

g GRACE CHURCH

Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter



From the Lead Team

While recently waiting for an eye appointment, I noticed a slogan on the doctor's wall promoting the idea of having better vision for a better future. I thought about how we, as a church, are also seeking a clearer vision today of the (future) mission God is calling us towards. Throughout this time of discernment, my prayer as a Lead Team member has been that our church family members would be "filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." (Colossians 1:9)

As we've now come to the end of our 40 days of prayer, I truly hope that this time has been a sacred journey for you. Galatians 5:25 says that "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit." Whether you have felt God whispering something specific to you or not, we can all keep living by the Spirit and earnestly participate in staying in step with how the Spirit is leading our church. In my own journey, I've been asking God to show me why Romans 5:5 keeps appearing in my devotionals: "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

Last Sunday, we came together to experience a deeper fellowship (ie. koinonia) and a time of sharing. We heard around the tables what God has been revealing to us about spiritual growth and surrender, service and outreach, love and community, and worship. It was a special time of affirming that God has begun a good work in us. We know he will also finish it. (Philippians 1:6).

If there are Scripture passages that affirm and shape what you have been sensing from the

Lord, we invite you to share those with our Lead Team. May we continue praying as a church that we would always be a branch of His planting, the work of His hands, so that the Lord might be glorified. (Isaiah 60:21)

- Dave Hildebrand

Lead Team Update

The Lead Team welcomes your prayers as we consider and work through various items in the life of our church. Items to pray for include:

- Wisdom as we discern a vision and God's mission for Grace Church.
- Guidance as we seek to fill positions on our Lead Team
- Wisdom as we consider ministry opportunities inside and outside our church.
- Spiritual strength and wisdom for each of our Pastors as they walk alongside our families.
- Rejuvenation for our Pastors and Lead Team members over the summertime.

Grad Feature



In our next newsletter we would like to feature our graduates. If you have (or are) a child graduating this June, please send a photo and a short write-up (notable achievements, future plans, for example) to wendy@gracechurchwinkler.com by June 16.

GRACE YOUTH

God is sooooo Good!

Wow, what an amazing year of seeing God at work in the lives of the youth, and the youth stepping into what God has for them. We have walked along with one another in prayer, encouraging one another, crying with each other, and celebrating with one another.

Thank you, parents, for trusting us and allowing us to partner with you in the faith formation of your students. We count it a blessing to be able to walk alongside you all in this journey.

Thank you, leaders, for all of the time, energy, dedication, and love you have for seeing faith being passed on to the next generation. This is a high and holy calling and you have all done an incredible job doing this week in and week out.

Thank you, everyone, for the encouragement that we continue to receive from you as a congregation. For the support, prayers, and kind words, and for being an example of what it looks like to faithfully seek after our Lord. For being a healthy family to welcome those who are seeking after God and teaching them how to do that. Thank you!

Thank you, Lord, for your faithfulness in our lives. For making up where we have felt lacking, drawing us closer to you and giving us your strength, confidence, and joy to be able to serve you in this area of ministry. Thank you for teaching us what it looks like a little more each day, and for the students that you have entrusted to us. Our prayer is that you will continue to see to the completion of the work that you have begun in their lives as you have promised you would. You are so kind and loving to us, thank you!

- Pastor Brad

Sunday School

What a great year we had growing and learning together! A big thank you to our teachers who show up every Sunday, we are so blessed by you. We hope everyone has a wonderful summer enjoying the creation that God has created.

We are still in need of some teachers and helpers for fall:

- 2-3 helpers for preschool/kindergarten classes
- 2 teachers for K-2 classes
- 2 teachers for High School

These are all half time positions. Please connect with us if you can see it being a fit for you or if you have any questions.

Ashley- ashleyfehr89@gmail.com

Jodi- jodimwiebe@gmail.com



Schedule of Events:

Friday Evening	- Bonfire
Saturday Afternoon	- Lawn games & fun at the beach
Saturday Evening	- Weiner roast supper (bring your own meat & buns, and sides to share) - Baseball - Bonfire - Outdoor movie for the kids
Sunday Morning	- 10:45 am - Worship Service - Baptism at the beach after service - Lunch (pizza)
Sunday Afternoon	- 1-3 pm - Games & Activities for all ages

What to bring:

- Lawn chairs
- Snacks to share (Friday & Saturday)
- Lawn games & gloves

We'll provide:

- Beverages
- Plates/utensils/etc
- Condiments
- Sunday lunch

Prayer and Praise

Pray for our shut-ins and those with on-going health issues:

At Home:

- Marie Klassen
- Katherine Krahn
- Anne Enns
- Margaret Ayala
- Linda Jenkins
- Irene Hildebrand
- Gladys Wiebe
- Dennis Wiebe
- Agnes Giesbrecht
- Marie Brown
- Marilyn Hildebrand
- Marian Harder
- Allan Derksen
- Helene Kuhl
- Linda Hiebert
- Alexander Sauer

In Salem Home: Helen Loepky
Elva Hildebrand

Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathies to Kathy Klassen and her family on the passing of her brother-in-law, Harry Neufeld, on May 27th. May God grant you his peace and comfort in this time of loss.

Thank You

Thank you to all the people who helped with my sister-in-law's fundraiser over Mother's Day weekend. It was a huge success and they were able to go to Spain (left on May 31) where they will get a proper diagnosis. With a proper diagnosis she can then go to a Skilled Vascular Surgeon who can help her to hopefully not need a feeding tube for the rest of her life! (Fundraising will have to happen for that surgery too!)

- Teya Derksen

Young Adults

Young Adults wound up after a great year of new and continuing connections.

In Fall, we started with a RightNowMedia study on 'Adulting' by Jonathan Pokluda - topics like career, commitment to church, relationships, and finances in a Biblical worldview. We then began a study on Jonah, and ended in a short study on Jude. Our windup was at the end of May with fire, food and games in the church backyard.

It has been such a blessing to get to know each of our young adults - I'm not even sure why we call them 'young adults' as it can feel like a separation from the Church. What I see in these individuals is a desire to be in community not just together, but at Grace and beyond. I see them attending church, but also getting involved in Sunday morning ministry, youth, serving at camp, school, or work. I am spurred on by their efforts to know Jesus and make Him known.

I love to see the friendships grow within, but also how they bring others in. There's always room at the table for more, and currently, that means we may be moving our evenings to the Church in Fall as our homes are getting crowded! What a good problem to have!

If you are considered the age of a 'young adult' and want to stay in the loop for spontaneous social events that come up, as well as Bible studies once we begin, connect with me and I'll add you to our WhatsApp chat or email list.

- Mel Friesen on behalf of the Young Adults leaders (James & Renee Klassen's house at, Nicole Strempler, Walter Friesen)



Items Still Needed for Malamba Family

Thank you to everyone that has gratefully offered to donate items to the Malamba family. Please continue to pray for this family as we plan for their arrival. Listed below are still items that are needed. If you would prefer to give a cash donation to contribute to their start-up costs, we would be grateful for the support.

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have items that you wish to donate and ask that you hold onto them until such time as we will need them.

Contact:

Judy Friesen: 204-362-2840 or friesenjud@gmail.com.

Patty Schroeder: 204-384-6541 or 631schroeder@gmail.com

Bedroom Needs:

- Dresser
- Bedside tables (3 sets).
- Lamps for three or 4 bedrooms.
- Pillows (1) **must be new**.
- Blankets – 1 Queen, 2 twin sets and 1 Double set (plus extra blankets/ queen, double or twin).
- Sheets – 2 double sheet sets (also would be good to have extras of all of these – Queen/Twin/ Double).
- Mattress protectors for all beds (4 in total/ 1 Queen Size/2 Twin Sizes/1 Double Size). **Must be New**.

Housewares:

- Kettle
- Scissors
- Cutting Boards
- Kitchen chairs - 6 or 8

Miscellaneous Items:

- Broom/dust pan **Buy New**
- Mop and Bucket **Buy New**
- Shower Curtain **Buy New**
- Vacuum Cleaner
- Snow Shovel
- Laundry Detergent

Missions – Made Clearer

In the Witness Ministry Plans for 2024 & 2025, we mentioned a policy review. This was not a change of policies but rather a filling out of how we could best follow the existing guidelines. Here are some examples:

- When an individual asks to receive regular support from Grace, we now include an interview and not just an application. This let's us hear each individual's faith story and their passion for a specific people or ministry.
- Since each mission's application is different, we have been developing a bank of questions to use in these interviews.
- We also check out each "sending" organization that our missionaries will be working with. We make sure that their statement of faith matches closely with our statement of faith at Grace. We also check into what supports will be in place for those serving far away.
- We also clarified what "regular updates" to the church might include, as technology gives us many more options than just letters.

Salem Home Annual Meeting



Salem Home and Foundation AGM will take place on June 23 at 7 pm in the Salem Home chapel. As an owner church we are encouraged to have delegates attend. We are allowed 5 delegates. If you would like to represent Grace Church at the upcoming meeting please contact the office or Ross White.