

GRACE

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

5103 South 50th (FF Hwy.)
St. Joseph, MO 64507

816-279-2090

www.graceontheweb.org
grace@graceontheweb.org

*Our Purpose:
Grace Evangelical Church
exists for the purpose of reaching the lost and hurting
of our community and world in the love of Christ,
involving them in the word, worship, and service of God.*

Join us for Sunday Worship Services

Morning Worship: 8:00AM • 9:30AM • 11:00AM
Sunday School: 9:40-10:40AM • 11:00-11:55AM
Evening Bible Study: 6:00PM

Need Prayer?
24-Hour Prayer Chain Number
816-244-9868
For Urgent Requests

GRACE to You!

Grace Evangelical Church

www.graceontheweb.org January - February 2018

Call to Me

*Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great
and mighty things, which you do not know.*

Jeremiah 33:3

In many ways we appear to be living in a time when humanity has forgotten God. I wouldn't say it's the most Godless time in human history, but I would say it is a time when we need a move of God to create spiritual hunger in the world. Spiritual hunger is not something manufactured by human strength, but God can bring it about by His Holy Spirit.

Interestingly, in Jeremiah 33, the prophet is in prison as a result of his faithfulness to God. His nation is experiencing great turmoil, and the consequences of sin. In verse 3, rather than a rebuke from God, Jeremiah is extended an amazing invitation. "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." This verse reveals the heart of God toward His own... and as we approach the new year, I'm feeling more and more impressed that God is extending to us such a bold invitation.

Perhaps God is giving to us a rich opportunity to spiritually address the condition of our world. Perhaps God's promise to Jeremiah is valid for His people today. Perhaps God is inviting us to call to Him! As we enter into 2018 I'm feeling compelled to more diligently call to God. I invite you to join me in a renewed focus, as the people of God.

As a church and as a Christian, we can be easily distracted. We can be caught up in many good things but distracted from serious prayer. Reflect with me for a moment; of all of the things that you find yourself doing as a Christian, how much of that time is spent in undistracted calling to God?

God's bold invitation to Jeremiah is to call to Him, and He will answer... in addition, He said that He would show great and mighty things that couldn't otherwise be known. Imagine God *hearing* us, and *responding* with action that He categorizes as both "Great" and "Mighty"! And these great and mighty things are not unseen, but VISIBLE! God promises He would SHOW us these great and mighty things... all because we would seriously call to Him.

In 2018 we'll continue our monthly day of prayer and fasting on the first Thursday of each month. In addition, our Sunday evening Bible Study has incorporated a significant prayer time at each meeting. I want to encourage all G3 leaders to keep serious prayer a significant part of our growth groups. Pastor Dave Ernst requests that we forward these G3 prayer requests to him at dave@graceontheweb.org so that our weekly prayer team can provide additional prayer support.

In 2018 let’s make calling to God an intentional focus of our Christian lives. Ask Him to show you specific things that you should be praying about. He will! And let’s also pray for the unconverted to find spiritual life in Jesus. Let’s pray for new strategies, so that our congregation can extend beyond our walls, to plant new churches, and satellite congregations in order to saturate our area with the gospel of Jesus Christ. And let’s pray for our prodigal’s... praying that we would see our family and friends return to a vibrant relationship with the Lord. With that in mind, our very own Scott Noble has created two pictures that we have hung in the sanctuary. These pictures will provide as an ongoing reminder to pray for our prodigals. Feel free to write the name of your wayward family members on the picture of “the prodigal son.” Once they return to Christ, please write their name on the picture of “the father embracing his son. “Imagine this second picture, with hundreds of names written on it! That picture will serve as an ongoing testimony that when we called to God, He heard and showed us great and mighty things that we’d not otherwise have seen!

I’m praying with you, and for you,
Pastor Darrell



Part of the mission of every church is to “make disciples” (Matthew 28:19-20). Here, at Grace Evangelical Church, we are determined to be faithful to the Lord’s instructions to help everyone grow and take their next step with God. We believe spiritual growth flows from two basic commitments:

- (1)A commitment to God and His Word, and
- (2)A commitment to forming significant Christian relationships.

To help develop those relationships, we offer “**Growth Groups,**” which “**Involve God’s People in God’s Word.**” Our next semester of Growth Groups will begin Sunday, January 21st. We will offer Sunday sign-ups at church on **January 7th, 14th and 21st.** You can sign-up in the lobby before or after services, or on the Grace website. ***If you have never been in a group before,*** now is a great time to join one and start enjoying what small groups accomplish in our spiritual lives! We offer many types of groups, some which are open to all stations of life and genders, and others which are more specific. ***If you’ve given up on groups,*** then we invite you to try again. It is important to us that you get connected. If a group isn’t a good fit, we’ll try to find one that is!

Weekly Events

Sundays
7:30am

Pre-Service Prayer in Room 206
8:00am, 9:30am, & 11:00am
Sunday Worship Services in the Sanctuary
9:40 & -11:00am
Sunday School Classes
6:00pm
Bible Study & Prayer in Library

Wednesdays
6:30-8:00pm

Midweek Ministries at the church for
Children’s High 5; Youth RESET;
Adult Groups during Growth Group Sessions
7:30pm
Renewal meets for
College Students & Young Adults

12:00-1:00pm
All-Church Prayer Meeting in Library

Fridays
6:00-7:00am
Early Morning Prayer Meeting in Lobby

The Bulletin Board

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A BULLETIN BOARD? IT’S FULL OF USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY.

LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE LIBRARY.

ALL ITEMS POSTED ARE APPROVED THROUGH THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Regular Monthly Events & Meetings

Amazing Grace Cancer Care Ministry - Meets the first Mondays of the month, to plan ways to come alongside and encourage cancer patients and to pray for them.

Church Council - Third Tuesday of each month (with some exceptions.)

Communion - Offered the last Sunday of the month. (except for special occasions) Anyone who has accepted Jesus as Savior and is living in relationship with Him is welcome to partake in communion at Grace. (gluten free)

Day of Prayer & Fasting - **First Thursday of the month, we ask the church to individually make this a priority in their lives. We hold open prayer meetings in the library at 11am - 12pm and 12 - 1pm, and also 6:30 - 7:30pm in ReSet Room.**

Hands of Grace - Meets the last Sunday of each month to organize an outside ministry project where the church can volunteer to serve and take the love of Jesus to the community.

Men’s Fellowship Breakfasts - Third Saturday of the month (with some exceptions), 8:30 - 10:00am.

Missions Committee - First Sunday of the month.

Mom’s Group - Mothers with young children meets 5:30 - 7:30pm on the second Thursday of the month; child-care is available.

Movers & Shakers of Grace (MSG) - (over 50 crowd) meets for a potluck supper at church the second Monday of each month. Other trips and activities are scheduled throughout the year.

Nursing Home Ministry - Planning meetings are the second Wednesday at church. Once a month, we visit and encouraging the residents of LaVerna of St Joseph.

Open Door Food Kitchen - Serve at the noon-time meal on the first Monday of each month.

RePurposed - Singles adults over 40. Monthly outings are planned throughout the year including an annual retreat.

Valley Community Food Kitchen - Serve the evening meal on the fourth Monday of each month.

Women’s Ministry - ING = Inviting New Girlfriends - Women of all ages are encouraged to come and join the events scheduled throughout the year.

Three Month Calendar Of Events

January 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY

- 1 - New Year's Day – Office Closed
- 1 - Open Door Food Kitchen Ministry
- 1-5 - Renewal Winter Leadership Retreat
- 4 - Day of Prayer and Fasting
- 7- Growth Group Sign-ups
- 7 - Mission Committee Meeting
- 8-12 - Winter Marriage Getaway - Caribbean Cruise
- 8 - MSG Dinner at Grace
- 10 - Nursing Home Ministry Planning Meeting
- 11 - Mom's Group Evening Meeting at Grace
- 14 - Growth Group Sign-ups
- 19 - Women's ING event
- 19 - Church Council Planning Meeting
- 20 - Men's Fellowship Breakfast
- 21 - Sanctity of Life Sunday
- 21 - Spring Semester of Growth Groups begins
- 22 - Valley Community Food Kitchen Ministry
- 26 - Church Council Planning Retreat
- 28 - Communion Sunday
- 31 - Nursing Home Ministry at LaVerna

February 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Day of Prayer and Fasting
- 4 - Super Bowl Sunday
- 5 - Open Door Food Kitchen
- 5 - Amazing Grace Cancer Care Ministry
- 7 - Mission Committee Meeting

- 8 - Mom's Group Evening Meeting at Grace
- 11 - Mission Committee Meeting
- 12 - MSG Dinner at Grace
- 14 - Nursing Home Ministry Planning Meeting
- 16-23 - Honduras Mission Trip
- 17 - Men's Ministry Breakfast
- 20 - Church Council Meeting
- 25 - Communion
- 25 - Hands of Grace Meeting
- 26 - Valley Food Kitchen Ministry
- 26-28 - Focus on Mission Prayer in the Library 5-9pm
- 28 - Focus on Mission - Children, Youth and Young Adults

March 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MARCH

- 1 - Focus on Mission Prayer in the Library 5-9pm
- 1 - Day of Prayer and Fasting
- 2-4 - Focus on Missions
- 4 - Honduras Mission Trip Recap at 5pm
- 5 - Open Door Food Kitchen
- 5 - Amazing Grace Cancer Care Ministry
- 8 - Mom's Group Evening Meeting at Grace
- 12 - MSG Dinner at Grace
- 14 - Nursing Home Ministry Planning Meeting
- 17 - Men's Ministry Breakfast
- 20 - Church Council Meeting
- 25 - Palm Sunday
- 25 - Hands of Grace Meeting at Grace
- 26 - Valley Food Kitchen Ministry
- 27 - Law Enforcement Dinner at Grace
- 29 - Maundy Thursday
- 28 - Nursing Home Ministry at LaVerna
- 30 - Good Friday



The Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for the Spring 2018 semester. If you are a new applicant, forms and scholarship guidelines are available at the church Information Desk. For *returning students*, please bring or email a copy of your current grades to the church office. Grades and scholarship applications are due to the church office by **January 14TH**.

Scholarship assistance is open to regular attendees of Grace who are currently enrolled in college level classes. If you would like to donate to this fund, you may do so by marking your check, envelope or online gift, "*Scholarship Fund*."



WEATHER CANCELLATION

If there is need to cancel a service due to bad weather, we will use our One Call Service to notify the telephone number(s) that we have on file for each household. If you need to update your number, please call the office at 279-2090.

We will also contact local media outlets with cancelations and post them on our website at www.graceontheweb.org when possible.

TELEPHONE PROBLEMS

Incoming calls are not always getting through, we are so sorry. If you need to contact us, you can email us at grace@graceontheweb.org.

GRACE
EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Marriage Getaway 2018

As a way to pour into marriages and strengthen relationships, we are presenting a choice of multi-venue Marriage Getaways in 2018. These getaways are open to any married couple within the church:

Spring - April 24-27: Lied Lodge, Nebraska City, NE: Cost \$335; Includes 3 nights lodging and 1 meal; Other meals, transportation, and activities not included; Registration with \$100 deposit due by February 1; Balance due by April 1.

Summer - July 9-12: Grace Evangelical Church: *Free* Includes 4 evening meals and childcare. Register by June 15.

Fall - October 1-5: Still Waters Resort on Table Rock Lake near Branson, MO: Cost \$485 per couple; Includes 2 meals; Does not include transportation, most meals, or activities; Registration with \$200 deposit due by May 1; Balance due by August 1.

Marriage Getaway brochures and registration materials are available at the information desk or you may register on our website graceontheweb.org. Click on the "Marriage Getaway 2018" button and sign up for the venue of your choice.



A new year resolution...

A year is a lifetime to a child. 365 days really add up. A calendar year is full of so many milestones. This coming year will bring first birthdays, first steps, first bus rides, first school days. It will bring hellos and goodbyes. To think of all the days ahead in one day could be a bit overwhelming.

God's word states in 2 Peter 3:8 (NIV) ⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

What a blessing to serve a God who is not bound by time and is in command of it. Our future tomorrows are in his hands. The hands that hold hope and peace. May this year be filled with one resolution. To give the one thing we don't actually own or control...our time.

Lets resolve to unwrap the gift of each day we are given. As it has value in the thousand years ahead, both in this present life and life to come.

Upcoming Events

5th and 6th Grade Lockout: Attention all 5th and 6th Graders. Please keep your eyes and ear posted for our upcoming winter lockout. This will be a fun night to grab a bite to eat and participate in some fun together. More details coming soon.

February 4th, Super Bowl Sunday: Fun activities and games for all kids 4 years through 6th grade. More information coming soon.

RESET

STUDENT MINISTRY

Second Semester is about to begin!

We are on the downhill slope of the school year...seniors are looking towards graduation and the rest of us are just looking for the start of SUMMER!

Reset's Second Semester Calendars are AVAILABLE!

Here are a few important events to plan for:

- Mission's Conference
- Spring Break Week
- Beyond Sunday Conference
- Middle School Camp
- High School Summer Experience
- Honduras Mission Trip

As always, we have Wednesday Night's, doors open @ 6pm & Sunday Mornings @ 10:55am in the Reset Room.

We are currently walking through the Book of James (Sunday Mornings) and studying the Commands of Christ (Wednesday Night).

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: nick@graceontheweb.org

Finance Report

October Receipts

General Fund	\$167,573.67
Missions Fund	\$ 24,638.00
Building Fund	\$ 615.00
Specials/Reimbursed	\$206,785.69

November Receipts

General Fund	\$166,250.60
Missions Fund	\$ 29,457.00
Building Fund	\$ 443.00
Specials/Reimbursed	\$ 39,664.73

December Recpts (thru 12-24)

General Fund	\$165,756.24
Missions Fund	\$ 17,178.00
Building Fund	\$ 265.00
Specials/Reimbursed	\$ 5,123.65

Monthly General Fund Need to meet the 2017 Budget is \$145,979.78.

2018 Undesignated General Fund Giving through October 23 totaled \$1,563,577.70

November 2017 Month-End Balances:

General Fund	\$ 521,254.17
Storehouse Account	\$ 65,508.40
Missions Fund Account	\$ 78,540.01
Investment Account	\$ 883,611.23
General Reserve Fund	\$ 15,119.36
Building Fund	\$ 12,444.94

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

ONLINE: www.graceontheweb.org - click GIVE

MOBILE: download the church app,

Grace St. Joseph

TEXT: Text GECGIVE to 77977 (Msg. & Data rates may apply ; visit <https://pushpay.com/terms>)



rightnow MEDIA

We have partnered with Right Now Media to give you free access to their huge library of videos on parenting, marriage, discipleship and much more. Sign up on the registration pad for Right Now Media (RNM) under *bulletin response* and be sure to include your e-mail and phone number. Sign up is also available at the information desk.

Church
Directory

**AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

We have set up a Grace Evangelical Church online directory and we would love for you to be part of it. Sign up on our website at www.graceontheweb.org. It will take us a week or so to enter your information, once this is complete, you may access the directory on our website via the link at the top of our home page. Remember this is an ONLINE directory and can only be accessed online.

COUNCIL MEETING

Pastors: Darrell Jones, Dennis Jennings, Ken Maxey, Dan Blakely, Chris Olson, Nick Pierce, Dave Ernst, Jason Davis

Elders: Tony Bryan, Rick Lipira, Dave Montgomery, Ted Myers, Frank Stanley

Deacons: Joe Huber, Mark McMain, Gary Reynolds, Kim Wedekind, Matt Wieners

Minutes from October 31 email vote:

Approval was given via email vote to the following three items that needed to be approved prior to the November meeting:

1. Two of the church vans need new tires prior to winter and prior to their safety inspections; Ten tires and installation: \$1,495.92.
2. The Server for the church computer system has a switcher going bad; Cost to replace: \$4,128.95 plus shipping.
3. The pastors submitted eight people from the membership rolls to serve on the annual Screening Committee. Members approved and agreeing to serve on the committee are:

Steffanie Bishop
Eric Conner
Keith Dahlgren
Denny Schneider
Aubrey Turley
Deana Hand

From November 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Darrell Jones, Chris Olson, Nick Pierce, Ken Maxey, Dan Blakely, Dennis Jennings, Dave Ernst, Tony Bryan, Ted Myers, Dave Montgomery, Rick Lipira, , Frank Stanley, Joe Huber, Matt Wieners, Kim Wedekind, Gary Reynolds and Mark McMain.

Members Absent: Jason Davis

- Opened meeting with prayer.
- Motion passed to accept the Consent Agenda as presented with the following items:
 1. Minutes of Past Meetings – September 2017;
 2. Finance Reports
 - a. General Fund – Sept - Oct 2017;
 - b. Storehouse Account – Sept - Oct 2017;
 - c. Special Projects Money Market Account – Sept - Oct 2017;
 - d. Investment Account – Sept - Oct 2017.
 3. Benevolence Committee Report – Sept - Oct 2017;
 4. Missions Committee Report – Nov 2017.
- Motion passed to allow up to \$1500 from the Storehouse to be used for a benevolence project.
- Motion passed to accept the 2018 General Fund Budget as amended with total expenses of \$1,857,839.50
- Dave Montgomery moved to accept the 2018 Storehouse Budget as presented with total expenses of \$142,185.00.
- Motion passed to spend \$300 from the Prayer Ministry Budget to compensate Scott Noble for the painting of two canvases that will be used to promote prayer.
- Motion passed to approve the 2018 leadership ballot as recommended by the Screening Committee and put it before the membership at the December 3rd Annual Congregational meeting: Ballot nominees are:
Deacons: Mark McMain, Gary Reynolds, Kim Wedekind, Matt Wieners and Mike Yuille. Elders: Tony Bryan, Joe Huber, Rick Lipira, Ted Myers and Frank Stanley.
- Motion passed to allocate up to \$1100 from the Storehouse Account to scholarship up to four Missouri Western students to attend the CRU winter retreat in Colorado this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Olson
Council Secretary



RENEWAL exists to bring God's truth & build community within the College & Young Professional age group:

1. to encourage participants to seek a vibrant relationship w/ Christ;
2. to share that relationship w/ others;
3. to recognize and use their gifts;
4. to understand worship is a daily encounter w/God.

We do this by having two main meeting times (Wednesday evenings & Sunday mornings) as well as group activities. Here is a brief schedule of what we have planned for the months of January and February.

January Schedule

- 1st - Leave for Winter Conference from church (8am)
- 3rd - NO RENEWAL MEETING
- 5th - Return from Winter Conference
- 7th - Open Door Food Kitchen (10am)
- (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL See Sean Killin for details)
- 10th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** at church (7:30pm)-*theme week* – “Get Fit” plus Testimonies from Winter Conference
- 17th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** meeting at church (7:30pm)
- 21st - *Lunch with Bunch* right after Sunday school
- 24th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** meeting at church (7:30pm)
- 31st - **RENEWAL Mid-week** meeting at church (7:30pm)

February Schedule

- 4th - Open Door Food Kitchen 10:00am
- (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL See Sean Killin for details)
- 7th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** at church 7:30pm
- 14th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** at church (7:30pm)-*theme week* – “Heart-2-Heart” night
- 18th - *Lunch with Bunch* right after Sunday school
- 21st - **RENEWAL Mid-week** at church 7:30pm
- 28th - **RENEWAL Mid-week** – Mission's Spotlight
-Waffle House Afterwards

I want to thank the many volunteers that helped with the Family Christmas Kick-off in November. From the youth to the more “seasoned” helpers, you all did an amazing job. Also, I want to thank the families who came out that evening to participate in the “Old Fashioned Christmas” event. I hope it was as much fun for you as it was for me. Be sure to mark your calendars for November 28th for next year's Kick-off.

-Pastor Ken Maxey

FOLLOW US ON FB @ RENEWAL OF GRACE

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Our Men's Fellowship Ministry Group is led by Deacon Matt Wieners. It generally meets at the church the third Saturday for breakfast. The group offers men an opportunity to gather with other men and share some good food and hear an inspirational message from a brother in Christ.

We will have our regular men's breakfast on January 20th and February 17th at Grace starting at 8:30am. Bring a friend for some great food and fellowship.

Watch the bulletin starting in April for information about the annual Grace men's retreat in May.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

ING = Inviting New Girlfriends
Is our Grace Women's Ministry. Women of all ages are encouraged to come and join the events scheduled throughout the year.

Who doesn't need a good laugh? Call your friends and join us **Friday evening, January 19th** here at Grace. We will be Laugh.ING and Play.ING to welcome the new year. At 6:30pm we will have a light meal followed by a fun evening of trivia. Also for your entertainment we will have several skits to lighten your spirits. Sign up at the information desk. Childcare will be available.

The registration pads are a great source of information for the church office. We can stay connected to you and we will never sell your contact information to any other church. Please keep us updated on any name changes, your address and phone numbers.

**And remember,
we love it when you print!!**



We have an easement on the east side of the church to use when leaving. All traffic must turn right onto S. 169 Hwy. when using this exit. Riverside Road is just over the hill and you can turn left there. Drive safe!!

Our family would like to thank you for the wonderful lunch you prepared after the funeral of Harvey McDowell. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

God Bless your staff,

Charlotte A McDowell

Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement in honor of Laura's mom, Billie Miller. We deeply appreciate your expression of sympathy.

Craig and Laura Wilburn

Thank you so much for the beautiful plant send for Dad's funeral. The family dinner afterwards was wonderful. Almost every person commented on the church and how great it was to do that. This church really shows the love of Jesus and we are glad to be a part of it.

Ronda Mann and family

Thank you for the beautiful Thanksgiving basket. We appreciate all you do for Hillcrest and our residents.

Thank you,

Melissa, Michael and Amanda

We would like to thank everyone who helped here at Grace this past year. With everything we do at Grace, none of it would be possible without you. Wishing you the light of His love through the coming year.

*Thank you for being part of our family,
Grace Evangelical Church Staff*

*Give **thanks** to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

1 Chronicles 16:34

*Now, our God, we give you **thanks**, and praise your glorious name.*

1 Chronicles 29:13

*I will give **thanks** to be Lord because of his righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.*

Psalms 7:17

*Enter his gates with **thanksgiving** and his courts with praise; give **thanks** to him and praise his name.*

Psalms 100:4

Notes & Quotes

Dear Friends and Family,
Thank you so much for your support and encouragement as I minister to college students. I have been blessed by the Lord immensely while serving at Northwest, and I look forward to how He will bless me in the future wherever He leads me. I can attest to the amazing things God is doing in and through this ministry, and I would not be able to be a part of it without your support and that of friends and family like you!

In His name,
Cassie Haggard
CRU

Angel Tree Ministry Partners,
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!
God is SO faithful! Thank you for your long hours of service, your generous hearts, and your love for these Angel Tree families!
God is able, through you and other generous organizations like you we are able to serve all the children in my eight states.
Many of you have already completed your programs, or will be hosting parties and/or making deliveries or sending gift cards over the next two weeks. My prayer is that God bless you as much as you bless the Angel Tree children and their families.
May the Lord richly bless you, your families and your church families this Christmas season. Thank you again, from the bottom of my heart. It such a joy to serve together with all of you! We serve an amazing God!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!
Gayle Foster
Angel Tree Program Specialist

We give Thanks for everything your good grace has given us, ourselves, our time and our possessions.

Blessings to you this Thanksgiving,
CRR Staff and Consumers

I trust that Grace is doing well. Time has flown by since my visit earlier this year. Please pass on my love and regards to all. As a team and church, you remain in our prayers often. We would like to thank you for your kind gift this Christmas. What a blessing to receive such a thoughtful gift and card. We look forward to continuing to update you on our partnership together to plant Hispanic churches in a global network over the year.

Every Blessing,
Jonathan and Lupita Morton
One Mission Society

Dear friends at Grace,
It's always an encouragement to have you remember us with a special gift at Christmas! Thank you for being so kinds. We are grateful for you and our long friendship in the Lord. May this season bring many to trust in the Lord through your ministry there and in many places. The Lord bless you and help us all shine brightly for Him.

Joy and peace in Him,
Ed and Judy Neibling
CRU

Movers & Shakers of Grace

MSG The over 50 crowd that gets together monthly to renew friendships and find encouragement to follow our Lord. Typically, we meet for a potluck dinner at **6:00pm the second Monday**. You are asked to bring a dish/dessert or two to share with others. That is followed by a presentation. Sometimes, it is information relevant to our stage of life, a spiritually challenging or encouraging speaker, and once in a while, we have musical guests that lifts our spirits. Occasionally, we head out to places like dinner theatres and our local parks.

Monday, January 8 - In December a group of folks from Grace traveled to Houston to lend aid after hurricane Harvey. After the usual sumptuous potluck meal, we'll hear testimony from several of them about putting their faith into action.

Monday, February 12 - Is Abraham Lincoln's birthday (he'd be a ripe 209 years old!), and close to President's Day. Our guest, Eric **Montegna** is returning to speak about former presidents. Previously, Eric captivated us with insights from visiting vice president's burial places. This time he will share about his trek in search of "buried treasure". Eric has a way of making history come alive. You won't want to miss it!

Branson Springtime Jubilee – April 23-25 – Join us for 3 days of singing, laughing and preaching. Featured will be music by Steve Green, Lynda Randle, The Hoppers and Cathedrals Reunion Concert. Aaron Wilburn will have you rolling with laughter. Speakers include Johnny Hunt and America's Pastor, Max Lucado! Prices include the conference and hotel (2 per room); prices do not include meals (continental breakfast provided at hotel). **Non-refundable Deposit** (per person) of \$75 due by January 7, and the balance of \$85, due by February 11. You may sign up and pay at the MSG kiosk (checks payable to Grace Evangelical). If you signed up, but do not intend to go, please cross your name off. This will be a wonderful time, and is intended for "Mature and Senior Adults". *Some of us will have to work hard on the first part!*

RePurposed Singles

(over 40 Single Adults) At this season of life we are allowing God to repurpose our lives. Despite life's detours, knowing God ascribes worth to us, and we can be useful in serving Him. Watch the bulletin for activities. We also have an annual Single's Retreat, usually held in the fall.

Join us **Saturday, January 13th** in the ReSet room here at Grace at **1:00 pm**, you will enjoy fun activities, fellowship and be blessed by the testimony of our own Pastor Nick. We will serve pie, ice cream, coffee and hot chocolate. It's cold outside, but warm at Grace.

Sunday, Feb. 4, **Super Bowl party!** We're pretty sure the Chiefs will be in it. We also believe in the tooth fairy. Watch for details (place, time, food) in the bulletin.

Nursing Home Ministry

Several servants from Grace are involved in regular ministry at LaVerna of St Joseph. It is rewarding and a blessing to the residents.

Our future focus will be on visiting one-on-one with the residents in the dining area or in their rooms. We usually visit LaVerna/St Joseph residents the last Wednesday of the month, at 3:30pm. We also plan special events with the residents during the year. A planning meeting for these outreaches is held two weeks prior to the event. We would love to invite everyone to attend.

Amazing Grace Cancer Care Ministry

Amazing Grace Cancer Ministry exists to offer Christ-like support to those impacted by cancer. Our meetings are on the **1st Monday of the month, at 6:30pm**. Currently, we volunteer at the Cancer Center where we serve lunch to chemo patients and families, celebrate end of treatments, recognize birthdays, and serve holiday-themed snacks/beverages to the radiation and chemo sides. We also look for ways to support in-home patients. Contact Brenda Lineback at b_lineback@yahoo.com if you are interested in being part of this ministry.



Our communion bread is now gluten free.


WE HAVE RECYCLE BINS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND THE CHURCH. PLEASE HELP US BY PUTTING YOUR PAPER AND **EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS** IN THE BINS. THANK YOU.

If you missed placing your prayer request or offering in the sanctuary, because you were too busy watching the awesome video announcements, use the wall slots that are located around the corner from the fireplace.



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Download our mobile app “Grace St. Joseph” and stay connected on the go. You can visit our Facebook page, see the latest sermon, sign up for events and pay your tithe. Welcome to the 21st century!!

possible career fields, students can begin to match those fields with the education that best matches their field of choice.

Learn:
Teach necessary skills for living and learning Applied skills including driving, cooking, home repair, etc. Learning to manage their resources including finances, social choices, etc. Develop a mentoring relationship with another significant adult, career shadowing and college visits.

Launch:
Bridge the gap between student and adult, providing assistance for a right-fit in a vocation, technical training, college education or military career. Applied skills including driving, cooking, home repair, etc. Learning to manage their resources including finances, social choices, etc. Provide support for obtaining housing, transportation, and stabilization. Continue established mentoring relationship with a key individual “coach” for support, advice, and accountability.

Introducing the Graduates from the Class of 2017-Each of these young adults have earned their Path to Purpose diplomas. By achieving this milestone, each graduate will have access to \$500 in emergency funds, assistance in purchasing their first vehicle, and whatever ongoing support they need to keep their momentum moving in the right direction.

Student#1
Years at Show-Me: 4 years
Graduate of Show-Me Christian School
The Next Chapter: Attend State Technical College of Missouri in Linn, to specialize in Biomedical Engineering Technology. “I will help people by fixing the machines that are used to save their lives.” Impact Show-Me had on his life: “When I came here, I didn’t talk to anyone. I was shy and kept to myself. But I learned how people think and what their actions mean. I have learned the confidence to be a leader.”

Student #2
Years at Show-Me: 5 years
Graduate of Grundy County High School
The Next Chapter: Become a PreMed student majoring in Biology at the College of the Ozarks. After college, I plan to continue on to Med School to become a Pediatrician and eventually

travel as a medical missionary.

Student #3
Years at Show-Me: 6 years
Graduate of Show-Me Christian School
The Next Chapter: Major in Social Work at Missouri State University. “I want to help kids in foster care who don’t have a voice. I want them to feel loved, safe, and know that someone is watching out for them.”
Impact Show-ME had on her Life: “I learned to forgive and love the people who hurt me. I had real control issues that I learned to let go. My biggest challenge was finding self-worth and knowing I am loved, but I know God overcame that for me.”

Student#4
Years at Show-Me: 6 years
Graduate of Show-Me Christian School
The Next Chapter: Attend Missouri Southern State University majoring in Early Childhood Education to one day become a Kindergarten teacher and Volleyball coach.
Impact Show-Me had on her Life: “Show-Me really is a family. It is all about family. You have lots of siblings, so you never feel lonely because there is always something going on.”

Missions Trips Planned for 2018

Now it the time to prayerfully consider going on a mission trip. We have several opportunities for you to travel to meet our missionaries and get a first hand look at what we support here at Grace.

Honduras 2018 - work at AFE - February 16th through the 23rd. Contact Pastor Chris for details. Sign up now at the information desk.

Honduras 2018 – July 9th through the 16th.
Haiti 2018 – July 13 through the 20th.
India 2018 – Dec 26th through Jan 6th, 2019.

Be sure to watch the bulletin for more information on these trips.



WORLD GOSPEL MISSION

“When did you get back?” “We are glad you are back!” “We missed you, Ms. Fran!” “What did you do when you were in Illinois last year?” These were some of the comments I heard when I returned to Living Word Academy on August 17th. The last 2 weeks of July were busy with packing, shipping boxes, seeing family and friends, and preparing to head west. My co-worker, Nancy Butler, and I started the 1900 mile adventure on Wednesday, August 9th and arrived at Southwest Indian Ministries Center on Friday, August 11.

We currently have 15 students enrolled at LWA for the 2017-18 school year ranging from 5th grade – 9th grades. I am proud of how hard my eight students are working in their studies. It will be exciting to see how many books (paces) they will complete by the end of the school year.

As the month of September was quickly approaching, the final preparations were made for the 101st Annual Presbyterian Camp meeting, which was held September 15-17. During the seven services, there was encouragement from the special music presented by the various church choirs as well as a challenge for your daily walk by Rev. Randy Ruiz from Gila River.

During my year of HMA, there were times I wished I had fry bread and Indian Tacos. September 22nd was National Indian Day. We began the school day with a guest speaker, Verna Enos. She taught the O’odham language for many years at the Primary School in Sells. I enjoyed hearing her share stories as well as Native Songs with the kids. The special day was concluded with having Indian Tacos for lunch. Needless to say it was delicious!!

During October, the Sells Church of the Nazarene will host a work team from Kentucky. They will be working at the church as well as having a

basketball camp for the neighborhood kids. Pray for the team as they make final preparations and for opportunities to share the love of Jesus during their time in Sells.

It is hard to believe that the American Indian Field has been sharing the love of Christ to the Native Americans for 65 Years. Final details are being made for the weekend celebration from November 10th-12th. It will be a great time to see former staff and students. There will be a time to share how the Lord is continuing to work on the various stations on the American Indian Field.

I have the opportunity to share with the students that many are praying for them and their families daily. As you lift up the daily needs, also pray for the new students as they adjust to teaching style at LWA. Please note the daily prayer calendar as you pray for LWA. Sunday: Native American Churches, Pastors and their families; Monday: Dylon, Jaylen, Kaylee; Tuesday: Emilio A., Adaziah, Deondray; Wednesday: Elijah, Emilio R., Seth; Thursday: Isaiah, Kyle, Mrs. Candice; Friday: Isabel, Chelsea, Ms. Fran; Saturday: Sam, Leeya, and former LWA students.

Thanks for your prayers.
In His Service, Fran Pearce

SHOW ME CHRISTIAN YOUTH HOME in LAMONTE, MO.

How the Path to Purpose Program Works: This customized program, based on their interest and skill level, helps provide a ‘right-fit’ education leading to a ‘right-fit’ career. Life skills will be taught through mentors, job coaching, and hands-on applications to complement their formal educations.

Assess:

Academic abilities-using test prep and results from national standardized test like the ACT and, students can narrow down career areas that might be a good fit for their interest and abilities. Personality testing-by identifying a student’s thinking style and personality traits, we can further encourage field of study that may aid in their success. Skill identification-students have the opportunity to explore areas where they may be gifted. Educational opportunities-after narrowing down

“Hands of Grace” Opportunities to Serve



We are planning a day filled with fun and fellowship along with the football game on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4th. Pre-game events get underway that morning when we encourage everyone to wear their favorite team apparel to church. And to help InterServ with their pantry needs, we are asking you to bring a can (or five) of soup to bless our partnering agency that provides food for our community. *We will have tables in the lobby by the main entrance for you to place your soup on.*

That evening, many G3 groups will be holding parties and watching the game in their various meeting locations. Check with your leader for details.

A party will be held at church for the children of those attending the adult fellowship gatherings. Children age 4 through 6th grade may be brought to the church no earlier than 5:00pm and must be picked up



As we observe **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** on Sunday, January 21st, we invite you to remember those affected by abortion. Please join with other Christians across America in prayer.

Baby Bottle

CAMPAIGN

- Collect a bottle from church. (January 21)
- Fill with coins and cash or checks payable to Pregnancy Resource Center.
- Return the bottle to church by the designated date. (February 11)
- Pray for the ministry of the PRC and look forward to hearing about the impact that your CHANGE has made!

February is the month when we recognize the needs of **Hillcrest Transitional Housing** by collecting pantry items for the Hillcrest residents. A list of needed items will be posted at the information desk. If you can provide any of things, please leave them in the totes by the east doors at church by **February 25th**. This is a great way to be a blessing to those in need in our community.



Night to Shine is a night for the churches to shine, the volunteers to shine, our honored guests to shine, and most importantly, God to shine! Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God’s love, for people with special needs ages 14 and older. On one night, February 9, 2018, more than 500 churches from around the world will come together to

host Night to Shine for approximately 90,000 honored guests through the support of 175,000 volunteers! Huffman United Methodist Church will be hosting in St Joseph MO. Watch the bulletin for more information on how to help make this a memorable evening for everyone involved.

Grace Prayer Ministry

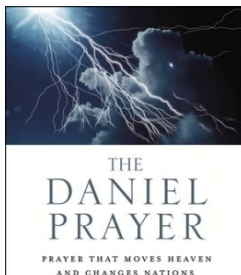
Day of Prayer and Fasting

At Grace, we have set aside the *first Thursday of every month* and ask the congregation to commit to fast and pray as the Lord leads. We also provide an opportunity to gather for corporate prayer in the church library during lunchtime from 11:00am to noon and also from noon till 1:00pm. If it would be easier for you to commit to prayer in the evening, you are welcome to come to Grace from 6:30 - 7:30pm and meet in the ReSet room for a time of prayer.

Sunday Evening Bible Study & Prayer

What if 2018 became the year you really dedicated Sunday to the Lord? Sunday evenings we will dive into the Word, not in lecture fashion, but interactively in discussion with each other. The result is “iron sharpens iron” as we enable each other to grow in the Lord. 2018 will be a year of prayer for Grace Evangelical, the Spirit-given word coming from Jeremiah 33:3, “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.” So, not only do we study the Word, but we take precious time to seek the Lord in prayer.

“Do you ever feel like your prayers are anemic? Hollow? Beginning January 7th, at 6:00pm, we will begin a 6-session video Bible study just for you! Bestselling author, Anne Graham Lotz, looks at the life of Daniel and unpacks the prayer he prayed in Daniel 9. Unlike the everyday now-I-lay-me-down-to-sleep prayer, this was a prayer birthed under heartache, grief and desperation. It was a plea for Heaven to move and change his nation. Join us for THE DANIEL PRAYER. Sign up at the information desk to attend and purchase a study guide. (it is not required, but strongly suggested. Available for \$7)



2018 Focus on Missions

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.

John 15:16

Our Focus on Missions week will begin Monday, February 26 at 5:00pm, as we invite you to pray for our missions week. We will have one hour time slots for you to pick starting Monday, February 26th and ending on Thursday, March 1st. We will have the library open from 5:00 - 9:00pm each evening. On Wednesday evening our children, youth and college aged young adults will get to hear from the missionaries as they share with our youth about their ministry and what it means to the people around them. Then on Friday night we invite you to be our guest for a fabulous dinner as we open the sanctuary for you to enjoy a meal with our missionary guests. You won't want to miss the opportunity to hear them share about what they are doing in their field of ministry. The next morning you are invited back to enjoy breakfast with our missionaries and spend a little one on one time with them. You are encouraged to come as a family and spend time getting to know the missionaries, asking them questions you may have about being in the field and how they knew they wanted to be a missionary. Sunday, March 4th we will have a special guest speaker for the AM services. Please join us to hear the great testimonies that have these people stepping out in faith to touch the lives of people that God loves.

Missionaries joining us for the week will be:

John Gilman with Daysprings International

Chris Romero with AFE in Honduras

Nolan and Marie Schockey with Servant Senders in Juarez, Mexico

Tim and Rebekah Montgomery with Navigators in Manta, Ecuador