

Monthly NEWSLETTER

March 2026/Vol 92



GTI COVER GIRLS

“God Specializes In...”

DID YOU KNOW

March 1, 1961

President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps, an organization sending young American volunteers to developing countries to assist with health care, education and other basic human needs.

March 10, 1862

The first issue of U.S. government paper money occurred as \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills began circulation.

March 25, 1807

The British Parliament abolished the slave trade following a long campaign against it by Quakers and others.

March 24, 1989

One of the largest oil spills in U.S. history occurred as the oil tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground in Prince William Sound off Alaska, resulting in 11 million gallons of oil leaking into the natural habitat over a stretch of 45 miles.

March Flower Daffodil

March Birthstone Aquamarine

Cover Girls February Fellowship Highlights

WELCOME BACK—WELCOME BACK TO ZOOM!

As we began signing on to Zoom, we jammed to the song, “He Worked it Out”. This song said it all, when Missionary Chelece Williams told us that our First Lady heard us and listened to us! She showed compassion and here we are! Back on Zoom. We all missed our monthly Zoom meeting.

Our hosts for the evening were Sister Delaney Edmunds and Missionary Ruth Brinkley. Sister Pamela Dennis got us started with prayer. In unison, we all said our Statement of Faith, which we followed with putting our favorite scripture in the chat.

Missionary Gail Webb took us back in history and time; and we so enjoyed her song of the month, “We Come This Far By Faith”, written by Albert A. Goodson.

Having health professionals, allows GTI to be blessed with good health information. Nurse Tina Chaney shared five key points:

1. Heart Health Matters
2. Listen to our bodies
3. Every season of life affects the heart
4. Knowing our numbers is an act of stewardship
5. Caring for our hearts honors God.

Happy Birthday to all those born in January and February. You have rested for months, so do not be

surprised when Sister Kathy Lyons returns with the Fellowship Stretch!

Missionary Sunny Vaughn has an amazing newsletter for our children; so, visit the GTI website for your copy. What can we say about our newsletter? Sister Angel Marshall and her team has added a new section; so, make sure to get your copy on 1st Sunday.

Lady Macklin just never stops. She called in when she could not make the Zoom meeting. And when she did make it home, she wasted no time pulling her team together to prepare for the 3rd Sunday Fellowship. The room displayed our heritage colors for Black History Month.

Mother Harper prayed, Missionary Kim Butler shared Ephesians 3:20, and Mother Payne welcomed everyone. Let’s not forget you got to be first in line, as well as received a gift if you’re celebrating a birthday in February.

When we look at both zoom and in-person fellowships, each have its pluses and minuses. Whether it is seeing those that are not able to come to church, or the delicious meal that’s not just for women but the entire church family, we thank our God for blessing us to come together!

PURPOSE

Your purpose is about being with God. Fellowship with him is the source from which everything else flows. (John 1:3).

Glad Tidings
International COGIC

970 Glad Tidings Way
Hayward, CA 94544
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Inspirational Testimony



Isabel Harris and Lynette Johnson

The Lord Brings Families Together

This is the testimony of two cousins. Their story is so amazing.

Lynette

I always have believed that God places us where we need to be. On the Second Sunday in January 2025, I invited a friend to visit Glad Tidings International Church with me. I asked her where she would like to sit because I normally sit in the overflow area. She wanted to sit up closer, so we sat towards the front.

During the service, this lady who had been sitting in front of us the entire time decided to join the church. When she returned to her seat after receiving the right hand of fellowship, Bishop Macklin asked the congregation to turn around and welcome the person in front of you. As I was shaking this lady's hand, we began staring at each other. She looked so familiar but I couldn't place her. Then she called me by my nick name, and I realized who she was.

It was my cousin, Isabel whom I hadn't seen in over 50 years. We embraced, grateful for this unexpected reunion. What a blessing that day was for us! It was such a joyous reunion, we just hugged each other.

Continue on page 6

Inspirational Scripture

Romans 5:3-4

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulations worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope:



Healthy Living HIV Awareness

Knowing the Facts, Breaking the Stigma

March is HIV Awareness Month

HIV, or Human Immunodeficiency Virus, is a virus that attacks the body's immune system. If not treated, it can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). Thanks to medical advances, many people living with HIV live long, healthy lives. Still, understanding, prevention, and compassion remain essential.

How Is HIV Spread?

HIV is spread through contact with certain body fluids such as blood, semen, vaginal fluids, rectal fluids, and breast milk. The most common ways HIV is transmitted include:

“You are a child of God. You are wonderfully made, dearly loved, and precious in His sight.” Psalm 139.



- Unprotected sex with someone who has HIV
- Sharing needles or syringes
- From mother to child during pregnancy, birth, or breastfeeding (if untreated)

You cannot get HIV from hugging, shaking hands, sharing food, or using the same toilet as someone with HIV.

Prevention & Testing

Use protection. Condoms reduce the risk of HIV and other STIs.

Get tested. The only way to know your status is to get tested. Testing is quick, confidential, and often free.

PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) is a daily medication that can lower the risk of getting HIV by up to 99% when taken correctly.

Encourage loved ones to get tested. Knowing your status helps protect both yourself and others.

Faith + Facts = Compassion

God calls us to love, not judge. Many living with HIV face rejection, even though the virus can affect anyone. **“Let all that you do be done in love.”** – 1 Corinthians 16:14. We are called to be informed, kind, and inclusive. Let's replace fear with facts and stigmas with support.

What Can You Do This Month?

- Educate yourself and your community
- Get tested and encourage others
- Support local HIV awareness events or health ministries
- Speak out against stigma

Every person matters. Every life is worthy of dignity and love. This March, let's move forward with understanding, healing, and hope.

Happy Birthday Greetings

We honor and celebrate
February Birthdays



Lynette Johnson



Carol Thomas



Marion Harris



Cathy White



Greetings Cover Girls

*We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome someday
Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We'll overcome someday*

*We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace
We shall live in peace someday
Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We'll live in peace someday*

This song is often lifted during Black History Month, but lately its message has felt especially personal. There is so much unrest and uncertainty around us. It seems that every time you turn on the news, there is another reason to be discouraged. Yet, no matter what is happening in the world, we hold on to a hope the world cannot comprehend. Scripture reminds us that we are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed. We overcome because we serve a mighty God who has already secured the victory. Tell yourself, “Not someday—but today and every day.”

With overflowing joy, I congratulate my daughter, Lady Mallori, and my son-in-love, Pastor Seth, on the birth of my 13th grandchild, Ezra Wells Cuningkin. He entered this world weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces. I may be a little biased, but he is absolutely beautiful. His big sister, Grace, already adores him and proudly embraces her new role. She is wonderfully protective. Please keep Baby Ezra in your prayers—that God will place a hedge of protection around him, shielding him from all hurt, harm, and danger, and that he will grow into the man of God he is destined to be.

Ladies, are you ready? It's here—the Cover Girls Women's Week Celebration! For the first time, we are celebrating an entire week, not just a weekend. This will be a powerful and anointed time in the Lord's presence. We believe God will meet us each night. On Sunday, March 22nd, we will gather in our beautiful Shades of Orange. I am truly excited about what God is going to do. Begin inviting your sister-friends now to be part of this incredible celebration.

As we move forward, let the love of God rest, rule, and abide in you daily. Let kindness flow from you wherever you go because kindness is not just something we do, it is who we are.

Blessings,
Lady Vanessa Macklin

God Specializes In...!

Today, I want to speak from a simple yet powerful truth: God specializes. What does that mean? It means God is not limited to general solutions, He is a specialist. He has expertise in areas where human ability reaches its limit. We serve a God who specializes in things that seem impossible.

The songwriter said it best: “God specializes in things thought impossible, and He can do what no other power can do.”

- **God specializes where logic fails.**
- **God specializes where resources run out.**
- **God specializes where doctors give reports, doors shut, relationships break, and hope feels delayed.**

In Scripture, we see God specializing again and again. When Israel was trapped between Pharaoh’s army and the Red Sea, God specialized in making a way where there was no way. Exodus 14:21–22 – Isaiah 43:16. When Sarah’s womb was barren, God specialized in bringing life out of impossibility. Genesis 18:14 – Hebrews 11:11. When David stood before Goliath, God specialized in victory through what looked small and insignificant. 1 Samuel 17:45–47. When Lazarus had been dead for four days, God specialized in resurrection power. John 11:43–44.

What others may call a mess, God calls a miracle in progress. What others may call the end, God calls a new beginning. What others label impossible, God labels an opportunity.

God will turn your:

- **messes into messages**
- **tests into testimonies**
- **wounds into wisdom**
- **delays into divine setups**

Some of us are standing in situations that feel too complex, too broken, or too late. But I came to remind you today—this is exactly God’s specialty.

God specializes in meeting you right where you are. He specializes and gives grace that fits your situation. He specializes in divine timing. He never arrives early or late but He arrives right on time. He specializes in the remarkable through those who simply trust and obey him.

So, if you’re facing something that feels beyond you, that’s not a disqualification—that’s an invitation. It’s an invitation for God to step in and show Himself strong. Because when God steps into a situation, failure is not final, delay is not denial, and the impossible becomes attainable. This is the mighty God we serve so...

Lift your expectations. Strengthen your faith. Rest in this truth. God specializes—and your situation is His specialty.

Written By:
Missionary Van Hill

The 64,000 Dollar Question

If we were to take the Women’s Weekend on the road, what city should be the host city?

Lady Vanessa Macklin - Las Vegas
Meredith Walker - Cabo Mexico
Angel Marshall - Paris France
Pamela Riley - Sausalito
Michelle Pierce - Los Angeles (Garment District)
Joymara Coleman - Alameda
Cynthia Garrison - Las Vegas
Tina Chaney - Anaheim
Sunny Vaughn - New York

Cheryl Bell - Anchorage, Alaska
Delanda Burgess - Los Angeles (Garment District)
Myrel Ross - Monterey
Traci Taylor - San Diego
Jacque Fennoy - Las Vegas
Isabel Harris - New York
Gloria Wright - Los Angeles
Pamela Dennis - Pismo Beach
Michelle Logan - Maui
Jackie Forks - Phoenix

February Birthdays Continues...



Kathy Hines



Eldreai Ellis



Mother Eardell Dennis



Mother Mamie Simon

Cover Girls Unsung Heroes

Every month, the Cover Girls Newsletter honors a member who works in ministry not to be seen but because they love the work they do. They are our Unsung Heroes. This month, we celebrate Sister Donna Cooksey.

Sister Donna first joined GTI in 1990. In 2003, she got married. She left GTI to be with her husband who was a pastor in Stockton California. He passed away in 2014, and she returned to Glad Tidings in 2016. She still considered herself a member, so she said, "I've been a member since 1990".

She had a hard time deciding, which ministry to be a part of. When she first joined in 1990, she was on the Usher Board, over the Junior Ushers, a part of the 911 Prayer Ministry, a Sunday School teacher for the children, and Sister Brinkley's assistant just to name a few. So, she wondered, "Where do I fit now"?

The first ministry she joined was the Healthy Minds Ministry with Sister Rosemary MacFadden. Bishop wanted a ministry that would help people with mental illness issues. She felt a connection with Healthy Minds because as a School Psychologist, she works with families addressing student behaviors impacted by a disability or traumatic home and/or school experiences. She became mindful that school families are also church families.

Sister Donna has always had a heart for prison ministry. She was doing prison ministry before she joined Glad Tidings in Contra Costa County. GTI had a prison ministry when she joined in 1990, but the leaders left soon after and the ministry just stopped. When she began attending church in Stockton, a friend got her involved in the prison ministry in San Joaquin County. She's been involved there since 2013.

In 2023, she was a mentor at the high school Bible club that was sponsored by Youth For Christ International. When the YFC leader found out she was doing prison ministry as well, he asked if she would volunteer with their Juvenile Justice Ministry at Stockton Juvenile Hall. So, one Sunday a month, she holds church service in either the boys or girls unit.

She goes to the Women's Unit at San Joaquin Jail every Wednesday. She said, "When you first meet the ladies, some of them are really depressed and feel hopeless because they know they will be there a long time. But they are excited about the Word of God. They are happy to know there is nothing they can do that God will not forgive them for. Even in Juvenile Hall, forgiveness is the turnaround for them". Just this past year, 19 ladies were saved and 12 ladies recommitted their lives to the Lord.

The Bible asks the question, "When did I visit you in jail?" So is there anyone who will answer the call (and we all should) to volunteer with the GTI Prison Ministry? We need both men and women volunteers.



We are not able to take group pictures, so I'm asking you to send me your picture for the birthday shout outs. So all of the March birthday ladies, send me your picture for the April Cover Girls Newsletter.

You can send it to: awiley1999@aol.com

Text (510) 459-8867

What's Happening Now

Women's Week Celebration

March is filled with powerful moments—the Youth Department and the Men's Ministry are preparing dynamic celebrations. But this month, it's all about our Annual Women's Week 2026.

Orange you glad it's finally here? That's right—the color this year is orange. From tangerine and coral to peach, apricot, or salmon, there's a shade for everyone. So, get dressed, fabulous, and show up in your favorite hue of orange. Bring your smile and your expectations.

Join us March 16th through March 22nd as we embrace this year's theme: **“God Specializes In Whatever Your Case May Be.”** As it says in the Epistle to the church in Ephesians 3:20, *“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.”*

Beautiful, blessed women from near and far will gather at Glad Tidings International COGIC for a week of fellowship, powerful praise and worship, joy, laughter, and a refreshing move of God. Invite a friend, a neighbor, or a family member; no one should miss this special time.

We are honored to welcome Dr. Evangelist Demetria Springfield Banks of Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ, Memphis, TN. as our guest speaker. She is an anointed vessel, a powerful intercessor, a dynamic preacher, and an accomplished author of seven books.

The week will feature several uplifting activities throughout. There will be Tuesday Night Recharge and Friday night brings “Movie Night” at Glad Tidings. The film is a surprise, but the fun and fellowship certainly won't be.

On Saturday, join us for the “How-To Clinic,” offering hands-on workshops and practical takeaways from knitting and hair care to cooking and women's health. A continental breakfast will be served to start the day.

And Sunday? It's orange juice with all the pulp. Expect high praise and worship as you've never experienced before. The Women's Choir is ready to lift the name of Jesus higher and higher, and the Holy Spirit will fill the sanctuary.

Come and be part of what God is doing. We are better together especially when we put GOD FIRST.

Written By: Sister Vickki Savoy-Griffin

Chelece Williams - Rome
 Lisa Moody - San Diego
 Mildred Harris - 3 Day Cruise
 Bianca Horne - Monterey
 Haley Morris - San Francisco
 Mayra Silva - Stockton
 Danielle Milichichi - Half Moon Bay
 Charlotte Hines - Houston, Texas
 Kathy Hines - Carolina
 Cathy White - Las Vegas
 Nancy Williams - Charlotte North Carolina
 Lynette Johnson - Paris France
 Martha Stamper - On a Cruise
 Pamela Gossett - Monterey
 Vivian Irving - San Diego
 Dorothy Moore - San Antonio, Texas
 Danielle Fluker - New York
 Sadie Ross - Chicago
 Delores Thomas - Philadelphia
 Naomi Carter - New York
 Joyce Roberson - Hawaii
 Kimberly Butler - San Francisco
 Sherry Green - Atlanta
 Diane Johnson - Las Vegas
 Chandra Winter - Napa
 Crystal Brownlee - Chicago Illinois
 Eldreai Ellis - Portland Oregon
 Ann Nutt - Atlanta
 Cynthia Dunn - Las Vegas
 Evette Newton - Atlanta
 Frantasia Mason - Pleasanton
 Jennifer Morris - Castro Valley
 Allegra Tolefree - Los Angeles
 Danielle Smith - Nashville
 Kathy Lyons-Brown - Fremont
 Gail Webb-Goodwin - Las Vegas

April's 64,000 Dollar Question

Food for Thought: If you could make one food completely healthy (Zero Calories) but keep it tasting exactly the same, what would you choose?

Continue from Page 2

Isabel

I decided to join Glad Tidings International Church on the Second Sunday in January 2025. When I returned to my seat after receiving the right hand of fellowship, I saw a familiar friendly face. It was a face I had not seen in over 50 years. It was my cousin, Lynette who I had not seen since we were young.

Moreover, what a blessing it is to know that we serve a God who specializes in families. Remember, the Bible tells us not to forsake to assemble ourselves. The moral of this story is you never know what blessing the Lord has for you when you come to the Glad Tidings International Church in Hayward, California.

Written By:
Missionary Sharon Burns



ASENATH

**“And Pharaoh called Joseph's name
Zaphnathpaaneah;
and he gave him to wife Asenath the
daughter of Potipherah priest of On....”
Genesis 41:45, 50, 46:20**

Asenath, was the daughter of Potipherah the priest of On and a was raised in Paganism. Her name means gift of the sun god or belonging to Neith. She was aristocratic, an idol worshiper, and a figure in the Egyptian court, but God had a plan for her future.

She was given to Joseph the son of Jacob as his wife by Pharaoh for interpreting his dreams. During the time of seven years of plenty, Asenath gave birth to two sons whom Joseph named Manassah and Ephraim. God used her marriage to accomplish His will and provide for His people, and the family of Jacob.

She became a mother of the twelve tribes of Israel. Asenath loved her husband and abandoned her former pagan life to convert to the Hebrew faith. Making this choice made her a model of repentance and devotion to the one true God.

Asenath story is one of redemption and transformation. We learn that God is sovereign He chooses whom He will. She was a gentile, foreigner, and an “outsider” but her faith changed her life, and God’s will and purpose was accomplished.

Ephesians 1:11-12

“ In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.”

Song of the Month



We've Come This Far By Faith

Written By: Eddie Williams

Born: 1937 in Robbins, IL

Died: 2015

Occupation: Singer, Pianist, and
Songwriter for the Caravans in 1958

Released: Savoy Records in 1959

Recorded & Performed by Artist:

- Florida Mass Choir
- Willie Neal Johnson & The Gospel
Keynotes
- Dorothy Norwood
- Albertina Walker

LYRICS

Verse 1

Lord, keep me day by day,
in a pure and perfect way.
I want to live, I want to live on
in a building not made by hand.

Verse 2

Lord, keep my body strong
so that I can do no wrong.
Lord, give me grace just to run this Christian race
to a building not made by hand.

Verse 3

I'm just a stranger here,
traveling through this barren land.
Lord, I know there's a building somewhere,
a building not made by hand.

Chosen and sung by:
Missionary Gail Webb-Goodwin

February Birthday Brunch



Great Fun - Great Fellowship

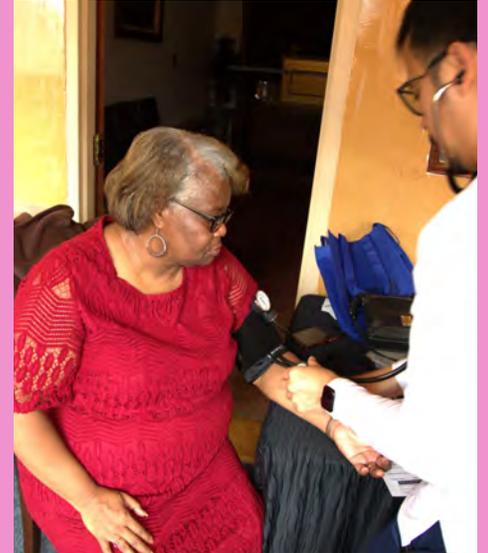


Hypertension Day

February is recognized as American Heart Month, a nationwide observance dedicated to promoting cardiovascular health and raising awareness about heart disease.

Checking blood pressure is crucial for assessing cardiovascular health, detecting hypertension, and preventing serious health issues like heart disease and stroke.

The Glad Tidings International COGIC cares about the entire man and that includes the mind and the body. The Health and Wellness Ministry sponsored Hypertension Day. It is so important to know your numbers.



Good Number - Good Health



The purpose of giving children back to God is to acknowledge that they are a gift from Him and to commit to nurturing them according to His Word.



This act symbolizes a heartfelt decision to raise a child in the knowledge and instruction of God's teachings, relying on His guidance throughout the parenting process. It is a way of declaring the child's special destiny and placing a divine protection over their life.

The ceremony serves as a public acknowledgment of the child's special status and the parents' commitment to raising them according to God's plan.



Black History Celebration

At the Glad Tiding International COGIC, we celebrated Black History the last Sunday in February.

It's important, we don't allow anyone to change or erase our history. Our struggle has been real and the suffering our ancestors endured was not by choice. But it taught us endurance, self preservation, resilience, and there is a God who truly loves us.

We are a people strong in faith, strong in hope, strong in love. We are just plain **STRONG!!!**



Black Lives Matter



We Are Family



We are so glad you have decided to make GTI your church home. You couldn't have chosen a better church and people to now call "Family". Bishop and Lady Macklin are the best leaders and advocates to your successful walk with God. They will lead, guide, and instruct you in ways of living a saved, sanctified, and spirit filled life. Your new brothers and sisters in Christ will love you, pray for you, and are glad you are family. Again, welcome home!

We are Praying for You

Sick and Shut-In List

- Annie Bailey
- Andrea Franklin
- Patricia James
- Kimbrea Johnson
- Mary Jones
- Doran King
- Stacy Louis
- Christopher Morris
- Lance Newton
- Vinson Pressley
- Nathaniel Riley
- Emily Sanderfur
- Alma Scott
- Natasha Shaw
- Judy Stanley
- Keith Taylor
- Samuel Walker
- Mother Denise Winn
- Sonya Sanders
- Clara Silket
- Josephine Freeman
- Deacon Fred Hines
- Mother Sylvia Horton
- Larry Miles
- Ralph Paige
- Shonette Todd
- Phyllis Walker
- Claudell Woods Jr. (home)
- Elder John Smoot

Convalescent

- Anita Clark
- Yvette Drake
- Elder Albert Green
- Mira James
- Albert Johnson
- Thaddius McDaniel
- Belva Porter
- Patricia Raspberry
- Carolyn Walker
- Charmaine Torres (home)
- Elder James Tucker (home)
- Carolyn Lawscha (Home)
- Elder Michael Washington (home)

Pray for saints everywhere



This month, our church family pauses to lift one of our beloved choir members in prayer, Sister Mira James, whose faithful voice has blessed the Glad Tidings International Virtuous Praise Women's Chorus for many years and who is now receiving hospice care. Though this season is tender, we choose to reflect with gratitude on a life that has poured so much joy, harmony, and devotion into our worship community.

Sister Mira recently received an updated diagnosis from her physician indicating that her heart is functioning at only 30% capacity and her body is slowly shutting down. As she entered hospice care, she reached out to her immediate family and to members of the Virtuous Praise Women's Chorus, requesting prayer as she processed the news. What she intended to be a simple prayer request became a powerful ministry moment.

A group of VPWC members traveled to Windsor Country Care Rehabilitation Center in Fremont, where they prayed with her, read scripture, and lifted the song "Jesus Promised He'll Take Care of Me."

The staff and patients were deeply moved by the presence of the Women's Chorus. Their ministry extended far beyond the walls of GTI, bringing comfort, encouragement, and the love of Christ to everyone in the facility.

This moment beautifully reflects who we are as a church, one that strives to cultivate and model a culture of kindness. A church filled with compassion for those who are hurting. A church where Spirit-filled believers serve with grace, impacting both the body of Christ and the surrounding community.

For decades, Sister James' presence in the choir has been a steady reminder of what it means to serve the Lord with gladness. Whether singing a song or offering a warm smile during rehearsal, she carried a spirit of worship that encouraged us all to draw closer to God. Her commitment was never about performance, it was about ministry, pure and heartfelt.

As she walks through this season, we will continue to surround her and her family with our prayers, love, and unwavering support. We thank God for every song she sang, every Sunday she showed up, and every moment she helped usher the congregation into the presence of the Lord.

We invite the GTI church family to continue praying for comfort, peace, and strength. May God's presence rest gently upon her and may the melodies she once lifted in worship now return to her as divine reassurance.

Sister Mira remains encouraged to stay with God, and the Women's Chorus plans to visit her again soon.



Coming Attractions

- March 1st - March Birthday Acknowledgement
- March 2nd - 8th - Youth Week Celebration
- March 9th - 15th - Men's Week Celebration
- March 15th - Cover Girls March Birthday Fellowship Brunch
- March 16th - 22nd - Cover Girls Women's Week Celebration
- March 25th - Winter/Spring Bible Institute Session 1
- March 28th - City Wide 3x300 Outreach
- March 29th - Sunday Water Baptism/Communion/Feet Washing
- March 30th - April 2nd - Easter Revival

Weekly: Online services for Bible Study and in person on Tuesday night, Friday Night Service, and In-person Sunday Morning at 9am and Zoom replay at 11am

gladtidingscogic.org

**Submit your prayer request to
info@gti.church**

Stay committed to the vision of the Family Life Center and let's continue to pay our pledges.