



## *May Newsletter*

### Grace Community Church

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#### From Our Pastor

“Hold up the shield of Faith to stop the fiery arrows of the evil one.” Ephesians 6:16

I am looking forward this Sunday to the message that will conclude our 7 part study of the Book of Ephesians. Paul concludes this letter by telling us about the Armor of God which makes it possible for us to stand in victory even in a difficult world like ours.

The piece of the armor that excites me and has helped me the most is the shield of Faith. I was fascinated to learn that the word used here is used for a very specific type of shield. It is not the bright and shiny shield held in the left hand of a warrior who dances around flashing his sword with his right hand.

It is actually a very heavy shield made of 2 rectangular pieces of wood connected to each other. Sometimes it was so tall, that the knight's page was actually the one who carried it.

One of the most effective weapons the enemy had were fiery arrows which would rain down upon you blazing with deadly flames. This shield was designed to provide a place of safety during such attacks. The wood used was not hardwood but a very soft wood which would absorb the arrows and snuff out the flame. That is what faith can do.

Difficulties come into our lives, from people, circumstance and overwhelming problems. Sometimes it feels like one thing after another. We have a place of shelter. We can settle behind that shield of faith and many of those fiery darts will go out. Faith can move mountains. Answers will come. We will experience God's strength and faithfulness.

So, let us remember we have that shield. Let us become experts at using that faith to put out the fires of the enemy. That shield can absorb doubt and fear and free us to know the power of the Lord of Heaven's Armies in our life.

I love being your Pastor

John

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

## SETTING AT THE GATE (THE ELDERS REPORT)

AHHHHH!! Spring has sprung; The Merry Month of May is here to celebrate!!

BUT before we get started on the new Month let us finish with last Month, Please!

We had a wonderful Easter Celebration, one of the largest I personally remember! Our first recognition of Gratitude is to our Creator for sending those many Souls to us to nourish and second, to all the volunteers that just appeared out of the blue to make all the preparations, set-ups, take downs, replace and returns! GREAT JOB TO EACH AND EVERY ONE THAT PARTICPATED!! (Our count of guest was 340)!!!

### NOW! ON TO MAY

When you think of the Month of May, what are your first thoughts? Like mine, Spring is here, the Merry Month of May, MAYDAY!MAYDAY!, Maypole, MOTHERS DAY or the end of May, the 3 day Weekend of Memorial Day or something else that makes it a more personal day to personal to you?

Many of you are from the North East and that was the last area where the Maypole was celebrated I found while checking. Did any of you have the great fun of playing around the May Pole? Have you shared that bit of historical nostalgia with your Children, Grand Children or Great Grandchildren? Since we are the last generation to participate in that fun we should not slight the younger generations without passing along that bit of trivia.

Thinking generationally, please Honor all our Mothers!! Flowers, Candy, take them out to Dinner, don't forget Church!! You do not want them to have to remind you of going to Church on their Day, now do you?!! I can still hear my Mom chewing on my ear about not believing she could have raised such a bad person, just can't believe it, she would say, several times before I could get away!! MOM's deserves all the Blessings they receive! AMEN!!

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



Tuesdays – Bible Study with Pastor John 10:00 am. A study on the Book of Acts

Tuesdays – Weekly prayer meeting with George 6:00 pm

May 11th - Men's Discipleship 9:00 am

May 11th - Ladies Lunch at The Lighthouse Grill 11:45 am

May 12th - Communion Sunday



It's been a while since the ladies have gotten together so let's have lunch! Saturday, May 11th at The Lighthouse Grill 11:45 am.

RSVP to Patty by Wednesday if you are planning to come.

