

Grace Family News

November - December 2010

Special Points of Interest:

- MOPS Pictures Nov. 6
- Directory Pictures Nov. 6-7
- AWANA Bring a Parent Night Nov. 7
- IMPACT SuperBowl Nov. 12-13
- IMPACT Girls - Sanctified Purity Retreat Nov.12-14
- Harvest Potluck Dinner Nov. 13
- Combined Junior High Sunday school through Adult Bible Fellowships Nov. 28
- High School Christmas Party Dec. 11
- Children's Christmas Program Dec. 12
- Holiday Basket Distribution Dec. 13
- Wilhelm & Johnson Christmas Flock Group Dec. 18
- Junior High Christmas Party Dec, 18
- Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24

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Pastor's Pen

Have we considered the importance of worship? The who, what and why of worship? Could we focus our attention, our thinking, and give some much needed instruction to all who are willing to realize this great need in each one of us and all Christendom.

In Isaiah 11:2, the Holy Spirit enlightens, if we again, are willing to listen and be taught about the seven spirits that are defined here -- if we saturate our minds with the Spirit of the Lord -- what we are being taught by Him, our worship will be much more meaningful and pleasing to God, and beneficial to us and to our walk with God.

1. The Spirit of the Lord (Love).
2. The Spirit of Wisdom (Truth)
3. The Spirit of Understanding (Revelation)
4. The Spirit of Counsel

(Remembrance, Restoration)

5. The Spirit of Might (Power)
6. The Spirit of Knowledge (Scribes, Publishing, Study of the Word)
7. The Spirit of The Fear of the Lord (Respect/Grace)

In Ephesians 5:18 we are admonished to be filled with the Spirit - the primary thought is fullness, completeness. It's been said that some of us have just a few drops at the bottom, others are one-fourth filled, some half-filled -- very few Christians we meet are really filled with the SPIRIT. The Lord Jesus was the exception to that.

To worship in Spirit is to walk in obedience to the prompting of these seven Spirits who dwell in every *true believer*.

To worship in truth is the other

side of our balanced walk in the Lord. Walking in truth involves walking according to God's order and instruction which is shown to us in His Word.

So you have a constant balance of walking in the Spirit and walking to His truth, found in His Word. You can't have one without the other -- if you have all Spirit and no Word, or truth, you will puff up in pride -- if you have all Word, or truth, and no Spirit you will dry up with dead religion. We must have a proper balance of worship in Spirit and in Truth.

I believe, in reality, we all need this balance -- in our service, our worship and our walk. Through His Grace, and our fear (respect) of the Lord we can do great things at Grace Church and through our Family of Families.

Tom Ralston



Holiday Schedule



Hang on to your hats! The Thanksgiving / Christmas Holiday season is upon us! It just seems like yesterday that spring was here and we had summer before us...

Grace Church has a full calendar this year so get your date books and a pencil...here we go!

On Saturday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m., we will be having a Harvest Potluck Dinner - sign up on the bulletin board in the

foyer.

Ladies!!! Elaine Regas will be hosting the annual Ornament Exchange again this year on Monday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 11, David and Colleen Harris will be hosting the senior high Christmas party and Paul and Kim Jackson will be hosting the junior high Christmas party on December 18.

The Kids' Christmas musical "It All Happened in the Country" will be Sunday, December 12, at 6:00 p.m.

On Christmas Eve the choir will be presenting their Christmas program at 7:00 p.m. in the Worship Center.

Plan to celebrate Thanksgiving and our Lord's birth with your "Family of Families" this holiday season!!!

Quilt & Garden Review



Oh, what a great time was had by all as we invited the community to our church for a Quilt & Garden show on October 2. Over 75 visitors viewed the more than 50 quilted pieces made or collected by our ladies from Grace. Some of our quilts were more than 75 years old, some were prize winners, and some were well worn

and loved family "heirlooms". All were enjoyed.

Many listened to Elaine Regas give them instruction on caring for their gardens. Seeds and bulbs that our ladies donated were shared with our visitors to take home and plant a little bit of "Grace" at their own homes.

A beautiful display of good-

ies and hot beverages were enjoyed in our free café by our friends and visitors. Ten door prize baskets were given away.

A special thanks to all who helped set up, tear down, bake, display or hostess this enjoyable event.

Betty Harris

Campfire Talks



We had a great time of conversation around the campfire a few Friday evenings ago. Many of our senior saints and young men met for a really enjoyable night of "JPT" (Just Plain Talking). This is something all of the men, both young and older have told me. "Campfire Talks" from our more senior men was a wonderful evening where we could share past experi-

ences with the younger men. I personally didn't leave until about 12:30 Saturday morning because it was just so good to be there with others just talking. The "Campfire Talks" are not your typical "Shop Talk". It is our more senior men sharing their life's experiences with the younger men. It's not a Sunday School class, but a Friday evening with Men of Class sharing spiritual

lessons learned through the years. God's protection, guidance, presence and work of seasoning passed down by talks around the campfire. Look for another soon...real men...real experiences...real talk...real great time!

Hal Johnson

Camp CHOF Review

Don Rose wearing a doo-rag? Calley in camo? Did you say Mo was tricked into marrying Leah instead of Rachel? Huh? Who's Mo anyway? A guest performance by the Righteous Brothers (and Sisters)!? A Twinkle song and dance?

Yeah, all of that *and* mustard-chocolate-cinnamon pretzels! If you're curious, ask one of the Grace Church Teenagers to tell you about the Impact Fall Retreat which took place September 24-26. A group of more than thirty arrived at Camp CHOF Friday night and kicked off the weekend with games, snacks, music, and teaching. Saturday morning was competition laden as the girls proved their tenacity in the first round of paintball. The rest of the day was packed with volleyball, basketball, go karts, bike riding, endless games of train wreck, two more teaching sessions with worship music led by the GCOR mini-band, and a

good old fashioned campfire. Sunday brunch was followed by more music, teaching, and communion before the troop returned to Rootstown.

These three days were crowded with fun but the most important part of the weekend was the chance to build relationships with each other and learn about God's love. During summer camp, Pastor Ron taught on what it means to love GOD with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. He continued his series on love this weekend by exploring the difference between love and infatuation and learning the attributes of love from 1 Corinthians 13. The teenagers were all given opportunities in small groups to discuss what it means to live out characteristics of love such as patience, kindness, and selflessness.

Camp CHOF Retreat was probably the best part of Fall...but don't take my word for it, find a teenager and ask!

Teens, start planning now to attend winter camp in February and summer camp in June - see a leader for details.

Colleen Harris



Meet the Roses...

Don and Calley Rose were married in February 1994. They met while both were attending a discipleship class called "Equipping the Saints" led by Ron Letts.

They now have four kids and a grandchild on the way! Don had two of the children from a prior marriage. Joshlyn 28, Valerie 25, and then Don and Calley have two together...Jericho 12 and Micah 10 years old.

Don has been attending Grace for 45 years along with his mother Lois Bracken, and Calley began attending in 1992 after one of her co-workers asked her to visit. She has attended since.

Both Don and Calley grew up in this area and attended area schools. Don graduated from Rootstown High and Akron University, while Calley graduated from Ravenna High and Kent State with a BA in Communications.

Calley is blessed to be able to stay at home with the kids and home school Jericho. While Micah, who is autistic, is in the third grade special education class at West Main Elementary.

Don has been a designer for Schneller LLC for the last 25 years. Schneller manufactures interior components for aircrafts.

Don and Calley are very active here at Grace. Both working in the youth min-

istry. Calley in children's church, and VBS as well as the kid's Christmas program each year. Don also man's the sound room and is Chairman of the Deacons.

When it comes to food, Don is a meat and potatoes kind of guy! Calley and Micah would rather have pizza than anything, but Karen Hartley's Apple Dip is a must have too! With Jericho, ice-cream will do just fine!

Take time today to meet the Roses!



What does Thanksgiving mean to you? I hear one boy say, "It means a big dinner." I think we all agree with him. Who does not welcome and enjoy a good dinner! I hear Mary say, "Thanksgiving means a day off from school." I guess you are right too. School is not such a charming place that girls and boys are unwilling to have an occasional holiday.

Now I am going to ask some of the older people what the day means to them. There is a young woman. She is a stenographer. She says,

The Meaning of Thanksgiving

"Thanksgiving means a day away from the office. I am at the office every day except Sunday, and I do appreciate, now and then, a day that is really my own." Yonder is a traveling salesman. What does Thanksgiving mean to you? He says, "It means a day at home. Last year I spent one hundred and sixty-nine nights away from home. I have three children. I should like to see them every day. There are times when many days pass and I do not see them. Thanksgiving week I plan to be at home."

There are others I could ask. Each has his answer. But Thanksgiving has a special meaning for us. It is the Harvest time. I have here an apple. Isn't this a beautiful apple? What

color! Who mixed the paints, who handled the brush to give such color to this apple? **God**. He, in his infinite love and wisdom, has provided, through the unfailing laws of nature, for the growth, sweetness, coloring and beautifying of all the products of the fields. This apple is but one of many kinds of fruits.

Praise, then, is the great meaning of Thanksgiving. God, our heavenly Father, sends us every good gift. From his bountiful hand come our daily and nightly mercies. We should praise him every day. But the day for the united chorus of praise is Thanksgiving.

Bruce Wright



The 2010-2011 AWANA year has begun with the Cubbies, Sparks and T&T kids memorizing verses, participating in games and learning about God in Council Time. The

clubbers already have the following activities planned for this year: Parent/Grandparent Night, Canned Food Drive, Children's Christmas Program, AWANA Store, T&T Bible Quizzing, T&T Games, and Awards Night.

We are always in need of helpers to assist on Sunday nights. Also, if you would like to donate new, inexpensive items for our AWANA

Store, that would also be appreciated. Four times each year clubbers can "shop" for items in our AWANA store using shares they have earned for attendance, participation and completing sections in their books.

Let's help encourage our kids by becoming involved or supporting this ministry!

Paul Jackson



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Hearts to Hands Holiday Baskets

We will be distributing food baskets comprised of items from our food pantry, for the needy on Monday, December 13.

If you know of a family that is in need, please turn in their name, address, phone number, and ages of family members by December 8.

Leave information with Dave or Karen Hartley or at the Church office.

**Items needed for the baskets that should be turned in by December 8 are: Giant Eagle Gift Cards, canned gravy, canned vegetables and fruits, canned or fresh potatoes and sweet potatoes, and "last minute" dinner rolls and pies (to be turned in December 12).



Women of Grace

In the last newsletter we discussed integrity and how we can become *Women of Integrity*. The question with which I ended was, as with Daniel, where do we find our strength? Do I live a life of integrity that people realize they cannot bring accusation against me? "... But they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him." (Daniel 6:4)

To be a woman of integrity I must have consistency. When someone sees me at home, at church, or in a store, do they see the same person? "The lifeblood of integrity is becoming the same person no matter where we are - no matter who's around." (*Daniel*, B. Moore, p.25)

Being consistent means that what I am on the inside is what I am on the outside.



The word integrity stems from *integer*, Latin for whole or complete. Integrity, then, is your whole life, when you are with people or when you are alone in your home. Integrity has the qualities of honesty and consistency of character.

Unfortunately we are sinners and fall short of integrity, we will fail in

our walk as women of integrity; what we need to do is find the areas of our inconsistencies and begin praying daily that God will help us build our integrity. Remember Cain: "...Sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it." (Genesis 4:7) Ladies, with God, time in the word daily and a personal walk with God, you can master your inconsistencies, you must, for its desire is for you and it is at the door.

Go forth dear friends as *Women of Integrity*.

In Christ,

LeAnna Burdett