

# g GRACE CHURCH

Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter



## From the Lead Team

As a Lead Team, we have been talking about sharing some stories about our spiritual growth journeys with the Covenant Community. Hopefully in sharing how God has been working in each of our lives, we can be spreaders of good news and be an encouragement to one another (Hebrews 10:24, Romans 10:15). Growing in Christlikeness is a lifetime journey. It's not a glamorous journey in earthly terms, but rather, a day-by-day walking with the Lord across life's valleys and hilltops. I'd like to share a couple of things that have been shaping my own journey lately.

In Jesus' lesson about the vine and the branches (John 15), he says that every branch that bears fruit, he prunes so that it may bear more fruit. I feel very blessed every day, but I'm also in a season now where I feel like God is pruning me. I know it's all for a purpose, but honestly, it doesn't always feel that good. Whether it's been unexpected changes or disappointments in relationships, parenting challenges, or the complexities of work and daily life, I sense that God is trying to get my attention. God wants me to place Him first in my life in all that I am being called to do (1 Corinthians 7:17, 10:31). In trying to connect more with Jesus, the True Vine, I'm starting to see the ways in which He is at work and producing new fruit in my life. As I've been reflecting

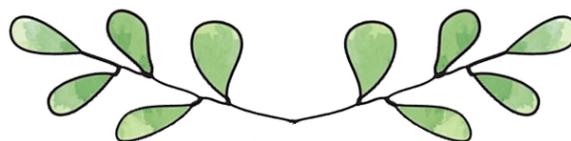
and updating my spiritual growth assessment document, I see some personal growth in the Worship and Learn disciplines, but I still need to grow in the Witness area.

In Proverbs 3:5-8, we read that trusting the Lord completely "will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones." Trusting in the Lord with our hearts means we'll also experience rest for our bodies! Thank you Lord for providing all of our needs!

Colossians 1:10

"so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;"

- Dave Hildebrand



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# Youth



Here's the schedule for the next couple of weeks:

- March 20: Regular Junior Youth night
- March 22: Regular Senior Youth night
- March 27-31: Spring Break. No Youth. Enjoy your week off!!

# Sunday School

March is half over, and spring is just around the corner! We would like to remind you that we will be having no Sunday School on March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>. (Spring Break) We look forward to starting Unit 3 this coming Sunday!

**Offering Project:** This month all Sunday School offerings are going towards the UGM Sandwich ministry. Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> will be the last day to contribute to this cause before we move on to our next project. So far we have raised enough to provide 400+ sandwiches.



# Witness Ministries Focus



Kingdom Results from Investing

A Note from Gordon (summary)  
(Full report on the bulletin board)

Some villages were flooded, but not all. Our team is providing funds to help rebuild houses. In some cases, our team was



able to partner with other groups to have a bore-well dug, & then handpumps were installed – from the “Flood Relief” funds donated by you. *“The flood/rain response has opened up new opportunities into other communities,”* Shakeel, told me. In all the communities, people are learning values (honesty, integrity, forgiveness, patience etc.) through Bible stories (then questions: What did you learn about God?; about yourself?; who will you tell this story to this week? And



more...). Those who want to further learn are spoken to one-on-one when slowly Jesus and his reason for coming is introduced.

Please continue to back up this investment by prayer. It is a powerful combination, since it is then in the hands of the Holy Spirit. Thank you Grace Church.



# Pembina Valley Bible Camp Fundraiser

Would you like to support Pembina Valley Bible Camp by hosting a table at their annual spring fundraising banquets? April 12<sup>th</sup> in Morden and April 20<sup>th</sup> in Winkler. Enjoy great food while experiencing a “Celebration of History”, including messages from past directors. To host a table, contact the camp office at 204-246-2008 or email [info@pembinavalleybiblecamp.com](mailto:info@pembinavalleybiblecamp.com).

# Coming Events

This Week:

## SENIOR'S SUPPER TUESDAY, MARCH 21 @ 5 PM



Presentation by Chris Kalansky - Esperanza Mission Trip



Chris will be sharing an extended and more detailed report on his recent trip to Esperanza Orphanage in Mexico.

Looking Ahead:

## Easter Services:



**Good Friday** - April 7: Service @ 6:30 pm



**Candle Memorial Service**-please submit names of those recently deceased that you'd like to include

**Easter Sunday** - 9:00-10:30: Pre-Service Brunch (sign up at the welcome desk on March 26 or April 2)

10:45am: Easter Service



## Potluck Lunch

March 26 after the service.



Everyone is asked to bring a hot dish.

If your last name starts with A-M bring a salad. If your last names starts with N-Z bring a dessert.

Everyone is welcome!

## GRACE CAMPING WEEKEND

**JUNE 10-11**  
**Plum Coulee Campground**

- **Activities will be planned for Saturday and Sunday afternoon**
- **Church service Sunday morning**
- **Lunch provided Sunday**



## SAVE THE DATE!

Everyone is welcome to join us for our end of year celebration. Sign up for camping will be available starting in April. Limited number of sites are available.

# Prayer and Praise

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

- Marie Klassen
- Katherine Krahn
- Marie Brown
- Anne Enns
- Marilyn Hildebrand
- Abe Hildebrand
- Helen Gerbrand
- Marian Harder
- Agnes Giesbrecht
- Guenter Strempler
- Henry Hiebert
- Margaret Ayala
- Linda Jenkins
- Dennis Wiebe
- Harv Thiessen
- Irene Hildebrand

Pray for Bev Hiebert and her family.

# Community Events



**Pembina  
Counselling  
Centre**

## SPRING FUNDRAISER

Celebrating 30 years serving the Pembina Valley



**Paul Penner**  
Celebrating 25 years of service



**Dr. Syras Derksen**  
Guest Speaker

Presented By 



Desserts by De Luca's and a  
Coffee Bar by Other Brother Roasters



DAY <b>APR 13</b>	TIME <b>7:30PM</b>	Winkler MB Church
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Call **204-822-6622** to reserve your free ticket

# Grace Skating Event

What a great afternoon of skating in Plum Coulee! There was no lack of snacks, and fellowship. Thanks for making the trek to enjoy some time as a church family!

