Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 23 for allowing Grace Klein Community to share our hearts for feeding food insecure families at your troop meeting on April 2, 2018.

We thank the Phoenix patrol for adopting Grace Klein Community as your designated non-profit!

#bettertogether

BAHU Food Delivery April 20, 2018

Our friends from Birmingham Association of Healthcare Underwriters, along with other community members, gave their all this month filling food boxes with nonperishables for our food recipient families.

A funny is Steve arrived in his suit coat and left in his undershirt because he worked so hard. Food box prep work is no joke folks!

Tables of Love Dinner April 23, 2018

On April 23, 2018, we were invited to FBC Helena to share at the Tables of Love Dinner. Members of the church decorated each table with intentional bible verses and themes as an encouragement to all attendees. A generous offering of over \$500 was received for the local food ministry of Grace Klein Community.

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THANK YOU to the 73 individuals & families who shared in tangible donations this month!



thank you



THANK YOU to the 139 individuals and families as well as the 15 businesses and churches who gave financially this month!

Meet our Newest Business Partners

"We are so excited to partner with Grace Klein because we believe in your mission. Powerful things can occur when we build relationships and create authentic community. We know that our diapers can play a small part in this much larger, beautiful story." – <u>Bundles of Hope</u>

Grace Klein Community would like to express our sincere thanks to our <u>Business Partners</u> for their support. Business Partners help make it possible for Grace Klein Community to provide food, clothing, and essential household items to aid individuals and families in need throughout the Birmingham Metro area and around the world.

