



GRACE NOTES

August 17, 2016 Volume 17-16

Church Phone: (816) 452-0212 www.grace4u.net

e-mail: beth@grace4u.net

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.

Karen Worship 2:00 p.m.

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

Ephesians 2:8 NRSV

Today I would like to share with you a daily devotion that I received from John Eldredge several months ago. It spoke to me and I think it will speak to many of you as well. Our intention to pray for someone is good, but I think John’s advice to do it now is better. You may remember that John Eldredge was one of Pastor Dave’s favorite authors. - Mike Reiter

Why I Stopped Saying “I Will Pray For You”.

I’ve come to the place where I have had to stop telling people, “I’ll pray for you.”

I simply know that despite my good intentions — and these promises are almost always spoken with good intent — I know that nine times out of ten I just don’t remember to follow through. Not until maybe a week or two later, and then I feel guilty that I forgot. I don’t like promising something I probably won’t live up to.

You know how these stories go: Someone you care about tells you of their pain, need, or struggle, and you respond with, “Oh, I’m so sorry to hear that; I’ll pray for you.” But then, most of the time, we never do. If all the prayers that were promised were actually prayed, this would be a different world by now.

So instead of promising future prayer, what I try to do nowadays is stop, right there in the moment, and pray. Right then and there. It’s funny how many Christians this actually throws off guard. “You mean, right now?” “Yes — absolutely. Let’s pray.”

In the restaurant, in the car, on the plane, wherever. If it’s a text or e-mail request, I’ll start praying as I type my response, typing out a prayer for them right then and there. Not only does it help me follow through, but it helps them to agree right along with what I have prayed, and agreement is mighty powerful, as we know.

I’m thinking of St. Patrick, how he would pray through the course of the day as he worked: “Tending flocks was my daily work, and I would pray constantly through the daylight hours. The love of God and the fear of Him surrounded me more and more — and faith grew and the spirit was roused, so that in one day I would say as many as a hundred prayers and after dark nearly as many again.”¹

He simply did it right there, in the moment. For the truth is, there is no “later.” Now is the time to pray, for now is all we really have.

“Jesus, come into this — we invite You into this” is a great place to start. Whatever the need — guidance, direction, encouragement, healing, protection; the cancelled flight, the report from the doctor, the tension in relationship — this is the place to start. Invite Jesus right into the heart of it all, right there, in the moment. “Jesus, come into this — we invite You into this.”

We do this often in our meetings at Ransomed Heart. Someone will say, “I think we ought to pray about such-and-such,” and I’ll reply, “Go for it. Lead us. Right now,” and we’ll stop what we are doing and pray. Because if we don’t, we rarely get back around to it. I don’t know how many Christian meetings I’ve been in — board meetings, elder meetings — when all the time is used *talking* about what needs prayer, and we find we have barely a few minutes left at the end for one quick, little, rushed prayer.

(Continued Page 4)

	Current	Missions	Cap. Imp	Total
Budget	2,309.68	269.24	288.46	2,867.38
08/07/16	2,313.70	272.20	136.10	2,722.00
08/14/16	2,205.75	259.50	129.75	2,595.00

ATTENDANCE				
	S.S.	SUNDAY SERVANTS	WORSHIP	
08/07/16	38	5	53	English
08/07/16	-	-	-	Karen
Total	38	5	53	
08/14/16	43	0	67	English
08/14/16	-	-	-	Karen
Total	43	0	67	

Openers/ Closers	August 21 Mike Reiter	August 28 Lori Hill
Greeters	August 21 Mike & Marylou Reiter	August 28 Joe Hunter & Eddie Lusk
Visitors	August 21 Mike & Marylou Reiter	August 28 Rich & Lori Hill
Cleaners	August 21 Karen	August 28 Don & Donna Pyle

PRAYER CONCERNS



HEALTH

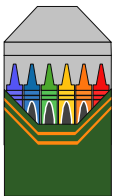
Nancy A.
Mildred B.
Cindy
Randi C. (Amber S. Friend)
Bev D. (Barb L. Friend)
Mike D. (Michelle H. B-in-Law)
Debbie
Peggy D. Brother-in-Law
Charlotte H.
Howard (John A. Friend)
Vic H. (Vangie W. Brother)

Sam & Margie H.
Roxie J. Mother
Landon
Eloise M.
Ikke M.
Darlene M. Family (Ed L. Sister)
Terry O.
Rita
Sam & Ruth S.
Ron S.
Carol Ann S.
Ruth S.

OTHER

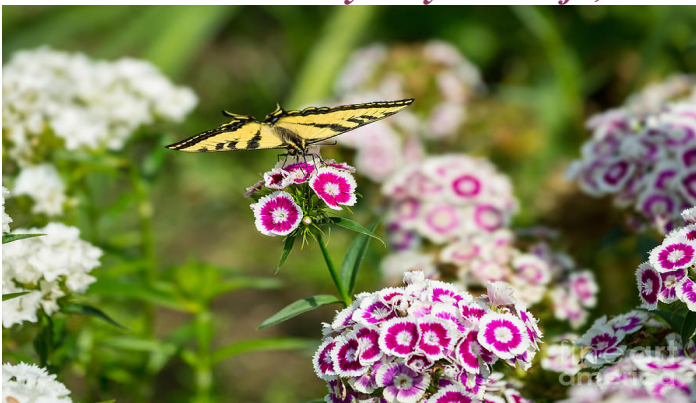
ABW
American Voters
Bethel Building Renovations
Children's Sunday School
Christian University in NE India
Disasters in the USA
Family Promise & Families
Mike & Carl G. (Personal)
National Conflicts
National Leaders

Nominating Committee
New Church Members
Olympics
Our School Systems
Search Committee
Troy (Personal/Jean T. Brother)
World Conflicts
Our Missionaries-Baits-Buttry-Longkumer-Ngwemi



AUGUST OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ITEMS: School supplies like pencils, pens, crayons, pencil sharpeners, erasers, pads of paper (remember the size of the shoe boxes, please).

I came that they may have life,



and have it abundantly. John 10:10 NRSV

Update from the Pastoral Search Committee

The Pastoral Search Committee appreciates the prayers of the congregation while we continue to look for a new pastoral leader for our church. We have contacted 34 prospective pastoral candidates and have interviewed 8 people, some of them more than once. We have contacted Central Seminary, Muriel Johnson, Central Region, Jerry Cain, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and put an ad in Word & Way. We have not found the pastor that we feel God has called for us yet, but we are continuing to interview applicants. Please, continue to pray for us as we meet.

Grace Baptist Church Members,

Just a note to thank you for your generous donation of the five quilts.

Your gift will help our patients and visitors to be more comfortable during their time with us.

Thank You!

Debbi

Northland Hospice House Volunteer

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST			17 9:00a Prayer Circle	18	19	20 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
21 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Daphne Braswell 2:00p Karen Worship	22 Secretary Vacation	23 Secretary Off 9:30a DorSew 6:30p Search Committee	24 9:00a Prayer Circle	25	26	27 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
28 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Jerry Cain ABW Board Meeting 2:00p Karen Worship	29 Noon Grace Notes Deadline	30 Secretary Off 6:30p Search Committee	31 9:00a Prayer Circle NO DINNER OR STUDY	ABW BIBLE BOOK Deuteronomy	FOOD PANTRY: Canned Tuna or Chicken	

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER		ABW BIBLE BOOK AMOS		1	2	3 3-5p Karen Youth
4 Communion 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Dave Davis 2:00p Karen Worship	5 LABOR DAY  Office & Day Care Closed	6 6:30p Search Committee 7p Day Care Committee	7 9:00a Prayer Circle 12:45p Day Care Staff Meeting 6:30p Choir Reh.	8	9	10 9:00a ABWM Breakfast 3-5p Karen Youth
11 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Daphne Braswell Business Mtg./ Lunch provided 2:00p Karen Worship	12 Noon Grace Notes Deadline	13 6:30p Search Committee 7p Priscilla Circle	14 9:00a Prayer Circle 6:30p Choir Reh.	15	16	17 3-5p Karen Youth
18 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Jerry Cain 2:00p Karen Worship	19	20 6:30p Search Committee	21 9:00a Prayer Circle 6:30p Choir Reh.	22 	23	24 3-5p Karen Youth
					GRR Annual Assembly/Effingham	
25 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ Stephen Barbee 2:00p Karen Worship	26 Noon Grace Notes Deadline	27 9:30a DorSew 6:30p Search Committee	28 9:00a Prayer Circle 5:30p Dinner 6:15p Bible Study 7:00p Choir Reh.	29	30	FOOD PANTRY CANNED CORN

BIRTHDAYS

2 Tha Doh Soe	13 K Paw Klay	22 Jody McLaughlin
3 Landon Kirk	16 Shwe Htoo Hae	27 K Nyaw Paw
5 Kbaw Thu	16 Law Rena Jury Htaw	29 Klay Se Paw
9 Jeanette Messina	19 Kathy Hodge	29 Carolyn Cook
10 Marylou Reiter		

ANNIVERSARIES

1 Kenny & Linda Smith
12 Glen & Vicki Dixon
25 Landon & Pat Kirk



(Continued From Page 1)

It's a brilliant ploy of the enemy — keep God's people talking about it, debating, conjecturing, worrying over it, speculating, so they never really get around to *praying*.

By all means, pray when you have time and space to devote yourself to it, time to truly seek God. But pray now too — because you don't know that you will get to it later.

¹ Thomas Cahill, *How the Irish Saved Civilization: The Untold Story of Ireland's Heroic Role from the Fall of Rome to the Rise of Medieval Europe* (New York: Anchor, Doubleday, 1996), 102.

Excerpted with permission from *Moving Mountains* by John Eldredge, copyright John Eldredge, 2016.

*Forget the
former things,
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up,
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the desert
and streams in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:18-19*

**The American Baptist Churches of the
GREAT RIVERS REGION
49th Annual Assembly
Effingham, IL
September 23-24, 2016
Thelma Keller Convention Center
at the Holiday Inn
1202 N. Keller Drive,
Effingham, IL 62401**

**God's
New
Thing**

LODGING RESERVATIONS

Be sure to use the following Block Code ABC for the discounted rate \$99.00. **Hotel reservation deadline is August 31, 2016.** (For reservations you may call the hotel direct 217.540.7777 or IHG Reservations 888.338.1019)

SCHEDULE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

Registration 11:00 a.m.
Ministers & Spouses Luncheon 12:00 p.m. with Bill Shiell
Opening Session...God's New Thing 2:00 pm. with Paul Gibson and Danny Mullins
Missions Banquet 5:00 p.m. with Sharon Koh and Joyce Reed
Worship 7:15 p.m. with Danny Mullins and Sharon Koh
Special Reception for Sharon Koh 9:00 p.m.

SCHEDULE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

Breakfast 7:30 a.m.
AB MEN – AB WOMEN – AME
with David Reed – Joyce Reed – Paul Maitland
Workshops 9:15 a.m. will be announced at the Annual Assembly
Closing Worship 10:30 a.m. with Danny Mullins and Sharon Koh

***Registration Forms available in the Church Office
or call the Region office at 217.726.7366 or ABCGRR.org***