



Grace Community Church

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June Newsletter

I was recently challenged by an author who was writing about how important it is to keep our dreams alive, to keep believing that God is going to use us and open all the right doors. He stated that God might even be bringing to life a dream of 20 years ago.

It struck me, that in many ways God is doing just that. A dream I have had for years is still alive and well and being fulfilled in many ways through our church. And of course, in God's loving plan, it coincides with the hopes and God-given dreams of many of you.

My part of that dream (and let me make clear your part is as important as mine) is for a church where above all else each person is treated as the sacred and special child of God they truly are. They are valued not for how they perform, not for their success, but simply because they are.

A church where people learn about how much they are valued and loved by God, unconditionally loved! Through the message, the music, the greeting time, the fellowship - just by walking in the door they will encounter that love by the presence of the Holy Spirit in this place and in us.

My dream is that it be a place for all of God's prodigal children where they will find out as Zaccheus did, that God love them. Like him, they will be transformed by that love.

I have experienced that love. I would not have survived without it. I believe God will touch hundreds through such a ministry. Some will come by God's providence. Some will come by our loving invitation, many will be touched even though they never enter the physical building.

And through it all we will so love one another that people will know we are His disciples.

So, do you have any hopes and dreams you would like God to fan into flames? Now is the time.

I am so blessed to be your Pastor.

John



Need to reach Pastor John?

941-544-9543

Or gcc.pastorjohn@yahoo.com

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

The Summer doldrums are upon us, right? Weather is more than simply warm, the wind is with us all day and the rain has all but left us to the crisp sunshine without so much as a few clouds overhead to hide under. But does not the sign at the entry as we cross the Florida line say Welcome To the Sunshine State? Sure it does and it is wonderful to have that Beautiful Sunshine most days or have you forgotten those lead gray skies that moved in somewhere between the middle of October and the first of November and lingered with us until the end of March with a peak of light once or twice weekly where you are from?

Does anyone remember being asked about something to have fun with this summer in last month's Report? So, how about us getting together some evening, your choice of the evening, and have an Ice cream Social, anyone remember those? No, we don't have to bring the ice cream machines, simply bring a 1/2 Gallon of your favorite ice cream to share, an extra bowl or two and a few spoons along with your lawn chair. We'll meet out back of the Church on the lawn and watch the beautiful Sunset, tell big stories and enjoy ourselves!! YUM, YUM, let's set a date and do it! If the Ladies Ministry and the Men's Ministry were to consult with each other I'll bet they could come to an agreement on the date, what do you think? Let's encourage 'em, what say??

Our second Quarterly Celebration is always a blast, we look back at our achievements over the winter, offer plans for some fun things for the good ole summer time, and Thank GOD for the many, many Blessings HE has showered on us starting with each other, a wonderful Pastor, a great location and Building to house our wonderful Church in, and the sustenance to get them done! WOW!

Does it make you wonder what HE has in store for us in the future, I'm gonna say it will be outstanding and just right for us!

Our Prayers are for you! The Elder Board



June 11th - Communion

June 18th - Pot Luck

June 24th - Men's Breakfast at church
(8:00 am),

Wednesday evenings in July - The Tuff's
house for Ice Cream. 7:00 pm

Week of July 10th - 5 Day Club for the
kids.

Notes from the North...

Jackie Hitchcock joined the ladies via facetime as they discussed the book "I Dared to Call Him Father". What a joy it was to see her and to hear her thoughts about the book.

Gary and Arlene Swanson made it home safe after some car issues and are waiting for the weather to warm up a bit.

Bob and Bobbie Hawkins have been traveling visiting family and are now at camp enjoying their favorite spot.

If you have something to share in the newsletter, please send it to Patty at johnandpattytuff@yahoo.com by the 25th of every

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

A Note from the Editor...

My apologies that this newsletter is so late. It is a crazy time of year at school and I needed to get through Graduation before I could dedicate time to it. I ask your forgiveness and hope you understand. Enjoy!