# March Birthdays

# **Anniversaries**

3/2 Michelle Hammock 3/14 W.J. & Jill Webb

3/10 **Steve Thomas** 

3/16 **Beverly Tarleton** 

3/17 **Connor Hammock** 

3/24 **Charlie Shirey** 

3/26 **Jack Thomas** 

3/28 Kim Buchanan

### **Deacon/Security Rotation**

**Jacob Thomas** 

**Steve Thomas** 

**Ernest McCurry** 

#### **Nursery Rotation**

Mar 02 Jenni Wyzykowski & Helper

Mar 09 Melissa Shirey & Robin Buchanan

**Kayla Smith & Lindsey Thomas** 

# connect with FRBC

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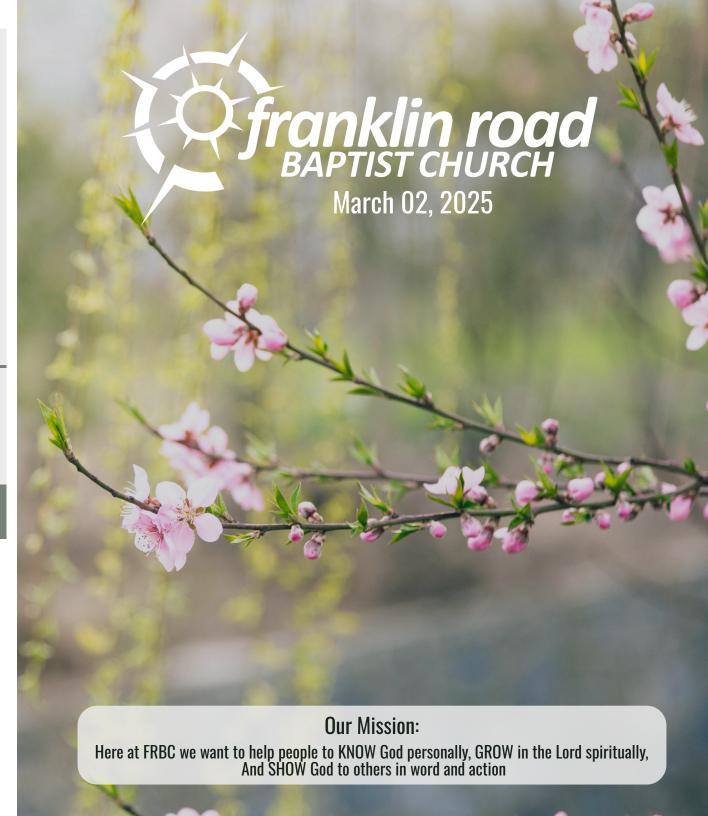
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# Think on These Things

A definition for grace that I once read years ago is basically the same one that I continue to use today: Grace is "unmerited (undeserved, unearned) favor." The word grace is mentioned some 170 times throughout the Bible, thus assuring us that this is a vitally important concept that God does not want us to miss. The fact that God shows grace to man is one of the most humbling thoughts upon which a person may dwell. Think about it: Man is born with a sin nature, which means that he will sooner or later rebel against God ("all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"). God requires sin to be punished ("the wages of sin is death"), but He knows that we can never pay the sin debt that we owe. So, in His great love, He sent His Son Jesus to pay our debt ("while we were still sinners. Christ died for us"), that we may have forgiveness of sin and be reconciled to the God who loves us more than anyone ("God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them"). Instead of the eternal punishment we deserve. God gives those who believe ("lean one's full weight upon", trust) in Jesus Christ everlasting life ("whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life").

All of this (redemption, forgiveness, justification, eternal life) begins with the grace of God that He extends to all who come to Him for salvation by faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of

works, lest anyone should boast." No wonder the one-time slave trader turned Christian, John Newton, chose the title "Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound" for the hymn he penned; a hymn that I have heard very fittingly described as "the Christian's National Anthem".

"Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found. Was blind, but now I see... 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!...Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace hath bro't me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home...The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures...When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun."

As God has shown us "amazing grace", we should also show grace (unmerited, undeserved, unearned favor) to others. May He help each one of us to do so, that He may be glorified!

So much to think about as we go about our week.

Love, prayers and blessing,

Trace

## this week at FRBC

Morning Worship	9:3 10:4
H.O.P.E. ESLGriefShare	
WEDNESDAY (MAR 05 Adult Bible Study	6:30
SATURDAY (MAR 08)	8:00a - 12:00

## upcoming events

## MAR 02 - MAR 09

Week of Prayer for North American Missions

## **MAR 22**

Leadership Meeting......9:30a