

WORDS OF GRACE

A Publication of GracePoint Church

ENTRY POINTS OF REBELLION

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

Judges 21:25

This verse reveals the state of Israel during the period of the Judges. In other words, *“In those days, there was no strong, godly leadership, and so the people just did whatever they wanted to do without any strong moral standards to follow.”*

Do we live in a day when people just do whatever is right in their own eyes regardless of what God might say about it? Do we live in a day when we lack strong leadership in our governments, in many of our churches, and in many homes?

There were three main entry points for Israel into their rebellion against God. When we allow these entry points into our life, homes, churches, or nation, we experience the same fruit of rebellion.

The first entry point was compromise. If we allow any compromise with sin and worldliness into our life, we will fall into ever-darker sin, apathy, or fruitlessness. The only life that works for a Christ-follower is to stay in the fight no matter how many times you stumble and fall.

The second entry point was a failure to pass on the faith to their children. It was not a failure of passing on right doctrine, or not passing on the rules of their religion. It was a failure to pass on

direct experiences with God’s grace, love, and power.

The only way to raise up godly youth is to live godly lives. Virtues like values are caught, not taught. The only way to raise up passionate Christ-followers is to live as a passionate Christ-follower. The only way to raise up missional youth is to live a missional life *with* them.

The third entry point was life without Christian community. Make no mistake; if you are not regularly worshipping, praying, growing, and serving God in a Christian community, you *will* fall into unchallenged sin, unchecked self-centeredness, and hopeless cynicism.

God is love, but God is also just. God is merciful, but God is also holy. God forgives, but to provoke repentance, God often has to confront harshly in order to pierce our hardened hearts.

God never confronts us in our sin in condemning anger. God confronts us in love in the hope that we will respond in repentance, and so experience His embrace. God does not punish us in condemnation to bring death. God provokes us in grace to bring life.

The Spirit is calling God’s people to repentance and revival!

Pastor Chris



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

Office Hours
Mon–Fri, 9:30am–2pm
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Published Monthly

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
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Dana Perreard
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Youth Director—Duane Mullen
youth@gracepointdbq.org
Admin. Asst. Judy Adelman
office@gracepointdbq.org
Clerk of Session Pat Kohler
pkteada@yahoo.com
Editor Karen Storlie
karen@storlie.net

GracePoint Elders

through 2014

EquippingMary Hirschey
Stephanie LangeMissional OutreachPam De Meester
Ken GodwinFellowshipRay Wlochall
Wilma SandersPrayer

Pam Hillary

StewardshipAndy Baumann
Mary Burns
Doug StorlieWorship

Beverly VanDerZyl

GracePoint**Deacons**

through 2014

Care
Group Deacon

- 1 Sue Lemon
- 2 Betty Carlson
- 3 Glenda Temple
- 4 Shirley VanDuser
- 5 Janet Metelak
- 6 Barb Berg
- 7 Suz Birch
- 8 Mary Ann Hopkins
- 9 Carolyn Arnold

Deacon Moderator

Shirley VanDuser

PASTORAL CARE TEAM REPORT

The Pastoral Care Team has been resurrected! Our main purpose and goal is to support our pastor and care for him and his family. Often times churches forget that the pastor needs care, too, and as a result, we see a lot of pastor burn-out in the church today. We do not want our pastor to be burned out!

As we all know, Pastor Chris is working on a doctorate degree as well as being our full-time pastor. GracePoint, as a result, is the recipient of the fruits of these courses as they happen. Pastor Chris has the opportunity to apply what he learns in his classes directly to GracePoint. We have seen much evidence of this over the past couple of years with the wonderful sermon series. With Pastor Chris doing multiple things, statistically he is more likely to burn out. The Pastoral Care Team isn't going to let that happen!

In addition, at times there may be tension between GracePoint members/attendees and Pastor Chris. The Pastoral Care Team is also tasked with being the mediator for any such tensions. Hurt goes both ways and we want to be sure we don't have hurt members or a hurt pastor. In order for us to do this job effectively, we must have congregation support and assistance.

If ever you feel or see tension and hurt that you believe needs to be addressed by the Pastoral Care Team, please feel free to discuss this with any member of the Pastoral Care Team. The only rule is that no anonymous messages or concerns will be accepted. If there is a truly legitimate problem or concern, then all parties must be made aware so that proper healing can happen.

The Pastoral Care Team is made up of Elders Mary Hirschey and Ken Godwin along with church members Tim Walsh, Gaye Grote, Martha Intveld, and Dan Baker.

Respectfully submitted by: Elder Ken Godwin

Thank You

We would like to thank you, our church family, for the cards and gifts, and for joining us on Sunday morning for cake to celebrate our 65th wedding anniversary. This meant so much to us! We are blessed!

In God's love, Jennie and Bob Burns

GRACEPATH

September 7—October 12

9:00am

SOUL KEEPING, *Caring for the Most Important Part of You*

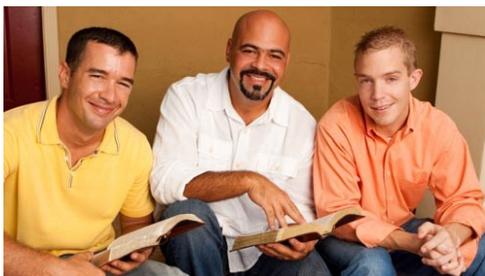
by John Ortberg

Soul Keeping helps Christians rediscover their soul—the best connection to God there is. Caring for your soul is necessary for your Christian life. Learn what your soul is, why it is important, how to assess your soul's health, and how to care for it. When you nurture your soul, your life in this world will come to make sense again. Your soul's resting place is in God, and author John Ortberg wants to take us to that home.

TRIADS AT GRACEPOINT

REGISTER AUGUST 3–24

We want triads to be a key part of discipleship at GracePoint. A triad is a group of 3 same-gendered people who commit to meeting with each other for an hour every other week for a year to pursue spiritual friendships. Triads provide a relational setting that fosters spiritual growth, honesty, accountability, and encouragement. It's a means to develop closer friendships with others at GracePoint while growing in Christ-likeness.



This year we want you to focus on sharing your lives together through conversation and prayer. We'll provide each

triad with some guidelines to help foster discussion. It'll be a great year together.

When registration is complete, we will ask you to find two others to join with whose schedules and lifestyle are compatible with yours. You will be given a list of everyone who wants to be part of a triad so you know who is interested and available.

Talk to Mary Hirschey or Lisa Gaylor if you have questions.



Study Guide

\$9.50

Hardcover Book

\$17.00

Registration begins

AUGUST 10

Comfort one another.

Encourage one another.

Love one another.

Live in harmony with one another.

Welcome one another.

Let us not pass judgment on one another.

Be kind to one another.

Build up one another.

Seek to do good to one another.

What's New from Your Stewardship Property Ministry Team

Our team feels that a couple of things being worked on deserve an article in this month's newsletter so that you, the congregation, would be informed.

The parking lot will be restriped before the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with the city representatives, which is slated for September 4th. There will be another handicapped spot added next to the existing one in front of the Food Pantry. The existing three spaces, immediately to the left as you come in the driveway, will be changed to two. We are moving the third spot from that area over to the front of the Food Pantry and adding the required stripes between all of the handicapped parking spaces. We will put information in the Sunday bulletin when the exact date is set.

The other—and possibly more important—project will be the installation of a new security system for God's building called GracePoint. Even though the current system still works for what it was originally intended, it is so antiquated that we can no longer get any parts to fix it. This team, after much deliberation and prayer, decided that with all the new equipment and our newly remodeled Fellowship Center, we would not be good stewards if we did not take action on getting the entire GracePoint property sufficiently protected with a new security system. We will keep you informed as this project moves forward and on what you can expect when it is installed.

Doug Storlie, Elder to Stewardship Property Ministry Team



Don't forget to sign up to bring treats for fellowship time on Sundays.

You may also honor a birthday, anniversary, or special event.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Center.

Precepts At GracePoint Fall 2014

2nd Timothy - A Study in Discipleship



Dates:
Tuesday SEPT 30 at 6:30pm
Or
Wednesday OCT 1 at 9:00am

The course is 14 sessions
concluding Jan 20 & 21

Cost:
Workbook \$29.25

**TO REGISTER CALL
GRACEPOINT OFFICE
563-583-3929**

GracePoint Church
3100 Windsor Avenue
Dubuque



Paul entrusted the Gospel to Timothy and others. Are you guarding the treasure of the Word that has been entrusted to you? By your life? By your words? Even in the midst of persecution?



Leader Mary Hirschey

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child, organized by Samaritan's Purse, will again start collecting "filled" Shoe Boxes to spread the Good News to millions of children and their families all over the world. The gift-filled Shoe Boxes not only bring joy to some of the world's poorest communities, but also provide local churches around the world with one of the most effective tools for evangelism.

After the gift distribution, the people of Samaritan's Purse will work with local churches to offer a follow-up discipleship program featuring an exciting Bible Study course to get the children into the Word.

Samaritan's Purse has brought the joy of Christmas and the good news of Jesus Christ to children in over 140 nations as more than 113 million Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box gifts were provided by people like you.

Jesus said, "Let the children come to Me (Matt. 19:14). God is to be praised that multitudes of these children have given their lives to Christ and became His faithful disciples. Pray for God's blessing to continue sharing His love with children around the world.

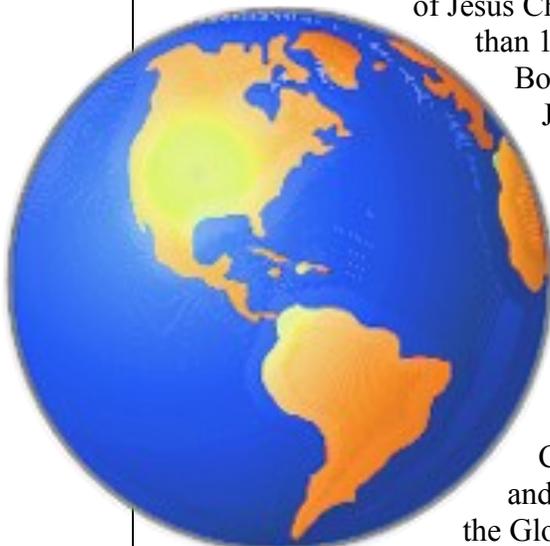
In April 2013 in Orlando, Florida, Samaritan's Purse held a great celebration to give glory to God for using Operation Christmas Child to spread the gospel abroad and to express his Name. It is the culmination of the Global Connect Conference where three thousand volunteers from around the world gathered to fellowship and praise the Lord together for blessing multitudes of children who are not forgotten by God, and not forgotten by Operation Christmas Child.

Along with their Shoe Box gifts, children are given colorful storybooks that present God's plan of salvation in their local language.

Operation Christmas Child provides churches with a 12-point Bible Study to teach children the Gospel, to invite them to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, and to train them to share their faith with family and friends. Children who complete the Bible lessons receive a personalized certificate and a special New Testament with favorite old Testament stories.

Millions of children, by the Grace of God, have made commitments to Christ and have become strong witnesses for Him to their families and friends,

Pat Kohler, Global Missions Member



2014

September

2014

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OFFICE CLOSED NO FOOD PANTRY	2	3 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 5:30p Hand Bells	4 4:40p Ribbon Cutting/Open House	5	6
7 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 6:00p GraceU	8 6:00p Food Pantry	9	10 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 5:30p Hand Bells 7:00p Deacons Meeting	11	12	13
14 7:45a Choir Practice 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 1:30p Bethany Home 6:00p GraceU	15  6:00p Food Pantry	16	17 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 5:30p Hand Bells 7:00p Elder Ministry Teams	18	19	20
21 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 6:00p GraceU	22 6:00p Food Pantry	23 11:15a Red Hat Ladies	24 6:15a Men's Pry Brkfst 5:30p Hand Bells 6:30p Session	25	26	27
28 8:30a Chapel 9:00a GracePath 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service 6:00p GraceU	29 6:00p Food Pantry	30 6:30p Precepts				

Membership to Date:

Active	138
Inactive	7
Perm. Inactive	<u>3</u>
Total	148

<p style="text-align: center;">CLERK'S REPORT</p>
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September 4th, 4:30pm–7:00pm is the Ribbon Cutting/Open House for the new coffee café, Common Grounds.

Pat Kohler, Clerk of Session

Administrative Bookkeeper's Report

General Fund Beginning Balance, July 1, 2014	\$13,077.63
Total General Fund Receipts	<u>16,279.72</u>
Subtotal Beginning Balance & Receipts	\$29,357.35
General Fund Disbursements	\$11,619.73
Allocations & Transfers	<u>2,972.18</u>
Subtotal Disbursements, Allocations & Transfers	\$14,591.91
General Fund Ending Balance, July 31, 2014	\$14,765.44

THE PRAYER ROOM AT GRACEPOINT ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

We want to encourage you to use the Prayer Room on Sundays! Corporate prayer is so important to our prayer life.

The room (end of the hall down from the office) is open 10:05 – 10:25am.

There is a Prayer Warrior in the room every week. This person will be specifically praying for the worship service, the pastor, and all participating and attending the service.

You are invited to ask this person to pray for you or with you. We would be honored.

You are welcome to simply pray by yourself. It is not necessary to share. The Prayer Warriors are sensitive to your needs.

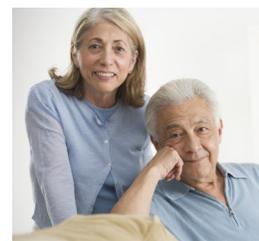
You do **not** have to pray out loud. God hears all prayers.

There are chairs and sofas in the room. Your welcome to stand or sit wherever you'd like.

The room has a beautiful, calming view into the trees.

There will be an answered prayer journal there. We encourage you to add your answered prayers to it!

We realize this is during the fellowship time, and the fellowship is important, too. But please visit the Prayer Room at times, whether for your own praise or concerns, praying for others, or praying for the worship service.



GOLDEN OLDIES

Please watch the bulletin for details for the next Golden Oldies gathering. Any questions, call Bob Boelk at 557-9166.

All seniors 50 years and older are welcome!



Monday
September 15

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Andrew Linden
- 1 Brenda Schwarzmann
- 2 Juanita Cottrell
- 4 Jerry Bell
- 4 Frank Grote
- 4 Joan Higley
- 5 Patti Scheer
- 6 Raymond Wlochall
- 12 Ernest Loukinen
- 18 George McIlrath
- 18 Beverly VanDerZyl
- 19 Christian English
- 19 Becky Pfeiffer
- 19 Harry Vandenberg
- 20 Mary Burns
- 21 Kent Briden
- 22 Barb Berg
- 22 Bob Birch
- 25 MaryAnn Hopkins
- 27 Becky Pfeiffer



Anniversaries

- 3 Kevin & Mary Hirschev
- 10 Kevin & Melissa
Donovan
- 12 Tom & Mary Scherf

Check Out the Library

There is always something new in the library, and it is open Sundays from 8:30am till noon.

Donations of new books or videos are always welcome. Questions? Contact Mable or Bob Boelk, 557-9166.



Red Hat Ladies

The Red Hat Ladies will meet every fourth Tuesday, 11:15am, at Tony Roma's. In September the date is the 23rd. Please R.S.V.P. to Edie Ege, 583-1974

School Supplies for Schools

The School Supplies for Schools is an ongoing project at GracePoint. We continue to collect supplies for Audubon and Prescott schools. The school supply bin is in the lobby and waiting for you to help fill it.

A BIG Thank You goes out to all of the GracePoint people for their generous support of the School Supply Project. It was a huge success!

Thanks to ABC Learning Center for all of the binders and colors donated. And thanks to those who helped sort and pack the supplies to donate.

We helped three schools (Audubon, Prescott, and Fulton) and over 850 students. Your donations and prayers were a blessing that contributed to the success of the project. Any supplies brought in now will be delivered to the schools in six weeks. Thank you!

SEAL Team Leader Barb Berg

GRACEPOINT HAND BELL CHOIR

Rehearsals for the GracePoint Hand Bell Choir will begin Wednesday, September 3, at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone eight years of age or older who would like to play. Previous musical training would be helpful, but not absolutely necessary. The Hand Bell Choir will be playing once a month in our Sunday Worship Service, September through May.

For more details contact Kent Briden, 582-2738

New Director of Worship and Evangelism

Our God loves to abundantly bless and God has blessed Katy Perreard with a full-time teaching position in the Dubuque School District. This set up a situation with full benefits keeping the Perreards in Dubuque at least for a number of years, which also placed Dana in the tension of being a pastor without a call.

GracePoint's Elders saw this as the clear, thumping-us-on-the-head leading from God to enter into serious prayer and conversation to rethink Dana's leadership at GracePoint, given his unexpected availability.

Your Session did so and discerned two things: (1) nothing has changed as to GracePoint needing or affording two pastors, and yet (2) it would be utter foolishness, and clearly missing the unmistakable leading of God, not to bring Dana back into leadership somehow.

The result—All praise, glory, and thanksgiving to our wonder-working God, Pastor Dana has accepted the call to come back on staff as our new Director of Worship and Evangelism!

Dana's start date was August 18. This is a 10-hour a week Session hire, with an annual salary, but with no paid benefits. Dana will receive reimbursement for a cell phone, laptop, and mileage. These reimbursements, as well as all expenses for ministry and events, will appropriately come out of our Community Outreach fund. When invited to preach, Dana will receive the current honorarium.

We had already budgeted for a Praise Team Director. The additional funds for this year will come from undesignated gifts under Session oversight, and it is the hope, expectation-in-faith, and prayer that our Faith Promises will cover this position in 2015.

Please note that neither Duane's position as our new Youth Director, nor Dana's position Worship and Evangelism Director is as an associate pastor. GracePoint remains a solo pastor church, with Pastor Chris as the pastor. Please come to Pastor Chris only for any pastoral questions, needs, or care. The Elders and Deacons, not Duane or Dana, will provide pastoral coverage when Pastor Chris is on leave.

As the Praise Team Director, Dana will lead all musical worship facilitated by GracePoint's Praise Team in our Sunday worship services, and any special services or events that include the Praise Team. As the Director of Evangelism, Dana will design and lead evangelistic ministry and events, which present the gospel to those outside of our congregation, and equip the congregation in evangelism.

There is no expectation that this position will grow GracePoint numerically. This is about bringing people to Christ and into God's kingdom. The full position description is available to members upon request.

*Now to (our God) who is
able to do far more
abundantly than all
that we ask or think
... be glory in the church
and in Christ Jesus...!
Ephesians 3:20-21*

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

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 451-4557

Glenda Temple 582-0464

Kim or Jerry Bell 582-4956

Karen Storlie 556-7548

Volunteers are priceless at GracePoint!

Worship Venue 9:30am

Communion Preparers (September 7) Mary Ann Hopkins, Sue Lemon

Communion Servers (September 7) Mary Hirschey, Pam Hillary

	Ushers	Greeters	Prayer Room
September 7	Andy Baumann Mike Vandenberg	Steve & Sue Lemon	Patti Scheer
September 14	LeRoy & Barb Berg	Vic & Marilyn Learn	Pauline Brimeyer
September 21	Richard & Shirley Merrihew	Dwayne & Martha Intveld	Janet Metelak
September 28	Andy Baumann Mike Vandenberg	Doug and Karen Storlie	Doug Storlie

ChildCare

September 7 Betty Carlson, Mary Ann Hopkins

September 14 Amy and Anna English, Suz Birch

September 21 Ann Kress, Sue Lemon

September 28 Kim Bell, Paulette Kress

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

Concert of Prayer & Retreat

Please save the date of October 11 to attend this year's Concert of Prayer! As you can see, there is something new added this year. Pastor Chris will be leading the retreat portion, focusing on meditation, silence, and centering prayer. What a blessing this will add to our day!

Saturday, October 11, 8:30am to 3:00pm
Shalom Spirituality Center, 1001 Davis Street
Only cost is for lunch (\$10).

A sign-up sheet will be posted in the pass-through area by Sunday, September 7. Or you can sign up by calling the church office (583-3929). We'll need reservations by October 3rd.

Please prayerfully consider joining us. The beautiful old building, the lovely grounds, and the time together always make this a treat for the soul!

GraceUnderground

Youth Ministry BIG News and Thanks to God!

On August 17, a new relational discipleship model was introduced to the congregation. The ministry model will build on the strong foundation laid by Pastor Dana and will invite the entire congregation, of all ages and stages of life, to be involved in some way in nurturing our youth.

Director of Youth Ministry Our faithful God has brought us just the right man for this position. Introducing Duane Mullen, who is a godly, humble, experienced, gifted man of valor and virtue who is passionate about Christ, Kingdom, and youth. Duane is in his last year of seminary, and has been worshipping with us this past year.

This will be a 10- to 17- hours a week position with an hourly wage. We had already budgeted for this position.

The Youth Ministry Task Force members are so enthusiastic about the future of youth ministry at GracePoint, they have transitioned to the Youth Ministry Support Team (YMST).



Duane M. Mullen
GracePoint Youth Director
Church: 563.583.3929
Cell: 206.707.5985
Facebook:
[GraceUnderGround](#)
www.gracepointdbq.org
youth@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

RIBBON CUTTING



Ribbon Cutting, September 4—The Dubuque Chamber Ambassadors will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4:30pm on Thursday, September 4, in the new Common Grounds coffee café. An Open House will follow until 7:00pm. We are inviting the community to feel welcome as they enjoy our special music, delicious foods, and our Common Grounds Café with special homemade coffee lattes!

