

# Star of Wonder



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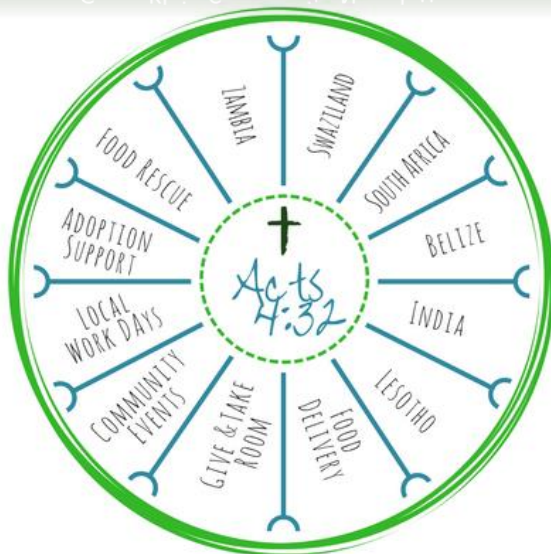
Grace Klein Community Newsletter

November 2018

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## 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](http://www.gracekleincommunity.com)

- December: [Gifts for the Forgotten](#)
- 12/21/2018: [Help Move Food Boxes](#)
- 12/22/2018: [Monthly Food Delivery](#)

### Event Highlight Gifts for the Forgotten

As we partner together to care for hearts, consider a tangible share for Christmas or give financially via [www.gracekleincommunity.com/donate](http://www.gracekleincommunity.com/donate). Grace Klein Community will be caring for various individuals who are often forgotten. Thank you for being a part of remembering our community for the Christmas season.

Our hearts are compelled to care for **single parents** who are dedicated to working (often multiple jobs) and sacrificing time and resources to raise children in stable, healthy and safe environments with a focus on holistic care of Jesus presence, community support, education, exercise, and healthy food choices.

The Lord has also called us to care for **homeless friends** in our community, specifically teenagers living on the streets in Birmingham. [READ MORE](#)

# Tis the Season





### **Meet our Newest Staff Member**

“God truly is the Circle Maker and the Producer of "all things working together for good." He has shown His Sovereignty and faithfulness in my life in more ways than one, especially in my relationship with Grace Klein Community.

I was first introduced to this ministry in 2011 when serving out the end of an initial 10 year prison sentence at the Lovelady Center. I had graduated the program and was in need of many items for my new apartment. Having lost everything years earlier due to a drug and alcohol addiction, I had absolutely nothing to start over with except Jesus Christ. What I didn't realize at the time was, that along with Him came life-giving connections to His people. Enter Grace Klein Community. I was given their number to contact for free items for my apartment. Honestly, it sounded too good to be true, but I made the call and a lifelong friendship was born.” [READ MORE](#)

“Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.” – Psalm 47:1

### **Local Efforts**

#### **Mountain Chapel UMC Serve Day**

On serve days, every group of volunteers bring their own unique set of strengths and personalities, and Mountain Chapel United Methodist Church was no exception. This group of teenagers and their chaperones were as diligent in duty as they were gentle in spirit. It seems as though teenagers get a bad reputation for being selfish or lazy by many of the older generations, but this group of incredible teens definitely blew this misconception out of the water! The young ladies and gentleman spent their time of service at the up-and-coming Community House bright and early one Saturday morning. Everyone arrived, bundled up in their best winter-gear, and were ready to help make a difference!

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#### **Redstone Church Serve Day**

During this time of year, some of man’s best traits seem to be amplified. During this season of thanks and charity, generosity and love seem to flow freely. Redstone Church members served as an excellent example of work ethic and generosity at Grace Klein Community. 34 volunteers from Redstone Church gave of their time, muscle, and skills to help improve the GKC office and assist at our November Monthly Food Delivery. At the office, adults and children helped clean the house from top to bottom–these wonderful volunteers put their elbow grease into all corners of the building, ultimately leaving it looking better than brand new!

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#### **College and Career Day - Hayes K-8 Elementary School**

On November 1, 2018, Grace Klein Community was invited to Hayes K-8 Elementary School to participate in the College and Career Day. One of the goals was to build connections with community members and to extend the students views of their future educational plans. From 9:00 – 1:00 pm 750 students from K5 through 8th grade came through the gymnasium where approximately 40 vendor booths were stationed. The older students carried clipboards with specific questions, like, “Do you have to have a college degree?” and “Do you like your boss?” One young man asked, “Do you have benefits?”

Most of the students were very inquisitive about Grace Klein Community and wanted to have a job helping people when they get older. Some of the younger children wanted to take the displayed food and shoes home to their family which opened my eyes more to the plight of our city. [READ MORE](#)





## **Cranksgiving – Redemptive Cycles**

Happy Cranksgiving? That’s right... Grace Klein Community was honored to be the beneficiary for Redemptive Cycles Cranksgiving ride this year. Redemptive Cycles mission is to redeem the streets. They believe that equipping people with bicycles makes Birmingham a more connected, comfortable, and livable city. They sell new and used bikes and have a repair shop. Most of their rides take off right out back in the alley behind the shop. Riders began their almost 15-mile journey around Birmingham on Saturday, November 3, about 1:00 pm and stopped at designated pick up points to fill up their backpacks with as many items as they could. Items like peanut butter, rice, canned meat, nuts, dried fruit snacks, toilet paper, and new underwear. By 4:30 pm all riders had crossed the finish line and unloaded their packs. The items were counted and weighed to determine winners. There were winners according to weight and volume. [READ MORE](#)

“Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.” – Isaiah 12:6

## **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.



## **Training Up Boys**

Preston has provided his inner and physical strength in virtually every facet of service. He has played bodyguard during Sunday Food Market, ensuring that the non-perishable items are saved for the families who receive a monthly food box. He also lends a helping hand at evening GKC events. For instance, during the Food Drive Jam (please follow [this link](#) to read more about the event,) Preston played the role of the manliest man—the grill master! At Sunday Markets, the Food Drive Jam, Drum Circles or a hands on day renovating the new [community house](#), Preston has his whole family in tow!

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## **She Will Not Fall**

We all know a woman who lights up any room she enters, or the woman who has never met a stranger. At GKC, one such woman is Terry Zuniga. Her bold personality cannot go unnoticed, nor can her boisterous voice go unheard. One top of that, her purity of heart and intention is truly remarkable--she is a walking example of the power of restoration and how God never gives us a task we cannot overcome.

Though Terry has only been with GKC a handful of months, she has poured all of herself into this organization. Her commitment to the community obvious--in fact, she even explained how she views her volunteerism with Grace Klein as she would a job. She works with GKC days, nights, and even some weekends! Terry can be found sorting clothes and goods in the Give and Take Room, at the office steps hauling in new deliveries, or down on the ground floor sorting and organizing food for her friends and other community families.

Speaking of her friends, Terry has helped recruit several people to GKC, either to receive or to volunteer--or both. She seems to endlessly serve whatever community she is in, whether it is Grace Klein, a group of her friends, or the greater community as a whole. Her bounty of support and encouragement is magnetic, to say the least.

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## Food Drive Jam

“Since becoming an adult, I’ve been on a constant search for what I was made to do in the world. There have been many victories and defeats over the years, but recently I’ve been introduced to and entrusted with incredible opportunities that seem to suit me perfectly. The 2018 Food Drive Jam is a perfect example of that.

When God gave me the idea it was as clear as a cloudless sky that it was something I’d been getting prepared to do for years. As my passions for food rescue and music have both been fanning into bright hot flames, particularly over the last 3 years, hosting a food drive concert is a perfect storm of two of my favorite things to do.”

[READ MORE](#)

“Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord’s people.” – Philemon 1:7

“ΔΟΤΗ ΤΟΛΕ ΠΩΣ ΕΙΛΕΘΙ ΜΕ ΕΙΛΕΘΙ ΤΟΛ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΕΣΑΙΜΕΝ” **HERE’S WHAT YOU MISSED** “ΕΙΛΕΘΙ ΤΗΣ ΜΕΛΕΤΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΓΟΛΩΣ ΒΕΘΟΙΒΕ” – ΦΙΛΙΜΩΝ 1:7

### What Love Does

The month of November surprised us from many of our Birmingham partners.

Boys Scout Troop 23, Western Supermarkets, Mighty Oaks Homeschool Cooperative, ZETA girls from Samford University, St. Martin’s in the Pines and Grace, a United Methodist Congregation ALL hosted food drives in support of your monthly Food Delivery Ministry.

[READ MORE](#)

### Daniel Cason, I cared Enough Thanksgiving Outreach

For a few years we have shared from our abundance for the I Cared Enough Thanksgiving Outreach through clothing, food, prayer. But this year, God allowed us to help with clothing, groceries, pickup/delivery of food, inviting in new volunteer teams, prayer support and a general “what’s mine is yours” linked arms, we are with you, partnership.

[READ MORE](#)

### Thanksgiving Togetherness

A good meal brings family and friends together and allows for a platform to discuss everything from the mundane to the serious. Meals can serve as vehicle to promote community and bring about togetherness. GKC and Church of the Highlands, Grandview Campus, understand this, and therefore decided to give back to one of the groups that gives the most: single-mothers.

[READ MORE](#)



**THANK YOU** to the 72 individuals & families who shared in tangible donations this month!

*thank you*

**THANK YOU** to the 78 individuals and families as well as the 20 businesses and churches who gave financially this month!

### MEET OUR NEWEST BUSINESS PARTNERS

“We are healed to help others. We are blessed to be a blessing. There are countless opportunities to serve those around us and to bring glory to our Heavenly Father. I am honored to have the opportunity to partner with Grace Klein Community whose grass roots operation supports our local community on every level, selflessly serving families here and abroad.” – Tricia Nowak, [That Hippie Girl](#)

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

