

# Merry Christmas!

Vol. 21, Issue 4

Here we are mid-December wondering where the year has gone. As with most people this time of the year, December is a busy month. Those families with kids or active in church or school are attending plays or practicing for the next program. Times to visit family and friends are squeezed into an already full schedule. I encourage you to stop just for a moment, if that is all you have, and just take a breath, think of Jesus, God's son and the greatest gift of all! Jesus, he is the true reason and meaning of Christmas. Amidst all the hustle and bustle we are so often caught up by the busyness that we overlook or forget this incredible fact. Our greatest gift is the opportunity to live with Christ forever in heaven if we accept him. I hope that you have received this gift of love, mercy and grace from our heavenly father.

We also want to wish you and your earthly family a merry and joyous Christmas. We have so much to be thankful for this Christmas even in the midst of the uncertain times we live in. We are grateful for our loving father for caring for and providing for us these past couple years. We are thankful that Grand Oaks continues to be a place for people to gather and find salvation through His word spoken here. We are hopeful that as a new year approaches that great things are in store for you, us and our Grand Oaks family!

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#### Luke 2:14



Merry Christmas from the Fields Family!
Manaen (almost 5), Davanee (almost 2), Judah (6)

The Multi-Purpose Building project is in a planning phase for figuring out the septic system needs. We are in need of a good source that will help plan, develop and possibly install the waste treatment system.

Please continue to pray for us and this process. Also pray to seek how you might contribute to this endeavor. We thank you for your continued support of Grand Oaks and the lives that are changed here as a result of your support!





### **CAMPAIGN TICKER**

Received: \$210,590.48

Overall Goal: \$675,000.00

<u>Fund Balance Toward</u> <u>Multi-Purpose Center:</u> \$340,382.91

#### 2022 CAMP DATES:

May 31-June 4 Linn Livingston/1000 Hills Youth

> <u>June 6-10</u> Missouri Valley Children

> > June 13-17
> > Heartland Youth

<u>June 20-24</u> North Grand River/Harrison Youth

> June 24-25 Intro to Camp

June 27-July 1
St. Joseph Youth

July 5-9 Missouri Valley Youth

July 11-15 Linn Livingston Children

> <u>July 18-22</u> 1000 Hills Children

> July 22-25 Heartland Children

July 25-29 North Grand River/Harrison Children

> Aug 1-5 St. Joseph Children

Aug 8-12 New Life Camps



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One of the blessings we were able to share this Christmas was a Christmas Concert here in the Chapel. Our talented performers were Dr. James Cockman III, his wife Erin, his parents, and his children, referred to as "The Hybrid Five". Dr. Cockman is an absolutely incredible pianist and has performed across the nation. He is a remarkable husband, father, friend, teacher and is passionate about music and spreading God's word through his gifts. The Hybrid Five are his talented children ranging in age from 7 to 12 years old. They sing and play instruments as well as perform drama. We were blessed by their performance of a Charlie Brown Christmas along with Christmas songs



and Dr. Cockman's Playing of the Piano. Dr. Cockman's Mother did the narration and his father played the guitar. We are thankful the Cockman family chose to grace us with their talents. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

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### DR. JAMES COCKMAN III

Dr. Cockman, The Hybrid Five and parents performed a Christmas Concert in the Chapel December 11th. (picture from Dr. C's website )

## WHO WE ARE

Since 1945 Grand Oaks has been a place to "win the lost, disciple the saved and train believers for Christian service." That is still our goal today as we provide a facility for our member Associations to conduct summer camps and other activities. Grand Oaks is supported solely through user fees and donations from individuals, churches and Baptist Associations. Grand Oaks does NOT receive funds from Cooperative Program giving.

The facility is open year round and is a great place for group retreats as well as family events. We encourage each of our churches to consider scheduling an event. Grand Oaks provides a quiet and usually uninterrupted experience in a beautiful outdoor setting. Won't you call soon?