

# Grace Notes

APRIL 2019

Monthly Newsletter of Grace Baptist Church



## Pastor Randy's Notes

I know Grace Baptist is a praying church. This is especially true since we started our prayer times three days a week.

I believe it is now even more crucial to spend more time in prayer.

Let me share what has brought me to this belief. In the past several months things have started to happen at Grace. I would not go so far as to say revival has broken out, but there is definitely movement of the Spirit of God.

There has been new excitement generated on a few fronts— talks with Iglesia Visión Nueva about the possibility of merger, the formation of the new Bible Study and Lunch, the Rest Stop getting more use, getting a men's ministry started— just to name a few.

But something else is going on as well. As we seem to be “picking up steam,” a lot of difficulties are befalling members of our congregation— sickness, life issues, and other difficulties are seeming to abound at the moment. In talking with Pastor Primo the same is happening with members of Iglesia Visión Nueva.

I am wondering if something or someone is trying to slow down the momentum that is building. I am usually not one to talk about such things as Satanic attacks, even though I do know that Satan does bring attacks on those who follow Christ. With all of the negative and bad stuff that is happening in our midst at the moment, it is hard to chalk it all up to coincidence.

For the last few weeks I have been praying for God's protection for those who are involved at Grace Baptist, and I am asking all of you to do the same. I feel a strong sense we, as a church, need an extra measure of God's protection at this time.

Paul tells us in Ephesians 6, “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” That's why he tells us we have to put on the Armor of God. Not only that, but also “pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.”

Please join me in praying God will keep our minds alert against all that is brought against us as we move forward in becoming all God wants us to be.

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**MAY  
COMMUNION  
SERVERS:**

**Barbara Furman  
Shannon Hastings**

## SUMMARY OF APRIL 8 BOARD OF MINISTRIES MEETING

**Attendance:** Terri Becker, Ken Danielson, Barbara Furman, Carol Martin, Sharon Owen, Randy Pearson, Paul Young

### **Pastor –**

One Cop Program – Pastor Randy has received the name of a police officer, but they have not yet met.

Neighbor to Neighbor – A representative from the church that started the program will speak to the Men's

Breakfast on April 13. A big question is how to locate people that need help.

Gideons – The board agreed to host a speaker from the Gideons this year.

Bridger – Teacher Julia Collins called to say the 4th Grade Pancake Breakfast on April 6 netted over \$900- the greatest amount ever raised.

Combined services ideas:

Pastor Randy and Pastor Primo preach at alternate services

Hire a competent interpreter – it is expected to cost about \$100 per Sunday.

Hold a combined Sunday School program on joint service Sundays.

Concerns about the loudness of IVN music have led to Pastor Randy researching additions and changes to the sound system. Recommendations and expected costs are:

Electronic drums: \$1,700

Musicians' personal monitors: \$3,200

Musicians' earphones: \$40 each or \$400

**Motion:** That Grace Baptist pay up to \$6,000 from the undesignated portion of the Atkinson Fund for these upgrades to the sound system. (Sharon/Ken) It is hoped that IVN will be able to pay up to 50% of the costs, but Grace will pay the entire cost if needed. (Motion carried.)

### **Moderator –**

The next Congregational Update from the Board of Ministries will be June 9 during the Worship Service

Items for the April 27 joint leadership meeting with IVN –

Advantages and disadvantages of combining the two congregations

Sound system upgrades

Sunday School on combined service Sundays

Summer neighborhood event

### **Administration –**

Windows – A Window World estimator has provided a verbal estimate of \$57,000 to repair and/or replace every exterior window in the building, except for the boiler room windows. Another company is expected to do a site visit this coming week.

Kitchen hot water tank – The tank is leaking and must be replaced, cost unknown.

### **Church Life –**

Banner purchase – The purchase of new banners for the sanctuary will come from the Atkinson Fund (previously designated funds)

Interior décor suggestions – Paul reported on the visit by interior design consultant, Bruce Bridgess from FBC Portland.

Entryway – Replace the recycling box with a proper container; brighten with fresh color paint; change the bulletin boards covering and reduce the number; reduce clutter by removing the rolling cabinet, the old communion table/storage and extra chairs.

Sanctuary – Add banners to cover blank spaces (in process); change the piano position (done); re-cover the flooring in the area now missing linoleum in the back; store the stage cords better for unsightliness and safety; reduce superfluous items on the stage, i.e., extra plants, chairs and wooden screen.

### **Finance –**

Grace rents a safety deposit box which is no longer needed, assuming we can access the safe.

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## **BOARD SUMMARY (CONT.)**

### **Finance (cont.)-**

Funds for Adult Missions – A new fund will be designated that includes support for all ages to attend mission activities and/or travel opportunities.

Rest Stop line item 1640 – 45% of the budget has already been spent. Barb said the higher expenses include purchase of a \$40 printer cartridge for the officers, snacks and coffee prices have increased, more officers are using the Rest Stop than in the past, donations of water by 7/11 stores has not been regular. We will try shopping on-line and in bulk.

2018 Financial Review Committee will be Nancy Brazda and Nancy Uhlinger.

### **Outreach –**

Roddy Estrella attended the March mission trip meeting as liaison to IVN and wants to personally participate in the mission trip to Puerto Rico.

Communication with the American Baptist Home Mission Society regarding a mission trip to Puerto Rico- Any date is open and Outreach is considering February or March 2020.

### **Spiritual Life –**

Focus – Terri attended a conference on persons with disabilities, both obvious and unseen. She learned that one of the problems is churches are not truly embracing and welcoming individuals due to their “differences” that put people off.

Next Meeting: May 13, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Sharon Owen, Recorder

## ***Grace Family Finances: February 2019***

<u>General Operating Fund</u>		<u>Mission Fund</u>	
Monthly Budget	\$ 9,334.00	Mission Giving Plan	\$ 1,119.95
Income Received	\$ 6,969.05	Specified gifts (non-Nash)	\$ 157.00
Expenses	<u>\$ 9,127.40</u>	Sarah Nash (to be matched)	\$ 225.00
Net Income for Month:	\$ (2,158.35)	America for Christ	<u>\$ 376.00</u>
Net Expense Supplement	\$ 2,158.35	Total Mission Giving	\$ 1,877.95
General Fund Bal (03/31/19)	\$ 2,515.72	<b><u>Other Funds (03/31/19)</u></b>	
Payroll (P/R) Tax Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,515.72</u>	Atkinson Fund	\$ 66,436.71
General Fund Less Liabilities	\$ 1,000.00	Building Fund	\$ 12,033.90
		Endowment Fund (12/31/18)	\$ 30,329.90

## **Announcements**

**SUNDAY, MAY 5** we will have a combined worship service with Iglesia Visión Nueva. We will share in Communion as a part of the service.

**Men's Breakfast** Saturday, May 18, 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

**2019 America for Christ Offering “Healing Communities”** Galatians 6:9-10 (MSG) states “Don’t get tired of helping others. You will be rewarded when the time is right, if you don’t give up. We should help people whenever we can, especially if they are followers of the lord.” As of April 21 we have collected \$767 of our \$1500 goal.

**Mission Trip 2020** The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring an adult mission trip to Puerto Rico in the winter or early spring of 2020. Stay tuned for more details.

**OUR NEXT BIBLE STUDY AND LUNCH** will be on Thursday, May 23 at 10:30 am. We are going to be studying one of the minor prophets.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** scheduled for Saturday, May 4 has been postponed. Look for a new date in the near future.



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

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## **WHAT'S HAPPENING**

### **APRIL**

**27 Joint Grace Baptist Church/Iglesia Visión Nueva  
Leadership Meeting**

### **May**

**5 Combined Worship Service With Iglesia Visión Nueva**

**May 7 Deaconesses' Meeting**

**May 16-18 Open Hearts Food Pantry**

**(May 16 manned by Grace)**

**May 17 Bridger Free Food Market**

**May 18 Men's Breakfast**

**May 18 Girlfriends' Lunch**

**May 23 Bible Study and Lunch**

### **STAFF EMAILS**

#### **Pastor**

**Randy Pearson**

**[pastorrandy@graceportland.com](mailto:pastorrandy@graceportland.com)**

**Minster of Worship and Music**

**Judy Young**

**[judy@graceportland.com](mailto: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.**