

I can't believe it's May already, and the school year is winding down. Southwestern Adventist University holds their graduation this Sunday, May 7. Burlison Adventist School will graduate their Kindergarten and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. And Burton Adventist Academy and Chisholm Train Academy will graduate their seniors on Saturday night, May 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be a busy, busy month for many of you!

Here at church, we are in a tiny lull between events, but here's what's coming up:

**THIS SABBATH** Jefferson Academy will be visiting us and presenting the Message of Hope for the worship hour. I'm sure it will include lots of great music.

Don't forget to take advantage of a continental style **BREAKFAST** in the Fellowship Hall this Sabbath from 9:15-10:00.

Then join a small group for Sabbath School and be prepared to discuss how your group can help with our community outreach, **FAMILY FIREWORKS FEST**.



So far only the Jr./Earliteen and High School Classes have turned in their preferred areas to adopt. I will include a copy of the sign-up sheet again and remind you that your group should **date and time stamp** the form since it's on a "first come – first served" basis. Drop your sign-up sheet in the wall folder holder outside of the church office door.

Please talk to either of the Pastors or me if you have any questions about this event or what the individual activities consist of.

## FAMILY FIREWORKS FEST SIGN UP TUESDAY, JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>

Please select (numerically) the top 3 areas your group would consider adopting

| ACTIVITY/RESPONSIBILITY                  | SMALL GROUP NAME | DATE/TIME STAMP |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Kiddie Train (driver provided)           |                  |                 |
| Face Painting / Temporary Tattoos        |                  |                 |
| Bounce Houses                            |                  |                 |
| Fishing Hole                             |                  |                 |
| Dunk Tank                                |                  |                 |
| Ice Water Distribution                   |                  |                 |
| Photo Booth                              |                  |                 |
| Hospitality Team                         |                  |                 |
| Prize Station (includes free literature) |                  |                 |
|  |                  |                 |

Please contact either of the Pastors or Liz Simons if you have questions about what each activity involves.

Additional activities/responsibilities are already covered by specific ministries or clubs (Concessions, Safety, Parking, Set-up & Take-down, VBS & BAS stations, The Journey Radio Station)

So, last Sabbath we joined a Texas wide SDA Church initiative to share **THE GREAT CONTROVERSY** with our neighbors in Burleson. Now, I'm going to admit that I was a little hesitant to take part in this because I'm not too keen about going door to door for *any* reason. But with the help of the Holy Spirit and some suggestions on what to say, it turned out to be a very good experience. We went in groups of three, and

if you were too shy to talk, then you got to be the silent prayer warrior at each door. Most people were receptive, and some even prayed with us! We hope you'll join us next time!

In case you didn't catch last week's letter, here is what we were sharing, and here's a couple of pictures of our group last Sabbath.



#### Thrive Magazine (English/Spanish)

In the writings of Ellen G. White, we are told that medical missionary work is an effective way of reaching hearts and preparing them for accepting the gospel. *Thrive* magazine is designed to be a companion to *The Great Controversy*, providing an entering wedge for you to share the health message along with the three angels' messages. The premier issue, themed "Coping in the Midst of Crisis," explains how the pandemic has affected mental health across North America and how to cope with it using God-

#### The Great Controversy (English/Spanish)

In light of current events and all that is going on in the world we have developed a new cover that draws the minds of people from the conflict to the future peace. With embedded QR codes, this full edition of *The Great Controversy* makes it easy for you to read, watch, or listen to the content within each chapter. This combination of the physical book with digital content makes this version more appealing and engaging to a wider audience.





And speaking of blessing our community... You may know that our church has a **MEALS ON WHEELS** route every Friday. Our MOW Team members take turns (once a month) and go to the fire station on Hidden Creek between 11:00 – 11:30 to pick up the meals and addresses for our route (three to six homes), deliver the meals, share a friendly word with the resident, and return the coolers to the fire station. All that takes about an hour and is a huge blessing to some of the elderly (often home bound) in Burleson.

I tell you all this to say that we could really use more volunteers! If you have Fridays off, work locally and can do this on your lunch break, or are retired and can spare an **hour/month**, we'd love to get you connected with this ministry. Just reply to this message and I'll hook you up!



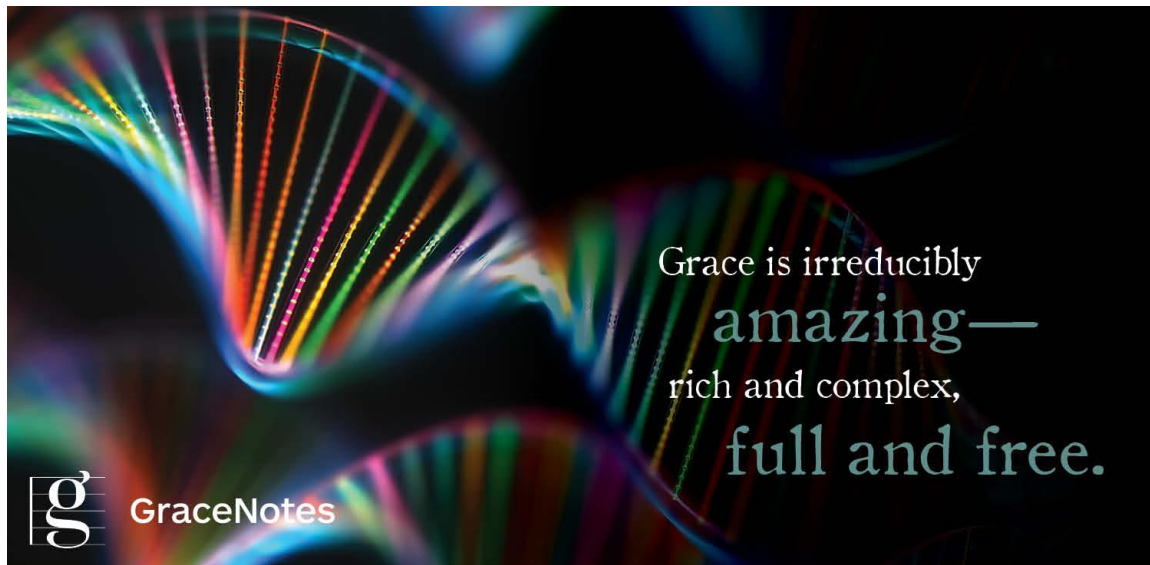
Just a reminder to sign the **THANK YOU CARDS** at the Connect Corner for the pastors who participated in our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on April 21-22. Many of you have already done this but I wanted to give one more week before I mailed them out.

I've posted some pictures of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend on our website. You can click [HERE](#) to see them. You'll want to click on each picture to enlarge it and read the captions. I'll post more as I have time.

That's all for this week, friends. May God continue to bless you and draw you close to Him throughout the week. See you on Sabbath!

~ Liz ~





Grace is irreducibly  
**amazing—**  
rich and complex,  
**full and free.**



Why is it we love lists so much—for diets, muscles, marriage, money—even friendships?

“Six Things You Should Never Eat.” “Eight Stretches You Can Do at Home.” “Five Ways to Fireproof Your Marriage.” “Three Best Investments for Recession.” And even “Ten Ways to Know if Friends Are Talking Behind Your Back.”

We want what’s big and daunting in our lives reduced to things we can accomplish. We cling to our illusion: each new list will simplify our lives; we can recapture lost control. We crave the magic of past centuries without the stardust and the spells. Aladdin’s cave should open when we master “Four Ways to Memorize Your Passwords.”

But all that’s deeply valuable in life can’t be reduced to numbered lists—love; faith; eternity; serenity; and joy. When the crowd once asked Jesus, “We want to perform God’s works, too. What should we do?” Jesus told them, “This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one He has sent” (John 6:28-29).

Grace is irreducibly amazing—rich and complex, full and free. Any faith that elevates its lists of obligations above receiving God’s affection has missed the point of Jesus. “This is how God loved the world: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Trust God to get it right. And stay in grace.

—Bill Knott

#### FUNNIES:

- Did you know that Ophthalmologists love a good dad joke? The cornea the better.
- What do you call a reluctant potato? A hesitater.
- I told a joke on a Zoom Meeting, and no one laughed. It turns out I’m not remotely funny.
- My friend, Joe, went on the Dolly Parton diet. It made Joe lean, Joe lean, Joe lean, Joe lean...