

Grace Lutheran Church



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JANUARY 2020

NEWSLETTER

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” —Romans 15:13

Happy New Year!

Our God is a God of new beginnings! What was your 2019 like? Whether it was good, or whether it was bad, we now all have the unlimited opportunities that a new year affords. I don't know what it is, but there is something in those first days of a new year that brings a hope and anticipation to life. What will 2020 hold? Society reflects that “something” in that many New Year's Resolutions are made (and often quickly broken). Exercise programs are begun, and diets are adhered to, in an attempt to shed the pounds from all those Christmas goodies we indulged in last month. But, as we all too well know, if we launch off into 2020 in our own strength, we soon realize that our lofty goals will most likely not be realized.

What's the answer to that? How can we enter 2020 with hope, joy and anticipation and have it last and be sustained all through the year? How can our efforts to attain our goals be more fruitful? The answer lies in Romans 15:13.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

The answer is God! (It always is.) He is “*the God of hope.*” Do you want hope for the new year? It starts with God. He is the One who wants to “*fill you with all joy and peace.*” That sounds good! And it's not just joy and peace that is only for the holiday season, but all year through!

But there is a caveat. Did you catch it? “*as you trust in Him.*” As you trust in Him, you can expect this filling of joy and peace.

I used to have a space heater in my office. Maybe you have one at home, too. As long as a space heater is plugged into the wall outlet, it makes the room warm. It's not “rocket science” to realize that as long as the heater remains plugged into the power outlet and is turned on, it will function as I want it to. If we unplug it from the power, it does us no good. It's the very same with us. As long as we remain connected to God through His Word (the Bible), through Worship and receiving Sacrament, and through an active prayer life, we can expect that peace and joy will be ours for 2020.

Now notice I did not say happiness. Happiness is based upon our circumstances. Joy and peace come from knowing Christ and the salvation He came to bring. Happiness comes and goes; peace and joy in Christ lasts forever and is there in our lives in spite of and through any circumstances we may face.

So, dear members and friends of Grace, my prayer for you is that you will truly know God's joy and peace in 2020, and that because of that, as Paul said, you will “*overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*” See you in Church!

Pastor Huesmann

Ministry Updates...

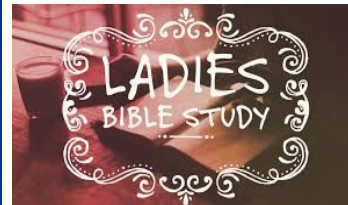


Missionary Gloria Sauck, will be joining us and speaking to the Bible Study group at 9:00 a.m. She will also worship with us, and share information about the important work that is going on in her mission field after the service on Sunday. If you would like more information you can go to the following websites:

www.wmpl.org
www.visionforafrica.net



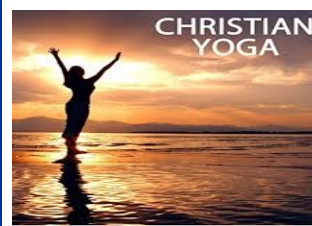
We have remitted a total of \$344.55 to the district for LWML Mites for the year 2019. Thanks to all who support this mission.



Ladies Bible Study Will start back up on January 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Office Conference Room.



Men's & Women's BSF will begin again on Tuesday and Thursday night starting at 6:00 p.m. on January 2nd.



Christian Yoga will resume January 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



January 8th at 11:30 a.m. we will be having our first OWLS for 2020. We will be having a soup and salad luncheon followed by fellowship time. We need four or five people to bring soup, either a salad or something to go in a salad. If you can help with the soup please call Sue Miller at 995-8580. Deserts are always welcome. Hope to see you there.



Choir Rehearsals start back on January 8th at 6:00 p.m. Bring your joyful noise unto the Lord.



Young Adults gathering at 8435 Ferlon Avenue on January 3rd at 6:00 p.m.—Ham rolls and beverages will be provided, please bring a side dish or desert to share. Hosts will be Pastor, Gretchen, Aaron & Grace Huesmann. Please RSVP: grace@gracepensacola.org



Date: January 12, 2020
 Bring your family and friends and enjoy fellowship and fun, while having some **FANTASTIC** fried chicken!



Parenting From Your Strengths, Part 1

How a GPS Can Help You Be A Better Parent

Rob's face was red and Kate's hands shook as they turned away from each other in frustration. When it came to parenting their two children, it seemed as if the couple was completely out of sync with each other. Rob believed in stricter discipline; Kate used a gentler approach. Rob thought the kids' homework should be completed immediately after school so the family could have time together at night. Kate wanted to give the children a break after school before they jumped right back into assignments. Chores, allowances, curfews—it seemed that Rob and Kate could not get on the same page about any of it. Yet even more distressing was that both of their children had different personalities from the parents, creating even more conflict. Rob and Kate were depleted and exhausted. They didn't know where to go or what to do next. What Rob and Kate needed was a navigation system that could help guide them through parenting. They didn't know it yet, but they were about to learn some powerful tools that would help them get on the same map and follow it together.

A GPS for Parenting: Global Parenting System

Like many, Rob and Kate had experience with a GPS, or Global Positioning System, as they traveled in their cars. A GPS device uses satellite navigation technology to determine location. It's an especially handy gadget to have on hand when you're lost, need directions, or simply want to avoid getting off track. A flick of a button shows your location on a map and provides directions to your destination. In other words, a GPS gives you a travel plan. Interestingly, a GPS works in all weather conditions. Its key requirements are to **have an unobstructed line of sight** to associated satellites...and to be **plugged in to a power source** or charged with fresh batteries. Just as a GPS is incredibly useful to use to help you stay on course as you travel, parents across the globe come to realize how much they need a parenting plan to help them stay on course with raising their children. That's where a simple parenting GPS—**Global Parenting System**—is not only helpful, but can alter the way your family conducts its daily life and even strengthen your relationships to build a stronger family unit.

How Does a GPS Work?

While you see your personal GPS device as a single unit, in fact it is just one element of a three-part satellite navigation system. The segments work together to pinpoint your position and to tell you where to go next: the receiver (your GPS device, which sends out your signal), the satellites (which calculate your position), and the ground stations (which coordinate messages from satellites and individual devices, like yours). Your device's signal is sent up to the satellite. The satellite locates you through a complex series of latitudinal, longitudinal, altitudinal, and time parameters, and then sends the data back to earth. Ground stations process the information and send it to your device, which overlays the data on a map.

Your GPS device triangulates your position by processing these three crucial pieces of information. Presto! You find your location and get directions to your destination.

How a Global Parenting System Works

The Global Parenting System uses the same principle of triangulation. Three segments work together to give you reliable coordinates as you parent your children; God's Word, your strengths as a parent, and your child's unique, God-given strengths. This special parenting plan offers a positive model to follow, one that is based on the truth of God's Word and reliable data about each family member. Its objectivity builds confidence in parents. By following this GPS you can avoid predictable conflicts in your family and develop greater closeness together. Over the next three articles in this series, you'll walk with Rob and Kate as they learn to build strong connections in segments in the Global Parenting System and how to use each element to build strong connections in their family. The plan's keys to success, like your hand-held GPS device, are to keep its **line of sight open** (to the Word) and **plugged in** (to the Source). That's why right now, as Rob and Kate get started, they face just one simple question. It's a question you can ask yourself, too:

Will you keep your line of sight open...and stay plugged into the Source?

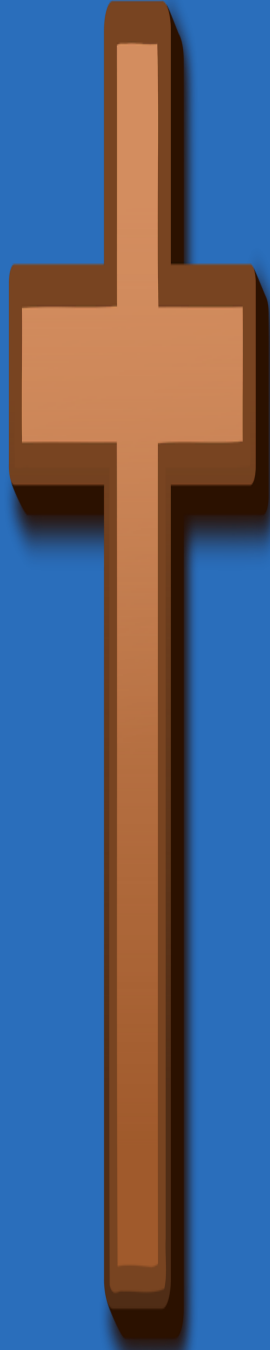


Facilities Report:

It has been, to say the least, a very interesting year here at Grace as far as our physical structure goes. From replacing wastewater sewer pumps, to having A/C units replaced, to flooding of some bathroom floors, to replacing/repairing entrance doors, to the reclamation and repair of the Community Building, we have had a busy, and yes expensive year maintaining our facility. But to say we are in better shape now than we were a year ago would be an understatement.

As of today, the three double doors in the Fellowship hall and hallway have been replaced, the repair of the main entrance, Ninth Avenue, playground and staff entrance doors are underway as I write this and should be completed by the end of the year (2019) for those asking which year. In the Community Building, the mold has been remediated, sheetrock replaced and painted, light fixtures in the kitchen installed, outlets relocated to facilitate new kitchen cabinets, which will be installed in early January. The cabinets are being custom built by John Cocking and Rob Krauss, and I guarantee you it will do the kitchen proud. We have also had one A/C compressor replaced and have other parts on order to be installed by the first of the year, so the A/C and heat will all be functional. If all goes as planned, we will be moving the ministries that used the building for their mission work, back into the spaces on January 25 during the monthly church workday. Due to a scheduling issue, the church workday will be held on the fourth Saturday of January, instead of the third Saturday. This workday will be dedicated to moving the ministries back into the building and moving furniture from the Youth Building to the Community Building. Hope to see many of you there.

There are plans for next year to completely cyclone fence the north end of our property (by the PenAir facility) and to install cyclone fence from the Youth Building around to the rear of the lawn/maintenance building. This is being considered to increase the security around the facility. It plans to be a busy year maintaining and improving the property here at Grace, but we all should look forward to it and be involved, because after all, we are caring for God's house,.



January Birthdays

Phil Peterson 1/4
 Floretta Rebber 1/5
 Agnes Ezell 1/7
 Arlene Chrisman 1/7
 Jacob Evans 1/8
 Jean Batzloff 1/9
 Pam Trampe 1/9
 Don Resmondo 1/11
 Robert Weis 1/11
 Alan Sabanosh 1/14
 Jim Taylor 1/15
 Sheila Waldrop 1/17
 Savannah Von Stein 1/18
 Shelley Evans 1/19

Callie Wipf 1/21
 Markhus Batzloff 1/22
 Lucille Poppe 1/24
 Lexi Bevans 1/25
 Lore Sutton 1/25
 Mike Von Stein 1/28
 Al Day 1/29
 Lara West 1/30
 Luke Hoffman 1/31



January Anniversaries



Paul & Sue Miller 1/10
 Tony & Nancy McKnight 1/10
 Robby & Linda Brown 1/23

January Flowers and Eternal Candle

January 5: Flowers are given by Paul & Sue Miller in honor of their 50th Anniversary

January 12: Flowers are given by Mike & Melissa Holloway in memory of Harold Holloway (Mike's Father)

January 19: Flowers are given and the eternal candle is lit by Kathleen Seader in memory of Lamar Seader.



Looking Forward...

January 1: New Years Day

OFFICE CLOSED

January 6: Epiphany

February 14 Valentines Day

February 26 Ash Wednesday



January Calendar

Calendar Key:

S = Sanctuary N = Narthex FH = Fellowship Hall
 WC = Welcome Center CB = Community Bldg Y = Youth
 K = Kitchen OC = Office Conference SC = Sanctuary Conference
 PK = PreK Room LS = Lord's Supper

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Years Day Office Closed	2 10:30am Backpack YB 6:00pm BSF Ladies FH	3 6pm Young Adult at the Huesmann's 7pm AA YB	4 Moore's GLC
5 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Svc.	6 Epiphany 9:00 am Take down Christmas 5:30 Christian Yoga FH 6:45 Stephen Ministry 7pm AA YB	7 PreK Returns 5:00pm PreK Board Mtg 6:00pm BSF Men FH	8 9am Adult Bible Study WC 4:45pm Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 6pm Women's Bible Study OC	9 10:30am Backpack YB 6:00pm BSF Ladies FH	10 7pm AA YB	11 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast
12LS 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Svc. Camp Dixie Dinner	13 5:30 Christian Yoga FH 6:30pm Elders Mtg OC 7pm AA YB	14 6:00pm BSF Men FH 6:30pm BLL Meeting	15 9am Adult Bible Study WC 4:45pm Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 6pm Women's Bible Study OC	16 10:30am Backpack YB 6:00pm BSF Ladies FH	17 7pm AA YB	18
19 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Svc.	20 Martin Luther King Office Closed 5:30 Christian Yoga FH 7pm AA YB	21 6:00pm BSF Men FH 10:00am Circuit 10 Pastors	22 9am Adult Bible Study WC 4:45pm Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 6pm Women's Bible Study OC	23 10:30am Backpack YB 6:00pm BSF Ladies FH	24 7pm AA YB	25 10:00 Prayer Shawl Meeting CB
26 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Svc.	27 5:30 Christian Yoga FH 7pm AA YB	28 6:00pm BSF Men FH	29 9am Adult Bible Study WC 4:45pm Confirmation 6pm Choir Practice 6pm Women's Bible Study OC	30 10:30am Backpack YB 6:00pm BSF Ladies FH	31 7pm AA YB	*Calendars are chang- ing constantly. Please check bulletins and weekly emails for most current event listings.

Elders Report:

Merry Christmas to all at Grace Lutheran Church.



Elders

2019 has been a challenging and yet exciting year here at Grace Lutheran Church. Pastor Wargo graciously provided his support during the first six months of the year while we searched for a new shepherd. It was truly a blessing to have him and Judy with us during that time. Then in July, God blessed us, this time with the arrival of Pastor Huesmann and Gretchen. This has really been an exciting and interesting time as we the congregation, Pastor and Gretchen, get to know each other. We all look forward to continuing this time of growth and the wonder of things to come at Grace Lutheran Church.

The Elders have been busier than normal this year, with the transitioning thru three pastors (Pastors Carstens, Wargo & Huesmann), hospital and home visits, and the changes occurring at the church. But we look forward to the wonderful things that God has planned for Grace Lutheran and Amazing Grace Pre-School. Be assured, that whatever path God might lead us, the Elders will be along for the journey, providing Pastor and the congregation all of our support. We wish you all a Spirit filled Christmas and a safe New Year.