

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
51737 S. Columbia River Highway
Scappoose, Oregon 97056

COMMITTED TO SHARE AND GROW IN
THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST!

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB
WWW.GRACESCAPPOOSE.ORG



Growing in Grace

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Let's continue to explore some of the challenging questions we Christians might face as we live our lives for our Lord and Savior. This month, "How are Christians called to engage culture?"

It would seem to be rather clear that in many ways we simply do not live life the same way Jesus did. For example, Paul commanded his readers to "Greet one another with a holy kiss." [2 Cor 13:12] Yet, in our culture, it is perfectly acceptable to shake hands. Kissing was the common greeting in those days, shaking hands is now.

Even some of the most moving stories in the Bible will affect us differently the people Jesus originally interacted with because we do not live in the same culture Jesus did. Consider the account of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. [John 13:1-20] In those days, washing people's feet was necessary because people traveled by foot for the most part and that in sandals. Consequently, people's feet got very dirty. When Jesus washed His disciples' feet, they weren't surprised that their feet were being washed for they had that done to them countless times in the past, but they were shocked that Jesus, their Lord, was washing their feet. Usually that task was left for the lowliest of slaves.

Even though Jesus directly said, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.", it doesn't seem likely Jesus intended for us, in our current culture, to

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physically wash each other's feet as it is now unnecessary. Certainly there is something for us to learn; namely, If Jesus is truly our Lord, we will live like Him and obey Him.

So when Jesus said, "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all." [Mark 10:43-44], we strive to obey Him, but not by washing feet but serving others. For us foot washing might look more like teaching our youth, singing in the choir, serving on a board or helping host a funeral. We may enjoy those things, but nonetheless doing those things is serving others.

Like Paul said, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves." [Phil 2:3] Really living like that, not reluctantly or under compulsion, might be hard, but that may indeed be the point. Sometimes we might not deeply desire to serve others, but that can be a part of being servant, serving when we might want to do other things.

Paul also spoke about this in another way. "To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God

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GRACE CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S CENTER
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Anniversaries

Jan 20 Steve & Jan Surry

Birthdays

Jan 2 Spencer Squires
Jan 3 Boyd Ruby
Jan 8 Bart Grabhorn

Jan 8 Charlie Layton
Jan 10 Jake Hull
Jan 14 Allison Brown
Jan 15 Harry Squires
Jan 18 Doug Hutton
Jan 24 DeeDee Morse
Jan 26 Cooper Nelson
Jan 28 Don Wentz



(Continued from page 1)

but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law.” [1 Cor 9:21-22]

To the Jews, Paul was unmistakably acting immorally by doing such things as not insisting that all Christians get circumcised. Likewise, to the Gentiles (those not under the law) Paul was commanding them to exclusively limit sex to one’s spouse which they may have considered a denial of a natural pleasure.

It seems like we find ourselves in much the same situation as Paul, living in a culture, or even cultures, with which we might have a hard time rightly associating. But it seems the only thing we know we can do is obey Jesus when He spoke clearly. When someone asked Jesus, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” [Matt 22:26-40]

So if whatever we would do would show love, God’s definition of love, we do it. If what we want to do would violate one of God’s laws, it would not show love and so we must not do it. For a partial list of acts that are against the love of God look to such places as Galatians 5:19-21 and 1 Corinthians 6:9-10.

While all that might sound like people would accept it and us, we can’t forget that showing God’s definition of love and rejecting anything that goes against will not look loving to many. People hated Paul for what He did; they thought he was the one being unloving.

Like Jesus said, “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” [John 15:18-19] But in the end, we live for God not other people because God alone is our

Savior because He alone died for us. *Pastor Joshua*




Servant Schedule

January	Communion		Communion	Youth in Service
Elder	Rudie Pletz Janet Wentz	Bill Covlin Bill Covlin	Steve Layton Bill Lacy	Steve Pollard Steve Pollard
Ushers **	Don Wentz	Cindy Squires	Barb Lacy	Jaden Friend, Justin Friend
Greeter*	Dee Dee Morse	Pat Hoag	Leslie Ruby	Janet Johnson
Scripture Reader	Don Wentz	Steve Pollard	Carole Pletz	Rudie Pletz
Acolyte*	Matthew Boren	Baylee Lankow	Matthew Boren	Baylee Lankow
Altar Care	Gail Walker		Lynnda Fuller	
Altar Flower	POINSETTAS	available	Steve & Jan Surry - Anniversary	Marilyn Stender
Music	Judi Hayes	Lynnda Fuller	Judi Hayes	Lynnda Fuller
Sundays Bible Study	--			
Youth Sunday School	WINTER BREAK - NO SS	Person Family	Mr. Tom & Robbie	
Adult Bible Study	Steve Layton	Steve Layton	Steve Layton	Steve Layton

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JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
HAPPY New Year	1 Church & Children's Center Closed	2 Church & Children's Center Closed	3 • GCCC in FH 6-6 • 10A Quilters down- stairs only • 4:15P BOE Zoom	4 • GCCC in FH 6-6 • 6:15P Girl Scouts	5 • GCCC in FH 6-6	6 "Raising Godly Generations: to Face the Secular Giants" Christmas Undecorating
7 COMMUNION • 9A Adult Bible Study • 10:15A Worship, NO SS, Celebratory Cake after Ser- vice—Morse	8 • 5:30P Elder's Meeting (Zoom)	9 • 10A Ladies' Bible Study • 5:30P Mission Servants	10 • 10A Cheerful Comforters "Quilters"	11 • 9:30A GCCC Board 	12	13
14 COMMUNION • 9A Adult Bible Study • 10:15A Worship, Sunday School • Potluck & Bingo after service	15 • 5:00P Church Council (Zoom) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 • 10A Ladies' Bible Study • 6P GCCC Staff Meeting	17 • 10A Cheerful Comforters "Quilters"	18 • 6:15P Girl Scouts	19	20
21 COMMUNION • 9A Adult Bible Study • 10:15A Worship, Sunday School	22	23 • 10A Ladies Bible Study	24 • 10A Cheerful Comforters "Quilters"	25	26	27
28 • 9A Adult Bible Study • 10:15A Worship • 11:30A Fellowship Meeting	29	30 • 10A Ladies Bible Study	31 • 10A Cheerful Comforters "Quilters"	2 Corinthians 5:17 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!		



In November 2023 Grace Lutheran Church experienced Plate Contributions of \$7,945.39 versus Expenses of \$13,552.48 resulting in a **\$5,607.09 operating deficit**. GCCC raw income came in at \$58,090.00 versus raw expenses at \$47,208.27 resulting in a **\$10,881.73 operating surplus**. Combined results for GLC and GCCC, then, is a **\$5,274.64 operating surplus**.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Wentz, Treasurer

Jan Surry, VP

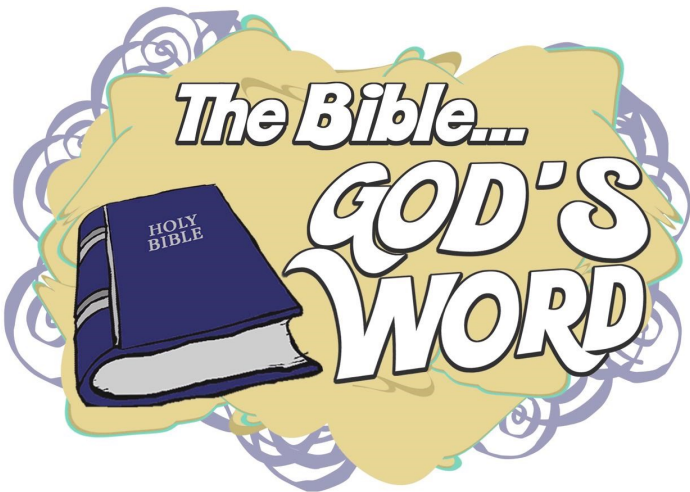
**In January, Clark Signs
will start construction
on the new church sign
out front. Watch the
transformation happen!**



Bible Quiz – The Old Testament in the New – Questions

Each of the following verses are Old Testament quotes found in the New Testament. Name the Old and New Testament book, chapter and verse in which they are found.

- 1) Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.
- 2) The one who does them shall live by them.
- 3) Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!
- 4) Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.
- 5) He put all things under his feet.
- 6) He came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.
- 7) When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.
- 8) Let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor.
- 9) Be angry and do not sin.
- 10) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.



Bible Quiz – The Old Testament in the New – Answers

- 1) 1. Deuteronomy 21:23
- 2) 2. Leviticus 18:5
- 3) 3. Isaiah 54:1
- 4) 4. Genesis 21:10
- 5) 5. Psalm 8:6
- 6) 6. Isaiah 57:19
- 7) 7. Psalm 68:18
- 8) 8. Zechariah 8:16
- 9) 9. Psalm 4:4
- 10) 10. Genesis 2:24

Raising Godly Generations

to Face the Secular Giants

FREE EVENT

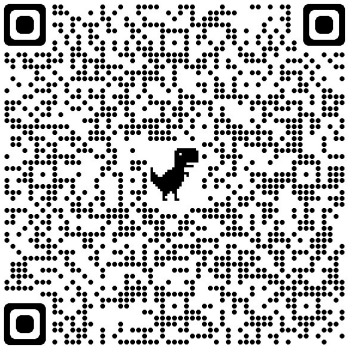
Ken Ham and Heidi St. John

January 6, 2024 | Battle Ground, WA

On Saturday, January 6, there is a Parent Education Seminar "Raising Godly Generations: to Face the Secular Giants". This is a free event at Word of Grace Bible Church in Battleground, WA.

- 8:30 am - doors open for public
- 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. - Battle for the Heart: Education in the 21st Century - Heidi St. John
- 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Parenting Kids to Face the Giants - Ken Ham, CEO of Answers in Genesis.
- 12 – 1 pm Q&A with Heidi St. John and Ken Ham

No registration required. Please see **Steve Pollard** if you have any questions, comments or if you are interested in carpooling.





Let Robbie or Mr. Tom know. We are looking to add a few NEW faces to **our already amazing** Sunday School Team. Our current team is:

- ☞ Mr. Tom
- ☞ Robbie Burum
- ☞ Kristin Person
- ☞ Steve Person
- ☞ Steve Pollard (backup)



Sunday School volunteers are required to be background checked in compliance with our Safe Sanctuary guidelines. If you have any questions regarding this, please see Robbie.

Each Sunday that youth Sunday School is offered, we have 2 volunteers lead a lesson together.

- ☞ 1 volunteer is the "sermon/lesson" provider and the other volunteer coordinates the craft/snack/activity portion of the lesson.
- ☞ For example, Mr. Tom provides the structured service portion (prayer, offering, lesson) and I provide the activity portion.

If you have any questions about being a Sunday School volunteer, please see Mr. Tom or Robbie.



Mission Servants will start the New Year with a meeting on Thursday, January 12th at 5:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We hope to plan activities and mission opportunities for the winter and spring. If you have any ideas for projects or activities that you would like to see at Grace, please tell or email one of the following gals: Carole Pletz, Gail Walker, Jan Surry, Jeanne Hutton, Sherry Shafer or Carole Covlin. Also, you are invited to join us on the 12th. We would love to have you share with us.

Again, we want to thank all of you who provided gifts for the Christmas Giving Tree. Your generosity brought smiles to those who benefited from your giving.

In His love and joy,

Carole Covlin,
President, West Hills Zone

☉ **Tuesday, January
12th @ 5:00P –
Mission Servants
Meeting**



- ☞ Love came down at Christmas. We, as Christians, know this without a doubt. Love one another with the patience to listen as others speak and the concern to really care about their problems, however small they may seem to us. **We are all bearing some kind of burden in this life.** Christian friends divide our grief and double our joy.
- ☞ The next fellowship committee meeting is Sunday, January 31st after church. Join us for fellowship & brainstorming!

Gail Walker
Fellowship Coordinator



"Where caring people enrich the lives of children and families through Christ-centered Learning"

December Events

First Sunday of Advent..... Dec. 3
SRFD Share & Care Program Due.. Dec. 7
Second Sunday of Advent..... Dec. 10
Preschool Christmas Program Dec. 13
Arrival at 6:30pm. Program begins 6:45pm
Preschool Christmas Program Dec. 14
Arrival at 6:30pm. Program begins 6:45pm
Parent's Night Out Dec. 15
Third Sunday of Advent..... Dec. 17
Fourth Sunday of Advent..... Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Dec. 24
Christmas Day Dec. 25
Facility Closure Dec. 25-26
School District Closure..... Dec. 27-29
(Preschool will be closed; GCCC will remain open for school-aged students)

Past Month's Photos



Grace Lutheran Church
Sunday Service @ 10:15am



Messages from our Teachers

There is a lot to be thankful for as we leave November and head into December. We are grateful for all our little ones and their families, and we are excited as a team to head into the Christmas Season! We will continue to learn our alphabet letter by letter, their sounds and of course our numbers. However, one of our greatest joy's will be to teach the importance of Jesus being the reason for the Christmas season. After all, Jesus was the greatest gift ever given to world!

In the Christian faith, God reaches down to us because of His great love for us. As it says in John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever BELIEVES in Him will not perish but will have eternal life." Our hope is that this message will not be overshadowed by all the other fun things Christmas brings.

Please take note of our classroom at drop off or pick up as it is quite festive! The children have painted wooden Christmas light bulbs for our tree, and we will be making peppermint candies for our big tree that is painted on our wall. Our two classroom bulletin boards reflect the manger scene and the Advent wreath. The Advent wreath is a tradition where a candle is lit each Sunday leading up to Christmas Eve where the "Christ Candle" or "Jesus Candle" is lit.

We will be talking about Advent, as well as, doing other fun things like talking about our own family Christmas traditions. The week leading up to Christmas, the teachers will be sharing fun things they do too. My hope is to share my Norwegian tradition of making lefse and krumkake with the kids! When I think about this special time of year and how busy it can be, my prayer is that you will all take time to enjoy it together.

-Daycare Program, Mrs. Jen



It's CHRISTMAS time! November has gone and past and it is time to Celebrate our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

Your children will be learning all about the best gift we have been given. The Messiah, Happy birthday Jesus! While growing in knowledge of the bible they will also be learning about what "giving" and "receiving" means. We will be engaging in so much fun wintertime activities as well!

In November we discussed what "gratefulness" and "gratitude" meant. We would still love to see your families represented in our classroom, if you wouldn't mind emailing me a family photo to preschool@gracescappoose.org or send a photo via BrightWheel that would be much appreciated. We will be creating a classroom family tree with your photos as it keeps growing and growing! We as a staff here at GCCC wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

-Preschool Program, Mrs. Allison

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Daycare Program

Curriculum

Week 10: Dec. 4-8

Phonics: Hh (Horn)

Bible Story: Battle of Jericho

Bible Memory: 1Samuel 12:24

Math: Shapes

Science: Ramps & Rollings

Christmas Week: Dec. 18-22

Recap of lessons

New Years Week: Dec. 27- Dec. 29

Recap of lessons

Week 11: Dec. 11-15

Phonics: Ii (Israelites)

Bible Story: David and Goliath

Bible Memory: Proverbs 3:5

Math: Spatial Relationships

Science: Balance Scale Weight



Preschool Program

Curriculum

Letters: G, H, I

Numbers: 6

Colors: Gold and Silver

Shape: Star

Sight Words: An, We, To, The

Self Help Skill: Wrapping Objects

Bible Stories: "Battle of Jericho" and "David and Goliath" and "Birth of Jesus"

Bible Verses:

- Psalm 27:1
- 1 Samuel 12:24
- Proverbs 3:5
- Luke 2:11
- John 3:16



Our Philosophy

As an important ministry of the Grace Lutheran Church congregation, Grace Christian Children's Center believes that children need a solid foundation on which they can build. Childhood is a time like no other. It's a time for exploring, creating, playing and discovering about one's self. It's a time for learning about our identity in Christ, for meeting the world, for learning how to learn and for being accepted just the way they are.

Our curriculum is based on providing your child with experiences that will enrich and enhance each child's spiritual life, their cognitive, language, social, emotional, physical and creative development.

Our experienced teaching staff understands that each child is a unique person with an individual pattern and timing of social, physical, and intellectual development. We embrace the belief that parents are the first and most important teachers of their children. Parents are welcome visitors in the classroom at all times and we value their input in our program.

Our program does not discriminate because of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, life style, or disability in program admittance, activities or employment. We do not tolerate discriminatory behavior.

Our program is welcoming, respectful and accepting of all families. Our program is open to all age-eligible children; including children with special needs, if reasonable accommodations can be made. Each child's needs are addressed with parents on a one-to-one basis.



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