



January Newsletter

Grace Community Church

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I hope that you had a warm, wonderful and even nostalgic Christmas. But I also hope that it is more than that.

Last week I read an article by Ryan Marsh, the editor of the Magazine Disney Files. When he first started working for Disney World 20 years ago, the main goal was to give people a few hours of escape and nostalgia. Today, he sees that goal as much more than that. The goal is to give people hope and optimism. To believe that there is a "great big beautiful tomorrow" as the Carousel of Progress song says. That people will leave with a new belief in making life better for themselves and for others.

That is what I wish for myself and for you. That Christmas not only gave us some warm and magical feelings, but that it also lifted us and filled us with new hope that we are going to experience a great big beautiful tomorrow. The Bible is quite clear about this: the more we expect it the more we are likely to experience.

Look at what Isaiah says will come to us because this child has been born to us: "9^[a] Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever. The land of Zebulun and Naphtali will be humbled, but there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory."

We will come out of darkness into a great light! We will rejoice in the Lord as we see His presence in our lives with new light, darkness dispelled. We will be as happy as those who see wonderful results in the fulfillment of work they have put their whole heart into! The burdens that have weighed us down, the chains that have trapped us in ways we know are not good for us, will be lifted and broken! And, we will have guidance and peace because this child born to us will be a "wonderful counselor", a mighty God, our Father forever, and the Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6)

So be encouraged, step up, look for, hope for, pray for a "great big beautiful tomorrow" in His love! And, as a church family, let us encourage one another, let us rejoice before Him and watch Him enlarge our ministry and our harvest.

Together

we
make

the
difference

Join Pastor John for a
Study of Acts starting
January 8th at 10:00 am.



Join Us

John Tuff and Friends

Thursday January 10th

Beyond the Sea

The band will be playing from 6-8 pm

Reuben Casserole: 1 large jar 28-32 oz. Sauerkraut (drained), 2 C shredded cheddar cheese, 2 C shredded swiss cheese, 1 heaping C Hellman's mayo, 4 packages (2 oz. each) Carl Buddig's Corned Beef (cut up). Mix all together. Spray 9 by 13 pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 45-50 minutes (uncovered). Serve with cocktail rye bread. Thank you Betty!

SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! It is the New Year and we are in a celebratory mood! Happiness all around looking forward to all a new year represents! But if you missed the Christmas eve Celebration, please mark you brand new 2019 Calendars with BIG LETTERS to make plans for next year's Christmas Eve Celebration and receive the Blessings of a wonderful Worship Service in an outstandingly beautiful setting to Worship the Birth of our Savior!

January, as you know is always a busy, busy month as just about everyone is back unless there is an issue and we Pray those are at a minimum. So please keep an eye on the weekly bulletin for notices of the happenings! No one wants to be left out and we as Leaders do not want to see anyone miss anything they want to participate in.

Speaking of returnees, we have been asked by several folks about 2 couples that are usually with us; David and Sarah Allen from Wisconsin and John and Diane Sedge from Toronto, Canada. Neither couple will be with us this winter on a regular basis, perhaps a short visit from one or the other. David and Sarah will be visiting with their Daughter and Son-in-law and new Grandchild in Arizona this winter and John and Diane's Lease was cancelled due to Red Tide complications and could only find suitable housing on the East Coast! Let us keep them in our Prayers for safe Travels and their return next year.

As you know with the last day of the calendar year it is also the ending of the Church fiscal year, so be looking for the upcoming Annual Meeting/Celebration! Always a great time of enjoyment as we look back at the past years accomplishments and the plans and challenges of the next year and how GOD has Blessed us and Prayerfully will continue to do so the coming Year! The date has not yet been set for the Annual meeting/Celebration but will be announced in the very near future! All Leaders, please be preparing your annual report for the Congregation! Congregation, Please hold all your Leaders including the Pastor up in Prayer!

Until next time we will be setting at Gate awaiting HIS Return!!

News From Nada

If you have never participated in "PRAYS WALK" please join in on January 26 as we "walk" in prayer at L.A. Ainger middle school on Cougar Way. You can meet at the church at 8:00 am and we can car pool or you can meet us at the school about 8:15 or so. This is open to all men, women and teens of the community but especially folks of our church! It is a real time of blessing to all who participate!

Our **GOOD NEWS CLUB** at Englewood Elementary could use a couple more volunteers if you are free Wednesday. We meet at 3:00 pm at the school for prayer and any instructions needed for the day. We get the children at 3:30 and finish at 5:00 pm. Once the children are dismissed we have a prayer of thanksgiving for the day then go our separate ways. If you participate in the Wednesday Bible study you still have plenty of time to get ready for it. Please see Nada if you are interested. We will finish up March 27th.



Tuesdays – Bible Study with Pastor John
10:00 am. A study on the Book of Acts
begins January 8th.
Tuesdays – Weekly prayer meeting with
George 6:00 pm
Wednesdays– Good News Club
Wednesdays – Bible Study 7:00
I Thessalonians with Basil have questions.
January 13th - Communion
January 20th - Pot Luck
January 26th - A gathering for the ladies at
John and Patty's Home. 12:30 pm. De-
tails to follow in future bulletins.

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