

Grace Notes

FEBRUARY 2019

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Baptist Church



Pastor Randy's Notes

God's timing is perfect. How many times have you heard that phrase? I have heard it a lot. I have said it more than once. I have even preached on it. It is something I believe whole-heartedly. However, that belief doesn't stop me from occasionally questioning God and his timing.

Early in January I was talking with a friend. We were assessing 2018, and making predictions about what 2019 would be like for each of us. At the time I told him 2019 was looking up, it seemed things had turned a corner for Helen and me.

Less than two weeks later, Helen lost her job. Some people would call it fate, others would say it was just a random event, but I know it was God's hand at work. For whatever reason, God chose at this time to basically kick my wife out the door of her job.

When I first got word of what had happened, I had a "gut" reaction and literally yelled at God. "Why?" and "Can't Helen ever get a break?" and "Haven't we gone through enough?"

As you can imagine, it has thrown us for a loop. We do not understand all that is going on.

What I do understand is this: Once I get passed the "gut" reaction and all the anger and questions, there is peace and hope for the future knowing God IS in control and his timing IS perfect.

Do I have all the answers and see and understand what God is doing? No. What I do see is the history of God working in our lives, and he has never, NEVER, let us down. He has always provided, and I have complete confidence and trust he will continue to do so.

Are things easy? Of course not. But God will provide— he always has and he always will. Lamentations 3:25-26 says, "The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. "

I don't know what God's timing and plan is for us right now, so we hope and wait and pray, knowing God will do what more than we could ever ask or imagine— no matter how scary and uncomfortable it is the interim.

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**MARCH
COMMUNION
SERVERS:**

**Paul Young
Ken Danielson**

SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY 4 BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING

Attendance: Terri Becker, Ken Danielson, Barbara Furman, Sharon Owen, Pastor Randy Pearson, Paul Young

Reports

Pastor –

- Judy Young and Larry Martin were appointed to the Pastoral Relations Committee.
- The church has purchased a back-up service for the church's computers.
- “OneCop” - Pastor Randy attended a luncheon for clergy and received information about a program being promoted by the Portland Chief of Police, which pairs a single faith congregation with a single police patrol officer. The concept is that with joint work there can be a positive impact on community relations with the police, resulting in greater safety for the officers and better coordination with community needs. Pastor Randy will be “Congregational Coordinator”--the church's liaison with an officer chosen by the Police Bureau. More information should be available for the March 17 congregational gathering.

Moderator –

- Improving communication with the congregation
 - Newsletter
 - The calendar will continue to be distributed for the beginning of the month.
 - The newsletter will be distributed the third week of the month. This will allow more timely financial information from the previous month and a synopsis of the minutes from Board meetings the.
 - Informational Gatherings – In 2019 the Board will host quarterly informational conversations with the congregation. The first one will be Sunday, March 17.
- Follow-up to the January congregational meeting – The Board will approach Iglesia Visión Nueva regarding their interest in working together.

Outreach –

- The father of a family at Bridger was detained by ICE. Melanie, the Bridger SUN Coordinator, made us aware of this family's need for financial assistance. The Board voted to give the family \$300 from the Children in Need fund for help with legal fees.

Spiritual Life

- Terri reported she is preparing for her role as Lay Minister with prayer for direction.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Sharon Owen, Recorder

Grace Family Finances: January 2019

<u>General Operating Fund</u>		<u>Mission Fund</u>	
Monthly Budget	\$ 9,334.00	Mission Giving Plan	\$ 1,191.25
Income Received	\$ 8,921.75*	Specified gifts (non-Nash)	\$ 50.00
Expenses	\$ 8,405.56	Sarah Nash (to be matched)	\$ 239.00
Net Income for Month:	\$ 516.19	Total Mission Giving	\$ 1,480.25
		<u>Other Funds (11/30/18)</u>	
General Fund Bal (01/31/19)	\$ 2,021.43	Atkinson Fund	\$ 67,408.32
Payroll (P/R) Tax Liabilities	\$ 504.24	Building Fund	\$ 12,033.90
General Fund Less Liabilities	\$ 1,516.19**	Endowment Fund	\$ 30,329.90

*Note that the January income included the full year of Walleye Club's rental payment in advance.

**The General Fund-less-liabilities balance at the end of 2018 was \$1,000 due to a December supplement from the Atkinson Fund. The net balance for January of \$516.19 + \$1,000 = \$1,516.19 (January 31 balance).

Announcements

THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY is available in the narthex. This directory includes birthdays and anniversaries, as well as some additional helpful numbers.

MONTAVILLA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY

continues each month to help meet the food insecurity needs of families in our community. Grace Baptist Church has been partnering on Thursdays the week the pantry is open. We served 9 families in January. The need continues for canned soups, canned fruit, peanut butter, and jams or jellies. Remember to bring smaller items to help homeless individuals that may come. Also for the next couple of months there is a need for sturdy and clean paper bags with handles. God's blessings to all who help with this ministry.

ON SUNDAY MARCH 17 after worship you are invited to join us for a potluck meal, fellowship, and relationship building. Please bring a main dish or dessert to share (it's St. Patrick's Day so you might consider something green). As part of our time together there will be an informal conversation and update from the Board.

THE NEW PASTORAL RELATIONS

COMMITTEE convened on February 12 to begin working on their tasks for 2019. The Pastoral Relations Committee consists of Judy Young, Chairperson, Larry Martin and Sharon Owen. Our primary task is to provide the pastor with support and encouragement. We are also charged with working with the pastor to establish and monitor goals for his ministry, timelines, further education and performance evaluation. Please pray for our committee and Pastor Randy as we collectively seek God's will for Grace Baptist Church.



FEBRUARY 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Church mice 						
3 COMMUNION 8:45 am Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Sunday School 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship	4 10:00 am Prayer Time 1:00 pm Board of Ministries Meeting	5 11:00 am Deaconesses' Meeting	6 10:00 am Prayer Time	7 10:30 am Prayer Time 7:00 pm Walleye Club Meeting	8 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study	9 8:00 am Neighbor to Neighbor Event 5:30 pm IVN Worship Rehearsal
10 8:45 am Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Sunday School 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship	11 10:00 am Prayer Time	12	13 10:00 am Prayer Time	14 10:30 am Prayer Time 11:00 am Shelving Food @ MUMC 12:00 pm Open Hearts Food Distribution Manned By Grace	15 1:30 pm Bridger's Free Food Market 3:00 pm Open Hearts Food Distribution 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study	16 9:00 am Open Hearts Food Distribution 11:30 am Girlfriends' Birthday Lunch @ Chu's 5:30 pm IVN Worship Rehearsal
17 8:45 am Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Sunday School 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship	18 10:00 am Prayer Time	19	20 10:00 am Prayer Time	21 10:30 am Prayer Time	22 7:30 pm IVN Church Bible Study	23 5:30 pm IVN Worship Rehearsal
24 8:45 am Worship Team Practice 9:30 am Sunday School 10:20 am Fellowship 10:45 am Worship	25 10:00 am Prayer Time	26	27 10:00 am Prayer Time	28 10:30 am Prayer Time		

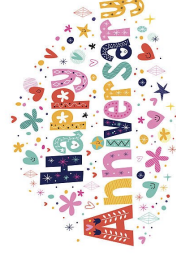
February Birthdays

9 Beth Jones
 11 Mykall Stensland
 24 Sandy Danielson
 25 Betsy Vulgan



February Anniversaries

28 John & Shannon Hastings





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

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FEBRUARY

14-16 Open Hearts Food Pantry

15 Free Food Market at Bridge

16 Girlfriends' Birthday Lunch at Chu's

MARCH

2 GBC/IVN Leadership Meeting

5 Deaconesses' Meeting

9 Neighbor to Neighbor (4 from GBC attending)

11 Board of Ministry Meeting

14-16 Open Hearts Food Pantry

16 Free Food Market at Bridger

17 Potluck, Fellowship, and Update

STAFF EMAILS

Pastor

Randy Pearson

pastorrandy@graceportland.com

Minster of Worship and Music

Judy Young

judy@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.