

# Grace Church of Central Point

100 Oak Street  
Central Point OR 97502



A praying, family-centered congregation that loves Jesus!

## GRACE NOTES

January 2024

### From the Pastor's Desk...

New Year! New Start! New Opportunities!

We read the following in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8:

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.*

It seems as Solomon says "There is a time for everything!" (my paraphrase). If that is true then why is it we never seem to have enough time to do everything that is on our list to accomplish? Maybe it is like going through a buffet line with an empty plate. As we pass through the line we tend to load our plates up. No, I mean really LOAD our plates up! If a little is good, then a lot must be better, and a whole lot is even better than that.

I think that is the problem that we have with our time management. We have too much on our plates. They are often overLOADED! Why is that? Maybe because we feel that if we say "no" to something or someone, then we'll be perceived as being selfish; a non-team player. And the truth is, nothing could be farther from the truth.

In Luke 10:38-42 we read of Martha complaining to Jesus that there is no one helping her prepare the meal, and she asks Jesus to "tell my sister to help me." And Jesus' reply to Martha is short and direct, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things. Only one thing is necessary and Mary has chosen that good portion, which will not be taken away from her." And where was Mary at that very moment? Sitting at the feet of Jesus. Instead of working for the Master, she was spending time with the Master. There is a big difference between those two.

So, going back to the original situation above, when our plates are overLOADED, we work and work to complete all the items on our list... but as we do, where is the joy of doing so? Where is the resting in Christ? Instead, we brush our hand across our brow, say a verbal "whew, that task is done, I'll move on to the next... and then the next... and the next."

Jesus never intended our service to Him to be like that. In Matthew 11, verses 28-30 Jesus gave the following invitation "28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Jesus' time of ministry was about three short years, but He accomplished everything He had to do, in the time He had to do it because He was doing the Father's will. Take your list for the New Year, look at each item, and prayerfully consider what should stay, and what can go. And don't look back. Let your yes be yes, and let your no be no. Once again, you have the right to say "no" without guilt, and when you do, just like Solomon, you'll find there will be a time for everything.

### 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

### Calendar of events

January 2:	No Women's Bible Study
January 6:	Trustees: noon
January 6:	Christian Ed.: 2 pm
January 13:	New members class: 1:30 pm
January 13:	Hospitality: 10:00
January 21:	Business meeting after the morning worship service.
January 28:	Giving statements
January 28:	Baptism

Jan. 13 there will be a class for those interested in learning about our Declaration of Faith, and our Constitution This would be good for anyone who is thinking about becoming a member of Grace Church.

*In a world  
where you  
can be  
anything,  
BE KIND*



"Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you." Ephesians 4:31



# JANUARY 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 *Tammy Clifford	2 Jim Hamilton	3 Jan Hamilton	4 Harris Harper	5 Sally Hellyer	6 Trustee meeting Noon Christian Ed 2 pm Jim Hibbs
7 Debbie Hibbs	8 Jim Hinks	9 Danielle Hvall	10 *Phil Claudson	11 Tabatha Mundt	12 *Bea Shelton	13 Membership Class 1:30 pm Hospitality: 10:00 am PASTOR
14 Ernest Kronquist	15 *Joshua Crawford	16 Marilou Kronquist	17 Rusty Lanb	18 *Midge Dailey	19 Nita Lamb	20 Bobbi Lear
21 Annual Business Meeting John Leuthold	22 Carol Leuthold	23 Franklin Line	24 Jane Line	25 Russell Logan	26 Frieda Logan	27 Gale Mattern
28 Giving Statements Baptism Kathi Peery	29 Cliff Peery	30 Haddie McGowan	31 Bob McLean			Mission & Military: TBA

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

January begins a new year and a fresh start in reading the Bible through in a year. Bible book marks are available on the counter near the door. Pick one up and begin your new year with reading your Bible. It has been suggested you might try reading a different version than the one you used last year.



### God cares

Would you like to share a time in your life when you definitely felt God was there walking beside you, helping you with what to do next and or answering a specific prayer? Grace church would like to share your testimony with others at Grace church as an encouragement how God is working in the lives of our membership. If you would like to have a short testimony shared in the Grace Notes, please contact Sue Hamilton. (541) 664 -1568 or (941) 641-1051



### Prayer concerns

If you have a prayer request or would like to be included on the Grace church prayer chain, email [prayer@gracechurchep.org](mailto:prayer@gracechurchep.org)

Or contact

Cathleen Winchell (520) 599-1803 or any deacon or Pastor

Quote from Corrie Ten Boom  
"God takes our sins – the past, present, and future, and dumps them in the sea and puts up a sign that says "NO FISHING ALLOWED."



### 6 WAYS YOU CAN PRAY FOR ISRAEL

1. Pray for the Lord's comfort & protection over the people of Israel.
2. Pray for the safe return of the hostages
3. Pray for the leadership of Israel.
4. Pray for the enemies of Israel.
5. Pray for the believers in Israel
6. Pray for Christians around the world to stand with the nation of Israel.



Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry