

WORDS OF GRACE

A Publication of GracePoint Church

Our Uphill Journey

*"...we all...are being transformed...
from one degree of glory to another.
But we have this treasure in jars of
clay, to show that the surpassing
power belongs to God and not to us."
2 Cor 3:18, 4:7*

As we worship Christ, love Christ, serve Christ, and dwell in Christ's presence, the Spirit transforms us from one degree of glory to another. We have power in the Spirit to put to death the deeds of our sinful nature, and to live no longer as slaves. Instead, the Spirit enables us to live as beloved and adopted children of God. We call upon a holy and almighty God as Abba, Father. We are joint heirs of the coming kingdom of God, and partners with God in reconciling the world back to Him.

While we cannot earn so great a salvation, it requires daily Spirit-empowered, grace-enabled effort to grow in Christlikeness. We engage in the practices of spiritual formation to abide in Christ, the true vine, and to allow the Father, the vinedresser, to make our roots run deep into the life-giving water of God's love and grace. As we do, we bear abundant fruit for Christ and kingdom, and we experience the unstoppable love of the Trinity, which is always there, even in our worst moments.

Nonetheless, even as a born-anew, Spirit-filled, adopted child of God, our walk with Christ often remains an infuriating mixture of too much

sinner and very little saint. Though we have moments of experiencing the indwelling Holy Spirit, more often than not, we feel stuck in our inescapable sinfulness.

This is because *"we have this treasure in jars of clay."* Hence, there will always be a gap between the promise of transformation and our experience of feeling transformed. God allows this tension of being both sinner and saint *"to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us."*

In our long, hard journey, we take comfort that Christ has promised to complete the work He has started in us, and that nothing can separate us from the love of God. Thus, our transformation into Christlikeness is a mysterious and frustrating mixture of guaranteed glorification and guaranteed struggle.

As Christina Rossetti describes in her poem *Uphill*:

*Does the road wind uphill
all the way?*

Yes, to the very end.

*Will the day's journey take the
whole long day?*

From morn to night, my friend.

Pastor Chris



3100 Windsor Avenue
Dubuque, Iowa
583-3929
gracepointdbq.org

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GLORIFYING GOD BY

CONNECTING
people to God

LOVING
God and each other

GROWING
in grace and truth

SERVING
Dubuque and the world

Pastor Chris English
pastorchris@gracepointdbq.org

Assoc. Pastor Dana Perreard
pastordana@gracepointdbq.org

Admin. Asst. Judy Adelman
office@gracepointdbq.org

Clerk of Session Pat Kohler
pkteada@yahoo.com

Editor Karen Storlie
karen@storlie.net

GracePoint EldersEquipping

Mary Hirschey
Stephanie Lange

Missional Outreach

Pam De Meester
Ken Godwin

Fellowship

Ray Wlochall

Prayer & Worship

Doug Storlie

Stewardship

Andy Baumann
Mary Burns
Tim Walsh

**GracePoint
Deacons**

Care
Group Deacon

- 1 Sue Lemon
- 2 Robin Wlochall
- 3 Pauline Brimeyer
- 4 Shirley VanDuser
- 5 Janet Metelak
- 6 Barb Berg
- 7 Suz Birch
- 8 Sharon Baker
- 9 Carolyn Arnold

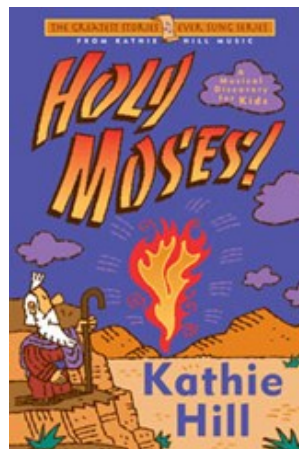
Deacon Moderator

Pauline Brimeyer

MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

June 10th-15th / 9:30am-2:30pm Daily

Grades 1-12



Coming real soon, our youth and youth from our community will share a week of Musical Theater Camp. This play is based on the life of Moses (plagues, exodus from Egypt, Ten Commandments), but the focus is on the real star of the story. Please send your children and their friends so they can come and find out who is the real star of the story!

The camp is free and includes a daily snack and lunch. \$10 will cover a camp T-shirt and music CD. This is a great opportunity for your children to grow closer to the Lord through a fun and safe summer activity. If you have not signed up your children and their friends, please contact the office and register immediately. There is also a sign-up table in the lobby with registration forms.

We are also excited for the families from our community to experience the ministry and fellowship here at GracePoint when their kids perform the musical on June 16th during our regularly scheduled service.

There is a sign-up form in the lobby if you would like to purchase or donate money for food. If you feel led, you can also donate scholarship money to make it possible for all children to attend. We would appreciate your prayers for this event!

SEAL Team: Pam De Meester, Stephanie Lange, Mary Burns

UGANDAN ORPHANS CHOIR AT GRACEPOINT

Sunday, July 7, 2013, at 7:00pm



On July 7th at 7:00pm our church will enjoy the Ugandan Orphans Choir as they share their African folklore and the power of God's love through music and dance. They are the fortunate few who have been rescued from poverty and are now a voice for children who are still waiting to be sponsored. Please save the date and invite friends and family to join in this service.

SEAL Team: Pam De Meester, Stephanie Lange

GOT BLOOD - PLEASE DONATE

BECAUSE WE CARE

JULY 17, 2013

Last January we hosted our 7th blood drive for the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. We have been averaging 16 donations at each blood drive, which means we have provided blood products to as many as 336 patients in need of blood products in the Dubuque area!

Please save the date. Most of us know people with heart disease and cancer who will likely need a blood transfusion. We are asking you to give about an hour of your time to donate blood on July 17th between 3:00 and 6:00pm. Don't let excuses keep you from saving lives.

Pam De Meester
GracePoint Blood Drive Coordinator

New Sunday Morning Schedule

Beginning June 2, GracePoint will follow this new schedule on Sunday mornings.

Summer Schedule

Chapel Service: 8:30–9:00am* (followed by a short time of fellowship)

Fellowship: 10:00–10:30am

GracePoint Worship: 10:30–11:40am

* We will offer this Chapel service on a trial basis. It will continue so long as there is adequate participation.

School Year Schedule

Chapel Service: 8:30–9:00am* (followed by a short time of fellowship)

Bible Study for All Ages: 9:00–10:00am

Fellowship: 10:00–10:30am

GracePoint Worship: 10:30–11:40am

* See condition above for its continuation.

New Chapel Service

This will be a new 30-minute service that offers a quiet, intimate, and meaningful worship experience. It includes two organ-led hymns, pastoral prayer, a shorter sermon, and monthly Communion. There will be no ushers, greeters, or choirs. It is possible that this service may not be offered on the Sundays when the pastor is on leave and no substitute can be recruited. These no-chapel Sundays would be announced well in advance in our monthly newsletter.

New GracePoint Worship

This will be a new 70-minute service that combines the best of our former Traditions and Horizons venues into a dynamic, meaningful, inspiring, and transformational worship experience.



GLOBAL MISSIONS

Hamds in Lebanon

With a family of five and a ministry in Beirut, Lebanon, a lot is happening in the lives of Robert, Joyce, Ben, Joseph, and Lydia Hamd. Most of the activity centers on education.

- ♦ Robert finished his doctorate in missiology from Fuller and had an article published in the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) Connections Magazine. The article focuses on the church participation in God's mission by working with the poor.
- ♦ Joyce continues to teach high school literature. Three months ago, Joyce was asked by a student to start a lunch-time Bible study. Even though the school is a private Christian school with the freedom to conduct a Bible study, more than 60% of the students are not from Christian backgrounds. Recently, a boy from a Muslim background began to attend the study of Philipians.
- ♦ Ben has graduated from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., with a degree in International Affairs from the Elliott School of International Affairs.
- ♦ Joseph continues his classical studies at St. John's College in Annapolis, MD.
- ♦ Lydia is finishing high school and making her college visits. She is very interested in Belmont University in Nashville, TN, and plans to earn a theater degree.

Rev. Hamd is pastor of a church plant that includes the Philemon Project, a ministry to migrant workers and refugees in need. In a recent newsletter, Hamd describes a need for child care in a poor suburb of Beirut. He tells about an unregistered daycare center where most of the 20 kids are often tied to chairs. There are no toys at all; the room is tiny, and it is extremely hot. The mothers of these children are mostly vulnerable migrant workers on very low salaries, who have no choice but to put their kids in daycare centers that resemble prisons.

Here is an excerpt from their newsletter, "hope4lebanon".

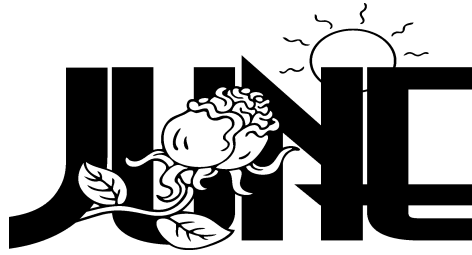
The Philemon Preschool Project, together with a broad base of concerned missionary women, under the auspices of the Arabic National Evangelical Church, has decided it's time to take action. We cannot ignore the plight of these children. That is why we are starting up a world class daycare center for about 80 children from the lowest economic strata.

We have already found the perfect location for the daycare in

(Continued on page 8.)



2013



2013

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:00a Fellowship Time 10:30a Worship Service 5:30p GraceUnderground	3 6:00p Food Pantry	4 5:30p Getting Ahead Graduation	5 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst	6	7	8 11:15a DBQ Rescue Mission Lunch
9 10:30am Worship in the Park and Potluck 1:30p Bethany Home	10 6:00p Food Pantry	11	12 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 7:00p Deacons Meeting	13 2:30pm daily	14	15
16 Father's Day 10:00a Fellowship Time 10:30a Holy Moses Musical Presentation	17  6:00p Food Pantry	18	19 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 7:00p Elder Ministry Teams	20	21	22
23 8:30a Chapel 10:00a Fellowship Time 10:30a Worship Service 6:00p GraceUnderground Joint youth activity	24 6:00p Food Pantry	25	26 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 5:00p Golden Oldies Session 6:30p Session	27	28 6:30pm Equipping Appreciation Dinner	29
30 8:30a Chapel 10:00a Fellowship Time 10:30a Worship Service 6:00p GraceUnderground						

Membership to Date

Active	150
Inactive	9
Perm. Inactive	<u>3</u>
Total	162

CLERK'S REPORT

Worship/Picnic in the park on Sunday, June 9th at the Arboretum & Botanical Gardens at 10:30am with potluck following.

New Sunday morning services start June 2nd. Chapel Services 8:30–9:00am. Fellowship time 10:00–10:30am. Worship Time 10:30–11:40am. ***School year services will include bible study for all ages from 9:00–10:00am.

B. J. Weber, New York Fellowship, will be preaching on Sunday, June 2nd. B. J. will share his ministry experiences during Fellowship Time 10:00-10:30. (Please note changes, B. J. will be here June 9th and preach during Worship In the Park. He will take and answer questions after speaking.)

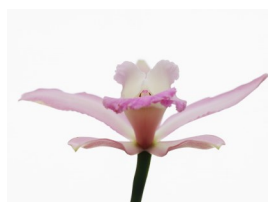
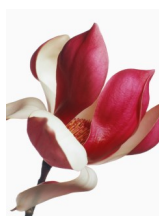
Holy Moses Musical will be held June 10–16th. General Assembly, June 20–22nd in Denver, Colorado. Uganda Children's Choir will be performing at GracePoint on Sunday, July 7th, in the evening.

Jeff Krohn, missionary, will be our speaker at the Worship service on July 7th and will be speaking during fellowship time. Jeff had attended this church while in Dubuque.

Bookkeeper's Report

General Fund Beginning Balance, Apr 1, 2013	\$13,374.04
Total General Fund Receipts	<u>21,544.85</u>
Subtotal Beginning Balance & Receipts	\$34,918.89
General Fund Disbursements	\$20,497.16
Allocations & Transfers	<u>1,558.34</u>
Subtotal Disbursements, Allocations & Transfers	\$22,055.50
General Fund Ending Balance Apr 30, 2013	\$12,863.39

Pat Kohler, Clerk of Session

**GOLDEN OLDIES**

Golden Oldies will meet on Wednesday, June 26th, 5:00pm, at the Point Cafe. Sign up in the lobby the Sunday before or call Bob Boelk, 557-9166.

**ALL SENIORS ARE
WELCOME!**



**Monday
June 17**

BIRTHDAYS

3 Al Hakanson
 7 Dawn Buol
 11 Howard Higley
 12 Dori Breitbach
 14 Kim Bell
 16 Roger VanDerZyl
 17 Pete Jenner
 18 Brent Harnkett
 19 Dan Baker
 23 Marilyn Learn
 28 Kristina Bell
 28 Rachel Schwarzmman
 29 Ben Jensen



ANNIVERSARIES

7 Erin & Mike Barsema
 11 Phyllis & Mike Kelley
 13 Mary & Joe Burns
 16 Kim & Jerry Bell
 21 J'Neane & Kent Briden
 23 Marla & Ken Irion

Check Out the Library

We receive donations of new and used books and videos all the time. There is always something new in the library. The library is open Sundays from 8:30am–noon. If you have any new books or videos to donate to the library, contact Mable or Bob Boelk, 557-9166.



(Continued from page 5.)

Nabaa and renovation work is almost completed!

We draw our missiological motivation in part from the author of the book of James who reminds us that "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world" (James 1:27 ESV).

And Jesus' missiology inspires us to be action based. Jesus went into the streets and healed the sick, raised the dead, gave sight to the blind, and told the people to go back and tell what they had seen: "...the poor have good news preached to them" (Matthew 11:4-5 ESV).

The Hamds were the first of the three Evangelical Presbyterian Church missionaries, that we support. And we were the first supporting church for their ministry in Beirut. Please continue to pray for their family and their ministry of love and compassion.

Beverly VanDerZyl
 Global Mission Team Member

Summer Missionary Visits

B. J. Weber is coming on Sunday, June 9. He will preach at the Worship in the Park and share about the ministries of New York Fellowship during the picnic.

Jeff Krohn is visiting GracePoint on Sunday, July 7. He will come at 10am for Fellowship Time, preach during worship, and hold a Q and A session following worship. Jeff and his family are with SIM, serving in Peru.

Summer Summer Summer!

Fishing! Lifest! Canoeing!
GraceUnderground Drop In!
Summer Music Academy!

O.K. Here's how it works;

"GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"--Sunday nights will regularly be a 6-8pm drop in time, with a short Bible study right at 6:00. From 6:30 on, students can get music lessons in lead vocals, backup vocals, praise and worship keyboards, bass and electric guitar. Hopefully by the end of the summer, building on experience that is already there, we can assemble a team for Sunday worship.

Canoeing and fishing are listed in the dates below:

May 26 — Barbeque at the Boelks, incoming 6th graders invited!
June 2 — Season closer: farewell to all the school year leaders; hello to new SPM student helper!
June 7-8 — Senior High fishing trip! Findley's Landing
June 9 — No GraceUnderground drop in.
June 10-16 — "HOLY MOSES!"
June 16 — Father's Day--no youth activities
June 23 — Joint youth activity with Tri-State Church (Jimmy Massman's Birthday party picnic!)
June 30 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
July 7 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
July 14 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
July 21 — Middle School Canoeing--Meet at Mines of Spain, Catfish Creek launch at 12:15pm
July 28 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
August 4 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
August 11 — "GraceUnderground Drop In/Summer Music Academy"
August 18 — RIVER NIGHT!
August 25 — Fall program starts.



Middle School & High School Youth

6:00–6:30pm
Bible Study

6:30–8:00pm
Drop In Music Academy



Connecting,
Loving, Growing,
Serving

PRAYER CHAIN

To start a prayer, call Pat Kohler
or Lois Trausch-Wolfe.

Daytime Prayer Chain

Pat Kohler
583-8978

Gerry Vandenberg
583-5338

Ramona Hennings
583-8739

Edie Ege
583-1974

Wilma Sanders
582-7346

Mable Boelk
557-9166

Sue Lemon
583-4454

Lois Trausch-Wolfe
583-0534

**(Lois starts the evening
chain.)**

Evening Prayer Chain

Sharon Baker
588-2115

Glenda Temple
582-0464

Pam Hillary
556-5846

Karen Storlie
556-7548

Kim or Jerry Bell
582-4956

SERVANTS OF THE LORD

June

Worship Venue 10:30am

Communion Preparers (June 2)	Carolyn Arnold, Pauline Brimeyer	
Communion Servers (June 2)	Doug & Karen Storlie, Pam Hillary, Kevin Hirschey	
	Ushers	Greeters
June 2	Jennie Burns Dixie Shaffer	Tom, Mary, or Sarah Scherf
June 9	Worship in Park	Worship in Park
June 16	Mike Vandenberg Dixie Shaffer	Tom, Mary, or Sarah Scherf
June 23	Mike Boland Mike Vandenberg	Tom, Mary, or Sarah Scherf
June 30	Leroy & Barb Berg	Tom, Mary, or Sarah Scherf

Please find your own subs. Substitute ushers are Mike or Ralph Vandenberg. Substitute greeters are Pat Kohler, Dixie Shaffer, or Barb Berg.

PROMISE KEEPERS EVENT

AWAKENING THE WARRIOR
2013 National Men's Conference
Cedar Falls, IA July 19-20 Unidome



Register today!

Promise Keepers.org / 866-776-6473

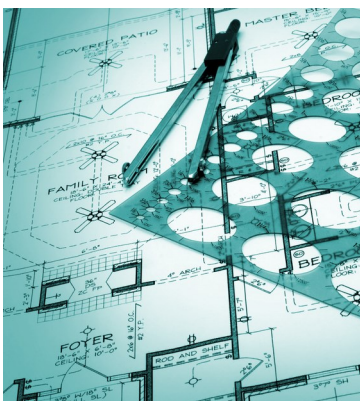
**Lincoln Brewster, Coach Bill McCartney, Mark
Gungor, Larry Acosta, Mike Silva, Raleigh
Washington, Larry Jackson, Ed Barron, Brad
Stine, Onebody Band, Nic Gonzales of Salvador**

Missional Donation Project Team Report

Your Project Team has been meeting on a regular basis to implement the Envisioning Team Proposal, which was approved by Session.

Considerable time has been devoted to the refinement of the general traffic flow patterns and space utilization. Sara has provided her expertise in interior design by looking at ways to carry the theme of angles from the sanctuary into the renovated space, as well as cuing good memories for those who enter. She has emphasized the importance of a visual line from the Coffee Café to the sanctuary doors, in order to catch newcomers and transition them toward worship in the Sanctuary. Her ideas are being incorporated into the final doorway positions.

The team has hired FEH Associates Architects to provide floor plan details and structural engineering drawings. The principle architect at FEH is Kevin Eipperle, who worked on the 1990 building revisions and is very familiar with our building. The team has hired MEP Engineers to provide technical details for the heating, air conditioning, and electrical changes. These documents will be important to obtain accurate quotations for the work.



The Bell Equipment storage areas have been finalized, and construction of cabinets is ready to start. The detailed design for the new storage area in the boiler room is underway, and building of the walls will begin soon. Once these two areas are complete, other closets will be emptied to make ready for their demolition.

Quotes for some of the early steps of renovation have been submitted. Once the architect drawings are finished, we will go out for contractor quotes for the major building changes.

Please continue to pray for this project and the team.

Your Project Team,

Pam De Meester, Elder
Ken Godwin, Elder
Dan Baker, At-Large
Bob De Meester, At-Large
Sara Scherf, At-Large


GracePoint
3100 Windsor Avenue
Dubuque IA 52001-8154

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GROWING in grace and truth

SERVING Dubuque and the world

Annual

Worship and Picnic in the Park

Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

Sunday, June 9th

B. J. Weber will be speaking and answering questions.



Worship at 10:30am, followed by a potluck lunch. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating. Bring a dish or two to pass. Drink and table service are provided.

There will be no worship services at the GracePoint building.