

# g GRACE CHURCH

Bi-Weekly E-Newsletter



## From the Lead Team

During this time of year I seem to see more people in need. You see them at food cupboards and at the street corners especially in Winnipeg. The colder weather also drives the compassion in myself for those in need. I'm reminded of the story about the Good Samaritan in Luke. It's so easy to just pass by and either ignore or pretend we don't see the need. Generally our relationship with God has a direct effect on our relationships to others. We can reflect our relationship with God in the quality of our compassion. Our opportunities show up suddenly very often. That's when we have to react and then engage. By engaging we show God's love in that situation.

The story is told of a pastor who was asked to pray that a missionary's needs would be met. He refused and rather asked the congregation to give all the change that they had in their pockets. They received more than needed and sent the money. Let's try to show compassion by getting involved and doing. Let's show our love for God and others in word and in deed.

- John Neufeld

## Pastor of Care & Connections - Update

Our search for a Pastor of Care & Connections is nearing its end. The process began with much prayer, then interviews with Pastor Sean and the Lead Team, and finally a message last Sunday from Tim, and a meet & greet lunch.



Our final step is a vote of affirmation which will take place this Sunday following the service. We encourage all members to attend. If you missed the message last week, it's available on our YouTube channel. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Sean or our Lead Team.



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# Christmas Banquet



**Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm**

**Sunday November 27<sup>th</sup> is the last day to sign up for our Grace Christmas banquet.** Everyone of all

ages is invited. Invite your friends and family. All are welcome!

On the menu is a delicious turkey dinner prepared by our Food Service team and served by our youth and youth leaders. Entertainment and singing led by our youth will end our wonderful evening together. You won't want to miss is!

Sign up at the Welcome Desk or email [friesenjud@gmail.com](mailto:friesenjud@gmail.com).

A freewill offering will be taken to support our youth programs, specifically the winter retreat.



# Youth Schedule

Here's our youth schedule for the next few weeks:

- ◆ Next Week:  
Nov 28 & 30: Junior - Regular nights
- ◆ Dec 5: Junior - Small Group Night  
Dec 7: Senior - Regular night
- ◆ Dec 14: Junior & Senior Christmas Party



# Senior's Christmas Banquet



This year's Senior's Christmas Banquet will be at Grace Church on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. **Please sign up by Sunday** if you plan to attend.

## Partnership Focus



This past week Brad and I (Steve) had the privilege of swinging by the Bunker to connect, collaborate and share a little encouragement. What a blessing it is to have a local ministry that is so well positioned to reach the marginalized in our community, students who often find it hard to walk through our doors (a sad reality that I wish was easier to change.)

A highlight at the Bunker this past month is that Mike Libby, a long-time volunteer, was added to the team as a ministry director. Mike brings an infectious passion for evangelism and you can regularly see him striking up conversation in the halls of our high schools. He is gifted in finding those who are discouraged and picking them up with the love of Jesus.

Please remember to pray for youth workers like Mike and the whole Bunker team!



# Grace Events - Highlights

## Curling Bonspiel



## Baby Shower



# 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
- Linda Hiebert
- Helen Gerbrand
- Mary Friesen
- Dennis Wiebe
- Agnes Giesbrecht
- Maria Loewen
- Karl Redekop
- Henry Hiebert
- Margaret Ayala
- Linda Jenkins
- Abe Hildebrand
- Harv Thiessen

Please pray for Alan Derksen who is going in for surgery for kidney cancer on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Pray for a successful surgery and a speedy and complete recovery.

## Condolences

We express our sincere sympathies to Dave & Margaret Penner on the passing of Margaret's sister, Anne Falk, on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The funeral was held on Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. May God grant you peace and comfort in this time of loss.

## Thank You

Thank you for your prayers, visits and also for the meals when I was going through some hard times. It was all very much appreciated.

- Helen Gerbrand

## Christmas Prayer Calendar

A Christmas Prayer Advent Calendar is available for anyone who'd like one on the table in the foyer. Pray for our missionaries and partnership organizations, our staff and our church ministries.

# Community Events



## From Everywhere to Bethlehem

December 2: 6-9pm

December 3-4: 5-9pm

At the Winkler Park.

Bring your family and go back in time to experience the first Christmas by walking through an outdoor drama. After that, warm up with a cup of hot chocolate and a cookie. Baking and crafts may be purchased in the tent to support local charities. Feel part of the drama by bring your "taxes" with a non-perishable food item for the local food cupboard.



**Christmas Glow in the Country** is a great way to spend quality time with your family or friends and celebrate the season! Come take a leisurely drive through the 2 km route in the comfort of your vehicle, tune your radio to our Christmas Glow station and enjoy the festive displays and goodies. Make your reservation for any of our 14 nights and get all the details at [winklerbiblecamp.com](http://winklerbiblecamp.com).