



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

Grace Notes

*Welcome *Worship *Praise

COVID GRACE NOTES APRIL 27, 2020

DIACONATE DEVOTIONAL

Have you ever noticed how in the scriptures men are always going up into the mountains to commune with the Lord?

Yet in the scriptures we hardly ever hear of women going to the mountains, and we know why — right?

Because the women were too busy keeping life going; they couldn't abandon babies, meals, homes, fires, gardens, and a thousand responsibilities to make the climb into the mountains!

I was talking to a friend the other day, saying that as modern woman I feel like I'm never "free" enough from my responsibilities, never in a quiet enough, or holy enough spot to have the type of communion I want with God.

Her response floored me, "That is why God comes to women. Men have to climb the mountain to meet God, but God comes to women where ever they are."

I have been pondering on her words for weeks and have searched my scriptures to see that what she said is true. God does in deed come to women where they are, when they are doing their ordinary, everyday work.

He meets them at the wells where they draw water for their families, in their homes, in their kitchens, in their gardens.

He comes to them as they sit beside sickbeds, as they give birth, care for the elderly, and perform necessary mourning and burial rites.

Even at the empty tomb, Mary was the first to witness Christ's resurrection, She was there because she was doing the womanly chore of properly preparing Christ's body for burial.

In these seemingly mundane and ordinary tasks, these women of the scriptures found themselves face to face with divinity.

So if — like me — you ever start to bemoan the fact that you don't have as much time to spend in the mountains with God as you would like. Remember, God comes to women. He knows where we are and the burdens we carry. He sees us, and if we open our eyes and our hearts we will see Him, even in the most ordinary places and in the most ordinary things.

Our Men of Grace are not on the mountain, they are faithfully doing God's work on earth.

He Lives! (Submitted by Carolyn Cook)

Sunday, May 3

Living Life in the Lock-Down (A Series from Philippians)

Text: Philippians 1:1-19

Memory Verse. "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to God." Phil 1:3.

Grace Baptist Church

An American Baptist Church

www.grace4u.net

Jerry Cain, Pastor
pastorjerry@grace4u.net
847-857-0374

Beth Sigley
Administrative Assistant
beth@grace4u.net
816-452-0212

Michelle Hoitenga,
Day Care Director
daycare@grace4u.net
816-453-4437

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

April 27, 2020
Volume 17-20

Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunrise 2020

Grace Baptist Church began the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday on February 26 by making commitments about what we might do or not do during the 40 days leading up to Easter. Those commitment cards were deposited in an offering plate as worshippers came to receive ashes on their forehead. The plan was to burn those cards in the fire when we gathered for the Easter Sunrise Service at the Cook Outdoor Worship Center. But you know what happened.

The coronavirus came and we closed down Sunday worship services to protect our congregation and thus, there was no Easter Sunrise Service. Since all these cards are anonymous, let me list those omissions and commissions which were commitments for this Lenten season of 2020. As we close down our Easter celebrations at the end of April, I will shred these cards in my office study. I recognize none of them, not even the one with my wife's handwriting.

- Be at Sunday School more often.
- Stop procrastinating.
- Stop worrying and trust in God more. I wish to commit myself to spending time daily in prayer.
- Chocolate with morning caffeine.
- Something the Lord will tell me.
- Ignoring others.
- Midnight bed time. Bite splint.
- Look for people less fortunate than I am and try to do or say something to make their day and their life better.
- Helping people who need help.
- Give up impatience.
- Give up political debates.
- Commit to being more thankful.
- Wine. Gossip.
- Contact old friends and family through Lent.
- Mad at anybody.
- Be more understanding of family members.
- Think about ways to help others.
- Give up talking about people, except by saying good things. Smile more.
- Chips ~~or ice cream~~.
- I will give up giving my husband the silent treatment.
- Give up coffee. Be active for 30 minutes every day. Set aside time for devotion.
- Spend more time in daily devotions.
- I will give 15 minutes each day to pray for peace.
- Give up desserts.
- Commit to forgive daily. "Father forgive them for they knew not what they do."
- Eliminate sweets from my diet.
- ANXIETY
- Have a morning prayer service for the world and our government.
- Talk to Jesus every morning before I get out of bed.

Only God knows the good that has been accomplished and the evil that has been avoided because of these personal commitments from the good people at Grace Baptist Church who desire, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to be even better people.

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The Community fruit/vegetable boxes have been a great success. We will continue to do this weekly as long as C&C Produce continues to provide this service.

Thanks to the Men of Grace that have stepped up to be the deliveryman. Ron Stallard, Bill Turnage and Pastor Jerry Cain so far. We all appreciate you taking the time to help make this unusual period more bearable.

Thank you to Carolyn Cook for helping to take orders and keeping me organized. Please remember to call either Carolyn #679-3778 or Jean #810-5519 by Thursday evening if you would like to order a box. We order Friday and pick up and deliver Monday morning. The cost is \$20. Thanks.

Government Notice!

To help save the economy, the government will announce next month that the Immigration Department will start deporting seniors (instead of illegals) in order to lower Social Security and Medicare costs.

Older people are easier to catch and will not remember how to get back home. Be sure to send this notice to your relatives and friends, so they'll know what happened to you both.

We started to cry when we thought of both of you.

Then it dawned on us, we'll see you both on the bus.

We thanked them for thinking of us!



NARTHEX NEWS

(Items we would talk about should we be meeting in the Narthex on Sunday.)

We are saddened to announce that another of our former members, **Annette Westbrook**, died last Thursday, April 23, in Fairview, Tennessee. Annette was very faithful in attendance at GBC before her move to be closer to her daughter. She leaves a great many friends at Grace.

From Dr. Charles Hedrick: *Good afternoon Pastor Jerry, As usual I am grateful for a literate homily and heart-felt recognizable music from fellow Baptists. Thank you one and all.*

Garmai Wilson and husband, Robert Jenson, have both been furloughed from Challenge Corporation. Thus far they are OK, having received their CARES Act check and unemployment. It is hard not getting up to go to work each day.

Mike Reiter is back in St. Louis today for the fourth of his four scheduled over-night stays. If this goes well, there may be no more overnights, though there will be a weekly trip to St. Louis. MAGE-4A

Yesterday, April 26, was to be the make-up day for baby dedications that did not happen on March 15. But now that date has been delayed again and indefinitely. We have had six babies born into our Grace family over the past year.

And, it is time to organize our seniors for recognition on graduate Sunday in May. Two girls from the Karen Church who grew up in our Sunday School are scheduled to graduate in some fashion this spring: Law Rach Taw and Hae Nay Ser. Please let us know if you are aware of other upcoming graduates.

Thanks: A blue and white Igloo ice chest with wheels is waiting in the Narthex for its owner. Thanks for loaning it to the Judson University Choir on March 2. The ice chest has found its way back to the church and now wants to go home.

A Suggestion: Please consider tithing your CARES Act check to your local church.

A Reminder: Please complete the "Assistant Pastoral Search Committee Survey" and return it to Sandi McKee.



BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Dave Jones | 5 Marcia Williams | 12 Michelle Hoitenga | 23 Athen Welcome |
| 3 Hae Nay Ser | 6 Charries Paw | 14 Jerry Head | 26 Tmwee Hae |
| 3 Maw Rach Taw | 8 Ashlyn Welcome | 17 May Joy | 28 Bill Turnage |
| 4 Anna Soe | 9 Violet Villanueva | 19 Donna Schreiber | 28 Gerry Stallard |
| 5 Paw Ger Kaw | 10 Crystal Villanueva | 21 May Peace | 28 Mark O'Dell |

ANNIVERSARIES

3 Anthony & Emily Welcome
24 Rick & Mary Webb



May