



## Grace Community Church

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## *January Newsletter*

### *From Your Pastor*

It is hard to believe that I have already been preaching here at Grace for 5 months. You folks have made Patty and me feel so welcome and supported. We have already shared wonderful times and difficult times with you, especially the loss of Patty's mother.

Psalms 133 is one of my very favorite Psalms and this church family brings that Psalm to life!

<sup>1</sup> How wonderful and pleasant it is

when brothers live together in harmony!

<sup>2</sup> For harmony is as precious as the anointing oil

that was poured over Aaron's head,

that ran down his beard

and onto the border of his robe.

<sup>3</sup> Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon

that falls on the mountains of Zion.

And there the LORD has pronounced his blessing,

even life everlasting.

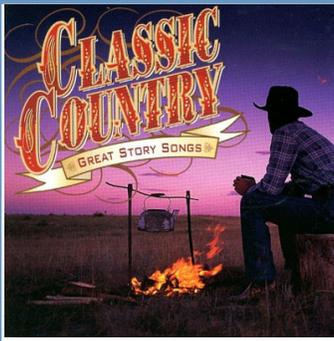
Here it tells us that harmony and love for one another is extremely precious to the heart of God. In fact, to describe how valuable it is he compares it to the anointing oil poured upon Aaron's hand as he was ordained the high priest of the nation of Israel. The formula for that oil was to be used only to make the precious oil for the ordination of those who would follow in Aaron's steps.

Now, we are not done yet. In I Thessalonians 4:9 Paul tells to excel ever more in our love for one another and for all people, but it is truly wonderful and pleasant to be part of this church family.

I am very excited about the year ahead of us as we serve the Lord together, encouraging each other to joyfully use the gifts and talents He has given us. I sense you truly want to be the light of the world to this community. It's exciting.

I am blessed to be your Pastor,

John



## An Unofficial Church Gathering

John Tuff and Friends invite you to Beyond the Sea on Monday evening, January 9th. The band will be performing from 6-8 pm. Reservations are

encouraged and can be made by calling 941-474-1400.

## A Mission Moment

The Missions Team would like to thank those who were able to help families in need this Christmas. We were able to provide both gifts and meals to many people in our community because of the thoughtfulness of this church family. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



We started off in October with 35 students registered in the Wednesday after school Good News Club at Englewood Elementary School. When we broke for their Christmas vacation we had 43 students registered! Of the 43 registered we have about 28 attending every week, which keeps us on our toes. There have been about 15 children acknowledge they are sinners and ask for forgiveness! To hear them discuss their sin and then hear their prayer is a huge blessing to all the volunteers...that is our purpose...to bring them into the Kingdom! Volunteers this past 12 weeks have been Joe Noland, Wally and Linda Abend, Ann Viel from Good Shepherd, Michael Kelley from Calvary Baptist and Darrell and Nada Decker. Thank you for your prayers and support for this very important Ministry.

## A New Bible Study Begins Tuesday, January 3rd.



A Study of II Corinthians will begin January 3rd at 10:00 am. This study is open to our community and will be led by Pastor John. Join us and invite a friend!

Patty has been asked to take over the position of Women's Ministry Leader. She has agreed to do this with the understanding that this can



only be done with God's guidance and the support of the women in this congregation. In December the women had a time of fellowship at the Tuff house enjoying a cookie exchange of many wonderful different types of cookies. Patty has gathered surveys from various women and is trying to identify both some time for fun and for study. Please check your bulletin for updates regarding next steps. We also ask that you are in prayer for this ministry. May it move forward as God directs, build everlasting friendships and a deeper understanding of our relationship with God.



Our Fundraiser BBQ dinner is  
Saturday, January 28th  
Details Coming  
Invite a Friend!

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