

GLORIFYING GOD IN ALL WE SAY AND DO

# THE GROVE

VOL 19 - Jan 2026

a new  
**LOOK**



# WORSHIP WITH US

WE'D LOVE TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY AT EITHER OF OUR TWO SERVICES—8:30 AM OR 11:00 AM.

EACH SERVICE OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE AUTHENTIC, SPIRIT-FILLED WORSHIP AND BIBLICALLY GROUNDED PREACHING THAT SPEAKS TO THE HEART AND SOUL. WHETHER YOU'VE BEEN WALKING WITH JESUS FOR YEARS OR ARE JUST BEGINNING TO EXPLORE FAITH, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE. WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR FAMILY, AND ANYONE IN NEED OF THE HOPE AND GRACE FOUND IN JESUS CHRIST.

THERE'S A PLACE FOR EVERYONE AT ANTHONY GROVE, AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO WORSHIP WITH YOU!

AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT WEDNESDAY NIGHTS! JOIN US AT 5:30 PM FOR A DELICIOUS DINNER—JUST \$5 PER PERSON—with all proceeds going to SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. THEN STICK AROUND FOR OUR MIDWEEK SERVICE AT 6:30 PM AS WE GATHER FOR A TIME OF WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND DIGGING INTO GOD'S WORD TOGETHER. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU!



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# EDITOR'S LETTER



Dear Beloved,

I hope that this first newsletter of the new year brings hope to you all as our church continues to move forward in accomplishing God's will. When we look back at all that took place in 2025 let us not forget the words of the late Charles Spurgeon, " This past year is another year of my Lord's faithfulness and love." Remember to not get lost in looking back, because we to live for the hope that God has promised a future with Him for all eternity. Our mission is still not complete. This new year is still in its infancy and we have so many blessings from God awaiting us all.

This month is a time to rest and regroup. December was a wonderful month full of many wonderful events that God used to draw people to Himself. Now, we can celebrate all that God has accomplished, pray for clarity in our next steps, and create disciples who will join us in worshiping the one true King.

As always, I am incredibly blessed to serve you.

May God bless you all and keep your ways pure!

Rev. Michael Purcell  
Pastor of Communications & Outreach

*The lovingkindnesses of*

**YAHWEH**

*never cease; His*

**COMPASSIONS**

*never fail.*

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LAMENTATIONS 3:22

2026

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>New Years Day</b>	2	3
4 <b>Discipleship Potluck - 5PM</b>	5	6 <b>Worship Practice - 6:30PM</b>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 <b>Worship Practice - 6:30PM</b>	14	15	16	17
18	19 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>	20 <b>Worship Practice - 6:30PM</b>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 <b>Worship Practice - 6:30PM</b>	28	29	30	31

# What is the Treasure of Your **HEART?**

by: Pastor Michael Purcell

- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By keeping it according to Your word.
- 10 With all my heart I have sought You;  
Do not let me stray from Your commandments.
- 11 Your word I have treasured in my heart,  
That I may not sin against You.
- 12 Blessed are You, O Yahweh;  
Teach me Your statutes.
- 13 With my lips I have recouned  
All the judgments of Your mouth.
- 14 I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies,  
As much as in all riches.
- 15 I will muse upon Your precepts  
And look upon Your ways.
- 16 I shall delight in Your statutes;  
I shall not forget Your word.

*Psalm 119:9-16 (LSB)*

What do you like to collect?

Are you a shoe collector? Maybe you collect Zippo lighters. I know a few mechanics who like to collect junk cars that they promise to one day fix up. Your kids and grandkids might collect Pokémon cards.

For the men reading this, ask your wife what things you collect, and she will tell you.

We live in a time when our society has adopted a culture of collecting things. We collect because there is a feeling of satisfaction when we get that item we've been waiting for. There may be a heartstring attached to the reason why you collect a certain item. Unfortunately, many people make idols of the things they collect, and they keep getting more and more because they believe these things give them value and purpose.

No matter what we collect, or how much we accumulate in our lifetime, it will never be enough to satisfy us. These things will never last long enough for us to enjoy on the other side of eternity. In fact, only one thing in this world will remain after time comes to an end.

We collect because our hearts desire a treasure that we can cling to for comfort, show off to others, and weigh on the scales of life's ultimate purpose. The issue isn't having things; the issue is that many of us treasure the wrong thing. God made us to treasure His Word. We are lost in this broken world and cannot find our way, but as we continue to move forward, we begin gathering things along the way. God gave us His Word so that we can have a treasure that will do more for us than all the tea in China. It is a treasure that brings satisfaction to our hearts. The Word is the treasure our hearts desire, and it is the map that leads us down a path of righteous living and ultimately back to God.

In Psalm 119:9–16, we read about why we need to make the Word of God the treasure our hearts desire. Take a moment to read the text. Once you are done, come back, and we will look at three outcomes of making God's Word the treasure in

our hearts.

## **The Word of God Keeps Our Ways Pure**

The author of this psalm, whom I believe to be King David, writes that a young man keeps his ways pure by keeping his life in line with the Word of God. This treasure from heaven is not just the prize at the end of a journey. It's not the reward for finding the X on the map. God's Word is the map that leads us down the path of righteousness, which ends at the throne of God. There we can stand before our Creator holy and blameless. This is not because we did anything good. Our restored relationship with God comes from the gift of grace, and the Word tells us that this gift came at the cost of our Savior's life.

We walk in purity because we walk with a Savior whom we find when we build our lives upon the teachings of God's Word, because this Word will always point us to Him. We keep our lives pure because Jesus is pure, and He tells us how we must live through the Word of God.

The beauty of this psalm is that we see the author's heart. He opens it up for us to see that he desires to be in the Word. He longs to know it and live it out. In this text, we see that a pure life comes from a heart that seeks after God's Word. Do you ever get a craving for something? You begin playing the "Where Do You Wanna Eat?" game with your family, and every restaurant doesn't sound appealing until you hear the name of that one place that has what you've been craving.

This is your body telling your mind what it wants based on past experiences you've had with food. Your body needs a specific type of nourishment, which sends a message to your brain, and your brain searches its catalog of information from everything you've eaten. This process leads you to feel those cravings.

Our hearts crave the Word of God. We are to seek it every day. Just as we need food daily, our hearts need to be filled with the Word. Without it, how can we expect to live as followers of Jesus if we don't put in the spiritual fuel needed to keep us on the right path? Wake up every day and begin your day in the Word of God.

## **The Word of God Keeps Us in a Place of Worship**

One incredible aspect of God's Word is that it not only gives us a guide for living life, but it also provides us with songs to sing about Him. Living for God without worship is like trying to drive a car without wheels. The car cannot go anywhere without the right tires. If the Word is the fuel that keeps the car running, then worship is what moves the car forward. This wonderful psalm is an excellent reminder that we must worship God in specific ways.

First, we must make God the center of our worship. As we treasure the Bible, we cannot forget who gave it to us in the first place. God's Word points us back to the original Author, and as we sing the songs of praise found in these pages, we must keep our eyes, hearts, and minds focused on Him.

Second, we need to learn the Word of God if we are going to worship Him with excellence. How many times have you been listening to a song and, midway through singing it, realized that you've memorized the entire song? You never read the lyrics or studied the words, but you know exactly what the artist is going to sing. This is because music plays such an important role in our ability to learn and memorize things. You learned your ABCs, the U.S. presidents, and even the 50 states through song. Many of you are probably singing those songs in your head right now.

As we sing the Word of God in praise to Him, we must remember not to merely follow along in action. We must regard the words we sing with reverence and treasure them in our hearts so that we do not easily forget them.

Lastly, this psalm teaches us that we remain in a state of worship when we publicly proclaim the truth of Scripture to everyone. Is worship not more satisfying when it is done alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ? How do we ensure that more people are worshiping with us? We must tell them the good news of Jesus and proclaim that the Gospel is theirs to receive. You may have seen people wearing shirts in public that say, "Make Heaven Crowded." In order to do so, we must proclaim the Word of God publicly to those who need to hear it—which, according to God's Word, is everyone.

We worship God by focusing on Him, learning what He has told us through the Bible, and proclaiming the Gospel to all who have ears to hear.

## The Word of God Calls Us to Respond

This final point may feel redundant, but that redundancy is not a mistake. Scripture often repeats itself to show us what is most important. The author of this psalm concludes by telling us that we must rejoice in the treasure of God's Word, meditate on God's instructions, delight in its teachings, and remember the truth that comes only from God.

The author does not want to give us a simple instruction on honoring the Word of God. Instead, he shows us how we must wake up every day and respond to what God has given us. This daily routine of responding to God's Word marks us as His followers because we do not rejoice in the treasures of this world. We do not meditate on the ways this world tells us to think and believe. Followers of Christ do not delight in idols that draw us away from God's teaching.

While it is important to educate ourselves and learn information that helps us thrive in this world, we must not get lost in the details that keep us from living out the teachings of Scripture. If we are not careful, the treasures of our hearts will draw us away from the ultimate treasure found in God's Word.

One way we can prevent this from becoming our reality is by prioritizing the reading of God's Word as a daily routine. Do not let your mind wander to worldly things before allowing it to meditate on Scripture. Do not go to bed with worldly entertainment as the last thoughts on your mind. Instead, spiritually chew on Scripture and rest in the peace of knowing what God has commanded us to do.

I pray that this new year will be a time when you dedicate yourself to being in the Bible every day. Pray for me as I continue to be molded into the husband, pastor, and follower that God has called me to be. Finally, pray that we take the Bible everywhere we go so that the Gospel can spread like wildfire throughout our community.

May God be with you all in this year, and may He eternally bless you and yours!



# OUR MINISTRIES



**WEE KIDS** is an exciting time for our children to learn about the Bible, grow closer to Jesus, and have a great time with friends.

**CHILDREN BLAST** is where our children can worship together, hear an exciting message about the Bible, and understand how to be a part of the Anthony Grove family.



**IMPACT YOUTH** is dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of the teens in our church and the community. It might be the powerful Wednesday night message, the exciting activities, summer camp, or one of the other activities IMPACT generates. The leadership focuses teaching how to "Live It Out", even when faced with today's peer pressure.



**IGNITE YOUNG ADULTS** is dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of the college age students and young adults in our church and community. We meet to praise God, grow through the Word, and go into the world as Disciple Makers who want to see the Kingdom of God grow.

## ADULT MINISTRIES

**MEN'S MINISTRY** focuses on helping men grow in their walk with Christ, while using your skills and talents to meet the needs of our community. That's not all, they have wild game cook outs, fishing trips and many other adventurous activities.

**GOODTIMERS** Once you get a few years on you the fun has just begun. Whether retired, just plain tired, or active as ever, our senior group provides refreshment, ministry, and times of valuable interaction. A mentoring ministry gives older believers a chance to help disciple younger believers as we all grow in Christ together.

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY** is here to meet the needs of women inside and outside our congregation. They meet regularly to fellowship and support each other. They impact the lives of others by being an outreach program for military, foreign and local missions. Bonds are created in this ministry that last a lifetime.



**GO  
& MAKE  
DISCIPLES**

# PROJECT 3000

We're sending 300 missionary explorers to ensure that every people group has access to the gospel.

#### WHAT IS PROJECT 3000?

Over **3,000 people groups** around the world have **no missionary presence** and likely **no gospel access. No one is engaging them.**  
*Until now.*

Project 3000 is a concerted effort to ensure that every people group can access the gospel. Over the next five years, we're sending 300 missionary explorers to research every remaining people group with no known gospel presence.

Scan here to find out more!



Screenshot

# CLASSIFIEDS

## HELP WANTED

### BABY ROOM HELPERS

Our church is looking for people who want to work with young children and help out during Sunday morning and Wednesday night worship.

If interested, please see Penny Culp for more information.

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Our media and production team is looking for volunteers to help with live streaming, cameras, and more. If you have any questions, or feel like volunteering than see Pastor Clint Lanford.

## HELP WANTED

### BUS MINISTRY DRIVERS

Our Bus Ministry is need of a few people to help in picking up those who aren't able to come on their own to church.

### WEE KIDS VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking adults who have a calling to work with our children during Sunday morning services. Be a part of teaching, molding, and leading our kids to be closer to Christ. Please ask Marygrace Moyer and Christian Hahn

CONNECT  
WITH US



SCAN  
ME! >>



Help us by liking, following, and sharing with others.





# 2 WAYS TO GIVE

1 IN PERSON AFTER SERVICE

2 GIVE ONLINE



THE GROVE



## KEEP IN TOUCH

TEXT AGBC TO 84576

OR





**WELCOME**

**HOME SUNDAY'S**

**@ 8:30 & 11AM**