

Deacon of the Day:

May

May 2: Rafe Shellooe (performing the duties)
May 9: Ernie Hall
May 16: Keith Davis
May 23: Scott Denny
May 30: Rafe Shellooe (performing the duties)

June

June 6: Kevin Shea (performing the duties)
June 13: Ernie Hall
June 20: Jeff Lancaster (performing the duties)
June 27: Scott Denny

Growing Together in the Knowledge and Grace of God

Weekly Calendar

Sundays:

Prayer: 8:15 am
Worship Services:
9:00 am & 11:00 am
Christian Education:
9:00 am & 11:00 am

Mondays:

Home Fellowship Groups:
7:00 pm

Tuesdays:

GSTM: 4:00 -10:00 pm
Home Fellowship Groups:
7:00 pm

Wednesdays:

Home Fellowship Groups:
7:00 pm
Senior High Youth Group:
7:00 pm

Thursdays:

Junior High Youth Group:
7:00 pm

Fridays:

SF Men's Prayer Meeting:
12:00 pm
Cal Grace.: 7:00 pm



The Church Library at GBC

The Library finally made its transition to a new temporary home on the south wall of Room 202 (The classroom next to the office spaces). The doors of the cabinets are still in place but are not locked, except for one cabinet that is not part of the Library.

The Library is still run on a self service basis. If the Checkout sheet and "Library Guidelines" are not posted by the time of this newsletter's publication, they should be soon. In the meanwhile, if you would like to check out a book, note where on the shelf you are taking the material from and please write the following information on a slip of paper and place it in my box in the office - Book/Video/CD/Cassette Title, Your Name, Date

Checked Out and Your Telephone Number. The Library is arranged in various categories. When your return the book, please be sure to replace the material you checked out as close as you can to the place on the shelf that you took it from and inform the office staff that you have returned it. Once the Checkout Sheet is in place, please use it and read the "Library Guidelines".

New books are regularly added to the Library. I would be happy to hear suggestions you may have for further additions. Please take advantage of this resource. It is especially a great opportunity for those of us who cannot afford to keep up with our reading appetite or who may have limited finances in general.

Hoping the Library will prove to be a useful tool for you as you endeavor to win the race that is set before you. (Hebrews 12:1, 1 Corinthians 9:24).

Dale Sigmundson

From Pastor Tony Sanelli

PERSEVERING IN THE AGE OF Futility

IN ROMANS 8 we reflected upon the futility of much that we encounter in the present age. Frustration is a reality of life in this age because God has judicially subjected the creation to futility. This prevents the creation from fulfilling its purpose without aggravation and difficulty. For Christians the aggravation can be even more intense because we already possess the first-fruits of the age to come and as such we have high ideals and desires to see the glory of God magnified through the fruit of our labors. It is God's Spirit within that inclines us in this direction.

But everywhere we go we come up against the resistance of the spirit of this age, the corruption of the world and the sinful darkness of mankind. This is our calling; be it in changing diapers, laboring in business or preaching the gospel. It has also been our experience with the process of building our new worship center. Together we have heard of the progress and then the set-backs. I know at times it has felt like one step forward and three steps back! This was nowhere more apparent than in our annual meeting in January when we announced that the cost estimate for the project is approximately 600-700 thousand dollars more than we have in our possession. Being that it has been our goal to build without incurring debilitating debt, this

is a sizeable amount.

At our most recent member's meeting the building expansion committee provided the latest updates and the elders informed the congregation how we intend to move forward with funding. There is good news and the rays of God's grace are beginning to shine brighter. Let me briefly sum up where we are and where we plan to be by God's grace.

BUILDING PROGRESS

The expansion committee has been working closely with the architect to address some final design questions and we are nearing the detailed construction design phase. Pray that the goal of having these drawings completed would be met by May 1.

The Tri-Party agreement between the City, the owners of 140 Gregory and us has been reviewed by our counsel and we need to decide how to move forward with recommendations. Pray that we would be protected from an onerous agreement and that all parties will swiftly approve it soon.

Pray that our relationship with our neighbor (Don Batz) will remain good (continued on page 2)

MAY
EVENTS

Hospitality Homes:

May 2

Men's DTP:

May 6 & 20

Women's DTP:

May 13 & 27

All Church Retreat:

May 14-16

**Office Closed
for Memorial Day:**

May 31

JUNE
EVENTS

Men's DTP:

June 3

Hospitality Homes:

June 6

Women's DTP:

June 10

Worship Night:

June 19

**San Quintin Mission's
Trip Begins:**

June 26

Church Picnic:

June 27

**FUTURE DATES
TO REMEMBER**

**Vacation Bible
School:**

August 8-13

San Quintin:

June 26-July 4

**Labor Day Camping
Trip:**

Aug. 28-Sept. 5

Growing Together in the Knowledge and Grace of God

(continued from page 1) and there will be no problems with the ongoing use of his land for the portables.

Pray that the timing of our building and demolition permits will not be delayed and the project can get started soon after the approval of the construction design.


Pray for a good working relationship with the contractor, Oliver and Company, as well as their timely availability.

Parking went exceptionally well on Easter Sunday as there were 76 stalls available at 9:20 a.m. due to people parking on the streets. Pray that the parking committee will reach an agreement soon with some nearby lots.

FUNDING THE PROJECT

The elders reiterated that our approach will remain focused upon seeking the Lord's grace through prayer and sacrificial giving. As with the very beginning of this project we have been asked to "open our mouths wide" and ask the Lord to do something unexpected in our individual lives so that we can all share in giving to this project in ways we may not have anticipated.

To get us started on a strong footing, the elders informed us that, by God's grace, another anonymous donation has been made to the building fund through the medium of "matching funds" up to \$300,000!! What this means is that every dollar given to the fund from now up through December 31 of this year will be matched up to the total of \$300K. If we can sacrificially give and see the Lord provide the maximum amount we will raise a total of \$600,000! This will go a long ways towards bridging the gap we presently have and reaching the goal of a debt free building. Praise God for His unspeakable grace!

In order to keep the fund in our minds and hearts, we will see totals posted in the bulletin and the elders will set a few special "target dates" for special offerings. Let us seek the goodness of God in providing for this project and beyond. 



Children's

ministries

You may see some new faces in the C.E. department and some familiar faces with new jobs.

Vicki Sandberg is now director of both the Baby Nursery and the Toddler Nursery. With both Nurseries growing rapidly Vicki has a big job. I am grateful for her service in this area and I know she is grateful for all the help she is receiving from all of you.

A special thank you to Dinnis and Cindy Upton for their many, many years of dedicated service to the Nursery. They have been heading up that ministry for the past 4 years. Due to scheduling and a new season in their life they are moving on to other things. Joann Spier and Phyllis Carstenson are now teaching the first hour 1st-3rd grade class. Brian Smith and Debbie Wat are now teaching the first hour Tiny Tots class.

With over 140 children in our C.E. department we have **MANY NEEDS**. We need summer and fall teachers, nursery workers and we always need substitutes. Please don't let anything stop you from serving the Lord in this ministry. **Please call:**

**Liz Jones 686-5545 or
Wanda Vought 937-2608**
if you can help us out in any way.

News and Events

Reminder!

Let's try to be as thoughtful as possible to our visitors. Here are some ways we can be helpful. Park off-site either on Gregory Lane or Cleveland Road. Use the overflow/crying room during either service to make as much room as possible for newer folks in the Worship Center. Also, you can keep clear all unsaved seats of coats, bibles, bulletins, etc. Find an unfamiliar face and introduce yourself!

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our newest members to Grace Bible Church! They are:

Vince & Rainie Cuomo
Marni Haugen
Eldon & Jane Hawksworth
Tom Johnson
Tom & Pat Nakamura
Andy & Marie Perri
Gary & Sue Rickman
David & Diana Sadler
Shirley Surya
Ken & Pat Zentner

All-Church Retreat

Registration continues for the All-Church Retreat. Please do not let cost be a factor in deciding whether or not you can attend. This is the one event the elders believe is important enough for the church to partially fund. While there is a suggested amount per person, please pay what you can. As we have done in the past an offering will be taken at the retreat to help pay for our time at Koinonia. Sign-ups will continue until May 9th.

Office Closed

The Church office will be closed on Monday, May 31st, for Memorial Day Weekend.

San Quintin Mission Trip

Items needed:

- Pop up shade structure
- Large propane camp stove, 2-3 burner best, 30,000+ btu, free standing
- Walkie Talkies with rechargeable batteries

What's Hppening This Summer?

With the Sanelis taking a family vacation to visit family in Italy, we will have several brothers filling the pulpit. Among them will be Tim Wat, Vince Cuomo and Scott Menez. Pray for Tony as he will have opportunity to preach while in Italy.

With the summer months upon us that means it's camping time. For the youth there are three camps scheduled in July: The week of July 11 is Kid's Camp (4-6th Graders). The week of July 18 is Jr. High Camp and the week of July 25 is Sr. High Camp. For the entire church body our annual Labor Day Camping Trip begins August 28.

Vacation Bible School takes place during the week of August 9.

For those interested in mission opportunities, the San Quintin Mission Trip begins June 26.

If you have questions about any of these events, please call the church office.

Regular Prayer Times

Sunday Morning: 8:15 - 8:45 am; Room 106

Fridays: Lunch Time; Men's Prayer in SF

Second Saturday of the Month: 8:00 am
Women's Prayer at the Beckers' Home

Birthdays to Celebrate

MAY

Mamselle Fox ~ 1
Chris O'Rourke ~ 1
Amber Kamp ~ 6
Ruth Clifford ~ 8
Kristine Kiiskinen ~ 11
Sarah Doering ~ 17
Ken Heinz ~ 18
Pam Foglia ~ 19
Mike Jones ~ 19
Marilyn Dedenhoff ~ 19
Tony Sanelli ~ 22
Mark Redmond ~ 23
Mike Becker ~ 26
Jeff Lancaster ~ 28
Denise Schachterle ~ 30
Laura Schachterle ~ 30

JUNE

Rebekah Dodenhoff ~ 5
Marylee Oliver ~ 8
Janece Shellooe ~ 10
Alex Chediak ~ 11
C.G. Senft ~ 15
Jared Senft ~ 15
Marni Haugen ~ 16
Usha Menon ~ 17
Nathanael Shea ~ 17
Dale Sigmundson ~ 24
Ines Johnson ~ 26
Ken Zentner ~ 27
Bob Contino ~ 29

What's News from THE Youth Group?

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15

Already we're in the middle of Spring with Summer fast approaching and things have been moving right along in THE Youth Group as well. As many of you know, we again participated in World Vision's "30 Hour Famine" and this year we received over \$7,500 in donations, our best year yet! Not only that, but this year World Vision has received government grants that will multiply what we raised to over \$31,000. That's enough money to care for 86 kids in starving nations for the entire year! Thank you to all those who donated and prayed for us. This event is always a good reminder to us of how blessed we are and how we ought to be using what God gives us to bless others.

We recently had a blast as about 30 of us spent an hour and a half slipping and sliding around on an ice rink, wearing tennis shoes while trying to play hockey! If you've never tried it, you should sometime...or at least you should watch as it can be pretty funny.

Coming up in May we will be heading up to Middletown Bible Church for our next Student Conference, the topic for this one centering on learning how to study the Bible so as to understand and apply it correctly, by using Scripture itself along with various study tools. Please pray that the Lord will use this time to help our students develop their ability to rightly handle the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

Also in May you will have an opportunity to help send our San Quintin team on our second missions trip down to Mexico. Although this is a trip that not a great many of us from Grace can go on, it affords many other people the opportunity to be part of the sending team. This year we have a team of people who can't go on the trip but are helping with various aspects of preparations to send us on our way. In addition, there will be a couple of fund-raisers in May that will allow everyone to take part in sending our team in it's way to minister to our brothers and sisters in San Quintin. The cost per person is \$400 and we will have about 20 of us going, eleven of those being from our own youth ministry. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to contribute to the needs we have.

As Summer finally arrives, we will once again have a full three months of activity ranging from summer camps and camp counseling to VBS here and up with Scott Menez. Toss in our usual flurry of Pool Parties and other fun stuff and we will hit September before we know it! As we close out May and June, we will also be finishing our study through 1 Corinthians in Sunday School. And by this printing, we will have also wrapped up our weeknight study base on John Piper's book "Don't Waste Your Life." Please pray that the Lord will always use our teaching to help us all to become more like Christ as we seek to magnify Him in all we do!

In His Grace,
Chris

Citizens' Corner

As residents of California we have an interesting proposition being circulated around this State for signatures that would allow for the use of the Authorized or King James Bible for a textbook for Grades 1 through 12. This provision would allow for the Bible to be used as a textbook for voluntary study of the Bible as literature, without devotional or denominational purpose.

This initiative is circulating because in 1963, the United States Supreme Court outlawed "devotional" Bible reading in the public schools (*School Dist. Of Abington Twp v. Schempp*, 474 U.S. 203 (1963)). With that decision, many believed the Bible was outlawed from public schools. However, the decision did not ban Bibles. Rather, it allowed for its use consistent with the First Amendment, when it's being "presented objectively as part of a secular program of education".

While Grace Bible Church does not officially endorse this measure or the sole use of the Authorized Version of the Bible, as Christians and residents of California we all have an opportunity to level the playing field as it were by making God's Word available in our public schools.

If you would like more information about his measure or would like to obtain a petition, you can go to www.bibletextbook.com.

WOW! It's almost time for the slow days of summer and WOW! (*Wonderful Outings on Wednesdays*)

Each Wednesday during the summer, Grace families with kids have the opportunity to get together informally in some of our favorite parks, backyard pools, zoos, and other fun and interesting places. But, we need your help to put this together. Do you have a favorite park to share with friends? Do you have a pool or swimming hole you enjoy? Right now we are asking families to give suggestions of places they'd like to meet with friends for WOW! You can contribute too. Talk to Keli Judd at 673-9137, or e-mail kljudd@pacbell.net, or fill out the WOW sign-up form at the Women of Grace table. Then get ready to join the fun and fellowship of Wonderful Outings on Wednesdays this summer. See you there!

C.G.

BUILDING &

Maintenance

Ministry

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Church Work Day on April 17. Many projects were completed as we gave the church its annual spring cleaning.

We were able to put the finishing touches on the ramp for the modulares by adding a handrail and lattice around the base of the ramp. We also did some basic gardening projects and added toe-kicks to the stairs leading up to Room 202.

Serving in Christ,
Michael Cain

Wonderful Outings on Wednesdays!