

Grace Notes

June 2013

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Baptist Church



PASTOR RANDY'S NOTE...

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." -- NIV

"Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age." -- The Message

-- Matthew 28:19-20a

Anyone who has been in the church any length of time knows about The Great Commission– the commission Jesus gave to his disciples, both past and present, to make disciples. When you see words like teach, train, and instruct you might think to yourself, or even say out loud, "That is the church's job." And you would be right.

But what we forget is WE are the church. The church is all of God's people. Therefore, when you say, "That is the church's job." in essence what you are saying is, "That is MY job." The role of discipling, of teaching, training, and instructing falls on all of us. Jesus calls each of us to make disciples, persons who then can turn right around and make more disciples.

Remember the definition of a Christian disciple we have been using in worship? *A disciple is someone who follows Jesus, is changed by Jesus, and is committed to the mission of Jesus.* If we are going to be committed to the mission of Jesus, we need to be willing to engage in a process of training and learning to make disciples.

Training disciples who make disciples, who in turn are trained to make disciples, is something we need to be intentional about, and is something which best happens in relationship. For these reasons, Grace will be inaugurating, in the fall, small group gatherings whose main focus is to make disciples and to train those disciples to make disciples.

For now I would like to ask the following from each of you: 1) Pray for your pastor and those individuals who will take the leadership roles in these groups that we will have the wisdom and grace to carry out the task God has entrusted to us; 2) Pray about YOUR participation in these groups. It will be an opportunity for God to work in you to equip you to better carry out the mission of Jesus; and 3) Pray for each person at Grace, that God will renew our commitment to Jesus' mission so we can all become the disciples Christ desires us to be.

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**JUNE
COMMUNION
SERVERS:**
Paul Young
Kaleen Stepnioski
Ed Vulgan
Betsy Vulgan



MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

I don't know about you, but the warm weather has made me think it's summer and I really should just be lazing around. Of course, God's work doesn't take the summer off, so I am writing my column for the *Grace Notes*.

Our Board seems to be in a transition that causes controlling types like me to be uneasy. However, I think this change is God-led. We are finding ourselves with less and less "business" (read voting) to conduct. Some months we have trouble deciding whether to hold a meeting. The only down-side to not holding meetings is the board needs to work as a team, and if we don't meet to pray together, report to each other, hold each other accountable for our work, and discuss issues, we are liable not to be a "team" when something major comes along. The up-side is that is what we are doing: we are praying, holding each other and our ministries accountable, and discussing topics that affect the church in significant ways.

An area of concern is we are not praying corporately, as a body of Christ, and that is leading to complacency. Along with praying as a body, we are only beginning to address the needs to "equip" all members of our congregation by holding each person accountable for the status of their relationship to God. In other words, each person should be growing and changing in Christ until the day they die (after that God will take care of needed changes). As a church of Christ's disciples, we cannot follow Christ's commandments to us unless we provide encouragement, support and opportunities for ministry, and spiritual growth. Please re-read this paragraph and pray the Holy Spirit will guide our leadership and each person who is part of Grace to seek and accept this challenge.

With you in His work,
Sharon Owen, Moderator

NOTES FROM YOUR MUSIC/WORSHIP LEADER & LAY MINISTER OF CHURCH LIFE, JUDY YOUNG



Have you ever felt so tired that you just couldn't do one more thing? We all experience times like that. Sometimes I think I get extremely tired because I find myself flitting from one task to the next. And sometimes, I am too busy doing things I think need to get done, and not doing what is on God's agenda!

Jesus said, "*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*" (Matthew 11:28-29 NIV)

Sometimes we need to just rest! When we roll into the summer months, I hope you will find a few extra moments or hours to rest. As we go to our summer schedule, it is a refreshing time for all of our Sunday School teachers and helpers who are weary by the end of May! That's not to say we should stop learning! It is perhaps a time for you to steal those extra restful moments to be in God's Word, meditate on Him, and pray. The Sunday schedule also affords more time to spend with family and friends. Take the time to invite a neighbor or un-churched family member to come to church with you and then out for a picnic. I'm hoping to have a "Breakfast Potluck" one Sunday this summer; another opportunity to invite someone. Watch for more information. We will continue to have great worship times and Pastor's message at 10a.m. See you then!

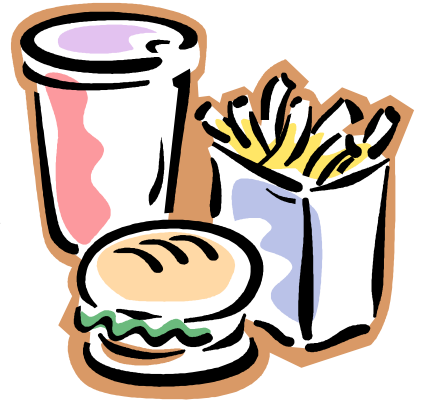
BURGERVILLE PARTNERSHIP

Our kids need your support to help raise money for camp scholarships. Yes, we already have some money set aside for camp scholarships, but we would like to be able raise more scholarship money so we can send our kids to camp with little cost to their parents/guardians and grandparents. As you know, camp is not cheap.

So we are going to have a Burgerville Partnership Day on Sunday, June 23, 12:00-3:00 pm. Our kids will be working the signs and lobby to earn their scholarships. All you have to do is come and order food. Bring your family, neighbors, and friends with you. We will get 10% of the profits during that 3 hour stint.

Hopefully between the Wednesday, May 29 and the Sunday, June 23 partnership days (6 hours of work), we will be able to send our kids to camp with much more scholarship money than what we budgeted for within our walls.

Thanks for your support.



EDUCATION

By the time you get this newsletter, we will be starting Kids' Corner. What is Kids' Corner? Here's the scoop: we will take 5-10 minutes during the service to have a Bible Story time and maybe a song or two for the kids. Then the kids will go back and sit with their parents/grandparents. This may or may not work for the whole summer. CE may have to revisit this topic in the July meeting. We may need to restart Children's Church before the summer is out. It depends on how well our kids do with Kids Corner.

Why did CE decide to implement Kids' Corner for the summer? The workers are few. You will find the children's workers we have are not only working Children's Church, but are also in other ministries in the church. Quite frankly they are close to burn out. So CE decided to give our faithful teachers and helpers a break to rest and refresh themselves before the fall season begins.

Please be in prayer for our children's workers. They are few, but mighty. God has given each one of them a heart for our children and the willingness to give up their time to be with other adults in "big people church" to minister to our children. Be in prayer that God will lead other people to Grace Baptist who will have the calling to work with children as well. The more people we have on hand who have the children's ministry calling, the lighter the load will be on all children's workers. Most importantly, our kids will grow in God.

Christ Himself said, *"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter in."* Mark 10:14b-15.

Love in Christ,
Beth Jones, Lay Minister of Education

JUNE 2013

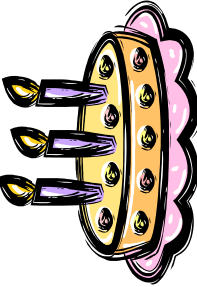
Fellowship Fund offering is received the first Sunday of the month.

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

**“Don’t worry about anything. Worrying never solved anything. All it does is distort your mind.”
-Milton Garland (at 103, the oldest worker in the U.S.)**

June Birthdays

10 Sally Couley
10 Larlie Crawford
20 Judy Young
23 Thai Kamsard
28 Emma Johnson
29 Jaden Thompson



June Anniversaries

11 Larry & Carol Martin
21 Ken & Sandy Danielson



2	3	4	5	6	7	8
COMMUNION 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 6:00 Bible Study @ Church		11:00 am Deaconesses' Meeting	6:30 pm Bible Study & Youth Meeting	6:30 pm Grace Singers' Rehearsal 7:00 pm Walleye Club	2:00 pm Meals For Minds @ Bridger School 6:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Church Bible Study	9:30 am Outreach Meeting
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church	6:30 pm CE Meeting		6:30 pm Bible Study & Youth Meeting	6:30 pm Grace Singers' Rehearsal	12:00 pm Food Sorting @ MUM 7:00 pm Packing Food @ MUM 6:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Church Bible Study	9:00 am-12:00 pm MUM's Food Distribution 10:00 am Girlfriends' Birthday Breakfast @ Village Inn 2:00-4:00 pm Greg Jones' Graduation Reception
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration Happy Father's Day!		11:00 am Roberta Stephens Circle Meeting 6:30 pm Board Meeting	6:30 pm Dinner/Fellowship & Youth Meeting	6:30 pm Grace Singers' Rehearsal	9:00 am-4:00 pm Arrah Wanna Work Day 6:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Church Bible Study	9:00 am-4:00 pm Arrah Wanna Work Day 2:00-4:00 pm Ken & Sandy Danielson's 50th Anniversary Reception
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church 12:00-3:00 pm Burgerville Partnership Day (23rd)			6:30 pm Bible Study & Youth Meeting	6:30 pm Grace Singers' Rehearsal	Camp Arrah Wanna Work Day 6:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Church Bible Study	9:00 am-5:00 pm Camp Arrah Wanna Reunion

YOUTH MINISTRY

Spring sure is in the air and it is nice to hear the birds chirping and feel the sun's warm rays again. This spring and going into summer the Youth Ministries here at Grace Baptist Church is looking forward to raising money to send kids to camp at Camp Arrah Wanna in the summer along with other youth events we will be participating in. I am in the planning phase for the summer on what I can do to continue training the Youth as disciples of Christ as well as to ignite the fire in them to share their faith in Christ, not only with other youth, but adults as well. I believe the youth have a special ability to excite and encourage anyone and can help even the oldest of people get excited about GOD; this is what I want for our Youth. I am always looking for volunteers who are excited about GOD to help encourage our youth and disciple them to become future solid Christians. These youth have the energy and ability to ignite a fire inside anyone that either is struggling in faith or has become stagnant. It's about time we tap this resource we have here at Grace and start utilizing the youth in our churches ministry. No more letting the youth just go through the motions of Christianity and sit on the sidelines. It is time to put them into the big game and let them carry the ball. Remember what it was like when you were young in your faith, all the confusion, questions and excitement? Well guess what? It is still there in you— it might be active, or maybe it is dormant. Let's, as a church, get energized and excited about GOD as if it is the first time we have learned about Him. Let's ignite the fire here at Grace Baptist Church so all those who are in darkness can see our fires' lights and feel its warmth and comfort.

This might require all of us in the congregation to change and adapt to the need of the church and church youth. Change might make people nervous and a little uncomfortable, but that is good. If we become too comfortable, we become complacent and dormant. Being uncomfortable makes us evaluate the situation to meet the needs that are present now; but change does bring with it the need for results and action. If someone was to lay on their living room couch for a long time, they will likely fall asleep and miss out on the day and opportunities that it presents, but if that same person that is lying on the couch has a fire started in their pants, they are bound to jump up off the couch filled with energy and focus. This is what change can bring. We, as a church, need to decide if we are going to sleep on the couch and burn up into dust or jump up with this new found fire and be focused and driven to change our situation. As it says in *Matthew 4:19*, "*Be willing to change for the work that is in Christ.*" I say, if the Bible commands it, we better not take it lightly and should probably follow the directions given within its living words. What do you say, Church, let's ignite the fire and shine for the entire world to see?

Also I know recently there have been shirts created for the church body to wear at church functions. I just want to remind everyone that the Youth Ministries department created shirts a while ago that are still for sale in which 100% of the proceeds go to the youth group for camp and open house activities. I have sold two so far and we have plenty more. Just ask Shawn for details and he will hook you up.

Shawn Brannan, Youth Minister

OUTREACH

Thank you to everyone who has already made a commitment to help at our Community BBQ on August 24. As I sorted through the sign-up forms that have been turned in, I was delighted to see that **five** people checked the box to help with clean-up – the most tedious part of any event. Several people have signed up to help with prep the day before the event, to be there early on Saturday to get everything set up, to help with cooking and serving food, etc. If you haven't turned in your sign-up form yet here are some areas where we still need volunteers:

- Help with publicity (putting up posters, handing out flyers) in early August
- Registration booth – need 3 volunteers - this is a job someone could do who can't be on their feet
- Snow Cone Machine – need 2 volunteers
- Popcorn Machine – need 2 volunteers
- BBQ'ing – need 2 additional volunteers
- Food service – 1 more needed
- Craft area – need 3 more volunteers – another job where you can sit
- Bounce house and water slide supervision – need 2 more volunteers

In case you wonder how I came up with the numbers listed above, I'm hoping to split the day into two shifts in order to reduce the work load as much as possible. The first shift will run from 10:45 – 12:30 and the second shift from 12:15 – 2:00. If you have a preference for which shift you'd like to work just let me know on your sign-up sheet or give me a call and I'll make a note. And if you'd like to work in two different areas during the day we can make that happen too!!

We are also in the process of ordering church t-shirts so we have are easily identifiable when we are working an event like our Community BBQ or the Santa Breakfast. If you haven't turned in your order form please do your best to get it to me by June 1st so we can place the order in plenty of time to get the shirts by early August. Here's a picture of the shirt:



For those of you waiting to make a commitment to help with the BBQ – here's a verse from Proverbs to consider: ***“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans. (Proverbs 16:4)***

In His Service and Love,
Helen Pearson, Lay Minister of Outreach

GRACE FAMILY FINANCES

APRIL 2013

<u>General Operating Fund</u>	
Monthly Budget	\$ 10607.92
Income Received	\$ 8353.05
Expenses	\$ 8911.00
Net Balance for Month	\$ (557.95)
General Fund Balance 4/30/13	\$ 2145.80
Boiler Fund Balance	\$ 1232.16
<u>Mission Fund</u>	
Mission Giving Plan	\$ 1230.66
Specified gifts/offerings	\$ 190.00

JANUARY-APRIL 2013

AVERAGE MONTHLY BUDGET:	\$10607.92
AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME:	\$ 9046.83
AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENSES:	\$10053.50
DIFERENCE:	\$ (1006.67)
MISSION GIVING PLAN TD	\$ 5041.79
SPECIFIED GIFTS.OFFERINGS TD	\$ 1541.00
<u>Liabilities</u>	
Payroll Tax Liabilities	\$ 532.96
Loan from Building Fund to GF Loan	\$ 8051.46
Boiler Loan	\$11217.75

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

Pastor Randy has been helping us focus on what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. He has shared three descriptive statements of a disciple: 1) A disciple follows Jesus; 2) A disciple is changed by Jesus and the leading of the Holy Spirit; and 3) A disciple is committed to Jesus' mission of making disciples. Jesus wants to transform us in all areas of our lives if we will let Him. Are we willing to be open and sensitive to the Spirit's leading when it comes to our attitudes about what we do with our money?

Barbara Furman, Lay Minister of Finance

MONTAVILLA UNITED METHODIST FOOD PANTRY

The list of food MUM would like to have provided is: canned fruit, canned corn, canned green beans, chili, soup, canned meats, tuna fish, peanut butter, jam/jelly, spaghetti sauce, canned beans, box meals, macaroni and cheese, pasta/noodles, cereal (hot and cold), Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, egg cartons, plastic vegetable bags, and paper grocery bags.

As you shop for food it is better to buy in bulk (6-20 identical items), rather than one can of this and one box of that.

We will be emphasizing food collection on **Sunday, June 9**. Come and give a gift to those in need.

Thanks again for your willingness to help with this ministry.





Grace Baptist Church

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*All we do inside these
walls prepares us to do
God's work outside.*

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE

15 Girlfriends' Birthday Breakfast @ Village Inn

16 Father's Day

21 & 22 Camp Arrah Wanna Work Days

22 Ken & Sandy Danielson's 50th Anniversary

Reception

23 Burgerville Partnership Day

29 Camp Arrah Wanna Reunion

STAFF EMAILS

Pastor

Randy Pearson

pastorrandy@graceportland.com

Secretary

Beth Jones

grace@graceportland.com

Youth Minister

Shawn Brannan

shawn@graceportland.com

Worship/Music Minister

Judy Young

judy@graceportland.com

Vision Statement

God's vision for Grace Baptist Church is to engage in Christ-centered discipleship and worship to equip you for, and support you in, ministry in the Montavilla neighborhood and the communities where you work and live; while cultivating trusting, loving, accepting relationships.