

# g GRACE CHURCH

Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter



## from the Pastor

As another ministry year comes to an end, many of us find ourselves stepping into a new season. Graduation is here. School routines are ending. Regular rhythms like youth group, Sunday school, and weekly programs begin to slow down for the summer. People are going camping and on summer vacations, and sometimes we unintentionally take time off from our walk with the Lord as well. This can happen because our programs and structures change, so our built-in time with God changes, too. And with that shift comes an important question: **How can we continue to intentionally pursue our relationship with God as our routines change?**

I shared this thought recently, and pastor Sean used it in a message, but it has stuck with me: *When we stop paddling on a river, we come to a stop and start going backwards.*

That's true in sports, in school, in leadership, and especially in our faith.

If we take time off with our walk with the Lord, we'll come to a stop and start drifting backwards. We don't drift closer to God; we drift away. When life gets hard—and it will—our response is often shaped by the habits we've built long before the challenge arrives. Hard seasons reveal what has been formed in us. They expose where we've been placing our trust.

Summer can be an amazing gift. It can be a season of rest, family, and refreshment. But it can also become a season where spiritual rhythms quietly disappear. Without intentionality, weeks can pass before we realize we've drifted.

So, what would it look like to intentionally spend time with God this summer?

Maybe it's setting aside as little as 10–15 minutes each morning to read Scripture and pray. Maybe it's listening to worship music during your commute, journaling, or taking intentional walks with God. Maybe it's gathering with Christian friends for encouragement and accountability.

Spiritual growth does not happen by accident. It happens through daily faithfulness.

My prayer for all of us this summer is not simply that we pause—but that we continue growing. So, when fall comes, we're not trying to rebuild our relationship with God from scratch. Instead, we return stronger, rooted deeper, and ready for all God has ahead.

- Pastor Brad Harms

**Grace Annual**  
**POOL Party**  
**July 6, 2026**  
**7.00 – 9.00 pm**  
**Winkler Aquatic Center**  
**Free Event**  
**Bring your friends**  
**Bring snacks to share**  
**(We'll provide beverages)**

## grace youth

Wow, just like that, the year is coming to an end! It doesn't feel like it was that long ago that we kicked off by going to Activate together! We have had a great time this year, having fun, learning, and, most importantly, growing in our faith together.

This year, we focused on the Upside Down Kingdom, how Jesus calls us to live the opposite way that the world does. To be set apart, and Holy. This looks upside down to the world and doesn't make sense. We talked about:

- Who Jesus is and who we think He should be to us.
- How He arrived in a stable instead of a Palace.
- The controversial things Jesus said on how to live
- Friendships
- Jesus' trial at Easter
- How are we to live in light of His death and resurrection

I am so thankful for how we were able to seek after God together this year, the fun we had, and the relationships that were formed.

Thank you to the Small Group Leaders for many evenings and weekends, and for the time they spent passing faith on to the next generation. Your impact will last a lifetime.

Thank you, Church, for your support, prayer, and investment in the youth ministry. Your support is critical for the work that we do.

Thank You

- Pastor Brad

## staff Holidays

Pastor Sean will be out of the office on holidays from June 22-29.

## sunday school

We are still in need of some teachers for fall. These are all half time positions. Please connect with us if you would like more information!

- 1 - Kindergarten/Gr.1 teacher
- 1 - Gr. 2/3 girl teacher
- 2 - Gr. 3/4 boy teachers

[Ashleyfehr89@gmail.com](mailto:Ashleyfehr89@gmail.com)

[Jodimwiebe@gmail.com](mailto:Jodimwiebe@gmail.com)

## prayer and praise

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

At Home:

- Linda Hiebert
- Gladys Wiebe
- Helene Kuhl
- Linda Jenkins
- Florence Dyck
- Abdul Tunu
- Dennis Wiebe
- Marilyn Hildebrand
- Marie Brown
- Alexander Sauer
- Allan Derksen
- Leo Braun
- Melissa (Friesen) Tunu

Tabor Home: Irene Hildebrand

In Salem Home: Helen Loeppky  
Elva Hildebrand  
Agnes Giesbrecht  
Maria Klassen  
Anne Enns

## wedding "shower"



Luke Wilson & Keira Hamilton will be married on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We'd like to show them our support. A card will be available in the foyer for you to sign for the next couple of weeks.

We'll include a gift from the church shower fund (donations are not needed at this time.)

Please take a moment to sign the card.

# missions update



India - This week some of the people using the CHE program (connected with G&J's work) had to stand

before the Investigation Commission. Accusations of "Forceful conversion of vulnerable children" were made. Documents, lessons and digital storage drives were taken. For years, now, (decades, actually) this group has offered after-school tutoring programs for children of lower status families. Health & moral value lessons pertaining to kids, are taught. No outright evangelism done, which they know is strictly forbidden (their state has Anti-Conversion laws). Regularly, activity & financial reports are sent to the local gov't offices.

### Pray that –

- God be honored and more-known through this situation;
- a righteous judgement will be made, not one "stacked with radical Hindu ideology."
- parents, all Hindu, who back the group, would be allowed to testify

This is the final weekend of our "Fill the Crib" campaign. Thank you for helping make this a success!

**Help us Fill the Crib**

- 1 Baby Care**
  - Shampoo
  - Body Wash
  - Lotion
  - Nail Clippers
  - Baby Bath Towels
- 2 Diaper Supplies**
  - Diaper Rash Cream
  - Wipes (unscented)
  - Diapers (various sizes)
  - Pull-Ups
- 3 Toys**
  - Board Books
  - Teethingers
  - Baby Toys (New, unopened packages)
- 4 Clothes**
  - Socks
  - Bibs
  - Burp Cloths
  - Sleepers
  - Onesies
- 5 Summer**
  - Sun Hats
  - Swim Diapers
  - Baby Sunscreen
- 6 Gently Used**
  - Blankets
  - Baby Clothes

From the Pregnancy Care Center **Accepting Donations until June 21st.**

# sample pew chair

At our AGM, a discussion was started regarding purchasing pew chairs to replace our aging pews.



We received a sample chair that we'll keep in the foyer, and you are welcome to test it out.

Further discussions will take place at a future membership meeting.



Often at this time of the year, we see this verse from Proverbs 3:5-6 on graduation cards, that grads are supposed to "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

With that verse in mind, I want to encourage us to pray for the grads in our church as they seek direction on what their futures might look like. We can pray this verse over them.

It's a tricky season in their lives to navigate with lots of voices to consider. Psalm 32:8 reminds us that God is with them as David writes – "I Will Instruct You and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

My prayer for the grads this year would echo the words of Paul to the Colossians to "Let your roots grow down into him and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."

May we see fruit in our prayers

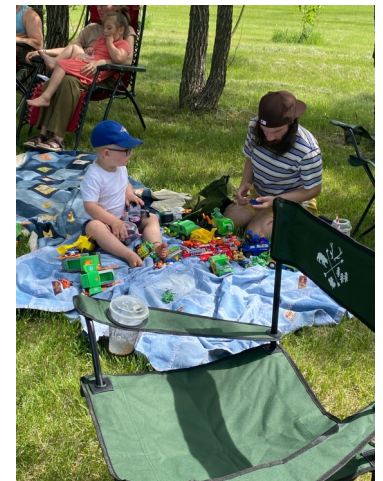
Pastor Tim

# Annual Church Camping Weekend

From June 5-7 we had our annual Grace camping weekend at the Plum Coulee Campground. Despite the extreme heat, we had a great turn-out and a lot of fun.

Definitely, the highlight for most was our Sunday morning church service which concluded with testimonies and baptism of 4 people.

Here are some photos of some of the fun that was had.





# Oh the Places You'll Go

Celebrating our High School graduates



## Rachel Strempler

My name is Rachel Strempler and I'm graduating from GVC with honours with distinction. For the past two years, I have been part of the leadership

team for GVC's Christian fellowship club called "Stonehouse", which meets weekly to encourage students in their faith. I've had the privilege to be involved at Grace as a junior youth small group leader and a Sunday school teacher this past year, and by attending senior youth and young adults Bible study.

In the fall, I'll be attending Briercrest College in Saskatchewan to study Biblical Studies. Please pray that I grow in faith and obedience to God through this time spent learning more about His Word



## Koen Bleznuk

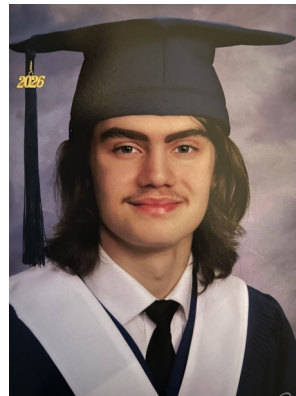
Koen is graduating from GVC. He plans to pursue a career as an electrician after grad.



## Hunter Dueck

Hunter's love for Christ, quick wit and compassion will take him far, as he attends Providence University in the fall to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song, I give thanks to Him. Psalm 28:7



## Aiden Martens

Aidan has grown during his K-12 years but especially during his time at NPC. He has definitely enjoyed his time there.

In particular, he has always had a creative mind along with a maturity and understanding of people beyond his years so we have loved seeing him explore those with joy and passion. He has done that through a number of artistic classes, particularly during the last few years. We have loved seeing his character develop through those experiences.

Kristina, myself (Rob), and Cassidy are so proud to be his parents and sister. Ultimately, we thank the Lord for him and what the Lord is doing in his life. Aidan has a few schooling interests and has chosen to take a gap year to figure out what direction he wants to take.

