



**GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 3101 NE VIVION ROAD KANSAS CITY, MO 64119  
(816) 452-0212**



### **Advent Wednesdays at Grace**

A unique tradition with our congregation is the Advent Wednesday meals and devotion services in the Grace narthex as we anticipate the coming of Jesus. I know of no other community that acknowledges the birth of Christ in this manner.

Tonight, December 6, our meal will be cooked by Ina May Fakhoury, with assistance from Joni Davis and Vangie Webb and the program will be provided by our own Martha Carter who joined our church this fall and has become our new Family Minister last month. Using music, personal testimony and devotional materials, Martha will lead us through a service of Conversations and Carols.

Next Wednesday, December 13, Jean Tysdal will take the lead in preparing our meal and the program will feature portions of the eighth grade orchestra from Northgate Middle School. We will have about 20 student guests for dinner plus another 10 family members and drivers who transport the orchestra to our building. This orchestra is under the direction of Sheri Cain.

And on Wednesday, December 20, the schedule will change to accommodate our guests. Beginning at 7:00 pm we will have dessert and our annual Carol Sing with the New Kingdom of Faith and Restoration Church led by pastor Dean Scott. Please note the time change, eat dinner at home, but come to church for dessert and our Advent service with our neighbors.

And remember to add the Day Care Nativity service to your Advent calendar, Tuesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.. Let's make a special effort to focus Christ during these days as we remember His first Advent as our Savior.

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### **We Welcome Victor Velez as Our Guest Speaker on Sunday, December 10, 2017**

Victor is currently the Program Director and Volunteer Coordinator at Bethel Neighborhood Center. He has been in ministry for over 25 years, working in Midwest churches in children, youth and music ministries. He is an accomplished musician, a composer and studio musician. He is also a screen writer and filmmaker in his spare time. He has five children between the ages of 13 and 22, who have ministered alongside him in music, drama and puppet ministries. In his mid-twenties he accepted his first full time church staff position in youth and music ministries. He continued his passion for volunteering at homeless shelters, prison ministry and senior centers. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Piano Performance from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany, OK. He then graduated with a Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree at Central Baptist Theological Seminary.

Today, Victor serves as one of the pastoral team members at First Baptist Church KCMO. Just two weeks ago his eldest daughter got engaged and Victor is excited to welcome a wonderful new son-in-law into the family in September of next year!" He considers being a Daddy as his first most important vocation and ministry as a close second! One of his favorite scriptures is Romans 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God."

**Grace Baptist Church**  
An American Baptist Church  
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Moderator  
**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

	Current	Missions	Cap. Imp	Total
<b>Budget</b>	<b>1,960.63</b>	<b>240.39</b>	<b>192.31</b>	<b>2,393.33</b>
11/26/17	1,678.75	197.50	98.75	1,975.00
12/03/17	8,006.15	941.90	470.95	9,419.00

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>				
	S.S.	SUNDAY SERVANTS	WORSHIP	
11/26/17	29	3	72	English Service
11/26/17	-	-	-	Karen Service
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>72</b>	
12/03/17	49	-	76	English Service
12/03/17	-	-	-	Karen Service
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>76</b>	

Openers/ Closers	<b>December 10</b> <b>Ina May Fakhoury</b>	<b>December 17</b> <b>Lori Hill</b>
Greeters	<b>December 10</b> <b>Ina May Fakhoury</b>	<b>December 17</b> <b>Rich &amp; Lori Hill</b>
Visitors	<b>December 10</b> <b>Ina May Fakhoury</b>	<b>December 17</b> <b>Rich &amp; Lori Hill</b>
Cleaners	<b>December 10</b> <b>Karen</b>	<b>December 17</b> <b>Roy &amp; Joni Davis</b>
Worship Hosts	<b>Adult</b> <b>Dec. Mark Grant</b>	<b>Youth.</b> <b>3 Tea Moo Paw</b> <b>10 Hser Kabaw Lu</b> <b>17 Amber Summers</b> <b>24 Max Gruschka</b> <b>31 Amy Gruschka</b>

## PRAYER CONCERNS



### HEALTH

Nancy A.  
Bonnie  
Bonnie & Gary  
Glenda B.  
Mildred B.  
Marcia B.  
Calissa  
Randi C. (Amber S. Friend)  
Debbie  
Dennis  
Mrs. D.

Helen J.  
Mike  
Chris N.  
Don P.  
Roberta  
Gater & Ann S.  
Sam & Ruth S.  
Stan  
Ruth S.  
Mary S.  
Tyler  
Fred V.

### OTHER

ABW  
Bethel Building Renovations  
Jeff C. Family (Bereavement)  
Christian University in NE India  
Disasters in the USA/Hurricanes  
Family Promise & Families  
Family Minister  
Grace Baptist Church & Pastor  
Howard/Calliope  
December H. Family (Bereavement)  
Law Enforcement  
Leaders of Nation & State  
Marvin & Theresa (Personal)

Carrie M. Family (Bereavement)  
McC. Family (Bereavement)  
New Church Members  
Northland Christmas Store  
Pete  
Refugees  
Roberts Field Baptist Church  
Rohinga in Myanmar  
School Systems  
Shootings in KCMO & KCKS  
Sunday School  
Those Traveling  
World Conflicts  
Our Missionaries-Baits-Buttry-  
Longkumer-Ngwemi

*Thoughtful people  
make thankful hearts*

*Thanks so much.*




The arrival of my "Thank You" check from MMBB reminded me of the time I spent on your staff. Please know that Dinah and I appreciate your participation in the annual retired ministers offering to make our Christmas season happier. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year of ministry.

*Joseph Huse*



The RMMO (**Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering**) began in the 1930's when many servants of the Lord were not receiving salaries commensurate with their service or education. Many left the ministry because they could not support their families on the salary they received. The spirit of the offering was illustrated in 1981 by a Vietnamese refugee woman who did not understand what the offering was all about, but understood the concept of thankfulness. She placed the only thing of value that she had and put her wrist watch into the RMMO offering envelope. She echoes Luke 21: 1-4 where the widow gave her last coin. They gave what they had because they were thankful for what they had received. Please give to RMMO in the spirit of generosity this woman demonstrates.

**Pastor, Moderator, Church Clerk, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Committee Chairmen:** Your Annual Reports are due in the church office NO LATER than January 8, 2018 so they can be printed for the January 14<sup>th</sup> business meeting. Thank You!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			6 9:00a Prayer Circle 12:45p Day Care Staff <b>5:30p Dinner,</b> <b>Martha Carter</b> 7:15p Choir Reh.	7	8 11:00a – 1:00p Carrie Matthes Visitation (Brunch Provided)	9
10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun. of Advent 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/Victor Velez <b>Business Mtg.</b> (Lunch Provided) 2:00p Karen Worship	11  7p Diaconate	12  7p Priscilla Circle	13 9:00a Prayer Circle <b>5:30p Dinner</b> <b>Northgate Middle School</b> 7:15p Choir Reh.	14	15 Sec. Vac.	16 10a Cantata Rehearsal 9-Noon and 1-4p CPR
17 4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. of Advent 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship/ <b>Cantata</b> 🎵 2:00p Karen Worship	18 Noon Grace Notes Deadline	19 8:30a Clothes Closet <b>7p Day Care Christmas Program</b>	20 9:00a Prayer Circle 6:30p Choir Reh. <b>7:00p Dessert &amp; Christmas Carols</b>	21 Winter ❄️	22 <b>Offices Closed; Day Care Closes at Noon</b>	23
24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship <b>6:00p Christmas Eve Service</b>	25 <b>Christmas</b> Offices & Day Care Closed <b>9a-9p Karen Church Christmas Celebration</b> 	26 Sec. Vac.	27 9:00 Prayer Circle	28	29	30
3:00p Family Promise at GBC						
31 <b>New Year's Eve</b> 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship 2:00p Karen Worship			 <b>RMMO</b> <i>Thank You For .....</i>		<b>Food Pantry</b> Canned Tuna or Chicken	<b>ABW Bible Book</b> JOHN



The first time we heard about Family Promise was through our daughter's school, but the administration didn't know much about the program. I was encouraged to call Kaleeah (the Executive Director), so I did that same day. She told me everything I needed to know about the program, and she answered all my questions. We felt overwhelmed with joy and relief that God answered our prayers for help.

When my family first came to the program, we felt better knowing that we didn't have to stay in a costly hotel or in our truck again. We felt like we were in a home, even though it wasn't our own home, and, at the end of our time in the program, we were scared to leave. We knew we had to take baby steps to get where we needed to be.

Family Promise helped us **BIG TIME** with everything like job searching, creating resumes, budgeting, finding an apartment, facing car/truck issues, getting an attorney for my case, finding a place for our two little dogs, and finding a cheaper program to help pay off our loan.

All you (volunteers) are a blessing to our family. You gave of your own time to cook and/or stay overnight at any one of the partner churches. You supported our family throughout everything we had to do to meet our goals. We miss and love each one of you.

You will always be a part of our family and are always welcome in our home.

Love, A Family Promise Family

Please remember Family Promise of the Northland when considering your end of the year giving, so together we can help more families like this one. Please visit our website at [www.familypromisenorthland.org/donate](http://www.familypromisenorthland.org/donate).

## Advent at Grace 2017.

As followers of Jesus, we prepare ourselves for Christmas by observing the season of Advent. This observance reminds us to live expectantly as we await Jesus' coming. We will follow the same lectionary pattern as the Sunday School lessons. Each Wednesday evening at 5:30 please join us for special celebrations of this Christmas season.

Dec. 6. (Wed.)	Advent Dinner 5:30. Martha Carter, Leader
Dec. 10.	Victor Velez, Bethel Neighborhood Center, Guest Speaker
Dec. 13. (Wed.)	Advent Dinner. Northgate Middle School Orchestra
Dec. 17.	Christmas Cantata. Testify. John 1:1-9, 19-28
Dec. 20. (Wed.)	Christmas Carols & Dessert 7:00 p.m. (6:30 p.m. Choir Reh.)
Dec. 24.	Christmas Eve: Participate. Luke 1:26-38
Dec. 31.	New Year's Eve: Celebrate: Luke 2:22, 25-40

**FREE  
TO ALL WOMEN  
OF GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH!**

Now that I have your attention. . .

Please plan to join us in January for a book study  
on

**TOXIC CHARITY  
BY  
ROBERT D. LUPTON**

We will meet for two Saturday mornings at the church to look at how Churches and Charities can hurt or hinder those that they are trying to help. Please see Lori Hill for a copy of the book and plan to join us. We will announce the dates and time soon.



*Our Christian Love and Sympathy is  
expressed to the family of*

***Carrie (Cook) Matthes***

*Carrie went home to her Lord on  
Saturday, December 2, 2017.*

*Please remember her Husband, Tal,  
Mother, Carolyn Cook,  
Step Father, Jerry Head  
Brother, Clint Cook and the  
entire family in your prayers  
during this difficult time.*

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**American Baptist Churches USA**



*Serving as the hands  
and feet of Christ*