



Grace Community Church

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February Newsletter

From Your Pastor

One of my very favorite passages in the Bible was quoted during the inauguration: “Behold how good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony! For harmony is as precious as the anointing oil that was poured over Aaron’s head. It is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon. And there the Lord pronounced His blessing - everlasting life” Psalm 133.

I believe the Bible clearly tells us that the one thing the lord desires from us more than anything else is that we love one another. Jesus said it is by that that all will know we are His disciples. John wrote that it is the ultimate evidence that we know God! (I John 4:7).

If that is what God truly desires then that is what we must give Him.

I have enjoyed sharing with you “Pete’s Program For Guaranteed Success” the last few Sundays. We are about to climb the last two rungs on that ladder of true success.

The next to the last rung is just what this Psalm 133 describes. Peter tells us we are to have a very generous amount of love and affection for one another. It is to be real. It is to be quite visible. And I am very excited that we do see this in our church family. That is a major reason why our time together is so joyful.

Now, I am not suggesting we have “arrived”. Peter tells us that we must continue to grow in these qualities. My excitement comes from seeing a desire to do just that—to grow in our love for one another.

Guess what the final rung of the ladder is? Wait, I don’t want to ruin the fun. Come next Sunday and find out.

I continue to feel so blessed to be your Pastor,

John



An Invitation

John, Tommy, Dann and the band will once again be playing at Beyond the Sea on Monday evening, February 6th. From 6-8 pm. They will also be playing at the Cracker Fair on Saturday, February 11th

between 1:00 - 3:30. Come enjoy some music and time with friends. Reservations for Beyond the Sea can be made by calling 941-474-1400.

A Mission Moment

Please remember that your “Faith Promise” is so very important. If you have not yet returned your “Faith Promise” for 2017, please do so as soon as possible. Payment can be made, weekly, monthly, as a one lump sum or at a date of your choice. Your help is critical in supporting our missions.



SETTING AT THE GATE—(THE ELDERS REPORT)

Welcome Back Snow Angels! Let us catch you up on the many happenings at Grace. Major changes, Kimberly left to attend to her ailing Father in Brandon. Pastor Austie and his family accepted a call to Lake Chennault, Pa, just as they were announcing the expectancy of their fourth child so very quickly we were without a Pastor! BUT Our LORD is sooo Faithful! HE sent us Pastor John to be our Shepherd and his wonderful wife Patty, of which we are extremely Thankful! What a Blessing! There is a downside to all this though, the Elder Board is the new Kimberly!! Luckily we have great folks like Mary Tipner who volunteers every week to come into the office and correct a lot of our mistakes!! Let's give all the volunteers a big THANK YOU when we see them. Wonderful people each and every one of them. Here is a challenge for each of you, while you are sitting in your nice comfortable chairs this Sunday, watch closely as to what goes on around you and count the number of volunteers that are involved in the Service and the preparation for that Service.

Let's start in the Parking lot (it's been paved, and the landscaping has been done). Did you notice the "Feather signs" announcing GRACE CHURCH, alongside the Highway? The Men's Ministry has a volunteer that puts those up and takes them down every weekend. Next, you open the front door and a volunteer greets you with a big ole smile, handshake or hug and gives you a bulletin complete with song words. When we lack greeters, Kittie Prevatte steps in to recruit help and sometimes she presses "hubby" Bill into Service. Speaking of Kittie who arrives early on Sunday mornings to practice with the Praise team, she also steps into the kitchen and puts a couple pots of Coffee on so when the rest of us arrive we can enjoy a hot cup o' Joe! (Hey as you walked into the building and through the church did you notice the new look? Isn't it great!) Like we've said, look around and recognize those Volunteering. We will be recounting others from time to time, so don't be surprised if your name is in the next publication!!! Did we speak to the Blessings Pastor John is??

Thinking about unbelievable blessings, if you missed the Christmas Eve Candle light Service at Indian Mounds Park you really missed out on a huge Blessing! Large crowd, great weather, with the exception of 15 or 20 drops of rain, outstanding sermon delivered by Pastor John (did we tell you how Blessed we are to have he and Patty in our midst) and a new "wrinkle" in the place of candles we had "glow sticks"! A terrific replacement idea from Rick Hitchcock, Thanks Rick!!

May we all be Blessed with Wisdom.

Join Us

LaStanza Restaurant
Saturday, February 11th
6:00 pm

Lasagna	Grilled	Chicken	Ribeye Steak
	Salmon	Parmesan	

Menu Options:

Each meal includes a cup of soup, salad, soft drinks, coffee/tea, rolls/butter, and Tiramisu Dessert. The price is \$24.00 per person.

If you are a part of this church family, you are invited to be a part of this great evening!

Please RSVP by February 5th by placing your name and meal choice on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the Adult Sunday School Room.



Ladies: An afternoon at the Movies - Let's meet at Wendy's to watch "Miracles from Heaven" on Saturday, February 18th at 2:00. Wendy will provide her home address prior to the event.

Men: Saturday Morning's Men's Breakfast
Saturday, February 25th
8:00 a.m. at the Church

To help people develop a thriving relationship with Jesus Christ by serving God and serving others...This is the Mission of GCC.