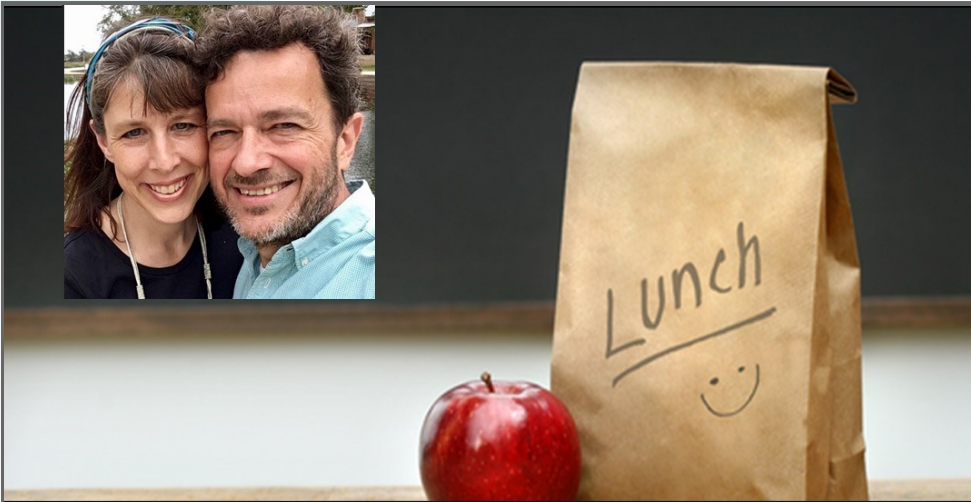


► **January 2019**

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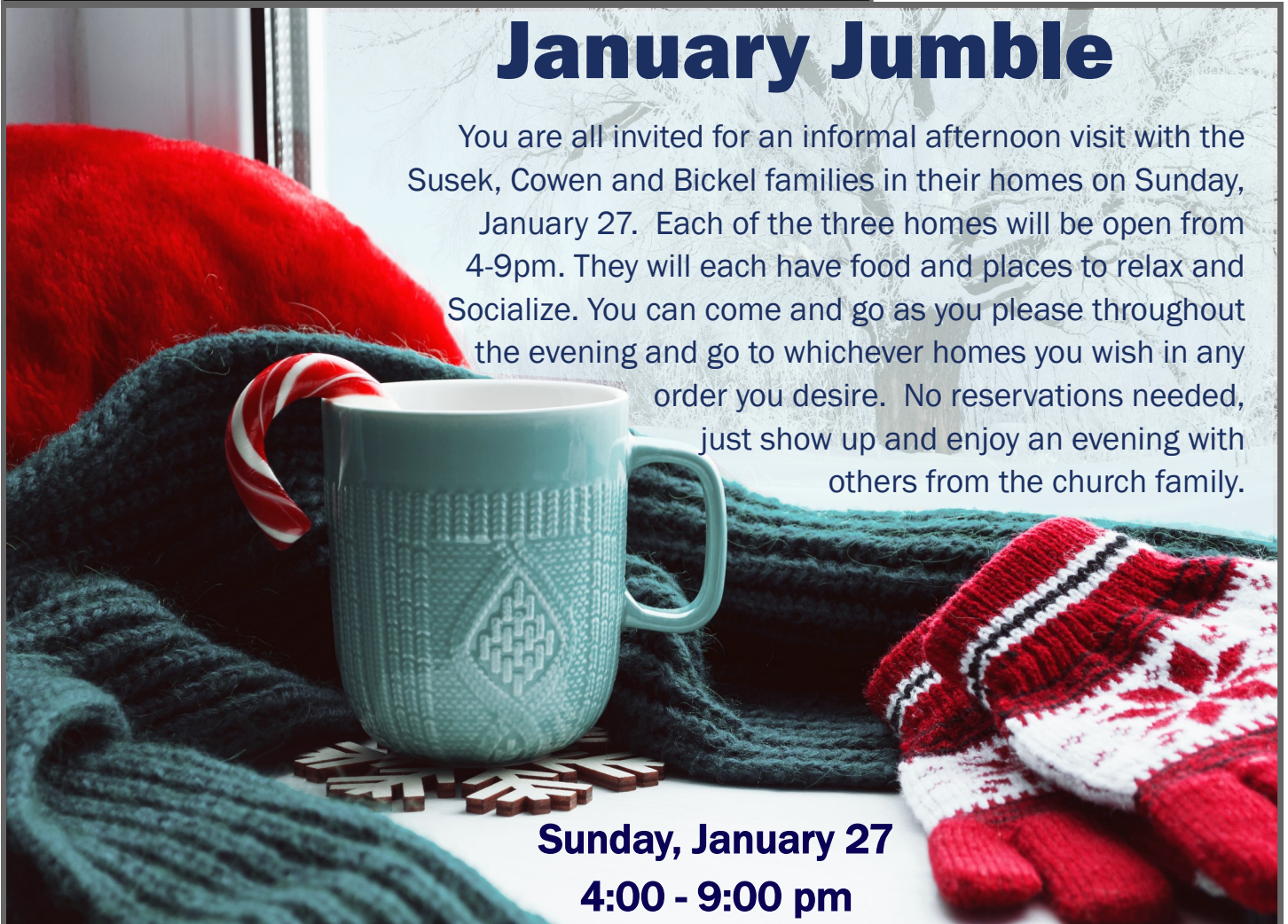
Brown-Bag Lunch with Moyers

Jan. 6

January Jumble

You are all invited for an informal afternoon visit with the Susek, Cowen and Bickel families in their homes on Sunday, January 27. Each of the three homes will be open from 4-9pm. They will each have food and places to relax and Socialize. You can come and go as you please throughout the evening and go to whichever homes you wish in any order you desire. No reservations needed, just show up and enjoy an evening with others from the church family.

Sunday, January 27
4:00 - 9:00 pm



**HE SHALL STAND
AND SHEPHERD HIS
FLOCK IN THE
STRENGTH OF THE
LORD...AND HE SHALL
BE THEIR PEACE - MICAH**

SUNDAYS @ 9AM



Pastor Aaron
continues in the
Book of Micah
in January

Worship at 9am

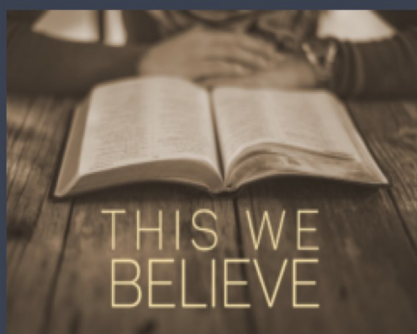
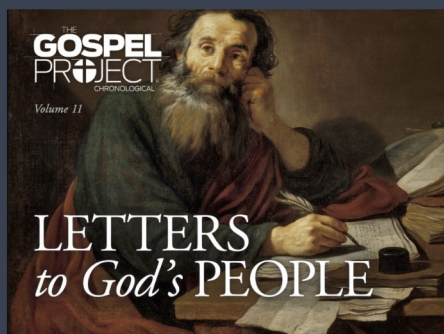
Coffee and Conversa-
tion after Worship

Bible Classes for all
ages at 11am

Invitations in
Hall Information
Center

Bible Classes – Sundays 11 am - Noon

Join us in the gym for coffee, refreshments and fellowship between Worship and Bible Classes



Special
January
Class
In The
Gym

NEW for January Special 4-week Class: **Who Are You? Where Do You Fit?** *(in the gym)*

Gospel Project begins Vol. 11: Letters to God's People *(Gospel Project, Ladies Class, Teens, Children)*

This We Believe, Authentic Manhood, Ladies Class and Consider the Sermon all continue in January

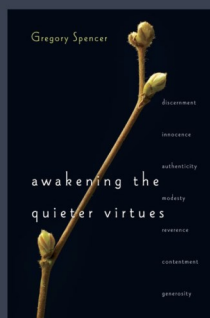
Small Groups Meeting for Encouragement and Discipleship

- Monday @ 6:30 pm - **Ladies Fitness and Fellowship** - contact Debbie Wilt
- Monday @ 7:00 pm - **Brookhaven Community Group** - contact Mark & Beth Kessler
- Select Mondays @ 7:00 pm - **Aston Community Group** - contact Bob & Corrie Evans
- 2nd Tuesday @ 12:00 pm - **Young at Heart** - contact Joyce Bromley or Pastor Mark
- Wednesday @ 9:30 am - **Ladies Bible Study** - contact Sandy Weaver
- Wednesday @ 2:00 pm - **Prayer Meeting** - contact Pastor Taylor
- Wednesday @ 7:00 pm - **Family Night** (*see list of groups below*) - contact Pastor Mark
- Wednesday @ 7:00 pm - **Bible Training Center** - contact Mike Plourde
- Select Wednesdays @ 8:15 pm - **Theological Discussion Group** - contact Pastor Aaron
- 1st and 3rd Thursday @ 9:15 am - **Mom Matters / Kid Matters** - contact Audra Bach
- Thursday @ 7:00 pm - **Thursday Night Bible Study** - contact Nate & Katie Biermaas
- 4th Friday @ 7:00 pm - **Couples Fellowship** - contact Pastor Tim

You can find out more about these and other small groups and ministries at Grace on our web-site at gracebfc.org or by contacting Pastor Mark, mbickel@gracebfc.org, (484) 788-9026

Family Night – Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:15 PM

January 9 – May 15, 2019



Winter Groups begin **JANUARY 9** (*DivorceCare and GriefShare begin January 16*)

Summer Missions Teams

**** Information Meeting on Summer Teams after Worship on January 13 ****

Russia: June 14 to 25, 2019

We work with children and teens from underprivileged homes doing crafts, playing with them, and having meetings with them to encourage them and love them. If you feel you can do this please see John Roach.



Camp Promise in Montana: June 23 to July 6, 2019

Bible Camp for Special Needs Children and Adults. They need counselors to work one on one with those who are physically and/or mentally challenged as well as cooks, maintenance and other camp helpers.



Handi-Camp Canada: July 27 to August 4, 2019

Bible Camp for Special Needs Children/Young Adults. They need counselors to work one on one with those who are physically and/or mentally challenged (may need to lift camper).



Other Summer Opportunities

Victory Valley Camp and **Pinebrook Bible Conference** are always looking for counselors, kitchen help, groundkeepers, and other positions for youth and adults, as a missionary for the entire summer or as volunteer for a few days. **CEF** offers a summer training program for teens. Grace typically sends a **work team** to a local ministry in August.

Contact: for more information on summer missions trips, or to apply, see **Debbie Wilt**

Kelsey Yori Returns to Dominican Republic!

January 8-16, 2019

While in the DR, the team and I will be going to numerous villages and setting up health clinics. In the clinics, we will be completing basic assessments, providing medication, and giving each person food and clothes. This will be the third mission team I will be a part of.

The prayer requests I have are: safe travel to and from the DR and villages, that we would have enough resources and supplies to give affective care, and that God would work through me to share about the gospel.

Important message to all adults who are currently working or would like to work with children/youth at Grace BFC in any capacity:

Thank you for your willingness to serve the children and youth at Grace BFC. This church has a long legacy of excellence in our children and youth ministries and we want to continue to walk out that calling from God. In order to protect both our children and our workers, we have revised several documents outlining procedures and policies regarding the care of minors. If you would like to continue working with children and youth in any capacity (*not only consistent volunteers/teachers*), you must complete the following 3 tasks before **March 1, 2019**.

1. **Read the updated children's protection policy/ other related documents and watch a short video highlighting changes made and other important reminders.**
2. **Complete the mandated reporter training program online.**
3. **Sign a form stating that you have completed steps 1 & 2.**

You will receive an email with more detailed instructions and pdfs of all files needed. There will also be paper copies available if that will be helpful. Lastly, if you are unable to access the videos/mandated reporter training on your own, there **will be a training event at church after Sunday school on February 10th from 12:00 - 2:00.**

Again, thank you for caring for our children so well. It is my desire to do everything in my power to safeguard you and our children from situations/incidents that would hinder or distract from the great work that God is doing within our church walls.

Blessings,
Fuzzy (Dan Phillips)
Director of Children's Ministries

Updated Child Protection Policy and related documents
are now on our website at **GraceBFC.org**
(select Resources / Documents)



Upcoming Events for Children/Youth

Wacky Wednesday/Youth Group Restart: January 9

MS/HS Sno Glo: January 11-13

Victory Valley Winter Blast: February 8-10 (Ages 7-12)

MS Lock-In: February 15-16

Children's Contact: Fuzzy (Dan Phillips) at dphillips@gracebfc.org

Youth Contact: Leadership Team at gbfcyouth1@gracebfc.org

Strategic Planning Update

As the Elders continue to work on a strategic plan for the coming years we wanted to update you on a couple of things:

- One goal is to **update our online presence**, including making it more welcoming to those new to Grace. In the fall we redesigned our website at **GraceBFC.org**
- Another goal is to **implement some sort of smaller community groups** where people can walk through life together. We have asked Pastor Aaron, Pastor Mark, Mark Kessler, Mike Norquist, Bob Evans, Aviva Hoback and Jess Piasecki to help plan this.

Results from Congregational Meeting:**Held on December 9, 2018**

- Approved Budget for 2019
- Elected Elders and Deacons
- Heard Annual Reports

Current Active Elders:

- Scott Simmons (Chair)
- Mark Bickel
- Chuck Biermaas
- Nate Biermaas
- Tim Cowen
- Bob Evans
- Chip Harper
- Rich Hartzell
- Mark Kessler
- Richard McIntyre
- Mike Norquist
- Mike Plourde
- Aaron Susek

Current Active Deacons:

- David Lawton (Chair)
- Steve Bach
- Dan McLean
- Matthew Piasecki
- Vince Urbano
- Clayton Wilt
- Joe Worrell

Next Congregational Meeting**Sunday, February 3 @ 10:30am**

- Review 2018 Financial Report
- Elected Delegates to BFC Conference
- Special Election: Mark Kessler as Elder for 3 years*

** note: Mark Kessler should have been up for reelection in December 2018, instead we will hold election for him Feb. 3.*

Read the Bible in 2018!

Several Daily Devotionals and Bible reading plans are available in the **CHURCH LOBBY**. Links to Bible reading plans, devotionals and downloadable apps are at **GRACEBFC.ORG** or see Pastor Mark.

All In the Family

There are a number of people in our extended Grace BFC family who, due to physical issues or living situation, are not able to regularly join us for worship or other activities of the church. But they are part of our family, and so we want to keep their names before you for prayer, as well as sending notes of encouragements. Some may also enjoy a visit, although not all are in a place to receive guests, so please contact the person or one of the elders before attempting a visit. If you need addresses to send cards or to call any of those listed contact the church office (office@gracebfc.org)

- Ed Shockley
- Lois Dragon
- Ron Kender
- Don and Kay Kaiser
- Wendy Harron
- Melisa Jordan
- Dianne Nicely
- Robert (Hinchliff) Hawkins
- Byron and MaryAnn Pennington

- Also remember those who are off at college and those who are serving in the military

The list above is by no means exhaustive. If you or people you know would like to be included in future "All in the Family" columns contact Pastor Mark

Testimony Time

In February, we will be providing a time on several Sunday mornings to hear testimony to how God is working in people's lives - both stories of God's current work and testimony to God's faithfulness over the years. If you know of someone we should hear from please talk to Pastor Aaron.

GRACE FAMILY NEWS

Shower for Trina Kessler

Come celebrate Trina and Matt Kessler's baby on January 20 from 2-4pm in Rooms 203-204. Trina is registered at Target. Please do not wrap or bag gifts! This will be a display shower so Trina can spend time with her guests. RSVP to Jess Piasecki, Rachel Kessler or Beth Kessler.

Are You Getting Weekly Prayer and Grace eNews?

Keep up to date on what is happening at grace - sign-up for our weekly eNews update as well as our prayer list, simply email office@gracebfc.org. To share requests send them to office@gracebfc.org and mbickel@gracebfc.org.

Thoughts on Winter

Pastor Richard Taylor

“You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth;
You have made summer and winter.” Psalm 74:17

Now that the new year has begun, we face the serious part of winter. Given a choice between the heat of July and the cold of January, I will take the cold. You can always put on another sweatshirt but there is a limit as to how many shirts you can remove. So, I am not sure I want to move closer to the Equator where winter has a more minor role. And, I recall hearing from some that being closer to the Equator means you only experience one season. So winter is here and that's how it is.

I don't want to sound like I am complaining. The psalmist writes that God made both the summer and the winter. Two very significant points come out of this fact. First, God created the seasons and the entire universe. Summer becomes fall which turns to winter which ends with spring which returns again to summer. That's how it works because that is how God made it. The warmth of summer and the cold of winter are God's design. While God does not change, He made seasons which do. But the change is patterned and predictable which enables us to have some idea of what is coming next.

This leads to the second thought. God not only created the seasons, He governs them. The seasons result from the order in our solar system and the rest of the universe. God not only made the world; He also governs the movements and moments that make up the world and so there is order. Winter follows summer because God makes it happen.

These sorts of observations are encouraging. The psalmist began this section of the psalm by wanting to make a point, “Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.” (Psalm 74:12) The fact that God's world is predictable is based on the fact that God is predictable. When He says He will do something, you can count on it, like winter and summer. He has promised to work salvation in the midst of the earth. Jesus came, died, rose again, and ascended and reigns. The good news is that sinners like you and me can count on Him. Salvation, like summer and winter, is assured because God is predictable.

So, put on another sweatshirt. Throw a log on the fire. And be prepared for snow. Yes, and know that God will still be gracious and merciful.

Grace Bible Fellowship Church

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Follow us on Twitter: @Gracebfc

Like our Facebook Page

Grace News is normally published the last Sunday of each month. Submit upcoming events and articles to Barb by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send to office@gracebfc.org

Questions and suggestions can be sent to Pastor Mark at mbickel@gracebfc.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 6	Lunch with the Moyers
January 8	Young at Heart
January 9	Start of Wednesday Family Night
January 11	Teen Sno-Glo Weekend
January 13	Summer Missions Info Meeting
January 20	Communion
	Prayer and Song Night
January 25	Couples Fellowship
January 27	January Jumble
February 3	Congregational Meeting
February 8	Victory Valley Winter Blast Weekend

Full Calendar at Gracebfc.org

January Birthdays

2	San Lay
3	Marlene Cahall
3	Carl Letsche
3	Evan Rydel
3	Barrett Simmons
7	Jon Rydel
8	Cindy Lay
12	Dick Holmes
14	Markus Batdorf
14	Becky Mortland
15	Lisa Seal
16	Abigail Bromley
16	Melissa Jordan
19	David Chalson
20	Lisa Roach
21	Chris Yacono

22	Jen Schmidt
23	Mark Campbell
23	Dianne Nicely
23	Justin Gambrell
24	Nicole Harper
25	Emily Merillat
26	Joey Gambrell
28	Connie Richardson
29	Luke Achey
29	Nina Hoback
29	Donna Stackhouse
30	Mary Jane Consadene

January Anniversaries

2	Andrew & Jessica Piasecki
19	Vince & Suzanne Urbano
23	Vanna & San Lay