



GRACE NOTES

December 21, 2016 Volume 26-16

Dr. Jerry Cain, Pastor

Cell: (847) 857-0374 Home: (816) 903-1968 e-mail: pastorjerry@grace4u.net

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**



*From
the
Pastor*

Finding and Doing the Will of God

Back decades ago when we were teenagers, we would spend lots of energy seeking God's will about seemingly crisis issues. Is it God's will that I take Paula (or Cheryl or Delpha or Elaine or Judy) to the school prom? Is it God's will vocationally that I be a barber or banker or a lawyer or surgeon? Should I order chocolate or strawberry?

I do not wish to minimize these important decisions, but wish to morph them into **Finding and Doing the Will of God at Grace Baptist Church**. During the 9 a.m. Sunday School hour in January and February, I wish to take us on a pilgrimage to explore God's plan for our congregation for the next few years. In other contexts this experience might be called strategic planning or tactical planning, but for us I want to center on God's Will for Grace Baptist Church.

If you choose to attend, you will have weekly assignments to read, think and pray. We will engage in group discussions and valuing. I will present material for you to ponder with that material coming from the Bible, church history, sociology, and local demographic studies. We will listen and laugh. **We will truly pray and seek to find God's plan for this congregation that was placed here by the very design and purpose of God Himself.**

The old saw is true that “if you do not know where you are going, you will end up somewhere else.” I do not want God's people on Vivion Road to wander around in the wilderness, but to rather set our eyes on the promised land and intentionally move toward it as best we can. Rather than have an outside consultant lead a small group in this discernment process, I want to lead as many people as will come so that we can hear what God is saying to as many of His children as will speak.

The goal of these nine Sunday mornings is to invest our resources as effectively as possible to impact our community for Christ. *The purpose of planning is action, not planning. The purpose of planning is mission, not meetings. The purpose of effective long range planning is accomplishments and achievements, not more activities and longer planning reports.* (Kennon Callahan) **At the end of our discernment process, I hope we have action plans on the table, measurable goals and congregational resources focused to move ahead.**

To make sure we keep our focus on Bible study and spiritual discipleship, **I will preach the Sunday School lessons at 10:15 on Sundays** in January and February so that we keep in touch with our growth commitments. I hope you will join us at 9:00 as we seek God's will for Grace and for morning worship as we begin a new year of ministry and service.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Jerry B. Cain, Pastor

	Current	Missions	Cap. Imp	Total
Budget	2,309.68	269.24	288.46	2,867.38
12/11/16	3,139.90	369.40	184.70	3,694.00
12/18/16	935.00	110.00	55.00	1,100.00

Openers/ Closers	December 25 Mike Reiter	January 1 Roger McKee
Greeters	December 25 Mike & Marylou Reiter	January 1 Roger & Sandi McKee
Visitors	December 25 Mike & Marylou Reiter	January 1 Dave & Roxie Jones
Cleaners	December 25 Karen	January 1 Roger & Sandi McKee

ATTENDANCE				
	S.S.	SUNDAY SERVANTS	WORSHIP	
12/11/16	32	-	64	English Service
12/11/16	-	-	-	Karen Service
Total	32	-	64	
12/18/16	No Services	-	-	English Service
12/18/16	-	-	71	Karen Service
Total	0	0	71	

PRAYER CONCERNS

HEALTH




Nancy A.
Jack B. (Bill T. Cousin)
Mildred B.
Carolyn C.
Randi C. (Amber S. Friend)
Madissyn Cook
Kathy D. (Accident)
Vic H. (Vangie W. Brother)
Roxie J. Mother

Landon K. (Pneumonia)
Jeanette M.
Darlene M. Family (Ed L. Sister)
Marian O.
Don P.
Renata
Ruth S.
Sam & Ruth S.
Tricia

OTHER

ABW
Bethel Building Renovations
Children's Sunday School
Christian University in NE India
Disasters in the USA
Family Promise & Families
Grace Baptist Church
Bill G. Family (Bereavement)
Heather - Personal
National Conflicts

National Leaders
Neighbor's Salvation
New Church Members
Opal (Bereavement)
Our Pastor
Our School Systems
Shootings in KCMO & KCKS
Garmai W. (New Grandbaby)
World Conflicts
Our Missionaries-Baits-Buttry-
Longkumer-Ngwemi

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			21 6:00p Advent Dinner 6:45p Carol Sing with New Kingdom Church NO Choir Reh. 8:00p Praise Team	22	23 Offices Closed, Day Care Closes at Noon	24 Christmas Eve 10:00a-4:00p Karen Celebration  6:00p Christmas Eve Service/ Youth Drama
25 CHRISTMAS HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS NO Sunday School 10:15a Worship & Cantata 2:00p to 9:00p Karen Celebration	26 Offices & Day Care Closed	27	28 9:00a Prayer Circle NO EVENING MTGS.	29	30 Secretary Vacation	31 New Year's Eve 

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JANUARY <i>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</i>			ABWM BIBLE BOOK Hosea	FOOD PANTRY Dry Cereal		
1 Communion Happy New Year 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship	2 Day Care & Office Closed Grace Notes Deadline Karen New Year	3 7p Day Care Committee	4 9:00a Prayer Circle 12:45p Day Care Staff 6:30p Choir Reh. 7:30p Praise Team	5	6	7 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
8 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship Bus. Meeting Lunch Provided 2:00p Karen Worship	9	10	11 9:00a Prayer Circle 6:30p Choir Reh. 7:30p Praise Team	12	13	14 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
15 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Noon Grace Notes Deadline	17	18 9:00a Prayer Circle 6:30p Choir Reh. 7:30p Praise Team	19	20	21 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
22 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship	23	24 9:30a DorSew	25 9:00a Prayer Circle 5:30p Dinner 6:15p Bible Study 7:00p Choir Reh. 8:00p Praise Team	26	27	28 3:00-5:00p Karen Youth
29 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship	30 Noon Grace Notes Deadline	31				

BIRTHDAYS

1 Eh Ler Pwae Soe	5 Brad Summers	13 Linda Cain
1 Phar Dar	6 Lily Dixon	14 Payton Chappell
1 Than Myint	Paw Eh	17 Jenee Htoo
1 Muy Tay	6 Yeh Moo	18 Eh Ser Klee Paw
3 Law Rach Taw	7 Rusharina Say	19 Tee She Paw
4 Naw Lah Hay	7 Marian Osborn	25 Joe Hunter

BEST WISHES

ANNIVERSARIES

16 Sam & Ruth Smith
 27 Ron & Zornitsa Carlson



A special thanks is extended to all members of Grace Baptist Church for your help with Family Promise this week. Linda Biancavilla and Jerry Head were the point persons to care for three parents and six children through this week of Christmas activity, though many others pitched in with meals and sleepovers for our guests. It is good that there is room in the inn at Grace when homeless families need a place to sleep.



CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES



Sat., Dec. 24	Karen Celebration 10:00a to 4:00p
Sat., Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Service 6:00p (Youth will perform a Drama)
Sun., Dec. 25	Christmas Day: Miracles of Christmas & Cantata 10:15a
Sun., Dec. 25	Christmas Celebration with Karen Grace Baptist Church 2-9p

We welcome each and every one of you to join and participate in our Christmas celebration on December 24th and 25th. YOU are invited. - The Karen Church