

Grace Notes

June 2014

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Baptist Church



PASTOR RANDY'S NOTE...

There is a joke, cloaked in the mystic of a real life event, going around the internet. It goes like this:

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover Holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians, Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"

The lawyer immediately stood objecting to the ruling saying, "Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah. Yet my Client and all other atheists have no such holidays."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do. Your client, counsel, is woefully ignorant."

The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is April Fools Day. Psalm 14:1 states, 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned."

Yes, "The fool says in his heart, there is no God." However there is a bigger fool who walks the earth. That fool is the person who says in his heart there is a God, and lives his life no differently than the fool who says there is no God.

When Christ came into our hearts, he asked, and asks only one thing of us- that we love him. And how do we demonstrate that love? Jesus tells us very directly in John 14:15- "If you love me keep my commands."

Keeping the commands of Christ is an impossible task. That is why Jesus continues in John 14:16-17- "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

Keeping the commands of Christ is not doable on our own, but we have an advocate, a helper- the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth. The question each one of us needs to ask ourselves is, "Am I leaning on my own strength or the strength of the Holy Spirit?"

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JUNE COMMUNION SERVERS:
Diana Hiatt
Steve Hiatt
Johnni Beth Jones
Leon Jones



NOTES FROM THE BOARD

We continue to move forward with our corporate emphasis on revitalizing and supporting our ministry to children and youth. One important aspect of that ministry is to have an attractive and inviting space for the children to meet. The Education ministry and Administration ministry have been charged with recommending and implementing changes to the basement classrooms. You will hear more about this as plans come together.

As the preparations for the CEF 5 Day Clubs continue, I encourage you to put Sunday, June 29 on your calendar. On this day we will have a joint service with Iglesia Vision Nueva followed by a potluck and then a CEF training. This training is not just for those who will be volunteering at the 5 Day Clubs. It is for all of us to learn how to share the gospel with children. It is relevant for all of us.

At our May board meeting we decided to host a community barbecue on Saturday, September 6. This will provide us an opportunity to reach out once again to our community as well as to specifically reach out to the children and families who participated in the CEF 5 Day Clubs.

In my monthly articles, I have written about some of the things that are being discussed at our monthly board meetings. In a further attempt to keep you informed about what is happening, we will be putting copies of the approved minutes of the board meetings on the table in the entry way.

Barb Furman, Moderator

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Welcome Tammy Brown to membership at Grace. Her application for membership was accepted by vote of the congregation on Sunday, May 25, by Christian experience and previous baptism.

Spiritual Life is looking into ways to help keep the congregation connected. The PACE program was an effort to assist us to do that. It hasn't worked consistently, so I would like to hear some different ideas you may have. Send me a note or talk to me about your ideas. We are eliminating the registration pads in the pews on Sundays because they are not effective or consistent. We are also looking to start a follow-up process for visitors beyond a letter from Pastor. If you are interested in assisting in this, please let me know!

Blessings!

Paul Young, Lay Minister of Spiritual Life

CUB SCOUTS COMING TO GRACE

Grace has an opportunity to be the sponsoring organization for a Cub Scout Pack. This will give us an opportunity to reach out to boys and families in our community.

We will be holding an organizational meeting for the pack on Monday, June 2 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you would be interested in helping in any capacity with the pack, you are encouraged to attend this meeting.



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



God has promised us a very exciting summer! As I attended the CEF meeting last week, I found myself anticipating the possibilities for the week of July 21. The entire city of Portland will have Christian churches, like ours, sharing the love of Christ with thousands of children. It gives me hope for the next generation. God is so gracious to allow us to be a part of this ministry.

I have been enjoying a book by Billy Graham, The Reason for My Hope. In his introduction he writes:

What is hope? Some equate it as a fanciful wish. But the word explodes with confidence to believe in something greater than ourselves, and it is not found in science, medicine, government, or technology. It is a grand gift that does not drain us of life, but infuses us with lasting benefits that spring forth from its seemingly veiled treasures. If you doubt my thesis, consider these truths:

Hope is seen in a sprig that shoots up from the crevasses of a sun-dried rock, proving the water of life within. Hope is the first ray of sunshine that peeks above the horizon—without fail—every morning with blazing truth, telling us we can make it through. Hope is the cry of a newborn baby once bound, now free. Have you glimpsed the glow of hope? Strike a match and burn a candle. You will discover that the whisper of its flame brings life to a room. Is your flame alive and making a difference in the world? HOPE PIERCES THE DARKNESS.”

Please continue to pray for this exciting event!! Every morning and evening at 7:58, lift your prayers to our awesome God that He will go before us as we minister to these children. If you have not signed up yet, there are many tasks that can be done. Speak with Beth about where you will serve.

June is also filled with activities. The summer schedule begins Sunday, June 1, with worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by an all-church potluck. On Sunday, June 29, we will have a joint service with Iglesia Vision Nueva followed by a joint potluck. Then we will continue with our CEF training that afternoon.

God is doing a mighty work at Grace! Come be a part of it and continue to pray for His guidance and direction.

MEALS FOR MINDS

Meals For Minds is a free food distribution for all K-8 Bridger Elementary students and their households. Families are able to come and select from a variety of produce and staple items. Each distribution we provide is roughly 22 lbs. of food for each household. We see anywhere between 120 and 150 families.

Our last Meals For Minds Distribution for the school year is Friday, June 6. Volunteers are needed from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm with set-up, re-bagging, and giving out food to families. We couldn't do it without our fabulous team of volunteers at Grace! If you are not a volunteer at this point and are interested to be one, please contact Pat. The info is below.

Patricia Velasco, Extended Day and Meals For Minds Coordinator
Bridger K-8 S.U.N School
503-502-1485 (Mobile)
pvelasco@impactnw.org

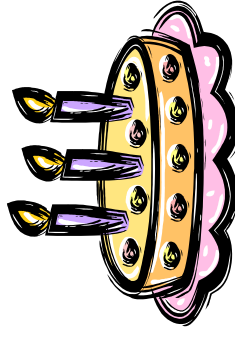
JUNE 2014

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 COMMUNION 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 11:30 am All Church Potluck 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church	2 7:00 pm Cub Scout pack organizational meeting	3 11:00 am Deaconesses' Meeting	4 6:45 pm Bible Study @ Church	5 7:00 pm Walleye Club	6 9:00 am Volunteer Day @ CAW 1:00 pm Meals For Minds	7 9:00 am All Church Work Day 9:00 am Volunteer Day @ CAW
8 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church	9 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church	10 6:30 pm CE Meeting	11 6:45 pm Bible Study @ Church	12	13 Last Day Of School 6:00-9:00 pm Iglesia Vision Nueva Church Bible Study	14 2:30 pm Laura Young's Bridal Shower 6:00 pm Iglesia Vision Nueva's Women's Bible Study
15 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration Collect Food For Open Heart Pantry No Bible Study Father's Day	16 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration Heart Pantry No Bible Study	17 11:00 am Roberta Stephens Circle Luncheon @ Cherry Wood Village Square 6:30 pm Board Meeting	18 6:45 pm Bible Study @ Church	19	20 12:00 pm Stocking Shelves @ MUM 3:00 pm-6:00 pm MUM's Food Distribution	21 9:00 am-12:00 pm MUM's Food Distribution 11:30 am Girlfriends' May/June Birthday Lunch @ Olive Garden
22 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship Celebration 6:00 pm Bible Study @ Church	23 JULY GRACE NOTES' ARTICLES DUE	24	25 6:45 pm Bible Study @ Church	26	27 6:00-9:00 pm Iglesia Vision Nueva Church Bible Study	28 6:00 pm Iglesia Vision Nueva's Women's Bible Study
29 8:45 am Praise/Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Combined Worship Celebration with Iglesia Vision Nueva 11:30 pm Potluck 1:00 pm CEF Training	30 5:00-8:00 pm Burgerville Partnership 6:30 pm Outreach Meeting	<p>“My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person: He believed in me.” -Jim Valvano</p>				

June Birthdays

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



June

Anniversaries
11 Larry & Carol Martin
12 Mike & Jenny Sampson
21 Ken & Sandy Danielson



EDUCATION

On Monday, May 19, we had our first of two Burgerville Partnership Nights. Thank you to all of you who came out to help volunteer to work and/or purchase food. We made about \$180-\$185 to put toward our camp scholarships. Our second and final Burgerville Partnership Night is scheduled for Monday, June 30, 5:00-8:00 pm. This partnership night is a fundraiser for scholarships to help kids, youth **and adults** to go to camp. How much scholarship each person gets will depend on how much we make between the two partnerships nights. Scholarship amounts will be determined by the Education Committee in the near future.

As Barb has already mentioned in her article, we will be having a CEF 5 Day Clubs teacher/volunteer training. Please take note in her article she also pointed out this training will not only benefit those who are going to work the 5 Day Clubs, but it would benefit all of us who work with children or have children/grandchildren. This training will train all of us in how to share the gospel with children in general.

Love in Christ,
Beth Jones, Lay Minister of Education

A WORD FROM OUR CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTER

Dear Grace Family,

First, I want to thank you for welcoming my family and me. We all feel fully accepted and loved by you. We are all very excited to be a part of this church family. I am super excited to see what God has in store for us as we, along with you, seek God's face to minister here.

There are a couple of verses God keeps prompting me to dwell on this month as I have spent time in prayer:

From 1 Chronicles 4: 9-10: "Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying 'Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that Your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from harm that it may not pain me!' And God granted him what he requested."

This is my prayer that God would increase my territory as He sends me out to reach children and youth. I pray He blesses and orders my steps as He leads me to the children and youth He has chosen to reach for the kingdom!

To start this process I have begun to make contact with children and youth who have once attended here. I will continue to touch base with them as well as those who currently attend. It is my prayer that God will bless these times to give me an opportunity to build relationships with the families, children and youth.

By the start of July, I hope to have a mid-week program for children once a week and have the youth group meeting consistently each week as well. I am also excited for the great opportunity we will have with the CEF week.

We are in a season of HARVEST! Pray God prompts our hearts to be His workers to bring in this harvest.

Many Blessings,
Tammy Brown



GRACE FAMILY FINANCES

APRIL 2014

General Operating Fund

Monthly Budget	\$ 10140.67
Income Received	\$ 9095.15
Expenses	\$ 7566.63
Net Balance for Month	\$ 1528.52

General Fund Balance 4/30/14 \$ 3371.60

Boiler Fund Balance \$ 1152.20

Mission Fund

Mission Giving Plan	\$ 1338.55
Specified gifts/offerings	\$ 73.00

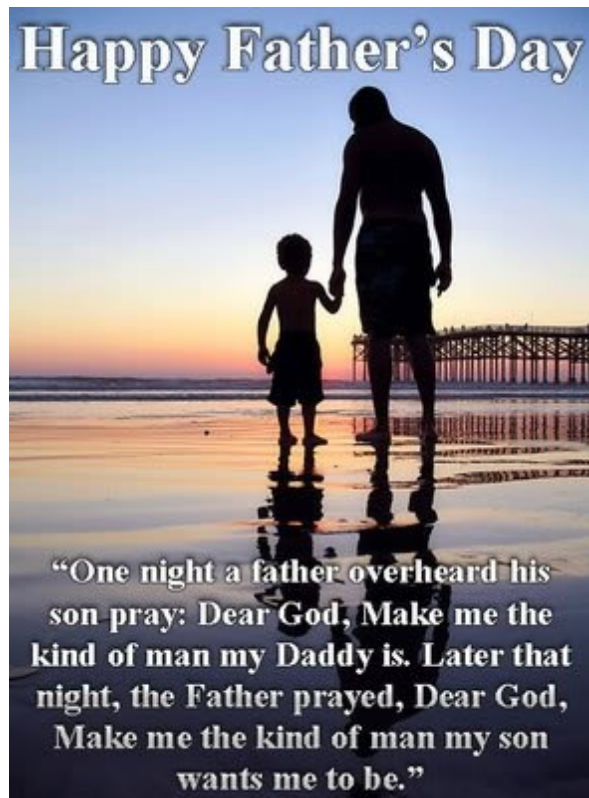
Liabilities

Payroll Tax Liabilities	\$ 653.82
Building Fund to GF Loan	\$ 8051.46
Boiler Loan	\$ 7268.95

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

We will continue collecting an offering for One Great Hour Of Sharing during the month of June. In case this is a new to you, you may be wondering where the money you give is going. The offering provided by various churches provides funds for disaster relief, developmental projects, and refugee ministry. Please pray as to how much God wants you to give to this offering. Our goal as a church is \$1,500.00

“I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are one—I in them and You in Me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me” (John 17:22-24).



ROBERTA STEPHEN CIRCLE

Roberta Stephens will be having lunch out in June and not meeting at the church. We will be going to Cherry Wood Village Square on Tuesday, June 17. Plan to be there at about 11:30am. This is an open event and all women of Grace and friends are welcome.

We do not meet during the summer months so this is our last meeting for the spring. We will reconvene September 16. We should have some good service projects then. Hope to see everyone in September.

Shannon Hastings Chair of Roberta Stephens Circle.

MUM OPEN HEART FOOD PANTRY

Open Heart has been successful in obtaining Sunset approval. They received first items in time for May food giving days. This has been a great help and will continue to be so for future giving days. Donations of non perishable food are still needed. Next food days are June 20 and 21. Again they are asking that we hold off on paper bags and egg cartons. Still using supplies on hand. Many thanks for the donations and help received from Grace Members.

God Bless,
Shannon Hastings

ALL CHURCH WORK DAY

Come bring your work clothes and elbow grease. We are having a work day on Saturday, June 7, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. There will be doughnuts and coffee. Some of the projects we are looking at tackling are: cleaning up the outside south walkway, installing new panels on the outside sign, fixing the toilet seat in the men's bathroom downstairs, removing tape from the fans, dusting and cleaning light fixtures and fans, and cleaning air vents in the fellowship hall, : putting up new towel dispensers in the downstairs women's bathroom and nursery, putting yellow tape on steps going downstairs, and finally putting ceiling tiles where needed.

Larry Martin, Lay Minister of Administration

2014 SUMMER CAMPS AT CAMP ARRAH WANNA

High School Camp (completed grades 9-12): Monday, July 21-Friday, July 25. For campers who register by June 16, the cost will be \$250, if you register June 17-July7, the cost will be \$270.

Elementary Camp (completed grades 3-5): Monday, July 28-Friday, August 1. For camper who register by June 23, the cost will be \$230, if you register June 24-July14, the cost will be \$250.

Primary Camp (completed grades 1-2): Friday, August 1-Sunday August, 3. for campers who register by June 27, the cost will be \$135, if you register June 28-July 18, the cost will be \$155.

Middle School Camp (completed grade 6-8): Monday, August 11-Friday, August 15. For campers who register by July 7, the cost will be \$250, if you register July 8-28, the cost will be \$270.

Adult/Family Camp: Friday, August 29-Monday September 1. Prices TBA.



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

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE

- 1 Summer Church Service Hours Begin & All Church Potluck**
- 2 Cub Scout Organizational Meeting**
- 6 Meals For Minds**
- 7 All Church Work Day**
- 14 Laura Young's Bridal Shower**
- 17 Roberta Stephens Circle Luncheon**
- 20 Shelving & Distributing Food @ MUM**
- 21 Distribution Of Food @ MUM**
- 21 Girlfriends' May/June Birthday Lunch @ Olive Garden**
- 29 Combined Service & Potluck With IVN**
- 29 CEF Teacher/Volunteer Training**
- 30 Burgerville Partnership**

STAFF EMAILS

Pastor

Randy Pearson

pastorrandy@graceportland.com

Minister of Children and Youth

Tammy Brown

tammy@graceportland.com

Minster of Worship and Music

Judy Young

judy@graceportland.com

Secretary

Beth Jones

grace@graceportland.com

GOD'S VISION FOR GRACE BAPTIST

Making disciples of Christ, in a relational environment,
to share in God's mission to the world.