

Grace Notes

June 2017

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Baptist Church



Pastor Randy's Notes

As I sit here writing this column, I have been listening to the national news on CNN, and Portland has made it in the spotlight. Unfortunately, it is for all the wrong reasons. It is the story about the stabbing on the Max. For those who have not heard, on Friday a man stabbed three men on the Max, killing two. These three men were protecting a young woman from the man's racial slurs.

Sadly, this kind of thing is becoming the norm in our country rather than the exception. Racial divisiveness as well as political divisiveness and religious divisiveness are running rapid. Right now we stand a divided nation.

This type of divisiveness should be upsetting to us who are followers of Christ. Speaking for myself it has been upsetting, and continues to be so. It seems we have lost the sense of decency, caring, and tolerance we find in the teachings of Christ. Instead there exists an atmosphere of suspicion and hostility toward others who are different.

Though the current tide of hate and violence may seem overwhelming, it affords Christ's followers a great opportunity. A great opportunity to stand up and speak out about the love God has for all.

The other day I came across a website titled, *Preemptive Love Coalition*. In one of the articles on that site, Courtney Christenson wrote:

"Love requires we show up in the hard places. Even when things get dicey. Even when they get political. And when there is conflict of any kind (whether it's political or physical), love demands we show up with a completely different agenda than the parties on either side...We go to the hard places where love feels absent or violence seems to have won, to love the people who feel hung out to dry, vulnerable, abandoned, and afraid...Sometimes that's a war-torn town in Iraq...And sometimes, it's suburban America where we feel wrung out by the hostile tone of our politics and how it seeps into every aspect of our lives."

I don't believe Preemptive Love Coalition is a Christian group. However there is much Christians can learn from their attitude of love and reconciliation. We, like them, need to be intentional and "show up" to show the world a different way— the way of Jesus.

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JUNE
COMMUNION
SERVERS:
Beth Jones
Dan Jones



GRACE FAMILY FINANCES

APRIL 2017

General Operating Fund

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Monthly Budget | \$ 9,840.34 |
| Income Received | \$ 10,994.10 |
| Expenses | \$ 7,901.16 |
| Net Received for Month | \$ 3,092.94 |

Mission Fund

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Mission Giving Plan | \$ 1,281.95 |
| Specified gifts/offering | \$ 224.95 |
| Total Mission Giving | \$ 1,506.90 |

Liabilities

| | |
|---|--------------|
| General Fund Balance 04/30/17 | \$ 14,802.21 |
| Payroll Tax Liabilities & Accounts Payable | \$ 596.09 |
| GF Less P/R Liabilities | \$ 14,206.12 |

Building Fund

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Building Fund Balance 14/30/17 | \$ 12,033.90 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We are currently receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. This is an annual offering that goes towards disaster relief. This year's theme is *You are here!* "*I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*" (Matthew 25:35).

DURING 2016, FUNDS WERE DISPERSED INTERNATIONALLY FOR:

- Flood Relief
- Hurricane Matthew Relief
- Tornado Relief
- Earthquake Relief
- Cyclone Relief
- Refugee Relief
- Asylum Seekers Relief
- Civil Conflict Relief



WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, THE FUNDS WERE USED FOR:

- Flood Relief
- Storm Relief
- Tornado Relief
- Flint Water Crisis
- Arson Relief
- National Disaster Response

Please give. Our goal is \$1500.

Carol Martin, Lay Minister of Outreach



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



"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. . . . Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. For the LORD is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations." (Psalm 100)

There is so much in our lives we can praise God for. He guides our every step and showers us with continued blessings! As your Church Life Lay Minister, I am so happy to announce the Grace Board has approved making updates to our sound system and projection system in the sanctuary. Funds from the Jean Atkinson memorial will be used for this project and the IVN congregation will help by giving some money. You will begin to see changes coming soon.

1. We have purchased and ordered a new digital sound/mixer board that will allow each congregation that uses the building to set their own tone and volume settings with just the push of a button. Right now each church's sound technician comes early to reset all of the sliders and buttons on the sound board, which takes a lot of time each Sunday.

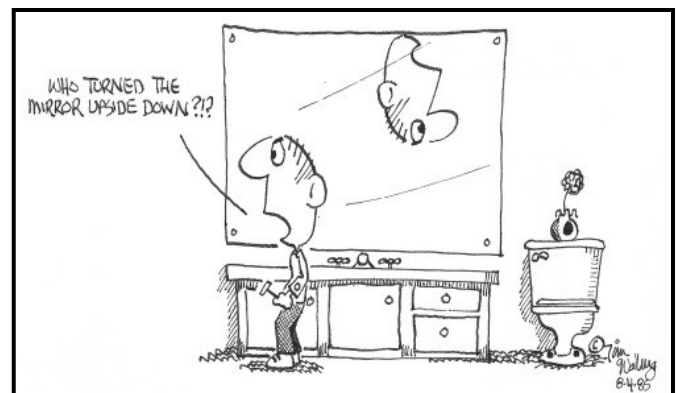
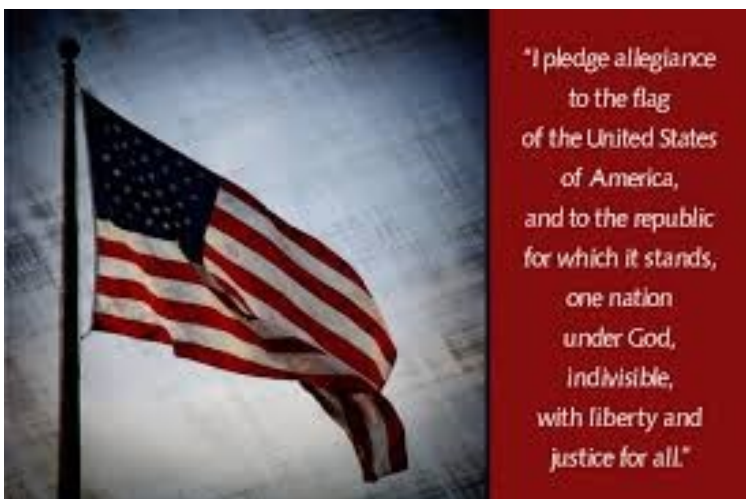


2. We will also be eliminating the brown tower (which holds the front projector) in the middle of the platform. Two very large TV monitors will be placed on each side of the front wall, just to the outside of the chancel arch. This will allow a much sharper image of the songs' words and any other video or slides projected. It will also allow us to see the cross again at the back of the chancel and brighten up the platform.

3. The sound booth will finally be moved out from under the balcony. This will allow our sound technicians to hear what the congregation hears and better manage sound levels.


Our goal is to have all of the new equipment and new sound booth installed and running by July 9. That will be a very joyful day for the church family! Please pray that the work will be accomplished in a timely manner, and that those working on the equipment will see Jesus' love shining through us as we work with them.

Please continue to pray for our ABC-USA Biennial Mission Summit. Pray for the speakers, planners, helpers, and all who will attend. Pray God will touch lives as this conference is attended. Help is still needed in various areas. If you are interested in attending or helping, please speak to Pastor Randy or myself.



JUNE 2017

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

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|-----------|---|--|
| <p>“I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior, for whose Kingdom it stands, one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again, with life and liberty for all who believe.”</p> | | | | | | |
| 4 COMMUNION 8:30 am Praise/ Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study | 5 | 6 11:00 am Deaconesses' Meeting | 7 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer | 8 | 9 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study | 10 |
| 11 8:30 am Praise/ Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study Collect Food For Open Heart Pantry | 12 | 13 | 14 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study & Prayer  | 15 | 16 10:00 am Stocking Shelving Food @ MUM 1:30 pm Bridger's Harvest Share 3:00 pm MUM's Food Distribution 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study | 17 9:00 am MUM's Food Distribution 11:30 am Girlfriends' Birthday Breakfast @ King's Omelet 10711 NE Halsey |
| 18 8:30 am Praise/ Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study | 19 1:00 pm Board Meeting | 20 | 21 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study | 22 | 23 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study | 24 |
| 25 8:30 am Praise/ Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Bible Study | 26 July Articles Due In Office | 27 | 28 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study | 29 | 30 Mission Summit Conference @ Convention Center 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study | 6:00 pm IVN Sisters' Bible Study |

June Birthdays
 10 Larlie Crawford
 10 Sally Coulsey
 20 Judy Young
 23 Thai Kamsard
 28 Emma Johnson



June Anniversaries
 11 Larry & Carol Martin
 21 Ken & Sandy Danielson



MUM OPEN HEARTS PANTRY

Keep up the good work! All donations are appreciated! Please remember the need continues even as the weather warms.

The next shelving time will be Friday, June 16, at 10:00 am. The next food distribution days will be Friday, June 16, 3:00-5:00 pm and Saturday, June 17, 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

Montavilla United Methodist's book sale is on Saturday, June 24. The book sale will be books by the bag. Buy the empty bag for \$5.00, then fill it with as many books as you can. You select what you like to read. This may be a fun way to get more reading supplies for your own use. They are asking for donations of Fred Meyer bags with handles. These could be left in the food barrel in the entry at Grace.



Shannon Hastings, Liaison for Montavilla United Methodist Open Heart Pantry

BIENNIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

If you wish to attend the Biennial, registration is \$50. If you can not afford the registration fee, Grace has scholarships available. If you are interested, see Pastor Randy.



OUR FLAG

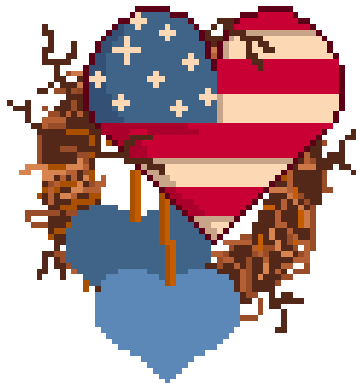
Our Flag is a glorious ensign,
Our Nation in epitome;
Its red...our blood,
Its stars...our world,
Its blue...our loyalty!
Now, with this liberty threatened,
We must keep faith with our Flag;
Give our best to God and our country
And never let our interest lag.
We must pledge to it new allegiance,
The Republic too, and then stand
Our Nation under God, indivisible,
With justice for all in the land.
Our Flag is far more than a bunting,
This poem, and prayer, prophecy...
Is a Nation led of Almighty God,
America, Land of the Free!

~Written by Jessie Whiteside Finks~

TEACH AMERICA TO PRAY

May our good land be true and just,
Her motto e'er "In God We Trust"
May she be guided by Thy Word,
Thy wisdom in her walls be heard.
May all who love her plead today,
Lord, teach America to Pray!
And as her flag unfurls on high
Its starry splendor to the sky,
May we, in grateful thanks to Thee
Who gave to us this land so free,
Preserve her freedom in Thy way.
Lord, teach America to Pray

~Written by Edith A. Wilsey~





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

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE

6 Deaconesses' Meeting

11 Collecting Food For Open Heart Food Pantry

14 Flag Day

16 Bridger's Harvest Share

16 & 17 MUM's Food Distribution

17 Girlfriends' Birthday Breakfast @ King's Omelet

19 Board Meeting

26 Articles For July Grace Notes Due In Office

STAFF EMAILS

Pastor

Randy Pearson

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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.