



The Call of *Grace*

Grace Lutheran Church

6601 North 9th Avenue – Pensacola, FL 32504

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January 2021

From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear family and friends of Grace,

Happy New Year!

The year 2020 will go down in history as a difficult year, with much trial, hardship and suffering. We've all been waiting for it to end, and now it has.

But what will the year of our Lord 2021 bring with it? Will all the things that were difficult in 2020 suddenly and magically disappear when the clock strikes midnight on December 31st? Nope. In fact, it will all still be there.

If that is all we choose to focus on – that the issues and problems and covid, etc. are all going to still be there – and may even get *worse* (Lord, have mercy!) – we are in for a terrible year, indeed!

So I want to encourage you right now, right at the start of the year to instead make 2021 the **Year of Focusing on God's Word**.

You see, while all the yuck of this sin-filled, fallen world will not be going away anytime soon, God has quite a bit to show us – if we'll let Him in.

So let me tell you what 2021 **WILL** hold for you with this renewed focus and emphasis on God's Word in our lives.

2021 will be a year in which you will:

- Have your faith made stronger day by day as you read His Word
- Grow in your understanding of God's will and purpose for you

(continued...)

- Have more and more peace every day, as you are filled with His grace poured out to you in the Word of God
- Discover more deeply than ever before how much God loves you
- See how your value and worth is determined by God, and not by the things that you do (or don't do), nor is it established by what other people think

Sound interesting? Then I invite you to join the journey of establishing a daily time you spend with God in His Word. How do you do that?—you ask?

- Find a time, and a place you can try where you can be consistent and not be interrupted.
- Set that time and place apart and schedule it. How much time? Well, that's up to you. If you've never done this before, you may just want to begin with 5 minutes. Or 10. It's up to you.
- Use a Bible Reading Guide to help you. I'm attaching one to the newsletter this month. If you have questions about out how to use it, give me a call!
- Try your time and place combo for a week to see if it will work. If it doesn't, don't despair! Just try a different time, or a different place. You'll know when you've landed on a good time and place. Just keep trying until you find what works best for you.
- Be consistent and faithful to meet God each day for your time in His Word. He will be there. Every time!

Focus on the world and it's brokenness and problems = doom, gloom and despair.

Focus on God, and His Word (and His Word made flesh – Jesus) and 2021 will be a year you can look back on in the future as a great year – because God revealed Himself to you and made you strong.

God bless and keep us all in the new Year of Our Lord 2021!

Joining Jesus on His Mission,

Pastor Huesmann

Focus
on
God
~♥~

January Calendar

Calendar Key:
S=Sanctuary N=Narthex FH=Fellowship Hall
WC=Welcome Center CB=Community Building Y=Youth
K=Kitchen OC=Office Conference LS=Lord's Supper
SC= Sanctuary Conference PK= PreK Room

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|---|---------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 2 |
| 3 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15 am Bible Class 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB | 4 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study S 7:00pm AA Mtg CB | 5 PRE-K RETURNS 1:15 PRE-K BOARD MTG. 10:00am Senior Adult BS CB 6:00pm Men's BSF CB | 6 7:00am AA Mtg CB | 7 10:00am Backpack CB | 8 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 9 |
| 10 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15am Bible Class 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB | 11 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Yoga FH 6:30 Elders Mtg OC 6:45pm Women's Bible Study S 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 12 10:00am Senior Adult BS CB 6:30pm BLL Meeting 6:00pm Men's BSF CB | 13 7:00am AA Mtg CB 6:00pm Women's Bible Study CB | 14 10:00am Backpack CB | 15 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 16 |
| 17 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15am Bible Class 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB | 18 PRE-K/OFFICE CLOSED-MLK DAY 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study S 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 19 10:00am Senior Adult BS CB 6:00pm Men's BSF CB | 20 7:00am AA Mtg CB 6:00pm Women's Bible Study CB | 21 10:00am Backpack CB | 22 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 23 10:00am Prayer Shawl CB |
| 24/31 8:00 am Traditional Service 9:15am Bible Class 10:30 am Contemporary Service 5:30 AA Mtg. CB | 25 7:00am AA Mtg CB 5:30pm Yoga FH 6:45pm Women's Bible Study S 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 26 10:00am Senior Adult BS CB 6:00pm Men's BSF CB | 27 7:00am AA Mtg CB 6:00pm Women's Bible Study CB | 28 10:00am Backpack CB | 29 7:00am AA Mtg CB 7:00pm AA Meeting CB | 30 |



I want to thank everyone for all of the words of encouragement, support, prayers and cards through the struggles we had with Marsha's health issues. Also thank you for the well wishes of sympathy at her passing.

Love in Christ,
Frank Wilimzig

Facilities Report:

Happy New Year. Prayerfully, 2021 will be nothing like its predecessor. Hopefully, we will never experience another year like it with wildfires, flooding, a crippling virus, senseless rioting and way too many hurricanes.

As discussed at the voters meeting on December 13th, the physical condition of our church facility is better than it has been in years. The new doors in the Fellowship Hall are installed and working correctly, the other outside doors have been rebuilt and are also functioning properly. The Community Building restoration is complete and is fully usable. A new fence was installed along the north (Pen Air) side of the property, that extends behind the Community Building and joins the holding pond fence on the city park side of our property. And, two Air Conditioning units were replaced, one for the hallway classrooms and the other for the Fellowship Hall. And many smaller projects that are too numerous to mention.

Damage to the facility from Hurricane Sally was also discussed. The roofing material on the sanctuary building was blown off most of the roof. Some shingle loss/damage was also discovered on the Fellowship Hall roof along with damage to all the guttering on the east side of the hall. Sheetrock damage has been noted in the sanctuary, i.e., the ceiling peak, by one light on the ceiling, over the Praise Band area and in the music room. Repairing this damage will also lead to repainting the sanctuary walls and ceiling. There is also water damage to the flooring behind the Altar due to leaks around the stained glass window. And the flagpole in front of the church was also destroyed. We are waiting for the roofing company we have contracted with to re-roof the sanctuary and are working with our insurance company adjuster on the other damage. Repairs could cost as much as \$80,000, (our insurance deductible). We will just have to wait and see.

Other projects that we were in the process of moving forward with, (fencing around the Youth and Yard building to protect it from damage from the homeless and for staff/pre-school children, fencing the main Air Conditioning units to protect them from damage and rebuilding the irrigation pump and sprinkler system) have all been delayed due to financial constraints. We will move forward with these projects as funds become available and with approval from the BLL.

Bruce Dietly

Facility Manager

*Happy New Year
2021*



We will let you know when the following activities continue here at Grace: Men's Prayer Breakfast, Work Day, Stephen Ministry, Confirmation Classes, Choir, Book Club and Moore GLC.

Backpack Ministry

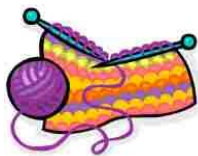


"A huge thank you to all that generously donated the funds, gifts, hams, Thrivent action team gift cards, your time to put together candy jars, make bows and put together the baskets themselves and your prayers; all of these contributions were integral to Grace providing food baskets to 15 families of Holm elementary students. Two of these families also received Christmas gifts from Grace for the children and a gift card for the parents. This outpouring of love from Grace brought the families to tears as they picked up their Christmas items. We have already received an email thank you via Holm stating how overwhelmed the family was that total strangers went out of their way to provide gifts and food for them.

The Backpack Ministry team feels blessed to be able to participate in this ministry but more so we feel blessed to be members of Grace, as **your** prayers and commitment to **'being the church'** fuel this ministry.

We will resume our weekly filling and delivery of food bags Thursday, January 7, 2021. Here is to a happy, healthy (and hopefully less need to wear masks) 2021!"

Sharon D' Ambra



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume meeting on January 23, 2021 and will resume our normal meeting schedule on the fourth Saturday of each month through October 2021.

January Birthday's

Phil Peterson 1/4
Floretta Rebber 1/5
Jacob Evans 1/8
Jean Batzloff 1/9
Pam Trampe 1/9
Alan Sabanosh 1/14
Jim Taylor 1/15
Sheila Waldrop 1/17
Shelley Evans 1/19
Callie Wipf 1/21
Lexi Bevans 1/25
Lore Sutton 1/25
Al Day 1/29

January Anniversaries

Paul & Sue Miller 1/10
Tony & Nancy McKnight 1/10
Robby & Linda Brown 1/23



**Join us Tuesday
mornings from
10:00 until 12:00 P.M.**