



## “Love Works”

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

# Like a Mighty Oak Tree

by *Liz Glover*

I love this man. I have spent 47 of Grady's 65 years of life by his side. It's been a good life! I would love to make you believe that this Big Tree is representative of our lives and the legacy we will leave. This Big Tree is thought to be 1,000 years old. However...



This Oak Tree is probably a better representation! In fact I don't think we are alone.

The ocean is across the street from this grove of trees. Every single oak tree is so windswept by the storms that they are permanently leaning - but they are still standing! There is an eerie and stunning beauty in the twisted leaning. The trees in the front are a wind block for the trees in the back, but they are all still leaning in the direction that the wind was

blowing. They have all been subjected to the storms. *We* have all been subjected to the storms.

Why do we, as people, try to build a facade that portrays to the world that we have it all together? Why do we try to pretend that we aren't crooked and wind blown. That we have no storms. Everyone can see us leaning. We aren't fooling anyone. Social media is filled with leaning and bending couples that only portray themselves as tall and massive and strong and mighty and perfect.

It is only in the admission of our leaning and the sharing of our storms that we may actually be a wind block for others. Grady and I have been through a storm or two (or 1,000), but we have a promise in regard to our legacy.

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the [c]rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. The ungodly are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind drives away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish. **Psalm 1**

We stand as a testimony of God's amazing and saving grace. There is a beauty in us, that would not be there if it had not been for the storms. Our leaning is evident to all who know us well. But, we continue to stand and to grow and to produce fruit. Our leaves are still green and God's promises for us are sure and true.

## Memory Verse for August: Psalm 1

# Walhalla Women



## VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE

- Stay up to date on news and events
- View Past Newsletters
- Find out about our Women in Missions
- Enjoy our Blogs
- Shop the Walhalla Women Marketplace to support our women's ministry projects, events and missions.

## Women in Missions

by Staci Williamson, *Missions Committee Chair*

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel..." Mark 16:15

Our Missions Team has successfully completed the Jacksonville, FL mission with wonderful reports.

- They met many local children at the park for a VBS project and game time. Our own Walhalla Women's group provided craft kits for the children they encountered in Jacksonville to help teach about the enduring love of God. Thank you to the ladies that participated!
- The Missions Team assisted with distribution of food items in two different locations with a total of 10K lbs. of food going back into the communities. Tim Johnson notes that the people were extremely grateful and it was a humbling experience to introduce the hurting to the the love of Christ.
- On the last day, the team walked throughout the community praying and witnessing to the needy.

Looking ahead to the remainder of 2023, there are several missions opportunities in which Walhalla Women can participate. Tim Johnson has provided details about upcoming mission trips to Ramos Mexico and Romania. You can view the details on our website at [www.WalhallaWomen.com/UpcomingMissions](http://www.WalhallaWomen.com/UpcomingMissions)

The next two trips are more complex and volunteers are still needed to sign up to go on these trips. As Walhalla Women, we are offering to knit or crochet hats and scarves for the Missions Team to take to both Mexico and Romania. The team will be ministering to orphanages and street children in these areas where the items will be gifted. If you know how to knit or crochet please join us in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday at 6:00 pm. If you would like to learn how to make these items, Stephanie Burdette will be happy to teach during our Weds. meetings. If you would like to donate yarn, knitting looms or other knitting supplies please bring your items to the Connection Center in the church foyer. You will find a bin to leave your items.

Be watching for further missions updates and opportunities and join us to bless others with your gifts and skills.

## Women's Ministries Bible Study - Led by Lacey Stone

Lacey Stone will lead the Bible Study "Elijah" by Priscilla Shirer.

Join us on Sunday Nights at 6:00 pm - August 20 - September 24 in the Sanctuary

(Sign up sheets are in the foyer at the Connection Center)

EXPAND YOUR FAITH; EXPERIENCE GOD'S FIRE

*Elijah emerged as a voice of unapologetic truth during a time of national crisis and moral decline. His ministry was marked by tenacious faith and holy fire - the same kind you will need in order to remain steadfast in current culture. Join trusted Bible teacher Priscilla Shirer for a fresh look at Elijah and the difficult choices of obedience that kept him anchored, sharpened his faith, broadened his impact, and invited heaven's fire to fall.*