



# Grace Notes

\*Welcome \*Worship \*Praise

## Janus: Backward and Forward

The Greek god Janus, for whom January is named, was depicted as having two faces--one that **looked forward and one that looked back**. (Yes, Janus would have been a good 5th grade teacher because he had eyes in the back of his head!) I wish to use that image as we review the past month and look into the future. Advent and Christmas were milestones for our congregation over the past few weeks.

- The **campus decorations** affixed by members of the Worship Committee provided a wonderful environment that made Christmas visible and vital in the narthex and the sanctuary. Thanks for your work on garlands, candles, bows, nativities, trees, poinsettias and all the colors of Christmas.
- There were **five families** who lighted our Advent candles and reminded us of the legacy of Christmas handed down from one generation to the next. I am grateful for these families and the imagery they provided for this Holy Season
- The **Wednesday Advent Events** were culinary delights and wonderful experiences hosting the Bulldog Chorus and the New Kingdom of Faith and Restoration Church. We are grateful for all the kitchen work you did to make these events happen.
- And the **music was outstanding** for the past month. Each soloist, instrumentalist, ensemble group and especially the choir shared the meaning and message of Christmas with clarity and Joy. Christmas cannot happen without music.
- On the personal side, **Linda and I say thank you** again for all the cards, notes and gifts you shared with us over these past few weeks. We are glad God has led us to Grace Baptist Church. Your friendships are important to us as we serve God together.

But it is also time to look toward the future in 2019.

- We report the good news that the **Babatunde family has received all their passports and are free to depart the US for Nigeria this month**. They are getting last minute tickets and plans in place to depart sometime in late January. We will have a good-bye celebration in worship either on January 20 or 27. The church has stepped up to help pay the cost of their tickets to go home. As of this writing we have in hand \$2100 of the needed \$4000 necessary their voluntary departure. Marylou is leading this ticket drive and if you wish to buy a ticket, or portion of a ticket, please let her know.
- It is important to **review our strategic plan** annually and I have asked for the Sunday School hour on January 27 and on Wednesday, January 30, at our monthly meal to do this important analysis. We will ask you to help with a survey to see how we are doing and where we should be going.
- The **Annual Business Meeting** will be Sunday, January 13. Please make your presence a priority.

The **preaching emphasis in January** will follow the Sunday School texts looking at who Jesus is. I hope you will preview these texts in preparation for Sunday School discussion and for our worship experience.

- 1-06. Jesus: A Gift to the World. Mathew 2:1-12
- 1-13. Jesus: The Son of God. Luke 3:15-22
- 1-20. Jesus: The Presence of God. John 2:1-11
- 1-27. Jesus: The Fulfillment of Scripture. Luke 4:14-24

- Jerry Cain, Pastor

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Bill Turnage  
Moderator

Juliann Hansen  
Custodian

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

January 2, 2019  
Volume 01-19

	Current	Missions	Cap. Imp.	Total
Budget	2,433.62	288.46	892.65	3,614.73
12/23/18	1,967.21	239.91	191.92	2,399.04
12/30/18	10,290.34	1,254.92	1,003.94	12,549.20

ATTENDANCE				
S.S. SUNDAY SERVANTS WORSHIP				
12/23/18	39	2	81	English Service
12/30/18	30	1	70	English Service

Openers/ Closers	January 6 Roger McKee	January 13 Lori Hill
Greeters	January 6 Roger & Sandi McKee	January 13 Rich & Lori Hill
Second Hour	January 06 Linda Biancavilla & Maxwell Ray January 13 Kathy Hodge & Ashlyn Welcome	

## PRAYER CONCERNS



### HEALTH

Nancy A.  
Austin  
Bonnie  
Bronson  
Dan B.  
Randi C.  
Derek  
Peggy D.  
Hans & Gisela G.  
Evie H. Mother  
Bob H.  
Helen J.  
K. Jones  
Landon K.  
Ethlyn M.  
Imogene M.

Terry O.  
Sharon P.  
Don P.  
Mike R.  
Doug S.  
Gerry S.  
Larry S.  
Mark S.  
Steve  
Mary S.  
Tyler  
Betty V.  
Fred V.  
Caroline W.  
Wanda  
Wynette  
Rose Y.

### OTHER

ABW  
Accompanist  
B Family  
Bethel Building Renovations  
Christian University in NE India  
Disasters in the USA  
Family Promise  
Family Minister/Young Adults/Singles/SS  
Grace Baptist Church & Pastor  
Law Enforcement  
Ethlyn M. Niece's Family (Bereavement)

Nominating Committee  
Refugees  
School Systems  
Shootings  
Those Traveling  
Our Missionaries--Buttry-  
Longkumer-McCurdy-Ngwemi



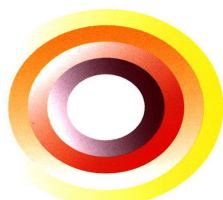
Thank you all for the generous Christmas gifts and words of encouragement! My family and I are very grateful for your kindness. I am blessed to be a part of the Grace family.

Thank you again, and Happy New Year!

- Juliann Hansen

## COMING JANUARY 19, 2019

The Book Study, “**Domestic Violence**”, sponsored by the American Baptist Women’s Ministries, will be held at the church from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!




RMMO

“It is so good to know that retired pastors are not forgotten – even after many years of retirement from active ministry, even though many of us are still involved in the Lord’s work. These generous gifts are a source of real encouragement to us to continue to use our talents, even though in a lesser way.” - Retired Pastor, Abilene, KS

Recipients of Thank You checks express gratitude not only for the gift, but for less tangible benefits, such as evidence of God’s providential care, encouragement, hope and assurance that they have not been forgotten by their ABC family.

**Our Goal: \$ 1,200.00**

**Received: \$1,018.05**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			2 9:00a Prayer Circle  6:30p Choir Reh.	3	4	5
6 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship Noon Karen Youth 2:00p Karen Worship	7  1:00p Day Care Board	8  <b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE</b>	9 9:00a Prayer Circle 12:45p Day Care Staff  6:30p Choir Reh.	10	11	12
13 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship <b>Business Mtg.</b> Lunch Provided Noon Karen Youth	14  Noon Grace Notes Deadline	15	16 9:00a Prayer Circle  6:30p Choir Reh.	17	18	19 9a-Noon ABWM Book Study "Domestic Violence"
20 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship Noon Karen Youth 2:00p Karen Worship	21 Martin Luther King Day	22 9:30a DorSew	23 9:00a Prayer Circle  6:30p Choir Reh.	24	25	26
27 9:00a S.S. 10:15a Worship Noon Karen Youth 2:00p Karen Worship	28  Noon Grace Notes Deadline	29	30 9:00a Prayer Circle 5:30p Dinner 6:15p Program 7:00p Choir Reh.	31	<b>ABW Bible Book</b>  Romans	<b>Food Pantry</b>  Dry Cereal

### SMALL MONEY, BIG RESULT

*"I planted seeds, Appolos watered it, but God made it grow". I Cor. 3:6*

Dear Loved Ones,

Greeting. We hope that you all had a blessed Christmas time wherever and whoever you were with. We are doing fine and enjoying our warm and humid weather.

In our September 24, 2012 newsletter we presented Lunie, a girl who got pregnant while in high school and the man left her after the birth of her boy. Lunie struggled to raise him and lived by selling charcoal.

Kihomi met Lunie while buying her charcoal. The exchange led Lunie to be invited to study Business Administration at our university, graduating four years after. Then a Good Samaritan gave Lunie a gift of money to boost her business. Today Lunie owns a shop at the Limbe market, helping some poor persons in her community and deeply involved in her church. She bought herself a piece of land on which she has built a nice and dignified house. She owns 7 cows. A cow in the Haitian mentality is like having money in the bank.

Lunie has successfully raised the young Saint Fleur John Peter who has now finished his university education with two degrees: in agronomy from Christian University of Northern Haiti in Limbe and economics from the State University in Cap-Haitian.

Peter has become the first Assistant Professor to the Dean of the School of Agriculture at our university while he is running an "Agro-Production Plus" business in Quartier Morin where he is producing 3000 chickens in 45 days. We have now people who depend on this young man to feed their families.

Investing in the education of girls is not money or time or energy wasted. Lunie and her son, John Peter, are the best gifts of your love you can have as the year ends. God bless you all.

Thank you for standing by our sides in the difficult task of knowing who to help and not to.

Happy New Year 2019,  
In Haiti, Nzunga & Kihomi

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Thank you so much for your WMO directed donation in November in support of our peacemaking mission work through International Ministries. Sharon and I are officially in our “non-compensated” era, service as ¼ time missionaries living off our pensions and Social Security. We’ve slowed down the ministry somewhat, but you couldn’t tell that from what we did in these past two months! This Thanksgiving one of our main reasons for gratitude was the amazing community support that sends us forth – including you! Thank you!

In November we traveled to Kenya to conduct another of our 10-day Training of Conflict Transformation Trainers. We had a full 32 person training with participants from Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, Burundi, Nigeria, Jamaica, and the U.K. We hadn’t planned on doing another TCTT this year, but an amazing new partnership with Tearfund has been developing. Tearfund is a Christian Relief and Development agency based in the United Kingdom that is a shared project of most of the Protestant denominations there. Tearfund has a major peace-building program. Their two top leaders have now attended a TCTT, Mariam Tadros at the one in August at Central Seminary and then David Couzens at this one in Kenya.

As a result of these trainings Mariam and David are completely reworking their program, using many of the tools and the experiential education model we use. They brought 20 of the participants to the Kenya TCTT and underwrote the costs. They have contracted with Philip Kakungulu, who co-facilitated the Kenya TCTT with Sharon and me, to coordinate much of their peace-building work in East and Central Africa. Tearfund is also inviting Sharon and me to lead a training in the Middle East in March for their partners in Iraq.

Thank you for your partnership in seeking to bring that angelic chorus “Peace on Earth” into reality in our day and age. Bless you! Dan Buttry

## *Thank You*

A big THANK YOU to everyone for remembering me at Christmas. The gifts, cards and kind words are all greatly appreciated!!!

May you each feel God’s love and presence as we start the new year of 2019.

Thanks again for your thoughtfulness.

- Beth



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**American Baptist Churches USA**



*Serving as the hands  
and feet of Christ*