

Grace Church of Central Point

100 Oak Street

A praying, family-centered congregation that loves Jesus!



GRACE NOTES

VISION 2025: Planting God's Word in our hearts

February 2025

From the Pastor's Desk...

The Mark of a Disciple

February is the month that we have the "I Love Jesus" potluck at our church. Though this has gone by different names over the years, the content has remained largely the same as we recognize how much Jesus loves us, and because of that, we can then return that love to Him and to others. John put it this way in I John 4:19-21,

"¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother."

The same author, John, also penned these words in John 13:35, about what Jesus had to say to His disciples concerning "love," "³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Jesus said it very plainly... "By this" referring to the love that we exhibit for one another. Notice Jesus didn't say, "because you are good, because you are smart, because you are diligent, because you are _____ (and you fill in the blank). No, Jesus said this will be the mark, the identifier of my disciples, my followers; the love you show one another. Which brings us to a question for this month... Ask yourself, "Based on the love I show others, would people recognize me as a Jesus follower?" Think about that for a minute. Ponder upon it. Think about this past week- have you shown the love that would mark you as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

If the answer you have is "yes," then nothing further is needed except to keep on keeping on with what you are doing. If however, you have to say "no," I have been deficient in that showing of love, then two questions come to mind; why, and how do you get back on the right track once again? The why could be; too busy, overwhelmed, lack of care, or it was an oversight and I'll do better next time. None of those are really valid reasons, but at least you've identified the cause and can now make a course correction.

Getting back on track starts with I John 1:9 and the confession of our sin. Then, we need to make a conscious choice to love others, as Christ loves us. And once that choice is made, it needs to be put

into practice. Who needs a touch of Jesus love around you? Someone lost? Someone sick? Someone burdened down? Having and showing love for others is not an option- it comes as an expectation from God. But remember, it's not loving in our strength, but in His strength. And no matter what the circumstance or who the person is, we can love them. Why? Because God desires it; it is the mark of a disciple.



ACTIVITIES AT GRACE

Sunday: Morning prayer	9:30 am
Sunday School	10:00 am
Worship Service	11:00 am
Tuesday: Women's Bible Study	10:00 am
Men's Bible Study	5:30 pm
Wednesday: Mid-week prayer meeting	6:30 pm
Thursday: Women's Bible Study	6:30 pm

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Feb. 2	Pictures taken for the church directory
Feb. 9	I love Jesus potluck after the service
Feb. 16	Group picture for the church directory
Feb. 20	Shoebox ministry, at the church 1:00 pm
March 8	Shoebox Celebration event: The Path 1 pm
March 20:	Shoebox ministry at the church 1:00 pm

*I love Jesus
Potluck*

**Sunday, Feb. 9
after the service
Please bring a side dish
and salad or dessert**



FEBRUARY 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Ernest Kronquist
2 Marilou Kronquist	3 Rusty Lamb	4 *Brian Myrick	5 *Nance Bates	6 Nita Lamb	7 John Leuthold	8 *Carol Luthold *Russell Logan
9 Franklin Line	10 Frieda Logan	11 Gale Mattern	12 Bob McLean	13 Carol McLean	Valentine's Day Lana Morley	15 *Ethel Pose
16 Richard Murray	17 *Jane Line	18 Joann Murray	19 Diane Nunez	20 *Nancy Whetstonstone	21 Isaiah Oliver	22 Malana Oliver
23 *Jackie Jones	24 Elijah Olliver	25 Cliff Peery	26 Kathi Peery	27 Gary Pence	28 Kim Pence	1
2	3	4	 <p><i>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves, has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love, does not know God, because God is love.. I John 4:7-8</i></p>			

Please pray for one another each day – those with a birthday are shown with an *



Roy J. Bates tells the story of a burl and what it was meant to be. On Christmas Eve he gave each one a cross made from a burl to remind us of what Christ did for us.

This is a little burl cross with a story to tell, although it didn't start out that way. A young maple tree was struck on the side, which left an awful scar to see. A burl was formed as it healed itself, no purpose in this life which a burl could be.

While walking through the woods one day,
I spied a beautiful burl.
"Oh, he can't be speaking of me," thought the burl.
"Yes, I'll take you home and open you up
and see what you might be."



"Make crosses of me, I've a story to tell of a Savior who got scarred like me. He died on a cross with a scar on His side, Then rose from the dead, on day three. I see that I was meant to be a cross all along, Dec. 2024 And not just a burl on a tree. Use me to tell the world, "Jesus can set you free!"

CONTINUING PRAYER NEEDS

Israel and its people
Pastoral Search Committee
Members with health needs
The pastor and family who will be coming to our church
Leaders of Grace Church CP
If you have a prayer request: please email prayer@gracechurchcp.org or contact Cathleen Winchell (520) 599-1803 or Melanie Glosser (541) 890-2843



ON THE HORIZON

March 23 Scriptorium: Memorize a new Scripture verse – stay after church for soup & sandwiches and sharing by the group of the verses they have learned.

God loves the way you sing



It doesn't matter if you sing like an angel or if you can't carry a tune in the proverbial bucket. When you sing God's praises, you're a part of His heavenly choir - there's never a note out of tune. 100 things God loves about you